Tongham Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting: 15th June 2026, held at the Old School Hall, Poyle Road Tongham at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr L. Oakley (Chair), Cllr S. Habgood, Cllr S. Gray, Cllr P. Buckley, Cllr E. Hall, Cllr L. Lowdon, Cllr M. Furniss (SCC), Cllr S. Barker (GBC), Parish Clerk K. Brennan.

4 Members of the Public attended and are recorded as shown on appended note.

1. Chairman's Announcements and Apologies for Absence:

No announcements or apologies recorded.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 May 2026

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed.

Proposed: Cllr Lowdon
Seconded: Cllr Hall

3. Code of Conduct – Disclosure of Interests

No declarations of interest were made.

4. Register of Interests

No changes reported.

5. Co-option of Parish Councillor

Members unanimously voted to co-opt Mr N. Crabbe to the Parish Council.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Crabbe to the Council.

6. Matters Arising

- Ditch maintenance at The Gardens and Pawley Close. Awaiting update from Cllr Furniss SCC.
- Ownership of the ditch outside Poyle Road Recreation Ground remains under investigation, as part of the Recreation Ground Lease enquiries.
- Section 137 grants, allocated at the last meeting, have now all been paid.
- Poyle Road yellow lines parking proposal remains under consultation with SCC.
- Manor Farm development (Taylor Wimpey): no update yet as GBC do not have a case officer appointed for the application.
- Outdoor gym repairs completed and only painting now required.
- Recreation Ground lease: awaiting response from GBC.
- Spoil Lane allotments walkaround date cancelled due to the weather.
- The clerk has confirmed with ROSPA that there are 2 playgrounds to be included in their Annual Inspection.

7. County and Borough Council Matters

Cllr Furniss reported that the Poyle Road yellow lines parking issue is awaiting the outcome of the SCC consultation period.

Ditch maintenance at The Gardens and Pawley Close has been carried out but further litter clearing can be arranged, if required.

Cllr Furniss can provide contact details for the owners of the land directly behind the Pocket Park, so they can be notified of the safety issue concerning dead branches on a tree on the land. EV charging proposal concerning Blenheim Close has been withdrawn.

8. Public Adjournment:

Resident Mr Bearman raised concerns regarding a vehicle parking problem on Admiral Park associated with Hogs Back Brewery events and long-term parking by Ministry of Defence tenants and he was advised that the MOD should be notified.

It was noted that the roads concerned have not yet been adopted by SCC

9. Reports from Sub-Committees:

Finance and Administration

a) The Financial Statement for month ending 31 May 2026 was approved.
b) Proposed: Cllr Habgood
c) Seconded: Cllr Lowdon
d) The Pocket Park maintenance grant funding has not yet been received.
e) The Zurich annual insurance has been renewed and the premium paid.
f) The Risk Assessment Policy, circulated to the councillors prior to the meeting, was approved.
g) The Recreation Ground improvement project, suggested by Cllr Gray, requires three quotations, and will be circulated to all councillors when received.
Proposed: Cllr Oakley
Seconded: Cllr Lowdon

Planning:

Application Ref: 26/P/00430	Approved 19/05/2026
Application Ref: 26/P/00674	Pending
Application Ref: 26/P/00417	Refused 08/06/2026

Lighting and General Purpose:

a) Outdoor gym repairs completed and only re-painting is now required.
b) There have been 2 Allotment gate signs purchased, and fitted, but one sign has since been removed. The clerk will enquire after the missing sign.
c) The Allotment walkaround has been re-scheduled for 23 June at 6.00pm.

10. Any other business:

The 'No More Homes' banners have been removed from the railings at the top of The Street. Cllr Furniss (SCC) will check if the council workmen have removed them, but new banners to be purchased if they are not found.

The clerk to enquire to SCC about how to apply for a licence to display banners on County Council property.
Cllr Habgood asked if Gateways into the village could be considered, to improve the appearance of the village. Cllr Furniss advised that SCC would consider the cost of this to be prohibitive.

11. 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 15th June 2026."

Proposed: Seconded:

Signed: ……

L. Oakley, Chair of meeting, Date: 20th July 2026.

Actions:

Recreation Ground Lease & ditch responsibility – Cllr Hall

Poyle Road parking yellow lines, SCC Highways – Cllr Hall

Outdoor Gym equipment painting – Cllr Oakley

Pocket Park tree issue – Cllr Buckley

Pocket Park maintenance grant – Parish Clerk

Missing Allotments sign – Parish Clerk

Recreation Ground improvements quotes – Cllr Gray