**TILBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 13 September 2017 in the Village Hall, Church Lane,Tilbrook, commencing at 2015 hours.

**PRESENT** Councillors C Paull (in the Chair); Mrs J Pilcher;C Haynes and K Gutteridge.

**IN ATTENDANCE** Martin Patterson, Tree Warden; District Councillor J Gray & County Councillor I Gardener.

**63/17 APOLOGIES** were received from Councillor Mrs C Rowland.

**64/17 PUBLIC FORUM** was not used.

**65/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS** None were made

**66/17 COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Councillor Gardener said that the consultation on Childrens’ Centre services closed on 20 September.

Library transformation is underway with libraries being provided in County Council hubs co-located with such as the Registrar of Births Deaths & Marriages. Brampton Library is now open.

There has been local concern about children not being able to find places on school buses, but Councillor Gardener said that everyone who has contacted him now has a place on a school bus.

*Councillor Gutteridge joined the meeting.*

**67/17 MINUTES** of the Council meeting of 5 July 2017 were read, approved and signed as a true record of that meeting.

**68/17 MATTERS ARISING** from that meeting.

Barclays Bank. The Clerk explained the present position regarding both banking and Post Office arrangements in Kimbolton.

**69/17 MINUTES** of the Council meeting of 26 July 2017 were read approved and signed as a true record of that meeting.

**70/17 MATTERS ARISING** from that meeting.

Defibrillator. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Pilcher, seconded by Councillor Haynes and agreed to purchase a defibrillator and heated cabinet to be fixed to the outside wall of the Village Hall at a cost estimated at £1500.

**71/17 WHITE HORSE PUBLIC HOUSE**

The Chairman said that he had concerns about the way the White Horse pub appeared to be being run down and was particularly concerned that the owners may wish to close and sell it.

It was therefore proposed by Councillor Mrs Pilcher, seconded by Councillor Gutteridge and agreed to seek the listing of the building as a Community Asset. Such listing would provide “breathing space” should the property be offered for sale.

**72/17 LOCAL HIGHWAY INITIATIVE BID**

The Clerk reported that bids for this year had to be in soon. Members thought that a second reactive speed sign would be beneficial together with the reduction of the speed limit for Station Road to 20 mph. The Clerk will submit a bid.

**73/17 ACCOUNTS**

a) The following were approved for payment:

K & M Lighting. Streetlight maintenance £68.34 inc VAT

E-ON Streetlight energy £153.17 “ “

C L Thatcher Clerk’s pay 3 months to Sept £149.13 no “

HMRC PAYE & NIC £37.20 “ “

b) Future Banking Arrangements. It was agreed to continue banking with Barclays for the time being.

c) The Clerk reported that the accounts for 2016/2017 had now been audited by PKF Littlejohn and there were no problems other than a mistake on the Annual Governance Statement relating to last year.

**74/17 PLANNING MATTERS**

No applications received.

**75/17 TREE WARDEN’S REPORT**

Mr Patterson reported upon his attendance at the seminar and presented a comprehensive report which was read. He will inspect the Parish trees on parish land annually. He said he does have some concern about an Aspen tree The Chairman thanked Mr Patterson for his very useful report.

**76/17 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Councillor Gray said that August is usually pretty quiet. He said there would be a genuine struggle to meet the budget this year. They had intended closing the Customer Service Centre in St Neots but had withdrawn this proposal due to pressure.

Disabled Facilities Grants are now about £1.6million per annum. They probably won’t meet savings this year.

Regarding the Local Plan, an appeal was lost in Buckden and HDC was accused of not having 5 years’ land supply but they have subsequently proved that they do have in excess of the new, raised, level required.

**77/17 MEMBERS’ POINTS OF INFORMATION**

No points were raised.

**78/17 NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled meeting of the Council will take place on Wednesday 18 October 2017, commencing at 2015 hours in the Village Hall, Church Lane, Tilbrook.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2125 hours.