

**Minutes of the Toft Annual Parish Meeting  
held on Tuesday 4 May 2021 at 7.00 pm  
held remotely via Zoom due to the current pandemic**

Present: 11 Parishioners including Parish Councillors and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

Cllr Yeadon presided.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Andy Tall, Kaushik Popat and District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain).

**2. To approve the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 13 May 2019**

(No meeting was held in 2020 due to the pandemic)

The minutes of the meeting on 13 May 2019 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. <sup>(unopposed)</sup>

**3. Matters Arising**

Disabled access into Lot Meadow – The Parish Council had concluded that it was not possible but if necessary Cllr Ellis-Evans co-ordinates with the owners of the adjacent property to enable access.

**4. Report of the Parish Council for the year**

Councillor Yeadon presented his report.

The report covered:

- There had been no Annual Parish Meeting last year due to the pandemic. The Parish Council meetings had been conducted remotely via Zoom but legislation permitting this ceases on Friday. It will be necessary to wait and see how the Parish Council will meet.
- During the year the Parish Council had been involved with the East West Rail proposals, and the Cambridge Approaches and Eversden campaign groups. A pledge of £5000 had been made along with other villages, towards the cost of a potential judicial review of the EWR proposals, if EWR did not consult fully on the northern approach. The Parish Council had also funded signs drawing the public's attention to the consultation, and held a well attended village meeting. Residents were encouraged to respond to the consultation.
- Proposals for an additional 41 houses at Bennell Farm, the Hardwick Road development and a Co-operative store at Bennell Farm. The Parish Council had objected to all three applications. There had been an increased number of applications and many other applications had been considered
- Thanks were expressed for the work of the Coronavirus volunteers, led by Linda Hollow. Thanks were also extended to the shop for their support.
- The Council's financial status had been maintained with no increase to the precept.
- Village maintenance and the roles and responsibilities of individual councillors, who were thanked for their efforts.
- The sale of Tyne Cottage. The Parish Council had been unable to compete with the purchase price.
- Funding of a Zoom licence for the Social Club.
- The production of new welcome packs.
- The Climate Change Crisis sub-committee.
- Consideration of the verges outside the Church.
- Jane Tebbit's initiative for a seed swap located in the phone box.
- Thanks were expressed to the Clerk and LGS Services for their support.

**5. Presentation of the Council's audited accounts (ending 31 March 2020) and financial report**

Gail Stoehr, the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, reported that the accounts for the Financial Year ended 2020 were available on the website. The accounts for FY21 are due for approval by the Parish Council this evening. She outlined the responsibilities of electors to question the Council's accounts as the Council was exempt from full audit. Arrangements for inspection of FY21 accounts will be published on the website and on the notice board.

**6. Other reports**

**6.1 District Councillor**

District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain's report was read by the Chairman in his absence. The report covered:

- The Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on communities. Cllr Chamberlain expressed gratitude to all those involved in helping and supporting elderly and vulnerable residents and the organisers of the volunteer groups for their outstanding support and community spirit.
- The East West Rail proposals, the launch of the consultation and the two campaign groups supporting a northern route into Cambridge via Northstowe.
- The growth of Northstowe, the North East Area Action Plan and their implications for transport needs in the area.
- Residents were urged to study and respond to the consultation.
- The Cambourne to Cambridge Transport Corridor. Progress has been paused while an audit is carried out. The response of the Local Liaison Forum was outlined.
- The Girton Interchange. Highways England has confirmed that the upgrade to an all-directions junction enabling southbound access from the A428 to the M11, will be considered in their plans for 2025 to 2030.
- The Bourn Airfield Development. The outline planning application for 3500 homes has been approved by the Planning Committee.

**6.2 County Councillor**

No report received.

**7. Any other parish matters including any resolutions which have been received**

A resident thanked the Parish Council for all its work over the last two years. He felt that the hard work of Councillors was taken for granted.

Cllr Ellis-Evans thanked Cllr Yeadon on behalf of the Councillors for all his work as Chairman.

A resident asked why the Parish Council could not continue with Zoom meetings. The Chairman explained that this had been permitted by emergency legislation which had now ended.

**8. Closure of meeting**

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 7.23 pm.

Signed .....Chairman .....date.

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