**TILBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 15 January 2020 in the Village Hall, Church Lane,Tilbrook, commencing at 2000 hours.

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

**IN ATTENDANCE** County Councillor Ian Gardener,District Councillor J Gray; C L Thatcher, Clerk to the Council and 8 members of the public.

**1/20 APOLOGIES**  County Councillor Ian Gardener and District Councillor Jonathan Gray were unable to be present for the start of the meeting, but would be along later.

**2/20 PUBLIC FORUM** The Chairman welcomed Joseph Hudson , County Highways Maintenance Officer who answered questions relating to the roads and bridges.

He was asked by a member of the public present about the potholes in Sandy Lane which, he said, had last been repaired in 2010. He said the problem is that tarmac planings do not stick very well in loose surfaces, but he would see what could be done to make a decent repair.

The Chairman asked about repairs to both Station Rd and Church Lane. Mr Hudson said that potholes will be repaired but he was not so sure that such things as raised ironwork would be repaired very quickly because it is very costly and the budget is not available.

The footpath between Station Rd and Church Lane was also mentioned and Mr Hudson will see what can be done, but the ditch alongside the footpath is the responsibility of frontagers. The Clerk will write to householders and ask them to clear the ditch.

**3/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  Councillor Haynes declared an interest in the matter of Summerfield Farm..

**4/20 MINUTES** of the Council meeting of 18 December 2019 were read approved and signed as a true record of that meeting.

**5/20 MATTERS ARISING**

1. Housing Needs Survey. The Clerk reported that the Survey had now been sent to all households in Tilbrook.
2. Summerfield Farm. Nothing further has been heard from the Planning Department. Upon being asked by the Chairman, Councillor Haynes said that there has been no progress with his application. He is working on it, but the problem of delay lies with the Planners.
3. Subsidence Claim. The Clerk said that an answer from HDC is awaited as to whether they consider the trees to be their responsibility and whether they are happy that they be cut down.
4. Bridge cracking. Mr Hudson said that he had passed this to the specialist bridge engineers and would update the Council in due course.

**6/20 PLANNING**

The following application was considered -

19/02470 The Old Stables, Hall Lane, Tilbrook - erect detached garage & carport with room above.

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

**7/20 CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Against Scams Partnership. The Clerk read a letter from the Partnership which invited Councils to become members (without charge) and work together to prevent scams of all sorts.

It was thought that this could be of benefit to residents and the Clerk was asked to arrange membership.

*Councillor Gardener joined the meeting.*

**8/20 ACCOUNTS**

The following were approved for payment.

K & M Lighting Streetlight maintenance 25.13

CGM Group Grass cutting 33.60

1. ON Energy Streetlight energy 142.50

C L Thatcher 3 months’ pay 406.57

HMRC PAYE 101.40

**9/20 COUNTY COUNCILLOR** Councillor Gardener said that he had met with Highways England at Keyston to discuss the A14 between Ellington and Thrapston. This is the only stretch of this road which has junctions at right angles and with little or no acceleration/deceleration lanes. There are also vehicle crossing points. The concern is that when the new road is complete more traffic will be attracted and it may well be travelling at a higher speed and not expecting such obstructions.

Measures to improve safety such as better signage and keeping vegetation down were discussed, but the only real solution is to re-model all the junctions, at great expense. It is unlikely that the money to do this will be available before 2030.

The County Council’s draft Climate Change Strategy is out for consultation. All of the Council’s car and van fleet will be electric by 2025 and all buildings occupied by the Council will be fossil-fuel free,

The Council is also looking at the way social care packages for adults are charged, ready for the budget meeting at the beginning of February.

Councillor Pilcher referred to the traffic lights at Brampton Hut which, she said, are badly timed. Councillor Gardener said that he has a meeting on 27 January to discuss this issue.

*Councillor Gray joined the meeting.*

**10/20 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR** Councillor Gray said that HDC has a new Leader - Ryan Fuller of St Ives.

Councillor Gray remains a member of the cabinet and is preparing the budget and a 2.6% increase is proposed.

HDC is opening a new ‘Training Shed’ in St Ives and there will be a bye election in St Ives soon.

The Council is short staffed, particularly in relation to Planners.

Recycling rejection rate is the lowest for several years at 6%.

**11/20 MEMBERS’ POINTS OF INFORMATION.**

None were raised.

**12/20 NEXT MEETING**

The next normal meeting of Council will be held on 18 March 2020, commencing at 2000 hours in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2045 hours.