TONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FORTIETH MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE OLD SCHOOL TONGHAM on MONDAY 15th MAY 2023 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Cllr. L. Oakley
Cllr S Gray
Cllr P Buckley
Cllr Murray

Parish Clerk – Mrs J Smith

Minutes

1) To receive apologies for absence – Apologies received from Cllr Habgood
2) Declarations of acceptance of office – All agreed.
3) Election of Chairman of the Council – Councillor Oakley expressed his willingness to continue as Chairman; unanimously appointed: proposed Cllr Gray, seconded Cllr Murray. The declarations of office were signed and witnessed.
4) Receipt of Chairmans declaration of office – The Chairman signed the declaration of office.
5) Registration of any change to financial and other registerable interests – No changes.
6) Cllr Susan Habgood was elected as Vice Chair: proposed Cllr Gray, seconded Cllr Murray
7) Election of Councillors to serve upon working parties : Cllrs will serve as follows: No changes

Planning:	Cllr Murray (CHAIR), Cllr Buckley, Cllr Oakley, Cllr Habgood
LGPS:	Cllr Buckley (CHAIR), Cllr Oakley, Cllr Habgood, Cllr Gray, Cllr Murray
Finance:	Cllr Gray (CHAIR), Cllr Oakley, Cllr Habgood, Cllr Buckley.

Proposed en masse: Cllr Oakley, seconded Cllr Gray.

8) Chairman's Report 2023 :

Tongham Parish Council: Chairmans Report: 15th May 2023

Another year gone by and lots happened within the village as has been the case in recent years.
I can't as you all know do my report without commenting on the overdevelopment of the village and my dislike of it. Having moved to Tongham with my family in 1965 and being involved with all things Tongham, nobody is ever going to convince me that the amount of new housing is going to have an overall positive affect on Tongham as a village, I sincerely hope that the volume of new residents will benefit local businesses as that would be at least a small consolation for the existing residents of the village.

The last year has seen a first full year in office for our Clerk Jill Smith, taking over from Margaret Murray was always going to be a tough act to follow, and despite by her own admission, the task being at times a little overwhelming, Jill has settled in to her role and does a fine job in dealing with day to day Parish Business, as do all our volunteer councillors, Susie Habgood, Sue Gray, Phil Buckley, Alison Carey and Sue Blewitt. We said goodbye to both Sue Blewitt and Alison Carey recently as both decided their time as TPC councillors was at an end, I would like to thank them both for their time and commitment to their roles. Also thanks to Councillor Melvin Baldock who stepped down from TPC last year for personal reasons.

Thanks to Matt Furniss SCC and both Graham Eyre and Paul Spooner GBC for their support throughout the last year, and a special mention must go to Paul Spooner who after many years of service to GBC and his community has decided to "take a rest " from the stresses and strains of politics, best wishes to you Paul !

I would like to thank other various volunteer groups in the village that also do a great job, The scouts for their help in community events particularly the annual bonfire which continues to be very popular, the Community Association for managing the rec and community centre, they do a sterling job, the Institute fund for helping and caring for the less fortunate and donating much needed funds to all the voluntary good causes in and around the village, and huge congratulations to Mike Heath on his recent BEM award for all the work he and his Tongham Care Group do around the village. I was fortunate enough to join Mike and others at a recent afternoon tea event to celebrate his award. Of course, the above are just a section of some of the volunteers we have in Tongham, we are quite lucky that we still maintain a good community spirit within the village which was certainly evident at the recent Kings Coronation event at the recreation ground where despite the fact it poured with rain all day the event was still well attended.

I'm Sure I have forgotten someone or something but will finish my report with one last thankyou to the members of the public who bother to come to TPC meetings and take an interest in Parish matters they are a small group but an important one.

Best Regards

Les Oakley: **Chairman Tongham Parish Council**

9) Parochial Charities – **Tongham Moors Recreation Ground Parochial Charitable Trust 2023**

Tongham Moors Recreation Ground Parochial Charitable Trust 2023.

Since the last Annual Parish Council meeting, the Tongham Moors Recreation Ground Trust has ensured that fences have been kept in order and the grass has been cut throughout the year. Dog waste bins have been emptied by Guildford Borough Council and inspection of the area is carried out on a regular basis by the trust. Appropriate insurance measures have been kept in place and further works and improvements to the grounds and play area will, hopefully take place in the not too distant future. The Trust is always looking at new ideas for further measures to improve the area and welcomes suggestions from all quarters.
Unfortunately, owing to the sad loss of one of the remaining trustees, the Trust is no longer quorate and therefore is no longer able to manage itself. Management of The Trust will, thereforerequire to be handed back to the Parish Council at the earliest opportunity. The remaining trustees will, of course, be available in an advisory capacity and are able to remain as signatories for bank issues until the required changes to the bank mandate can be successfully completed by the new management committee..

Bristol and West Building Society Deposit Account
As at 31st March 2022

B/F			10.00
Balance	31st March 2022	£10.00	

Co-op Bank Account

Balance B/F 31 March 2022			£6977.50

Plus Receipts

Tongham Bowling club	02/07/22	900.00	
Tongham Bowling club	02/12/22	900.00	
		£8777.50	

Less Payments

Dryad Ltd (willow pollarding).	10/05/22	504.00
Tongham Care group (litter picking and fence repair	14/06/22	175.00
M.F. Heath (litter clearance	02/03/23	45.00
Zuruck Insurance (card payment)	30/06/22	655.47
Balance 31st March 2023		£7398.03

Mrs Meckiffe informed the Parish council that The Moors could no longer be run by her as they are no longer quorate following the death of one of their members. Therefore the running and maintenance of The Moors would fall back to Tongham Parish Council.
She will be in touch with the clerk to arrange a handover of accounts etc.

10) Financial reports : Audit to be agreed in June 2023 PC meeting
11) Execution of documents: To consider 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 15th May 2023".

Proposed Cllr Oakley, seconded Cllr Gray.

Minutes agreed at meeting on 19th June 2023

Signed: .....

Les Oakley
Chairman