**TILBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the annual Council meeting held on Tuesday 4 July 2023 in the Village Hall, Church Lane, Tilbrook, commencing at 8 p.m.

**PRESENT**  Councillors M Patterson; L Hunter; M Wallis and P Wilcock.

**IN ATTENDANCE** District Councillor J Gray;C L Thatcher, Clerk to the Council .and 5 members of the public.

**57/23 APOLOGIES** were received from Councillor Mrs Sue Wilcock and County Councillor I Gardener..

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**58/23 PUBLIC FORUM**  A member of the public referred to the travellers who had occupied the layby towards Kimbolton and had apparently abandoned two caravans and some dogs. There is concern that they may occupy the recreation ground. The County Council and the police are dealing with this.

Concerns were also raised about traffic speeds and about the High St hedge which is overgrown and makesit impossible to use the footpath. The owners of the adjacent property have been approached and have agreed to cut the hedge back.

**59/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None were made.

**60/23 MINUTES** of the Council meetings of 16 May 2023 were read, approved and signed as a true record of that meeting.

**61/23 MATTERS ARISING**

1. Flood Forum. Councillor Hunter said no events have taken place
2. Traffic Speeds Councillor Wilcock concentrated on the High St. The signs are in place and the data from the one by The Shuttles shows that prior to May the average speed was 30mph, with35% of vehicles being above the speed limit. The highest speed recorded was 75mph.

The average speed now was 27.5mph with 27% exceeding the speed limit.

He said that the battery appeared faulty and it was proposed by Councillor Wallis, seconded by Councillor Patterson and agreed to purchase replacement batteries as and when necessary, up to a cost each of £75.

1. Kym Valley Way. No update
2. Establishing an email group. It was agreed to do so , so that information may be circulated round the village. Residents have been consulted and 38 people have signed up already.
3. Meeting with Amenities Committee. Councillors Wallis, P Wilcock and Hunter met with the Amenities Committee on 30 May. The meeting was useful, but further discussion is needed and another meeting is proposed. It was agreed to supply the committee with a copy of the Deed of Trust relating to the acquisition of the Village Hall.
4. Meet Your Councillors 22 July. The Chairman confirmed this date and asked members attending to bring refreshments if possible.

**62/23 PLANNING MATTERS**

The following applications were considered -

23/01069 Land at junction Church Lane and High St - erect 7 dwellings

The agent for the applicant was present and explained that the intention was to build 3 market houses and 4 affordable homes, comprised of both 2 and 4 bed houses. He answered questions posed .

*District Councillor Jonathan Gray joined the meeting*

After some discussion it was proposed by Councillor Wilcock, seconded by Councillor Wallis and unanimously agreed to recommend refusal due to the effect on Church Lane parking; access to and egress from Church Lane and flooding of the site. It was, however, acknowledged that there is merit in some development.

23/00980 Tilford, Station Rd - single storey link extension to annexe

Given that this proposal links the existing dwelling with the annexe and makes it less likely that it could become a separate dwelling it was proposed by Councillor Hunter, seconded by Councillor Wallis and agreed to recommend approval.

23/00945 30 Church Lane - erect side extension to replace existing workshop

It was proposed by Councillor Wilcock, seconded by Councillor Patterson and unanimously agreed to recommend approval.

Development Management Committee

The Clerk reported that HDC’s Development Management Committee had considered the application relating to Tilbrook Kennels, but had refused it.

**63/23 STORY BOARD**

Councillor Patterson said that he would like to see a board containing walking and cycling routes in the Parish plus information about Tilbrook through the ages. He was hoping to obtain sponsorship to help with the costs. He envisaged an A1 size weatherproof board which, he thought, would cost between £2500 and £3000 .

**64/23 AMENITIES COMMITTEE** It was agreed that Councillor Wilcock would represent this Council at the next meeting.

**65/23 GRASS CUTTING** The loss of our grass cutting contractor was discussed and thanks were given to the volunteers who had assisted since and helped stop the village getting into too much of a mess. A temporary cut had also been undertaken by Luke Allen and quotations for ongoing grass cutting have now been received from both Luke Allen and CGM Contractors Ltd. It was proposed by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor Hunter and unanimously agreed to accept the quote of CGM in the sum of £2660 per annum.

**66/23 CAPALC** It was proposed by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor Wilcock and unanimously agreed to renew our membership of CAPALC for the current year.

**67/23 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE**  The Chairman said that he had obtained the assistance of Sharon at County Highways and our County Councillor that the County Councillor will organise a contractor to cut back the hedge alongside the alpaca field.

Various drains need attention and cleaning in the High Stand Sandy Lane and the route taken by surface water from Sandy Lane needs examining.

**68/23 TOWN & PARISH COUNCIL FORUM** The Chairman reported upon his attendance at the Forum. He said that there are 97 town/parish councils in Huntingdonshire of which about 60 were represented at the meeting.

He said that the main thrust was about pride of place and developing a sense of ‘Place’

The promotion of healthy activity will also be promoted.

**69/23 CORRESPONDENCE** none other than that previously circulated.

**70/23 ACCOUNTS**

1. The following were approved for payment:

K & M Lighting Services Streetlight maintenance 61.10

NPower Streetlight energy 100.57

C L Thatcher Pay July - Sept 349.91

HMRC PAYE & NIC 233.20

G R Dixon Internal Auditor fee 25.00

CAPALC Annual subscription 212.19

**71/23 COUNTY COUNCILLOR** was unable to be present.

**72/23 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR** Councillor Gray said that planning was becoming a real problem, mainly because of staff shortages. He said the recent ‘call for sites’ had elicited a large response.

The decision had been made to commence charging for green rubbish bins from next April. The charge will be £57.50 per annum and food waste will not be permitted in the green bin.

**73/23 MEMBERS’ POINTS OF INFORMATION**

None were raised.

**74/23 NEXT MEETING**

It is proposed that the next normal meeting will be on **Tuesday 5 September 2023**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2200 hours.