

TILFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Assembly of Tilford Parish Council **held on 05th April 2017 at Tilford Village Institute**

Present: Chairman of the Assembly: Cllr N Relf (Chairman, Parish Council)
Members of the Parish Council: Cllrs A Mack, D Lee, M Shams and P Warr
County Councillor: Cllr D Harmer
Borough Councillor: Cllr B Adams

Parish Clerk: Mrs R Webber

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Cllr Relf began by welcoming the 14 members of the public to the Assembly and was encouraged to see a large turn out as two years ago the meeting was only attended by two members of the public. In the past it has been normal to have guest speakers, but this year it was decided to see a different format to seek the opinions of the parish.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr Tahir

3. MINUTES OF TILFORD PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON 7th April 2016

Cllr Relf asked those present that the minutes of the Assembly had been agreed at the Council meeting held on 7th April 2016. It was unanimously agreed that they should now be signed. Cllr Relf signed the minutes.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. Post Office: I am delighted to say that our representation on seeking to have a Post Office place once again in our community have achieved a successful response. As you know, Rushmoor shop closed down, and thus their Post Office was closed as well. A mobile facility has been set up there for 3 hours on one day per week, but Tilford has now succeeded in becoming an intended revitalised venue. We should thank Rushmoor residents, who joined in and supported our protestations to the Post Office. We also thank the owner of our Village Shop, Lance Trevellyan, as the new set-up will be a joint venture style arrangement. This requires investment to cover the set up costs from Lance himself. Foundations have this week been laid for the extension of the shop, for which full planning consent has already been granted, and thus the Post Office WILL return to Tilford in the near future.
2. Disabled access to the Village Green: I am pleased to advise that via an application to Surrey County Council for an allocation for funding, such application being competition with other local parishes, we were successful in implementing two sets of dropped kerbs. These provide disabled access from Riverside car park to the Village Green itself, and the other set for crossing Tilford Road outside the front of the Tilford Institute.
3. Ford widening: In response to requests from the equestrian fraternity, the narrow exit from the ford across the River Wey adjacent to the East Bridge, leading toward the Village Green, has been widened.
4. War Memorial: a recent achievement is the successful cleaning of the War Memorial, making the inscriptions easier to read and tidying up and restoring the area considerably.
5. Traffic Calming: We are very aware of general concern regarding traffic speeds. We have successfully set up volunteer groups to monitor speeds through the village, and significantly have installed a revised 30mph speed limit for entering the village from the Hindhead direction. There will be more discussion on this later, and I recognise that there is some dissent regarding our efforts.
The finance for this project has again been achieved by way of competitive applications to Surrey County Council for project finance, and so again we thank David Harmer for his efforts on our behalf.
6. Bye laws: We have erected a new Notice Board adjacent to Riverside Car Park setting out revised Bye laws, which include the banning of the launching of drones from the Village Green. I am amazed to report that these bye laws have even been read by some travellers, who recently set up camp overnight on Parish land. Again, this occurrence will be covered later in this meeting.

7. River Wey clearance: We have arranged the clearance of silt and foliage in the River Wey underneath and near the East bridge, which has been in danger of causing a diversion of the route of the river, thereby being a threat to existing river embankments.
8. Playground: As with traffic calming there is some dissent with regard to the efforts we have made to renovate and refurbish the Playground area in Shepherds Way. Again, there will be more discussion on this later. I will confine my comments here to a vote of sincere thanks to those parties that have provided us with financial support, both from organisations like the W.I., and from private individuals. Some of those contributions have been substantial. The turn-out for the opening last weekend was magnificent – I am very sorry that I was personally not able to be there.

5. VOTE OF THANKS

I wish to issue a number of sincere thanks. The first is to my fellow Parish Councillors, who devote a considerable amount of time and effort that they freely provide as volunteers for their community. The task can be onerous, and time consuming, and approval is not necessarily always forthcoming.

I wish to thank Mr Paul Fox for his considerable contribution to this Council, and in these days of discussion on legacies I can confirm on this occasion affirm that if we are able to continue his efforts in the production of Tilford Life, which was his concept and considerable achievement, then we will indeed have provided his legacy to this Council. I consider Tilford Life to be highly successful as a medium and forum for advice, discussion and social interaction within the village/Parish. It was with much regret that we had to accept his resignation during this year, in order for him to preserve more time for him and his business activities. I personally know exactly where he is coming from!

I also especially wish to thank our very able Parish Clerk Rachel Webber, who works exceptionally hard for us, and willingly puts in more hours than she is paid for, a situation I find a little embarrassing.

I also wish to highlight and thank David Harmer our Surrey County Councillor, and despite ill health, Brian Adams our local Waverley Borough Councillor who is also resident in our village, for their considerable contribution to our community. The fact that both attended the opening of the Playground speaks volumes for their commitment to this community. It is through this liaison that we have been able to secure finance on projects that I have already discussed.

A sincere vote of thanks is also due to the individual resident in this village who has provided substantial funding to the Council for the purposes of publishing Tilford Life.

Before we move on to the Open Forum, inviting views from you in this chamber, I confirm that Paul Fox's position on the Council has not been filled, and we very much wish to co-opt a volunteer to join us on this Council for a period up to the next elections. I urge members of this Parish to step forward, as we urgently need a willing and active new Councillor.

6. OPEN FORUM

Cllr Relf opens the forum by stating that the following items are on the Parish Council agenda following this meeting and will be covered during that meeting and asks if anyone has anything else they would like to discuss.

- Recreational facilities
- Traffic calming/speed restrictions
- Traffic movement, including road blockage by Waverley Abbey School
- Footpaths and by-ways
- Village Green management
- Aircraft Movement
- Schools
- Police liaison and policing generally
- Planning control and planning applications
- Sports facilities
- Provision of new housing
- Provision of affordable housing
- Lack of bus service/provision of Hoppa service

Post Office service
Defibrillators
Preparation of a Local Plan
Car park maintenance
Fly-tipping
Public use of the River Wey ford at East Bridge
Tilford Life magazine
Tilford Fete
Tilford Institute
Cricket Pavilion
Cricket Club
Broadband
Flooded Roads

Les Harper expressed disappointment over what he has experienced over the last few days with the playground and increased parking in Shepherds Way and it seems that parking has exacerbated in Shepherds Way.

Cllr Relf noted that most of the congestion is down to Waverley Abbey School parents waiting for their children to turn up and the problem is now extending to Hazelbank nursery car park. Although it was accepted that some traffic congestion maybe down to people utilising the playground.

Les Harper also mentioned the problem of the hammer head for turning down Shepherds Way is increasing being used as additional parking bays which makes it difficult to manoeuvre vehicles and asked if it were possible for a sign to be erected. Cllr Relf agreed the Parish Council will look into this possibility.

Driving over the grass to access a garage without permission was also raised. Cllr Relf advised that we will look into this further and if necessary go through enforcement.

The road surface where Shepherds Way and the Tilford Street join was raised as a concern as it has deteriorated dramatically and parts of the pavements in Shepherds Way had degraded. Cllr Harmer had noted that part of the road and advised he thought it was porous and crumbling on the surface, but would ask the committees Highway Officer to conduct a report.

The Grove Footpath timber steps were raised as they are almost no longer existent. This is a permissive footpath, therefore the responsibility for this lies with the landowner. Cllr Adams will investigate as this land belongs to Waverley Borough Council. If you go further up the path towards Squires Hill, where the tarmac starts this is beginning to wear and there has been an increase in the use of scramble bikes. Cllr Relf advised that along the BOAT (Byway Open To All Traffic) is permitted providing the relevant permissions have been sought and there is an event due this coming weekend. However, if unpermitted vehicles use the footpath this would be illegal.

Mrs Gidden raised concern with the increased organisations arranging public events whereby they are utilising the car parks around the village and leaving their cars all day which results in either visitors not being able to stop and park or causing congestion parking along the roadside

Mr Jeremy Wragge-Morely asked if it were possible to have sight of the draft minutes before the next Annual Assembly. It was agreed by Parish Council that they would look into changing their Standing Orders to check and confirm accuracy in order to be able to publish the minutes in draft format, however official approval would not be given and minutes would not be signed until the next Annual Assembly.

Alexa Barrow raised concerns over drainage of the new development. Three times the Environmental Agency have had to come out. The 5 houses are served by a 4inch drain that gets blocked and solid waste stays on the path and fluid joins surface water and runs into river.

The River is a recreational area for lots of children and concerned about the drainage system of 9 new houses making things worse.

Cllr Adams confirms in order to get planning permission approved Thames Water would have had to sign first. If there are issues with the drains then Thames Water is the first point of contact.

7. FUTURE DATES

Parish Council Annual Meeting Thursday 18th May 2017 at the Tilford Institute

8. CLOSURE of MEETING

Cllr Relf thanks all those for coming and formally closes the meeting at 20.07

Signed
CHAIRMAN

Date