

Toft Parish Council

I hereby give notice that the 819th meeting of Toft Parish Council will be held
on Monday 2 December 2024 in the People's Hall, Toft,
at approximately 7.15 pm following the William Eversden's Charity (Allotments) Meeting

The Public and Press are invited to be present. Members of the Public are welcome to attend and may
speak under the Open Public Session only

All members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend for the purpose of considering and resolving
upon the business to be transacted at the Meeting as set out hereunder

Ben Stoehr

Mr Ben Stoehr
Clerk, 26/11/24

AGENDA

Comments and observations from members of the public on items on this agenda only and reports from the District and County Councillors

1. Apologies for absence and declaration of interests

- 1.1 To receive written apologies and reasons for absence
- 1.2 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda
- 1.3 To receive written requests for dispensations and to grant any dispensations

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting

3. To consider any matters arising from the last or a previous meeting including

- 3.1 (3.2) Grass cutting contract – to note changes to specification
- 3.2 (3.4) To consider proposal and quotation for new bench at The Drift ^(MY)
- 3.3 (3.5) 20 mph resubmission and LHI application – update ^(ED)
- 3.4 (3.7) Community notice board at the Birdlings - update
- 3.5 (7.1.2) To consider quotation and proposal for QPJ area ^(MY)
- 3.6 (7.0.11) East West Rail – to consider consultation response
- 3.7 (7.0.12) Report on MVAS speed data for High Street ^(MY)
- 3.8 (7.0.13) Bird Boxes – update and locations ^(ED)

4. To consider correspondence received requiring the Council's attention

- 4.1 SCDC Six Free Trees Offer

5. Finance, Procedure and risk assessment and use of delegated powers

- 5.1 To consider the finance report and approve the payment of any bills
- 5.2 To receive play inspection reports and consider any work required
- 5.3 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety
- 5.4 To review the budget FY2025 and consider arrangements for any outstanding projects or spending and also the earmarked reserves
- 5.5 To consider and approve the budget for FY2026
- 5.6 To set the precept for FY2026

6. To consider any Planning or Tree works applications or related items received

- 6.1 Planning applications received – to be considered
 - 6.1.1 21/01919/CONDE – Land rear of 6 Hardwick Road – Submission of details required by condition 6 (Biodiversity enhancement) of planning permission 21/01909/FUL
 - 6.1.2 20/03757/CONDE – Land adjacent to 6 Hardwick Road – Submission of details required by condition 17 (Biodiversity enhancement) of planning permission 20/03757/FUL
- 6.2 Planning applications for which a response has been made between meetings using delegated powers – to be noted
- 6.3 SCDC planning decision notices and appeal notifications and applications for information only
- 6.4 Tree works applications

7. Members items and reports for information only unless otherwise stated

- 7.1 Village Maintenance ^(MY)
- 7.2 Highways ^(ED)
- 7.3 Toft People's Hall ^(CW)
- 7.4 Footpaths ^(EM)
- 7.5 Defibrillator report ^(CW)
- 7.6 Birdlings liaison ^(EM)
- 7.7 Proposal that Lot Meadow becomes a standing item on Parish Council agendas ^(EM)

8. Closure of meeting

Clerk report to Toft Parish Council meeting on 2 December 2024

Please note that this meeting will commence at approximately 7.15 following the William Eversden's Charity (Allotments)

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 4 November – attached

3. Matters Arising

3.1 (3.2) Grass cutting contract – to draft and approve specification

Cllr Miles writes:

“I went to see Tricia this afternoon regarding Grass Cutting in Lot Meadow. She is happy for the number of cuts to be 8 per annum as for the rest of the village and I have amended the attached Grass Cutting Instructions accordingly. She also pointed out that the final cut in Church Lane should be on both sides of the road to ensure new growth etc. in the spring.”

Quotations will be brought to the January meeting.

3.7 (7.0.11) East West Rail – to consider consultation response

“East West Rail – seeking your views on our proposals, confirmation of non-statutory consultation dates

East West Rail (EWR) is a once in a generation opportunity to create a new rail link which would connect people and businesses in the communities between Oxford, Milton Keynes, Bedford and Cambridge.

EWR is being delivered through three Connection Stages:

Connection Stage 1- enables services to run between Oxford and Bletchley/Milton Keynes.

Connection Stage 2- enables direct services between Oxford and Bedford.

Connection Stage 3- completes EWR and would enable passenger services to operate between Oxford and Cambridge via Bletchley and Bedford. This is the project we are consulting on.

Whilst work has been ongoing to develop our proposals, we have been in conversation with the Department for Transport and new Ministers to agree the next steps for consulting the community on the project. Following these conversations, I'm delighted to confirm that we will be holding a non-statutory consultation between 14 November 2024 and 24 January 2025. Feedback gathered during the consultation will help us further develop and refine our designs, which we will present at a future statutory consultation.

As a key stakeholder with an interest in the project, we wanted to reach out to invite you to share your feedback on the proposals and how to feed into the consultation. More information regarding the consultation, including details of the consultation events can be found on our website at eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation2024.

I am also delighted to confirm that we will announce our plans for electrification at the consultation, where we will express our preference for discontinuous electrification with hybrid battery-electric trains. This option would mean that overhead lines would only need to be installed along some sections of the route, which would significantly reduce disruption during construction and potentially decrease visual impacts in more sensitive locations along the new railway between Bedford and Cambridge. Discontinuous electrification would also cost less than full electrification and would require less land for things such as mast foundations.

LRG Webinar

We would like to invite you to join a 1 hr webinar on the 14th of November where we will present the consultation material that will be available to you both online and at the events. *Invitations for this will be issued soon.*

LRG Events

We would like to offer LRG members the opportunity to meet with our consultation team for **1 hour** before the events open to the public. During this session you will be able to meet with our subject matter experts and other members of the EWR team who will be able to answer any questions you may have. These 1-hour sessions will be available at all the events listed on the consultation pages. eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation2024. [A link to register for the 1 hour events will be sent to you soon.](#)

This consultation will be the third consultation on EWR (following on from our consultations held in 2019 and 2021) and will present our latest design concepts for the project, including areas where we are considering alternative options. Consultation feedback from the community and our stakeholders is important to ensure we deliver the best possible railway and we're looking forward to presenting our proposals from 14 November.

Attached to this email is a copy of the consultation poster which is available for you to share with your communities. If you would like a printed copy of this document please email consultation@eastwestrail.co.uk and this can be posted to you. If you have any questions relating to the project or this consultation, please get in touch using contact@eastwestrail.co.uk and our team will be happy to help."

David Hughes
Chief Executive Officer

Sarah Jacobs
Engagement Manager – Local Representatives Groups

Promotional poster attached.

4. Correspondence

4.1 SCDC Six Free Trees Offer

"We are excited to once again be offering Six Free Trees (or one larger potted tree) to all parish councils in South Cambridgeshire, in partnership with English Woodlands. If you have a suitable site and can commit to planting and upkeep, express your interest [here](#) (LINK) and we'll get in touch to arrange your order. All trees must be ordered by 20th December 2024.

This is a great opportunity to increase tree cover, promote biodiversity and provide new habitats in your area – not to mention the carbon sequestration benefits of trees! There are a selection of native varieties to choose from including silver birch, wild cherry and English oak."

We hope your parish council will take advantage of the scheme."

Luke Waddington | Project Officer, Climate and Environment

The Parish Council to decide if the trees are to be ordered, the species and the location/s.

5. Finance, Procedure and risk assessment and use of delegated powers

5.1 To consider the finance report and approve the payment of any bills

Attached.

None at the time of writing.

5.4 To review the budget FY2025 and consider arrangements for any outstanding projects or spending and also the earmarked reserves

Attached.

5.5 To consider and approve the budget for FY2026
Attached.

5.6 To set the precept for FY2026

6.1 Planning Applications received

* NB Some planning applications may not be specifically listed on this agenda but may still be considered by the Parish Council due to the time constraints of making a recommendation to the District Council.

The planning portal for new applications can now be found at <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/>

The Parish Council may choose its own wording to show whether it agrees with an application or not and can now both support/approve or object/ refuse etc parts of the same application

The Parish Council should include material planning reasons why the Council take this stance via its comments.

The Parish Council *does/does not** request that the application be referred to the District Council Planning Committee *(please delete)

Material planning reasons:

Planning reasons:

6.1 Planning applications - to be considered

6.1.1 21/01919/CONDE – Land rear of 6 Hardwick Road – Submission of details required by condition 6 (Biodiversity enhancement) of planning permission 21/01909/FUL

6.1.2 20/03757/CONDE – Land adjacent to 6 Hardwick Road – Submission of details required by condition 17 (Biodiversity enhancement) of planning permission 20/03757/FUL

6.2 Planning applications for which a response has been made between meetings using delegated powers – to be noted
None.

6.3 SCDC planning decision notices and appeal notifications and applications for information only

6.3.1 S/0351/19/NMA3 – Bennell Farm, West Street – Non-material amendment of planning permission S/0351/19/VC to correct an error in the plans that would have resulted in a substandard highways layout – Permission granted by SCDC.

6.3.2 20/01992/NMA3 – Bennell Farm, West Street – Non-material amendment of planning permission 20/01992/FUL to correct an error in the plans that would have resulted in a substandard highways layout – Permission granted by SCDC

6.3.3 22/01743/CONDA – Old Farm Business Centre, Church Road – Submission of details required by conditions 3 (Permeable construction details), 4 (Paving details), 6 (Lighting), and 8 (Biodiversity enhancement) of planning permission 22/01743/FUL – Condition discharged in full

6.4 Tree works

None at the time of writing.

7. Members' items and reports

7.1 Village Maintenance ^(MY)

7.7 Proposal that Lot Meadow becomes a standing item on Parish Council agendas

Cllr Miles writes:

"I would like to propose that Lot Meadow becomes an item on our Agenda along with our other areas of responsibility so we can start to focus a bit more on it."

And also

“Regarding leaving areas to grow longer in Lot Meadow as in Toft Wood, Tricia pointed out that originally, when the meadow was gifted, the idea was for this to be an area where the village could come together to have an event - such as the lighting of the beacon - and it was imperative that there was an open area for people to congregate. Apparently, pre- Covid, events did take place in Lot Meadow and it was used by the Girl Guides but like many other things after Covid it has fallen by the wayside. So she is going to put an article in the Calendar asking folk for ideas of what they would like to see happen there.”





8. Closure of meeting

Share your views

East West Rail is a new railway which would connect communities between Oxford, Milton Keynes, Bedford and Cambridge, making it easier to reach the things that matter most.

You're invited to take part in our consultation and share your feedback on proposals for the new railway. The consultation will run from **14 November 2024 to 24 January 2025.**

There are several ways you can get involved:

-  Attend our in-person or online events
-  Visit our virtual consultation room
-  View our proposals online and at information points
-  Fill in our feedback form



To find out more about our proposals and to share your feedback, scan the QR code or visit: eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation2024

It's important everyone can take part in this consultation. If you have any queries or additional requirements, please get in touch at:

 contact@eastwestrail.co.uk  eastwestrail.co.uk
 **Freepost EAST WEST RAIL**  **0330 134 0067**

In-person events will take place from 2-7pm on weekdays and 12-5pm on weekends at the locations below:

-  **Oxford: 19 Nov 2024**
Oxford Town Hall
-  **Bicester: 21 Nov 2024**
John Paul II Centre
-  **Great Shelford: 22 Nov 2024**
Shelford Rugby Club
-  **Steeple Claydon: 26 Nov 2024**
Village Hall
-  **Bedford: 30 Nov 2024**
The Grand Hall
-  **Cambourne: 03 Dec 2024**
Cambridge Belfry
-  **Lidlington: 06 Dec 2024**
Lidlington Village Hall
-  **Bedford: 09 Dec 2024**
Bedford Swan Hotel
-  **Wilden: 11 Dec 2024**
Wilden Village Hall
-  **Tempsford: 13 Dec 2024**
Stuart Memorial Hall
-  **St Neots: 07 Jan 2025**
St Neots Town Football Club
-  **Comberton: 10 Jan 2025**
Comberton Village Hall
-  **Bletchley: 15 Jan 2025**
Bletchley Masonic Centre
-  **Woburn Sands: 17 Jan 2025**
The Summerlin Centre
-  **Cambridge: 18 Jan 2025**
The Clayton Hotel
-  **Cherry Hinton: 21 Jan 2025**
St Andrews Church