**TILBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 3 September 2024 in the Village Hall, Church Lane, Tilbrook, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

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

**IN ATTENDANCE** Three members of the public .

**75/24 APOLOGIES** were received from County Councillor Ian Gardener; District Councillor J Gray and the Clerk, Lionel Thatcher. Councillor M Patterson recorded the minutes.

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**76/24 PUBLIC FORUM** A request was made for the Council to inspect two apple trees and a willow in the playing field for their condition and safety. It was also said that the ‘nature area’ looks untidy and the hedge needs cutting. The Council agreed to look at the trees and to cut the hedge in September.

It was noted that the gaps in the brickwork of the bridge parapet were getting wider and agreed to advise County Highways of this.

**77/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None were made.

**78/24 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR** was unable to be present.

**79/24 MINUTES** of the Council meeting of 3 July 2024 were read approved and signed as a true record of that meeting.

**80/24 MATTERS ARISING**

1. Traffic Speeds
2. MVAS results No new data to report, though the system appears to be working well. The new battery is charging
3. Kym Valley Way. Council agreed that in the light of Transport Secretary Louise Haigh’s announcement on 29 August ’multi-year funds to build an Active Travel Network’ that we pursue a “pilot mating” with local Parish Council Chairman and our new MP to discuss how we can commission a feasibility study for Kym Valley Way.
4. Story Boards Programme-
* We have received a grant of £1500 from Huntingdonshire District Council
* We have had the three boards manufactured and they look very good.
* Councillors who helped make and fit the support stands into their agreed locations were thanked for their work.
* Councillor Ian Gardener and Ben Obese-Jacty MP have been asked for a date when they could take part in an opening ceremony and a reply is awaited.
* The pub is ready to organise refreshments for the event.
* The question of further boards (paid for by the local sponsors) is to be discussed at the next meeting.
1. Trees on Recreation Ground Still nothing has been received from our insurers, despite our request for an update, thus no action has yet been taken by this Council.
2. Meet the Councillors 27 July. Over 40 villagers dropped by to chat with the Parish Council and enjoy a tea or coffee during our third annual session at the village hall. We received some very positive comments from attendees regarding our improvement projects for the village, some in place already with others in the pipeline. Efforts and achievements so far with helping to reduce litter in the village along with clear budget proposals & clarifying the responsibilities of the Parish Council and the Amenities Committee all received favourable views and the Parish Council will continue to interact as best as it can and keep everyone up to speed with ongoing activities in Tilbrook. Views were offered on traffic speeds down Station Rd and the Parish Council will discuss these in the future.
3. We were fortunate to have in attendance our new MP for Huntingdon, Ben Obese-Jacty, who was introduced to the village by Councillor Ian Gardener and both spent time viewing our displays and chatting with villagers. Ben is a keen cyclist and was very interested in our proposed cycle and pathway (Kym Valley Way) from Tilbrook to Kimbolton and will see if there is anything he can do to help move the project along.
4. We also welcomed the new Kimbolton Parish Chairman, Deb Hellett. She was most impressed with our information board project and is also looking at the Kym Valley Way project. You may see in the future more information boards around Kimbolton.
5. Litter Pick is planned for Saturday 7 September between 1000 and 1100. The village hall has been booked and the invitation sent out again. Councillors Martin and Di Patterson will co-ordinate the event. The pack of materials (bags and litter pickers) is still awaited and Councillor Di Patterson will chase these.. .

**81/24 PLANNING MATTERS**

The following application was considered-

24/01561/TREE Chestnut Cottage, 25 Station Rd – crown reduction of oak. It was proposed by Councillor M Patterson, seconded by Councillor Hunter and unanimously agreed to recommend approval.

24/00833 Rookery Farm, Kimbolton Rd - erect solar farm and battery storage plus associated works. This was discussed at length but members were ambivalent and no decision was made.

**82/24 AMENITIES COMMITTEE/PARISH COUNCIL JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE**

Discussion took place as to when the Parish Council will take full control of the recreation ground – the Parish Council thought April 2025.- and the Amenities Committee will look after the play equipment until that date and any issues regarding that area will be jointly discussed. There remains the issue of the recreation ground car park at the rear of the hall and the current notice about parking. This remains to be discussed, as does the matter of bird droppings on the play equipment, which will be discussed in April next once the equipment becomes the responsibility of the Parish Council.

**83/24 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE**

A dead sycamore on the green by the bridge needs Huntingdonshire District Council’s opinion as to its safety. Councillor M Patterson will contact the Trees Officer.

**84/24 CORRESPONDENCE**

A request from St Neots Museum for a donation was discussed and it was agreed to seek villagers’ opinions. The museum does offer free admission to their exhibition to Tilbrook residents should we donate.

**85/24 ACCOUNTS**

1. The following were approved for payment:

M Patterson Materials for story board 116.64

K & M Lighting Lighting maintenance 61.10

Hunts DC Rent of field + grass cutting 472.00

Anthony Geaves Story board 600.00

N Power Energy 153.37

**86/24 COUNTY COUNCILLOR** was unable to be present

**87/24 MEMBERS’ POINTS OF INFORMATION**

Councillor D Patterson confirmed the arrangements for Saturday’s litter pick.

Councillor Wallis proposed moving the MVAS sign to a new location – which was agreed – and he suggested re-visiting the question of 20 mph limit at a future meeting.

Councillor Wilcock will ask St Neots Police to visit the High St with their noise measuring machine.

**88/24 NEXT MEETING**

It is proposed that the next normal meeting will be on **Wednesday 2 October 2024**.and the following one on Tuesday 5 November 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2100 hours.