**TILBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 27 January 2021 by means of remote conferencing, commencing at 2000 hours.

**PRESENT** Councillors C Paull (in the Chair); K Gutteridge; C Haynes and M Patterson .

**IN ATTENDANCE** District Councillor J Gray;County Councillor Ian Gardener; C L Thatcher, Clerk to the Council. and two members of the public.

**1/21 APOLOGIES**  were later received from Councillor Mrs J Pilcher..

**2/21 PUBLIC FORUM** was not used.

**3/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None were made.

**4/21 MINUTES** of the Council meeting of 16 December 2020 were read and approved as a true record of that meeting.

**5/21 MATTERS ARISING**

1. Subsidence Claim. Councillor Patterson circulated his report on the removal of the trees and advised that he had been helped by two young men who were taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. The wood had been cut into logs and distributed free of charge to those villagers requesting it.

The Clerk reported that our insurer had been notified and sent photographs confirming the trees had been felled and that should be the end of the matter. Some residents were naturally concerned at the felling of healthy trees, but there was no option in this and Council will look at the provision of replacements in an area where no problems should be caused with building foundations.

1. Luton Airport proposed new Holding Pattern

Councillor Gardener said that the Civil Aviation Authority had given a presentation to a committee of the County Council and it did appear that, if indeed, the new holding pattern was necessary, the areas where it could be placed were very limited.

Councillor Gray agreed and said that it was likely that the District Council would object.

A number of residents have expressed their views and all were opposed to the proposal. After some discussion it was agreed to write and object to the proposal on the grounds of pollution and increased background noise in this area where the ambient noise level is very low.

1. Footpath alongside B645 and condition of river bridge.

The Clerk said that County Highways had inspected the bridge again recently and reported that they have no concerns about it, as the cracking is confined to a small area of end of the flanking wall.

The footpath along the B645 is about to be repaired and frontagers need to cut back their hedges.

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**6/21 PLANNING**

1. The following applications were considered -

20/02481 30 Church Lane, Tilbrook - proposed side extension replacing existing building.

It was proposed by Councillor Haynes, seconded by Councillor Patterson and agreed to recommend approval as appropriate development.

**7/21 FLOODING**

Councillor Gardener said that both the County and District Councils are having flooding reviews and this is an ongoing process, though Councillor Gray has complained that this area is not included in the review.

A member of the public said that on the last three occasions Station Road flooded a vehicle became stuck and there was traffic chaos, including collisions, at the bridge. He felt that a means of notifying drivers that the road was flooded a lot more quickly than at present, was needed.

It was agreed to adopt the suggestion of another resident and seek ‘road flooded’ signs for each end of Station Rd. It may be possible to add these to our LHI bid for MVAS speed signs.

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**8/21 CORRESPONDENCE**

1. A resident’s suggestion of ‘road flooded’ signs which can be “flipped open” when necessary was agreed (see above) and funding will be sought at the LHI meeting. This takes place on 24 February and our appointment is at 4.45pm. Councillor Haynes will represent the Council.
2. The Clerk reported upon courses available to councillors.
3. A resident requests action to be taken regarding the ditch alongside the footpath from Station Rd to Church Lane, which needs digging out. It was agreed to seek quotations for this to be done with a mini digger. It was mentioned that a tree has fallen across the ditch.

**9/21 ACCOUNTS**

1. The following were approved for payment.

 K & M Lighting Streetlight maintenance £25.13 inc VAT

 E-On Streetlight energy £72.42 inc VAT

 Manor Farm Removal of trees rec.gnd. £180.00 “ “

 JD Garden & Landscaping Grass cut £439.20 “ “

 C L Thatcher Pay Jan-Mar £417.75 no “

 HMRC PAYE Jan - Mar £104.20 “ “

**10/21 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR** Councillor Gray said that now that we are again in lockdown, HDC is getting out the latest round of grants to businesses. Their draft budget has been referred for decision at the end of February. They estimate there will be a £3million shortfall on their £18million budget, but fortunately their reserves are greater than any other council in Cambridgeshire and they do not expect any reduction in services. Council Tax will probably be frozen for the coming year.

There is still nothing to report about affordable housing.

**11/21 COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Councillor Gardener said that Station Road potholes will be filled during week commencing 7 February with a view to resurfacing the road in the new financial year.

420 County Council staff have been re-deployed to support the Covid response and they are working with the Red Cross providing food parcels;helping children and providing transport.

The latest Covid figures for Tilbrook, Kimbolton and Gt Staughton for 22 January are 6 new cases per day, which represents 92.4 per 100,000 and there have been 22 deaths in the last 7 days.

The public is urged to watch out for scams currently circulating for such things as charging for providing vaccine.

**12/21 MEMBERS’ POINTS OF INFORMATION.**

No points were raised.

**13/21 NEXT MEETING**

The next normal meeting of Council will be held on 17 March 2021, commencing at 2000 hours in the Village Hall if permissible, otherwise by remote conferencing.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2105 hours.