TUNSTALL PARISH COUNCIL
Wednesday 4th March 2020

Councillor P Johnson (Chair)
Councillor T Wedgwood-Jones (Vice Chair)
Councillor D Lambert
Councillor H Grant (District)
County Councillor C Les
J MacNamara (Clerk)
18 Members of the Public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for being in attendance.

1.3.20 To receive and note **apologies for absence**

Cllr Grant reported that Cllr Middlemiss was unable to be in attendance at the meeting and conveyed her apologies.

Cllr Johnson explained that due to personal circumstances Cllr Bower had withdrawn from the Parish Council. Cllr Johnson thanked Cllr Bower for his commitment and service throughout his tenure as a Councillor.

Cllr Johnson explained that the vacancy would now be advertised and encouraged people to come forward to help shape the future of the Parish.

2.3.20 To receive **'Declarations of Interest'** in items on the agenda

At the point of taking Declarations for Interest no Councillor registered any interest.

Throughout the discussion on the planning application to the land South West of Chaytor Farm Cllr Wedgewood-Jones withdrew from the discussion as she had an interest as a tenant on the land under discussion.

At that point there were questions raised with regards to whether or not other Councillors have to declare interests in the same agenda item.

The Clerk outlined that it was not a Clerk's responsibility to inform a Councillor that they held an interest, but that was in the jurisdiction of each individual member to determine if they needed to declare any interest.

Following a discussion about what constitutes an interest there were no further declarations of interest.

3.3.20 To approve the **minutes** of the meeting held on **8th January 2020.**

The minutes of the meeting were approved.

4.3.20 **Planning Applications**

Full Planning Permission for Erection of Six 2/3 Bed-Roomed Properties on the North/North West Part of the Site with Access from the Road Alongside the Northern Border of the Site at Land South West Of Chaytor Farm, Tunstall, North Yorkshire, DL10 7QS.

Planning Application Ref No: - 19/00799/OUT

The Chairman began by introducing the planning application and set out that there was widespread concern across the Village at the impact that such a development would have on the character of the Village and the detrimental part it could have in causing flooding.

The Clerk took the meeting through the proposed application based on the information which the applicant had provided to Richmondshire District Council.

A number of pertinent points were made with regards flooding and recent flooding which had taken place in the Village and the detrimental impact that an additional six properties would have in the Village. It was also raised that as identified to the applicant throughout the pre-planning advice which he sought that the existing culvert would not have capacity to manage the volume of new water associated with six properties and would precipitate more regular incidents of flooding in the Village.

Residents also raised concerns about highways access to the site and that they had not been fully addressed in the proposed application.
Residents in attendance at the meeting were concerned that the matter would be considered under delegation and that the application would be waived through by planners against the wishes of residents within the Village.

The Clerk outlined the process and explained that as unpalatable as the situation was all planning applications were in principal accepted and that the case to reject applications had to be taken on material planning laws and such a case would need to be made in accordance with Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) and the approved Richmondshire Local Plan.

The Clerk outlined that matters could be considered by the planning committee. Cllr Grant re-iterated the advice given by the Clerk and outlined that as the ward Councillor she had the right to call in the proposed development to ensure that it goes to the planning
5.3.20 committee, but would need a formal request from the Parish Council to undertake this on behalf of the Village.

The Parish Council agreed that Cllr Grant be requested to call in the application to go before the full Planning Committee.

Public Forum

As part of the Public Forum the Clerk reported that following the last meeting he had contacted the Little White Bus with regards to concerns about the future of the service. The Clerk reported that whilst there were no planned changes at this stage, this remained under review as a result of on-going funding commitments and levels of volunteers to help maintain the service.

The Clerk reported that the Local Plan Working Group had taken place at Richmondshire

District Council and as agreed representatives had attended from the Parish.

A resident who attended talked through some of the issues which had been raised at the working group, but the presentation focussed more on the consultation about preferred options which would be undertaken.

A discussion took place with regards to the Garrison masterplan and issues pertaining to the A6136. Cllr Les said there were no real answers to the situation, but there remained opportunities for residents to get involved in the discussion which would come forward in the future.

A resident raised a request to upgrade the existing children's playground within the Village. A discussion took place with regards to the merits of the proposition, some residents raised the matter that this had been looked into and there were issues pertaining to insurance and costs which had prevented this been taken forward.

It was agreed that this be the subject of further discussion at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

A resident raised concern about the large number of potholes in the Village and that parts of the road network were breaking up near the pumping station. Cllr Les agreed to take this forward and said that some of the problems were exacerbated by horse boxes accessing the road network.

A resident was concerned that the repairs to the evacuation door at the Village Hall and the emergency exit were not suitable for disabled people.

Cllr Benbow addressed the concerns as a representative of the Village Hall Committee and agreed to raise these at the next scheduled meeting.

A resident raised concerns that the pothole at Jackson Terrace still had not been repaired. The Clerk agreed to contact the County Council again about this matter.

6.3.20 Report from District & County Councillors

Cllr Grant outlined that at the District Council the Local Working Plan Group continued to work and that some of the headline issues discussed and at the for front of the plan would be the District's green credentials and the need to have dedicated officer time for climate change.

Cllr Grant also outlined that the new administration had decided to increase funding for community safety to improve the service and access for all users.

Cllr Les outlined that the budget setting process for the year ahead had been determined and that there would be an increase in Council Tax of 4%.

Cllr Les outlined some of budgetary issues which faced the county over the short and medium term including the costs associated with social care. Cllr Les informed the meeting that the locality budgets had been protected which had benefited initiatives in Tunstall Parish and the Little White Bus and that he was still prepared to support the Vehicle Activated Signs.

A resident asked about the Vehicle Activated Signs and what progress had been made. The Clerk reported that as agreed the Parish had requested to join the consortium with other Parishes of which Scorton were taking the lead, whilst the expression had been responded too, he had no further details.

Cllr Les explained that the Parish Clerk in Scorton had been ill recently and that he would follow up on any further details and report back.

Cllr Johnson sought advice with regards to a leaflet circulating that the T-Junction at Catterick Bridge was to be changed to a roundabout.

Cllr Les explained that the decision governing this was a Highways Agency decision as opposed to a County Council Highways decision and whilst the County Council had made representations that a roundabout be installed but these were rejected at the time.

7.3.20 Correspondence

The Clerk reported that all correspondence had been circulated.

8.3.20 Finance

The Clerk outlined that since the last meeting there had been 7 transactions through the current account totalling £132.00 of income and £800.14 in expenditure.

The current account stood at £5,937.43 and the deposit account at £1,007.85

The combined total resources stood at £6,945.28.

The payments were agreed.

The Clerk outlined that there were likely to be very few transactions to be undertaken in this financial year.

The Clerk reported following on from the budget setting meeting in January when the Council agreed to cap the precept for the 2020/21 financial year that as expected the Council would end the financial year in a stronger financial position and the work undertaken this year to increase the precept and restrict certain costs had meant the Council had rebuilt its financial position and it was anticipated that the Council would end the financial year with £6,800.00 across both accounts following the repayment of VAT.

9.3.20 Reports

The Speed Watch Awareness Group reported that the next session was due to start imminently and whilst the group were operating well they continued to need more volunteers to help maintain the group.

Cllr Johnson thanked everyone involved in the group and commended its members on the on-going initiative.

10.3.20 Date & Time of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be on Wednesday 13th May

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.