**TILBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 28 November 2018 in the Village Hall, Church Lane,Tilbrook, commencing at 2000 hours.

**PRESENT** Councillors C Paull (in the Chair);C Haynes; M Patterson & Mrs J Pilcher

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

**74/18 APOLOGIES** were received from County Councillor Ian Gardener.

**75/18 PUBLIC FORUM**

The Chairman introduced Mr Russell Dean of Aragon Homes who wished to speak about development on the land off Church Lane.

Mr Dean referred to the planning authority’s ‘exception sites’ - of which this is one - and said that if 60% of the development is ‘affordable’ home then the remaining 40% can be ‘private’. He was asked how many dwellings he proposed for the site and said that initially he had thought of 7, with access off Church Lane, but it could be as many as around 14 dwellings and then there could be a separate access on to High St. Should the number of dwellings be at the higher end then there could be benefits for the village, for example, he could provide a cycle way into Kimbolton.

*Councillors Jonathan Gray and Mrs Jane Pilcher joined the meeting.*

Councillor Gray said that Huntingdonshire District Council has delivered just one rural exception site in his time. It has to be with the consent of the village and a need must be proven.

There must be a proper consultation process and the whole of the scheme must be set out.

There is such a scheme in Great Staughton where the parish has a charity field and the parish council wished to build for the benefit of local people. The Community Land Trust worked with them.

The village will have the right to nominate who they wish to see as tenants and there will be no right to buy those particular dwellings.

He was asked what effect the fact that this land is within the conservation area would have on this scheme and replied that it is simply that the bar will be set higher, requiring better design, better materials etc.

A comment was made that we used to have social housing and there is a need for people to be able to downsize and remain in their community.

The Chairman said that he was disappointed that Russell Dean did not bring along a more detailed plan of what he proposed and he suggested that he comes up with two plans which could be circulated to residents and that a Housing Needs Survey is needed.

**76/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS** None were made.

**77/18 COUNTY COUNCILLOR** was unable to be present.

**78/18 MINUTES** of the Council meeting of 12 September 2018 were read, approved and signed as a true record of that meeting.

**79/18 MATTERS ARISING**

1. Local Highway Initiative. The Clerk reported on the feasibility study received which indicated that Highways were prepared to accept 20mph for most of Station Rd; 30 mph from the are of Brook Farm to the present 30mph limit and 40 mph for the remainder of Station Road and including Hall Lane.

The contribution required by this Council was £1300.

Members thought the proposal acceptable and agreed the expenditure of £1300. They also asked that an additional pole be placed at the east end of High St upon which another reactive sign could be placed and agreed to a further £200 of expenditure towards this.

1. Reactive Sign. Councillor Haynes said that he didn’t think that the batteries were faulty after all and had discovered that they appeared to be charging correctly.
2. The Clerk referred to having drawn members’ attention to the fact that the play equipment was not itself insured. He had enquired as to the cost of doing so and been told that a current additional annual premium of £272.16 would be required. Members agreed to take no action.

**80/18 PLANNING MATTERS**

The following had been received -

18/02272/TREE re Wellington House, High St - request to fell tree.

Councillor Patterson said that he had been in correspondence with HDC’s Trees Officer and had himself inspected the tree. He thought that the tree, although leaning, appeared sound and it was not leaning over the B645 as stated, but over Sandy Lane.

It was agreed to recommend refusal of the application subject to this being the view of HDC’s Trees Officer.

**81/18 CORRESPONDENCE**

1. A circular regarding the opportunity to install charging points for vehicles was noted.
2. The Draft Statement of Community Involvement had been circulated.
3. An invitation to renew the street lighting maintenance contract with K & M Lighting Services was received and agreed.

**82/18 ACCOUNTS**

1. The following were approved for payment -

CAPALC Planning training 150.00 no VAT

1. ON Energy October & November 115.41inc “

CGM Group Ltd Grass cutting 506.40 “ “

Vision ICT Ltd Website maintenance 150.00 “ “

K & M Lighting Streetlight maintenance 45.56 “ “

C L Thatcher Pay Oct - December 388.73 no “

C L Thatcher Reimburse postage 2014/18 71.92 “ “

HMRC PAYE & NIC 3 months 97.00 “ “

1. The Clerk provided his estimate of income & expenditure to the end of the current year and his suggestions for 2019/20, which were accepted.
2. There was discussion on the precept required for 2019/2020 and it was recognised that if improvements via LHI were successful, additional income will be required. It was accordingly unanimously agreed to increase the precept for 2019/2020 to £4500.00.

**83/18 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Councillor Gray said that the District Council is waiting for government to issue guidance next month on settlements. Government’s phrase ‘fairer funding’ does not imply that the news will be good.

Currently the deficit is around £2M with a net budget of £18M and a gross budget of £70M.

Their budget relates to approx 20% for goods and services and 70% for people.

The Local Plan will get agreed and he was pleased to report that Molesworth will remain a USAF base.

**84/18 MEMBERS’ POINTS OF INFORMATION**

Councillor Patterson provided a written report on the councillors’ course which he attended.

He also commented that the tree in the playground needs trimming.

**85/18 NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled meeting of the Council will take place on Wednesday 20 December 2018, commencing at 8pm, in the Village Hall, Church Lane, Tilbrook.