**TUNSTALL PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8th March 2017 commencing at 7.00pm in the Village Hall**

**Present:**

**Parish Council:** Cllr Martin Richardson Chair

Cllr Chris Wilson

Cllr Dave Parry

Cllr Bill Adams

Cllr Tony Gadie

Rachel Walker Clerk

**In attendance**: Cllr Linehan RDC, PCSO Smith

**Tunstall Residents**

Michael Welch, Peter Fowler, Dave Neal, Sheila Clapham, Paul and Jane Greenwood, Revd. Lindsay Southern, Kath Pullan, Jim Pepperell, Ken Walsh, Steve Jackson – sec to PCC

1. **Apologies**

Cllr Les

1. **Declarations of interest**

Cllr Gadie wanted it noting that he was involved in recording a promotional video with A1L2B team but for no financial gain.

1. **Matters raised by residents**

A Church meeting was held on the 20th and Revd. Southern recommended that the future of the church be put on the next PCC agenda. It was not raised at the ACM on the previous Sunday. Cllr Richardson told how he thought the church was viable with £12,000 in the account. Currently the church pays £3855 to the Diocese with this figure rising to £4433 in 2017 and 15% each year until it reaches £17919. This sum does not include running costs / services and expenses. Revd. Southern confirmed that the money is in the bank but this is not purely about finances but also the lack of attendance, with the average attendance being 7. The diocese want to see an increase in congregation, currently the church in Catterick has 35-40 attending regularly. Revd. Southern also explained that they are looking for key workers i.e. Church warden as the current one will be retiring soon.

A consultation would take place to see what other use the church could have – this would be a rigorous process and not decided by church council. Revd. Southern continued to say that parishes need to be self-supporting and Tunstall Church is not sustainable at the moment due to the small congregation; a satisfactory congregation would be around 24 who would ideally donate around £100 / month.

If it was decided to close the church it would be decommissioned and handed back to the diocese, however there would still be a vicar and the churchyard would remain open.

1. **Police report**

The Clerk read out the report: No crimes and 4 other incidents were reported between 11.01.17- 07.03.17

1. **County Councillor / District Councillor Report**

District Councillor Linehan reported that RDC have agreed a budget and council tax will increase by approximately 1.99%

The Boundary Commission review is still underway – consultation papers will be made available around May.

There was a GAP meeting held at Peronne Lines to get an understanding from the Army re the increase in numbers – there will be around 10,000 over 14 years and Catterick will become the 3rd largest town in North Yorkshire. Discussions are still in the early stages but there will be a new ‘village’ from Lidl to Somme Barracks (Hurleigh Hill) and plans from the previously rejected application are likely to be resubmitted. There is also to be a ring road around the Garrison – details are again vague on this.

1. **Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the Meeting held on 13th January 2016 were proposed and confirmed as a true record.

1. **Matters arising**

The Clerk reported that:

1. The affordable housing questionnaire had been distributed via Amanda Madden and it is now a matter of waiting to see the outcome of this.
2. Superfast Broadband has been made available to the village. The cabinet is at Lowden Court and those houses near it will get a better speed than those at the opposite end of the village. However all houses should benefit from higher speeds.
3. There still isn’t enough volunteers to sign up for the Community Speed watch scheme
4. **Current Issues**
5. **Play park transfer** – Cllr Richardson distributed a copy of the questionnaire that was undertaken in 2016 regarding opinions on what to do with the play park – the consensus was to hand over to the PC to look after. RDC were therefore contacted about this and a transfer document written up, however there were a couple of clauses within that weren’t agreeable so Cllrs Richardson, Gadie, Wilson and Linehan met with Gary Hudson of RDC at the play park to discuss the current state of repair. The main problem being the wet pour matting which is well past its sell by date and in need of total replacement. RDC offered to patch the existing holes however some of the old patches are already lifting and causing a trip hazard. This would need to be replaced before any equipment could be considered and would be a huge cost.

After discussion unfortunately RDC were not willing to neither put right the matting nor remove the clauses that the PC didn’t feel were relevant. Cllr Richardson therefore wanted to make a final decision on whether to proceed with the transfer and asked members to take a vote.

To continue with transfer – 0, to leave it with RDC - 3, abstained – 2

**Decsision:** For play park to remain property of RDC

1. **Catterick South Bridge Demolition Update** - Cllr Wilson had attended a meeting regarding this and reported access would be closed from the Fri to Monday morning over 2 weekends, the 1st weekend all facilities would be removed and the road prepared and the 2nd weekend would see the removal of the old bridge. Diversions have been put in place.
2. **Future of Holy Trinity** – see item 3
3. **Parish Council Insurance** – the Clerk explained how she had received a letter from RDC saying that due to cuts in budgets and depleting resources, they no longer have the capacity to administer this scheme on behalf of the parishes. The clerk therefore sought 2 quotes and asked for the Chairman to look at them and decide which was most appropriate. Cllrs agreed that Cllr Richardson could contact the clerk directly about this out of meeting as the current policy expires before the next meeting.

**Resolved:** Clerk to contact Newtons Solicitors and withdraw transfer application for the play park

Clerk to liaise with Cllr Richardson re insurance and arrange payment

1. **Correspondence**

24.02.2017 Email from Chloe Lewis re Superfast Broadband availability

27.02.2017 Email from RDC re electronic consultation on planning applications

02.03.2017 Email from YLCA offering guidance session re Transparency Code on 21st March

Weekly A1L2B Traffic schedule

**Resolved:** Clerk to attend Transparency code training session

1. **Financial matters**

**Record of payments made under out of meeting arrangements**

**Date Cheque No Payee Amount**

**Summary of Accounts**

**Deposit Account Current Account**

Balance as of 5th March 2017 Balance as of 5th March 2017

£1004.25 £4222.02

**Accounts for payment**

The following cheques were presented for payment:

**Date Cheque No Payee & Description Amount**

08.03.2017 000373 VH Loan repayment TIGER £300.00

08.03.2017 000374 Tiger Walling expenses £90.00

08.03.2017 000375 Clerks wages/exp Jan – Mar 17 £252.57

1. **Planning Applications**

**17/00086/FULL –** Full Planning Permission for Agricultural Storage Building to include Temporary Horse Boxes and Accommodation Above at Tunstall Grange, Scotton Road – Cllrs looked over the plans and had no objections

1. **Minor Matters**

**None**

1. **To confirm the date of the next meeting** :

Wednesday 3rd May (annual meeting)

1. **Village Hall**
2. Martin distributed the annual results for 2016/2017 which showed a loss of £609 against budget. He went on to say that hall hire did well including dance. The non-budgeted expenses included new blinds, an outside power point and new front door lock. He then asked for peoples thoughts re the budget for the next financial year and this was accepted.
3. Paul G told how there was a food bank donation box in the kitchen should anybody wish to donate – Jane would regularly take the donations to the Influence Church, Richmond. Paul also told how Jane was to hold a Quiz Night on 29th April in aid of Alzheimer’s Research
4. There is to be a Grow It coffee morning and meeting on Saturday 25th March – all welcome
5. TIGER update – Tesco had donated £1000 thanks to the bags for help grant , Cllr Les donated £1000 and another donation of £100 was made.

Yorkshire Dry Stone Walling had built the sensory garden. The Bridgstock family are considering putting a bench in there in memory of Wendy.

Work is due to start shortly on the pathway and work on the island won’t take place until September when the nesting season is over.

Local MP Rishi Sunak, Tesco and Cllr Les all came for a tour of the project.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Clerk Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_