



TONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FORTY FIRST MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE OLD SCHOOL TONGHAM on MONDAY 20th MAY 2024 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Cllr. L. Lowdon
Cllr S Gray
Cllr P Buckley
Cllr M Murray
Cllr E Hall
Cllr S Habgood

Parish Clerk –Mr Zedekiah Watyoka

Minutes

- 1) To receive apologies for absence – Apologies received from Cllr L Oakley
- 2) Declarations of acceptance of office – All agreed
- 3) Election of Chairman of the Council – Councillor Oakley expressed his willingness to continue as Chairman in absentia; unanimously appointed: proposed Cllr Gray, seconded Cllr Hall. The declarations of office to be signed and witnessed on his return.
- 4) Receipt of Chairmans declaration of office – The Chairman Cllr Oakley will sign this on his return
- 5) Registration of any change to financial and other registerable interests – No changes.
- 6) Cllr Susan Habgood was elected as Vice Chair: Proposed Cllr Murray, seconded Cllr Gray
- 7) Election of Councillors to serve upon working parties: Cllrs will serve as follows:
 - a) Finance, Policy and Administration: Cllr Gray (CHAIR), Cllr Buckley, Cllr Oakley, Cllr Hall.
Proposed: Cllr Murray Seconded Cllr Lowdon
 - b) Planning: Cllr Murray (CHAIR), Cllr Oakley, Cllr Buckley, Cllr Lowdon
Proposed: Habgood Seconded Cllr Hall
 - c) Lighting and General Purposes: Cllr Buckley (CHAIR), Cllr Oakley, Cllr Habgood, Cllr Murray and Cllr Hall.
Proposed: Cllr Gray Seconded: Cllr Lowdon

8) Chairman's Report 2024:

Chairmans Report for AGM 20th May 2024

Thanks, as always to all TPC Councilors for their time and dedication to Tongham Village, we are all aware the village is growing at an alarming rate and change is inevitable.

Volume of traffic seems to be high on everyone's agenda and it can only be hoped that this "Settles Down" once all the road works and services for all the new houses are complete.

This past year has seen a change of personnel with Zed taking over as Clerk to the Parish Council, following on from Jill Smith who for personal reasons had to stand down, my thanks to Jill for her efforts whilst in office. Councilors Ed Hall, Lyn Lowden and Phil Buckley being the "newest" additions to the council have been great in my opinion as have councilors who have been around a bit longer, Councilors Susie Habgood. Sue Gray and of course Margaret Murray, special thanks to Sue G and Margaret for ensuring the smooth transition of parish clerk, you have both done a fantastic job in helping Zed into his new post and ensuring that everyday parish issues were dealt with.

This year has seen us take back responsibility for Tongham Moors and I know we have several ideas for that area, with works having begun with the removal of the existing play area equipment which had seen better days to say the least. The allotments seem to be as popular as ever with a long waiting list of people looking to be considered should one become available. The Recreation Ground continues to be a well-used area for Football, Cricket, with the various play/exercise areas also very popular with local people, it also provides a very nice setting for numerous dog walkers.

Thanks to all the members of the public that come to meetings here at the old school, special mention to Tony Boxall who barely misses a meeting. Thanks to Matt Furniss and Sallie Barker for their continued support of Tongham and for their help and advice which at times is much needed. Thanks also to Mike Heath who despite no longer attending TPC meetings continues to carry out lots of tasks around the village.

Finally, my apologies for not being able to attend this evening's meeting but in my absence I would just like to make clear that I am happy to stand again as Parish Chairman should the majority of my fellow councilors wish, however if it's felt that it's time for a change by the majority then so be it.

Have a great summer everyone!!

Best Regards

Les

9) Financial reports: Internal Audit Report 2024: This was sent out earlier to the Councillors who had the chance to read through the report. No comments where noted.

10) 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 20th May 2024".

Proposed Cllr Hal, seconded Cllr Buckley.

Minutes agreed at meeting on 17th June 2024



Signed:

Les Oakley
Chairman