TONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING: Monday 16/10/2023, 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	Mr D Evans	
Cllr S Habgood	Cllr E Hall	Mr I Murray	
Cllr S Gray	Cllr M Furniss		

Clerk: (Acting) Mrs M Murray
16th October 2023

1. Chairman's announcements and apologies for absence: Cllr Furniss apologised on behalf of Cllr S Barker. Cllr Oakley announced that Mrs Jill Smith had resigned with effect from 1/1/2024, however due to family commitments/illness she is currently absent. He will speak to her to see if she can keep things 'ticking over' in the back office, Mrs Murray is willing to take minutes for meetings.
2. The minutes from the meeting on 18/09/2023 were approved. Proposed Cllr Habgood, Seconded: Cllr. Lowdon. Signed by Cllr Oakley.
3. Code of conduct: disclosure of interest: MM declared an Interest in S137 request from TCA.
4. Matters arising: none which would not be dealt with in the course of the meeting.
5. County and Borough matters:
   County: Cllr Furniss reported that the works on The Street were proceeding well. The closure of the slip road on the roundabout was done by SE Water and nothing to do with SCC. Admiral Park: there should have been a path created so that residents could safely cross at the chicane; this will be done, and Highways will not sign off until it is. The consultation on changing St Paul's Infant School to a Primary is ongoing. He asked that as many people as possible should be encouraged to sign up. Jeremy Hunt MP has agreed to support the provision of a medical centre in Ash Lodge Drive and is working on our behalf. SCC has 13 new gritters, local children will be asked to name them and may be rewarded with a ride. The new Link card scheme, 50% reduction in travel costs for under 20 year olds, is doing well and Cllr Furniss provided several posters to be put up round the village. There is a shortage of foster parents in the area, and many children needing foster support. SCC has a new information video and he assured us that there is financial assistance. Poyle Road/ White Lane – Cllr Furniss has nominated this junction for improvement, he will keep us posted.
   Borough: Cllr Furniss explained the Guildford Borough Council has succeeded in emerging from special measures, but that one of the economies is the decision to end Concurrent Grant Aid. Cllr Furniss assured the meeting that he should be able to help fund the new disabled ramp at the community centre. There may be some section 106 funding available. He will also confirm the boundaries of The Moors.

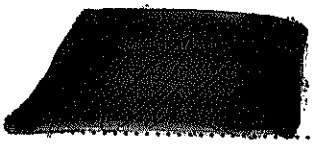
6. Adjournment: Mr Evans asked about the village sign. Cllr Habgood has been chasing thisup but has heard nothing, and expects nothing to happen until the frontage of Admiral Park has been tidied and completed.

The Moors: Mr Iain Murray, representing the Tongham Wood Improvement Group (TWIGs), advised that they may ber willing and able to help manage the area, with the support of the Blackwater Valley Trust, and agreed that it was a good idea to extend the Bowling Club's car park. This extension would be from the existing area to the present (defunct) play area, running from the Moors to the ditch. NB we really do need the boundary details and deeds – Cllr Furniss has promised to provide this information as soon as possible. Cllr Oakley will have a meeting with the Bowls club committee, who currently rent the area of their club from the Moors Trust. Cllr Gray asked what area TWIG could help with, again Mr Murray was happy to help with the entire area, and pointed out that the BVT still helps TWIG out although their funding from SCC has been cut; BUT we need the boundary details. Cllr Oakley will remove the old play equipment and use it for the bonfire (only the wooden framework remains).

7. **Reports from working groups:**
   a. **Finance, Policy and Administration**: Cllr Gray.
      1. FNST for months ending Sept and October 2023: will be provided by Cllr Gray for next meeting.
      2. Draft budget approval: revisiting in light of CGA end.
      3. Register of Interest: no changes declared.
      4. Section 137 request: TWIG: £500.00. Agreed.
      5. Section 137 request: TCA (MM) for Christmas presents for Santa at the Christmas Fair: £100.00 agreed.
      6. Any other business:
         a. CGA changes: Clerk to contact GBC to ask for an extension for the ramp CGA (which should be honoured).
         b. Unity bank: put on hold pending new Clerk.
   b. **PLANNING:** Cllr Murray – Nothing
   c. **LIGHTING AND GENERAL PURPOSE:** Cllr Buckley
      1. Remembrance parade: the Church has contacted GBC for permission to close the road, we have 6 volunteers and Cllr Habgood has ordered the wreath for Cllr Oakley to lay.
      2. Tongham Moors: see adjournment.
      3. Bonfire: Cllr Hall will put a notice on FB regarding the provision of an area for pallets and wooden unpainted doors from the week prior to the bonfire. Cllrs Murray, Habgood and Gray will provide bacon buttes, teas etc to the bonfire builders on Sat 4th Nov., Cllr Murray will apply to the Institute Fund for monies for this. LO will organise the orange fencing, and fireboxes.
         We were advised that the pub (White Hart) may be open next Friday. The Scouts will process from there on Bonfire night. The banners are ready to go up and will be done tomorrow.
      4. AOB:
         I. Trampoline: is ready for the actual trampoline to be installed now.
         II. Burma bridge for small play area: to follow up. (May need to ask Clerk, Mrs Smith).
         III. Allotments: Cllr Buckley said much improvement had been made. Cllr Oakley has spoken to Mr

Fifield, who said he did not want to give up his plots and his neighbours were happy.

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 16th October 2023". Proposed: Cllr Gray, Seconded: Cllr Lowdon.

Signed: .....

L P Oakley, Chair of meeting, Date: 20th November 2023

