

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL AND
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

TUNSTALL PARISH COUNCIL

Attendance:

Councillor P Johnson
Councillor D Lambert
Councillor Wedgwood-Jones
J MacNamara (Clerk)
10 Members of the Parish

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

1.1.19 Chairman's Annual Report

The Chairman gave an overview of activities which had taken place throughout the previous few months since his appointment as Parish Council Chairman.

The Chairman thanked Martin Richardson and Chris Scott-Wilson for their contribution to the Parish Council over a number of years following their decision to stand down as Councillors.

The Chairman extended thanks to people from right across the Village who so generously gave their time to improve the quality of life for everyone who lives in Tunstall.

Throughout the year ahead the Chairman was particularly keen to engage with a larger number of residents and increase participation in Parish Council activities as well as other activities taking place in the local area.

2.1.19 Treasurer's Annual Report

The Clerk reported that full report governing finance was scheduled as part of the audit report. The Clerk did outline the projected outturn figures for the last financial year and that it was anticipated from the audit report that there would be a surplus of £6,200 carried forward into the new financial year.

3.1.19 Matters from the electorate

Throughout the course of the Annual Parish Meeting a number of matters were raised by residents.

The Council had been given prior notification of one item and Mr Geoff Rudd was invited to make a contribution concerning land he owned near Highfields in Tunstall. Mr Rudd outlined that he and his family had lived at Highfields for a period of 20-years, throughout that period they had purchased land adjacent to the site and whilst they no longer lived in the Village it was their intention to seek to develop the site.

TUNSTALL PARISH COUNCIL

J MacNamara - Parish Clerk

Flat 1 Friars Gate, Friars Wynd, Richmond North Yorkshire DL10 4RY

t: 07495 458 173

Mr Rudd informed the meeting that he had entered into a pre-application process with Richmondshire District Council planning department to potentially place up to 6 new homes on the site. Mr Rudd explained that at this stage the proposals were in their outline stages and reports were being undertaken, but he was keen to engage with residents from across the Village.

There were a number of points made with regards to the proposed application, but the bulk of concern rested around flood risk. Mr Rudd accepted that there was a requirement to address that concern, but any proposed application potentially presented an opportunity to resolve the matter at the site as opposed to add to the problem.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would want to revisit the matter subject to a formal planning application being made by the applicant.

The Chairman thanked Mr Rudd for early engagement with the Parish Council.

There were a number of other points raised by residents in attendance at the meeting, which included:-

Speeding – A wide-ranging discussion took place with regards to speeding and the consistent lack of action been taken by the Highways Authority or the Police.

The meeting was informed that a new Speed Awareness Group had been established and training would be taking place on 23rd May between 7-9pm.

There was concern that the new group would lack formal powers to address the concerns of volume as well as the speed of traffic passing through the Village. It was agreed by Mr Richardson to share previous reports and ask the Highways Department for a further update. It was also considered whether or not there was merit in investing in a Speed Matrix Board.

It was concluded to approach the Highways Department about an up to date survey as well as use the new Speed Watch Awareness Group to assist in making the case for improved levels of traffic calming throughout the Village.

Litter – It was reported that the problem of litter was an on-going battle with volunteers now having to undertake litter picks at both ends of the Village. The Chairman reported that McDonalds had concluded there was too much associated risk with providing assistance with the voluntary litter picks.

However, the Chairman did reflect on the fact that there may be a need to pay for organised litter picks and this maybe something that the Parish Council would consider in the future.

Village Signage – A resident raised concern that the lack of signage when coming off the A1 was impacting on the number of vehicles accessing the Village via Brough Lane.

It was reported that it would now be very hard to obtain signage following the completion of the A1.

Dog Waste – problems associated with dog waste were reported. The Chairman stated there was a need for everyone to remain vigilant and if irresponsible dog owners were

seen then to report the matter to the Parish/District Council.

Communications – a resident raised that there was a lack of information about Tunstall in the Catterick Village and Tunstall Herald. It was reported that there was very little control over this matter and that repeated attempts to have Tunstall issues placed in the publication had not been successful.

The Chairman reported that communications was an area which was been looked into.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1.2.19 Return of Councillors

The Clerk announced that following the Parish Council Elections the following people had been elected unopposed:

Kevin Bower
Phill Johnson
Dean Lambert
Tink Wedgwood-Jones

The Clerk announced that there remained one vacancy on the Parish Council following the elections. It was agreed that the vacancy be advertised following the Annual Meeting and people be invited to express interest to the Clerk and a determination would be made at the next meeting.

2.2.19

Election of Chairman

The Clerk called for nominations for Chairman.

It was Proposed by Councillor Lambert and Seconded by Councillor Wedgwood-Jones that Councillor Johnson be elected Chairman.

Councillor Johnson was elected as Chairman.

3.2.19

To Receive the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Chairman read and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4.2.19

Election of Vice Chairman

The Chair called for nominations for Vice Chairman.

It was Proposed by Councillor Lambert and Seconded by Councillor Johnson that Councillor Wedgwood-Jones be elected as Vice Chairman.

Councillor Wedgwood-Jones was elected as Vice Chairman.

5.2.19 Election/Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer

The Chairman nominated that the Clerk remain the appointed Responsible Financial Officer.

The matter was agreed.

6.2.19 Declarations Of Interest

The Clerk outlined that it was a requirement following the elections for all Councillors to make a new Declaration of Interest and also submit Election Expenses to the Returning Officer.

The Clerk handed relevant paperwork to all Councillors in attendance and agreed to post Councillor Bower's directly to him.

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1.3.19 To receive and note apologies for absence

Councillor Bower

The Clerk informed the meeting that Cllr Les did hope to attend the meeting but was coming from another engagement.

The Clerk also outlined that as a result of the District Council elections the Parish was now represented by two new District Councillors – Cllr Grant and Cllr Middlemass.

It had not been possible to contact Cllr Middlemass and Cllr Grant had sent apologies. It was agreed that they be informed of all future meetings.

The Chairman placed on record his thanks to Geoffrey Linehan as our outgoing District Councillor.

2.3.19 To receive 'Declarations of Interest' in items on the agenda

At the point of taking Declarations for Interest there were no interests recorded.

Under Item 7.3.19 – Correspondence there was a letter pertaining to a forthcoming Community Fun Day with a request for financial support from Help the Heroes. As the agenda had not stipulated the exact nature of the correspondence Cllr Wedgwood-Jones was unaware that she had an interest to declare in this matter at this stage of the meeting.

The Declaration of Interest by Cllr Wedgwood-Jones is covered under Item 7.3.19.

3.3.19 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6th March 2019

The Minutes of the meeting of 6th March 2019 were signed and approved by Cllr Johnson.

4.3.19 To receive the **report** from the **internal auditor**
To approve the **annual governance statement**
To approve the **annual accounting statement**

The Clerk outlined that there was a requirement to report to the Council's external auditors by the end of June and thought ordinarily at the annual meeting of the Council these matters would be netted off.

The Clerk outlined that the external audit report had been prepared and read the headline figures. However, the Clerk outlined that there were one or two outstanding issues preventing the internal audit report being signed off, as the Clerk was only appointed in January he was unable to resolve the matters himself.

It had been agreed that to comply with the external audit deadline of the end of June the next meeting be brought forward to Wednesday 26th June and that the internal auditor, the Clerk and the immediate Past Parish Council Chairman meet to clarify the points. Following the Clerk's statement it was agreed to roll agenda Items 4, 5 and 6 over to the next meeting of the Council.

5.3.19 **Public Forum**

Further to the issues raised by members of the Parish during the Annual Parish Meeting a number of issues were raised under the Public Forum: -

The Clerk read a report from the Police with the latest number of incidents and headline issues taking place throughout the local area in the last quarter.

Councillor Wedgwood-Jones reported that following extensive examination following the last meeting with the Environment Agency and others there was no appetite to dredge the beck to minimise the risk of flooding as requested by members of the public at the March meeting.

It was agreed that this matter would be looked at further following a discussion with partners at the District and County Council.

The Chairman informed the meeting that it was still the intention of the Parish Council to look at extending the boundaries for grass cutting within the Village, whilst this had not been looked at yet, it remained on the agenda for discussion.

Issues pertaining to pruning of trees was raised by members of the public and it was agreed that Councillor Johnson would look into the ownership of this land.

As part of the discussion it was agreed that there were also environmental issues which should be examined as part of the consideration of grass cutting and pruning to protect wildlife conservation. Councillor Johnson agreed that these should all be considered as part of the process.

A member of the public raised their concerns about the state of the public rights of way throughout the Village across private land and the state of the stiles on walkways. It was agreed that the Clerk would investigate the matter further with the member of the public and the Public Rights of Way Officer at North Yorkshire County Council.

6.3.19 Report from District & County Councillors

As there were no County or District Councillors present there were no reports given.

7.3.19 Correspondence

The Clerk read a letter from Help the Hero's following on from the presentation given by a representative on 6th March 2019. The Clerk advised that the Community Fun Day at Phoenix House was taking place on Saturday 22nd June and people were welcome to attend.

The letter also requested that the Parish Council consider sponsoring an activity at the event for between £150 - £250.

Councillor Johnson raised the prospect of providing funds to support the Community Fun Day. At this point Councillor Wedgwood-Jones declared that she had an interest in this matter because of her involvement with the centre.

The Clerk advised that as Cllr Wedgwood-Jones was not able to participate in taking a decision then the matter could not be discussed any further as there was not a quorum to determine the item.

Ann Bowling informed the meeting that there was an event booked in at the Village Hall on the same weekend as the Community Fun Day and that it was the intention of the organisers to invite people from across the Village to attend.

8.3.19 Finance

The Clerk reported that there had been only two transactions since the last meeting one concerning an interest payment of 14p on the deposit account which brought the Deposit Account to £1,006.00. A deposit for the first half of the precept of £2,600.00 had been made into the Current Account making the balance £7,800.72

Giving a combined total of £8,806.72

9.3.19 Reports

Tiger Project

Paul Greenwood gave a brief overview of activities of the Tiger Project and encouraged everyone to visit and enjoy the gardens. Mr Greenwood also announced that following the project securing 'Locality Fund' monies from North Yorkshire County Council for a sculpture trail a village event had been planned for Saturday 15th June.

The event would consist of a 2pm opening of the sculpture trail with accompanying live music and fund-raising activities which would run up until 4.30pm. From 5pm onwards

there was a village bar-b-que planned and live music would continue in the Village Hall from 8pm.

Mr Greenwood was keen to involve as many people as possible from across the Village and appealed for help to organise the raffle, tombola prizes and other parts of the event.

If people were able to donate or offer assistance they should contact Mr Greenwood directly on 01748 811 288.

Tunstall Village Hall

Martin Richardson reported that Quarter 1 financial figures had not been fully completed at this stage, but there appeared to be a healthy surplus of over £600. The increased number of activities taking place in the Hall were paying dividend.

A discussion took place with regards to the newly formed Village Hall Committee. It had been agreed that Cllr Wedgwood-Jones would take over as Treasurer from Mr Richardson and the two should liaise with regards to a meeting. The meeting was also informed that Ann Bowling was stepping down as Booking Clerk but a replacement had been found.

10.3.19 Planning Applications & Updates

The Clerk informed the meeting that no planning applications had been received and that there was still no determination of the application at Goldcrest.

11.3.19 Date & Time of Next Meeting

As agreed the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 26th June at 7pm in Tunstall Village Hall.
