.TONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING: Monday 20/11/2023, held at the Old School Hall, Poyle Road, Tongham at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT:

Cllr L Oakley	Cllr M Murray	Mr T Boxall	
Cllr P Buckley	Cllr L Lowdon	Revd C Holt	
Cllr S Habgood	Cllr E Hall	Mr M Daughtreau	
Cllr S Gray	Cllr S Barker		

Clerk: (Acting) Mrs M Murray

1. Chairman's announcements and apologies for absence: Cllr Barker apologised on behalf of Cllr Furniss who was attending Seale & Sands meeting. Cllr Oakley announced that Mrs Jill Smith had resigned with effect from 1/12/2023, our thanks and good wishes are with her. We hope that a new Clerk will be in position shortly. Meantime, Cllr Murray is willing to take minutes for meetings and Cllr Gray is overseeing finances.
2. The minutes from the meeting on 16/10/2023 were approved. Proposed Cllr Buckley, Seconded: Cllr. Hall. 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: Provided by Cllr Furniss:

- We are pursuing the Admiral Park footpath which has not been built to plans.
- The makings on the Street have been actioned.
- Oxenden Road speed cushion and bollards on verge are being installed over Christmas period, likely after Christmas.
- Manor Road speed reduction is being installed next year during school holidays next year.
- Poyle Rd/White Lane junction is my nomination for the road improvements next Financial Year.
- Poyle Rd pavement patching has been commissioned for next financial year on worst sections.
- Cardinals Flooding is with flood team for investigation with Thames Water.
- St Paul's Expansion

  Infant to primary, the formal Education consultation process for the proposed expansion closed on 5th November 2023 and the outcome of this consultation is expected to be determined by the February 2024.

  In the meantime, a consultant team have been engaged to review the options on how this can be delivered

  We are intending to show of these plans on Thursday 30th November at the school and invite local residents to review and comment on before we submit to planning in the early part of next year.

Borough: Cllr Barker explained the Guildford Borough Council is still in some financial difficulty, but has appointed a new Section 151 officer to oversee finances. Their next budget will be February 2024. She also advised that a new CEO has been appointed, and discussions with Waverley Borough Council regarding shared services are ongoing. Cllr Oakley asked whether there was any issue outstanding with the outgoing CEO, and was advised there was not.

6. Adjournment:
    a. Mr Daugtreau advised the meeting that the new traffic-slowing tables in The Street were excessively high and in need of more paint work to make them stand out. A discussion took place and it was agreed that Cllr Barker would speak to Cllr Furniss, who is now SCC Highways Councillor, for his input - The meeting felt that traffic lights would be the best solution for the village.
    b. Rev Holt asked if there was any update to the AONB status; Cllr Buckley advised this could take a year or more, nothing heard yet. Apparently Jeremy Hunt MP is keen to assist, but cannot yet as he is not officially our MP yet.
    c. Mr Boxall thanked the Council for the provision of bacon butties and hot drinks for the bonfire builders.
7. **Reports from working groups:**
    a. **Finance, Policy and Administration**: Cllr Gray.
        1. FNST for months ending Sept and October 2023: all agreed.
        2. 6 monthly budget monitoring: all is as expected.
        3. Draft budget approval: revisiting in light of CGA end.
        4. Register of Interest: no changes declared.
        5. Section 137 request: Rev Holt, for the farm to visit at Christmas, £364.50. Agreed.
        6. Any other business:
            a. Cllr Habgood will make up a hamper for St Paul's School Christmas Fair raffle.
            b. S137 request from bowling club for help with gardening works: as we have just issued a grant to them, it was felt that this request should be denied; to be advised to re-apply in April.
            c. There has been updates within the Financial Regs., Cllr Gray will send these round for councillor perusal.
    b. **PLANNING:** Cllr Murray.
        1. New McDonalds at Tongham Services – no strong feelings, our main concerns are the environmental impact and littering. Cllrs Furniss and Barker to meet with McDonalds to see if there is any likelihood of assistance for the village, and what is their response to environmental .impact and litter concerns.
    c. **LIGHTING AND GENERAL PURPOSE:** Cllr Buckley
        1. Fireworks night: excellent night, however procedural and safety concerns were raised due to the amount of people attending; the Council will hold a meeting shortly to have an in depth discussion.
        2. Music festival for the Recreation ground: run by a commercial company, and plans are to build the event up to several days. Majority agreed that this is not suitable for the Recreation ground, i.e. right in the middle of a Housing estate.
        3. Clearance of the old wooden play equipment at the Moors: there was insufficient time and people to do this for the 2023 bonfire, we will however plan to get the equipment down and stored for the 2024 bonfire.
        4. Allotments policy changes: all agreed that 1 plot per person should be the limit for now, and that only Tongham residents would be allotted a plot. The waiting list is to be updated, too.

Also, it was agreed that the fees for 2025 will be £40 full and £20 concession; this will be advertised in April 2024.

5. Village sign: Cllr Habgood has met with Bellway, the sign is ready and should be installed soon. She also asked about the provision of a noticeboard, they will get back to her.
6. There are some trees overhanging dangerously between the vicarage and the Recreation ground; the Diocese has been asked to contribute, the total cost is £260 + VAT so if they do, the contribution will be 25% of that between TPC, TCG, TCA and Diocese. However they want to have an inspection first.
7. TCA had been asked at the latest meeting about opening for coffees etc, they felt this was not something they wished to do at the moment, They also felt a 'loo' would be very vulnerable to misuse to said No to that as well.
8. The TCA's Solar Panel Project: is currently on hold due to financial difficulties, but Planning permission has been awarded for when we /the TCA have managed to raise the funds.

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 20th November 2023". Proposed: Cllr Habgood; Seconded: Cllr Lowdon.

Signed: ....[redacted].....
L P Oakley, Chair of meeting, Date: 20th November 2023.