TONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING: Monday 18/10/2021, held at the Old School Hall, Poyle Road, Tongham at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT:

Cllr L Oakley (Chair)	Mr L Stovold	Mr G Smith
Cllr S Blewitt	Cllr P Buckley	Mrs J Smith
Cllr G Eyre	Cllr M Furniss (SCC)	Mr C Pritchard
Mr T Boxall	Mr M Moore	Mrs J Pritchard
Mr M Heath	Mr M Miller	Mrs J Evans
Mr B Waugh	Mr D Evans	

Clerk: Mrs Margaret Murray

1. Chairman's announcements and apologies for absence: Cllr A Carey, Cllr S Gray, Cllr P Spooner, Cllr M Baldock.
2. The minutes from the meeting on 20/09/2021 were approved. Proposed Cllr Blewitt, Seconded: Cllr Buckley. Signed by Cllr Oakley.
3. Code of conduct: disclosure of interest: None.
4. Matters arising: none which would not be dealt with in the course of the meeting.
5. County and Borough matters:
   County: A lively discussion regarding the appalling state pf traffic through Tongham took place, Cllr Furniss assured the meeting that the current roadworks (A31/A331) causing the issues should be finished by end of October or at worst November. He advised that he could not commit funds for full time traffic lights but that they were there every night. He hopes that Satnavs will stop taking people through the village when the works are complete.
   SCC is looking at improvements to Poyle Road, The Street, Manor Road, Grange Road and White Lane.
   Highways Road safety team are looking at the chicane. The Government are encouraging faster broadband; and there is a new Green Business grant to help small businesses be more environmentally aware.
   He also advised the meeting to look at and complete the Surrey Transport Plan – the consultation closes on Sunday 24th October.
   Cllr Habgood asked why the bus shelters on The Cardinals had been marked as 'Bus stop suspended'; we were advised this was no longer the case. Cllr Blewitt asked how

people were to cross the new faster A331 and was assured there would be controlled pedestrian crossings.
Cllr Furniss also advised the meeting that the signs guiding HGV's away were only for guidance, and that they were allowed for access only.
Borough: Cllr Eyre mentioned that Shawfield Day Centre is threatened with closure, GBC are considering replacing SDC and Park Barn with one new centre (in Park Barn).Cllrs Eyre and Spooner have requested further information.
Area to the north of the Hogs Back: it was reported that a property developer had taken an option on this land, however some reports say e developer has bought it, the area is being considered for inclusion as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). A consultation is being prepared; Cllr Eyre will inform the Clerk, who will publicise this. It needs to be completed as widely as possible.
Cllr Eyre also advised the meeting that Ash Citizens Advice is under threat due to cut-backs; he and Cllr Spooner disagreed with this decision and will keep us informed.

6. Adjournment: No questions were raised, however Mr Heath thanked Cllr Furniss for all the help he gives us in funding and in support.

7. Reports from sub-committees:
    a. Planning: Chair Cllr Blewitt: The Clerk proposes to contact our local MP, County and Borough Councils and any other useful bodies regarding any further proposed development on the North side of the Hogs Back. We all feel this is unacceptable on every level. Possibility of the land being included as part of AONB; when consultation available Cllr Eyre will notify Clerk who will publish it. As many people as possible need to sign / complete this.
    b. Lighting and General Purposes: Chair Cllr Carey.
        1. Fireworks: Risk assessments done, posters going up, The Scouts are on board for torchlight procession, BBQ, rattling buckets. Bonfire building starts 9.00 am Sat 6th. Pallets needed and also to be delivered from Cllr Oakley's garden to the site.
        2. Raising profile: postcards ready to go out to print to be delivered to the village; all approved; they are asking people to register for the quarterly newsletter online, which should save time, effort and money in the long term.
        3. Phone box: the Clerk is meeting with Mr Ben Waugh to proceed further with plans for a defibrillator; book exchange will be delayed until Covid restrictions fully lifted.
        4. Speeding: Poyle Road and The Street: remains appalling, to be brought up with Borough and County again. (See above).
        5. Parking outside the Church and generally in the village: many people are parking thoughtlessly, and on pavements. Clerk is to prepare notices to remind people of the law. For example where 99% or cars park on the left hand side of the road, 1 car parked on the right-hand side can cause real chaos.
        6. Trampoline in new play area: due to the high water table, and the high clay content in the soil, there is frequently water under the trampoline. It remains very popular with the young people, however the Council are concerned that the water is smelly and unclean. Cllr Oakley will provide a bag of stones to hopefully help drainage, and trial pump work, and will monitor the situation.

c. Finance, Policy and Administration: Chair: Cllr Gray.
    i. Financial statements for August and September 2021 agreed by all. The Clerk has now moved to electronic bank statements.
    ii. Changes to Register of Interest: no changes reported.
    iii. Air conditioner for Community Centre: as the cost of this will increase by around £2000.00 after December, it was agreed that the Council will provide the immediately required funds of £5000.00 on the basis of a loan or grant. Cllr Furniss is happy to contribute from his next year's Member's Allocation.
    iv. Any other business: NONE.

8. Execution of documents: To consider, if necessary, passing the following resolution: "That the Council do seal in the manner prescribed by law, or the clerk or member as appropriate, do sign on behalf of the Council any Order, Deeds or Documents, required to give effect to any of the matters and recommendations contained in the reports as presented to, and approved by, the Council on 18/10/2021". Proposed: Cllr Habgood, Seconded: Cllr. Buckley.

Signed: ……..
L P Oakley, Chair of meeting, Date: 15/11/2021