**TILBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 5 September 2023 in the Village Hall, Church Lane, Tilbrook, commencing at 8 p.m.

**PRESENT**  Councillors M Patterson; L Hunter and M Wallis

**IN ATTENDANCE** District CouncillorJonathan Gray; C L Thatcher, Clerk to the Council and four members of the public.

**82/23 APOLOGIES** were received from Councillor Paul Wilcock and County Councillor Ian Gardener

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**83/23 PUBLIC FORUM**  was not used

**84/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None were made.

**85/23 MINUTES** of the Council meetings of 4 and 22 July 2023 were read approved and signed as a true record of those meetings.

**86/23 MATTERS ARISING**

1. Flood Forum. Councillor Hunter said that jetting would take place soon and a meeting has been arranged for later this week.
2. Traffic Speeds It was reported that the percentage of vehicles exceeding 35mph was gradually reducing over time.

*Councillor Gray joined the meeting.*

1. Kym Valley Way progress.The Chairman reported that ours was one of only two Active Travel Routes accepted in this County. The next stage is to undertake scoping and costing.
2. Email group progress. Apparently the group now numbers 53. Thanks given to Councillor Wilcock for his efforts.
3. ‘Meet Your Councillor’ session. There was very bad weather on the day, but a steady stream of visitors overcame this and the day was a success. Thanks were given to those who provided cakes.
4. Story Board update. The Chairman displayed the concept board, which included paintings undertaken by him.. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Hunter and agreed to proceed with paper designs at a cost of up to £1000.
5. Grass Cutting. After a difficult few weeks the new contractors have started cutting our grass and things are getting back to normal. Volunteer mowers are cutting some areas and the Council thanks them for their efforts.
6. Banking arrangements. The Clerk reported having sent in the signature list; copies of bank statements and our Standing Orders to Unity Trust Bank but had heard nothing from them. On enquiring, it seems they cannot trace receipt of the documents. The Clerk will enquire further.

**87/23 PLANNING MATTERS**

The following applications were considered -

23/01290 Summerfield Farm, High St, Tilbrook - change of use grassland to outdoor all-weather arena for horses. Post and rail perimeter fence.

After considerable discussion it was proposed by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor Wallis and agreed to recommend approval as appropriate development.

**88/23 AMENITIES COMMITTEE** A joint working party meeting will be held soon.

**89/23 INSURANCE** The Clerk reported that he had renewed the Council’s insurance in the sum of £437 and that this included the play equipment, cover of which amounts to £34,000.

**90/23 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE/FLOOD PROTECTION**

The Chairman said that we have completed 12 projects to date, including the flower gates. Councillor Wallis said that more maintenance is required for Jubilee Way/Little Lane in order to keep it in good condition.

**91/23 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR** Two expressions of interest have been received, one from Terry Rees and one from Di Patterson. Normally a vote would take place, but since the Chairman could not participate it is necessary to defer consideration until the November meeting.

It was agreed to extend the deadline for expressions of interest until the 13 November.

**92/23 CORRESPONDENCE** The Clerk reported receipt of a claim regarding subsidence of aStation Rd property which is being blamed upon the willow tree in the recreation ground. He has placed the matter in the hands of the Council’s insurers.

**93/23 ACCOUNTS** The following were approved for payment -

NPower Energy 74.46

M Patterson materials for gateway 59.10

Hunts DC Playing field rental 100.00

P Wilcock MVAS battery 61.49

CGM Group grass cutting 228.00

K & M Lighting maintenance 30.55

Zurich Municipal insurance premium 437.00

**94/23 COUNTY COUNCILLOR** was unable to be present

**95/23 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR** Councillor Gray said that the opposition had attempted to prevent the introduction of the green bin charge and had managed to have the decision ‘called in’, but this had not been successful and the charge will be introduced next April. It is expected that the government will be introducing a mandatory scheme requiring food waste to be collected, so from next April, food waste which would currently go in the green bin will, under HDC’s new scheme, have to go in the grey bins and therefore will go to landfill, rather than being composted.

The strike by some HDC staff has been called off, following a pay offer of 5% plus a one-off payment of £1000 and an extra day’s leave.

The planning department still causes problems due to lack of staff. Currently there are 1.5 enforcement officers dealing with 1000 cases.

The new Managing Director, Michelle Sachs, starts soon.

**96/23 MEMBERS’ POINTS OF INFORMATION**

Councillor Wallis said that an enquiry had been made about the spare land on the south side of the playing field.

**97/23 NEXT MEETING**

It is proposed that the next normal meeting will be on **Tuesday 14 November 2023**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2115 hours.