

**Minutes of the 834th meeting of Toft Parish Council
Held on Monday 2 March 2026 in The People's Hall, Toft at 7.00 pm**

Present: Councillors: M Yeadon (Chairman), A Coghlan, E Darbyshire, G Harrison, E Miles and S Tebbit.

In attendance: Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Public participation on agenda items and matters of mutual interest (includes reports from County and District Councillors and representation by members of the public)

None.

1. Apologies for absence and declaration of interests

1.1 To approve written apologies and reasons for absence

None.

1.2 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda

None.

1.3 To receive written requests for dispensations and to grant any dispensations

None.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 2 February 2026

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 2 February 2026 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

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

3.1 (3.1) Dogs in field notices – to consider quotation

RESOLVED, following an incident in which two lambs were attacked by dogs, with one killed, to strengthen the wording of the proposed signs and make them more prominent.

RESOLVED, once the proofs of the design have been received and approved, to accept the quotation of £170.00 plus VAT for three A3 signs stating that dogs must be kept under control and on leads at all times when there are sheep in the field.

RESOLVED that Cllr Darbyshire should update the landowners and that Cllr Miles should draft and circulate an item for the Calendar.

3.2 (3.3) Disposal of Asset of Community Value – update

The Chairman reported on discussions with local Guide and Scout leaders. A working group had been formed to progress the possible ownership and subsequent management of the building. Cllr Yeadon would be the Parish Council representative on the group and regular reports would be made to the Council. The cost and timescale for raising funds were as yet unknown and there was no commitment at this stage. A village meeting will be held on 9 April at 6.30 pm in the People's Hall, to update residents and discuss financing the purchase. A door drop will also be carried out. Potential sources of funding could include contributions from residents, fundraising, a Public Works Loan Board loan or S106 money, although the latter would involve legal costs to vary the terms of the S106 agreement.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council is willing to cover the costs of flyers for the meeting.
(Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

3.3 (3.6) 20 mph application draft submission

Cllr Darbyshire reported that the draft application would be circulated for approval before submission by the deadline date.

3.4 (3.9) Finding Fitness - update on any responses received if any and next steps

RESOLVED to note that there had so far been three positive responses to the article in the Calendar.

RESOLVED that Cllr Tebbit will contact Finding Fitness with a view to seeing the equipment in use in other villages.

3.5 (3.11) To consider Police speed van visit/fixed speed camera – update and to consider forming a Speedwatch group

RESOLVED to note that a Speed Watch group had to be in place before the Police would visit. Two residents had expressed an interest in forming a group.

RESOLVED that a group would need to be established and registered with the Police before the Parish Council could consider funding a speed gun.

Concerns were expressed that youths in two cars were speeding dangerously around the village, especially in School Lane, Brookside and Church Lane.

RESOLVED that Cllr Miles should place an article in the Calendar alerting residents to the dangerous driving, which will be reported to the Police if it continues. A description of the vehicles involved will be given and if residents know the identities of the drivers, they are requested to tell them to desist.

RESOLVED that Cllr Darbyshire should look into the costs of 20 mph and 30 mph stickers for wheelie bins.

3.6 (7.8) Proposal for a new bin at the junction of Church Road and Comberton Road along with "No dog fouling" signs on lamp posts

Cllr Yeadon has drafted a notice to be laminated and put up in the area.

RESOLVED to see the effect of the notice before considering the purchase of a new bin.

3.7 (7.0.9) MVAS data – update on repositioning

RESOLVED that Cllr Yeadon will try to turn the equipment around so that it faces down the hill.

3.0.8 (3.4 of 2.2.26) Website arrangements

RESOLVED to note that the Chairman and Clerk had used delegated powers to accept the quotation from Parish Online as the new website provider.

RESOLVED that the theme colour for the website should be green and that Cllr Darbyshire should look into providing a suitable photograph of the village to display as the header image for the website.

4. **To consider correspondence received since the last meeting requiring the Council's attention**

4.1 Local Government Reorganisation consultation

RESOLVED to make no comments.

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

RESOLVED to receive the financial report and check the invoices and bank statements before the payments were approved, plus LGS Services (Admin support) £510.92, and Toft People's Hall (Room hire) £15.00 and £15.00.

RESOLVED, noting the energy costs for 2025-26 advised by Suffolk Street Lighting, to approve the cost of £319.41 plus VAT for payment when the invoice is received. ^(Prop MY, 2nd ED, unanimous)

Salaries	£336.70
Cam Valley Forum	Membership fee
	£10.00

5.2 To receive play inspection reports and consider any work required

RESOLVED to note that the latch had come off the gate and would be repaired again.

5.3 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety and relates to Council property

RESOLVED that Cllr Yeadon should report three street lights which were not working.

RESOLVED to note that SCDC intended to ask BT to move their telegraph pole to prevent it from blocking light from a street light in School Lane.

5.4 To consider the date of the May meeting

RESOLVED that the May meeting, Annual Parish Meeting and William Eversden's Charity AGM should take place on 11 May, commencing at 7.00 pm.

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

6.1 Planning applications received – to be considered

None.

- 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
None.
- 6.4 Tree works applications
- 6.4.1 26/0088/TTCA – 6 Glebe Close
RESOLVED that the Parish Council make no comments.
- 7. Members items and reports for information only unless otherwise stated**
- 7.1 Village Maintenance
The cherry tree will be delivered tomorrow and planted on the Recreation Ground. A resident had kindly offered to take on the responsibility for looking after the QPJ area. Working parties are being arranged to cut back vegetation around the seat and encroaching on the pavement; and to level and seed the grass area. RESOLVED to approve the purchase from Madingley Mulch of 1 cubic metre of topsoil/sand mix to spread on the area, along with hard wearing grass seed, for a total cost of £110.00. (Prop EM, 2nd ED, unanimous)
- 7.2 Highways
Cllr Darbyshire reported that patching had been carried out and cats' eyes had been removed. Re-lining and resurfacing will take place next year. Concerns had been expressed by residents about repeated flooding and blocked drains outside Beldams Close. RESOLVED that Cllr Darbyshire will pursue this with Highways. The cycle path markings near Hardwick Road were faded. Potholes had all been addressed.
- 7.3 Toft People's Hall
Nothing to report.
- 7.4 Footpaths
Cllr Miles reported that the surface over the bridge had been repaired. The cycle path to Comberton was very overgrown with vegetation and brambles and difficult to walk on, especially as cars were so close. RESOLVED that Cllr Darbyshire should take this up with CCC and seek an update about the CCC proposals for improvements and a reduced speed limit for this stretch. Nothing had been heard from the County Councillor.
- 7.5 Defibrillator report
The defibrillator had been checked and all was in order. RESOLVED that Cllr Tebbit should chase up the request for training.
- 7.6 Birdlings liaison
Nothing to report.
- 7.7 Lot Meadow
Nothing to report.
- 7.0.8 Advertising signage
RESOLVED, noting that advertising signs had been placed on lamp posts, that these should be removed.
- 8. Closure of meeting**
There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.27 pm.

SignedChairmandate.