

# **TACOLNESTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Tacolneston Parish Council on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7 pm.**

Present: Cllr B. Gulliver (Chairman), Cllrs R. McClenning (Vice-chair), K. Darrell, T. Gowing, L. Pincher, J. Hooper and E. Taylor.  
Parish Clerk/RFO: D. Wickham  
District/County Councillor B. Duffin & 1 member of the public.

Minute  
Ref No:

1. **To consider accepting apologies for absence** 21/030  
None were received.
2. **To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations (previously notified to the clerk) from members on any items to be discussed.** 21/031  
None were received. It was agreed that "and requests for dispensations (previously notified to the clerk) from members" should be removed from future agendas.
3. **Public Participation.** 21/032
  - a) District/County Cllr Duffin's report was read to the meeting.
  - b) Cllr Taylor had emailed a member of the public, suggesting their concerns regarding the bus shelter be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting in June, but not received a response. Cllr Pincher mentioned a complaint from a member of the public regarding possible asbestos left on private land. Cllr Darrell had shown the relevant land to a representative of South Norfolk District Council but had heard nothing since from them. It was agreed that SNDC and the landowner should be contacted. Cllr Taylor had sent a letter to Farmer Long regarding the burnt-out tractor but not received a response.
4. **To approve and sign the minutes of the ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021.** 21/033  
Having been circulated to the council prior to the meeting, it was proposed by Cllr Darrell, seconded by Cllr McClenning, and agreed by all that the minutes were approved as a correct record.
5. **To agree renewal of the Parish Council insurance policy.** 21/034  
Cllr Taylor reported the current insurer's renewal premium had increased by 30%. An alternative insurer, BHIB, had been recommended by NALC and their policy would only cost £560.00 pa for three years. Cllr Gulliver proposed

Signed:



Date:

9/6/21



accepting the BHIB proposal, seconded by Cllr Darrell and agreed by all.

6. **To receive the Minutes of the Media and Communication Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May.** 21/035  
Having been circulated to the council prior to the meeting, it was proposed by Cllr Darrell, seconded by Cllr Hooper, and agreed by all that the minutes were approved as a correct record.
7. **To adopt the Parish Councillors Code of Conduct.** 21/036  
Having been circulated to the council prior to the meeting, Cllr McClenning proposed that the Parish Councillors Code of Conduct be adopted. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Hooper and agreed by all. Cllr McClenning suggested that hard-copy booklets of the policy be produced and Cllr Gulliver offered to arrange this.
8. **To discuss the SAM2 – the way forward and completion of documents received.** 21/037  
Cllr Taylor reported that Norfolk County Council had agreed to contribute 50% (£1952.50) towards the cost of the SAM2 project that had been agreed by the Parish Council at a previous meeting. The clerk will complete the relevant paperwork to proceed with the funding and installation.
9. **To discuss the repairs to the telephone box.** 21/038  
Cllr Gulliver raised the issue of repairs to the telephone box and the installation of shelving inside. Cllr Pincher agreed the need for repairs to prevent water ingress, but suggested any internal refurbishment should wait until interested parties had been consulted regarding future use. Cllr Gulliver suggested this consultation could take place at the Annual Parish Meeting in June. The clerk will obtain quotes for the necessary repairs.
10. **To decide on the provision of picnic benches at the Recreation Ground following the failure to supply the order made last year.** 21/039  
Cllr Taylor presented three quotes and confirmed that they were for identical items. Cllr Gowing was concerned with the use of recycled plastic and a debate over the use of ethical materials ensued. Cllr Pincher reminded the council that the purchase of recycled plastic picnic benches had been agreed at a previous Parish Council meeting, following a request from TAFRA. Cllr Taylor recommended reviewing the use of plastics when considering future purchases. Cllr Gulliver proposed accepting the quote from NBB Recycled furniture (£2280.00), seconded by Cllr Darrell and agreed by all except Cllr Gowing.

Signed:



Date:

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**11 Financial matters.**

21/040

a) *Barclays*: £15,317.41

*Nationwide*: £3,084.13 (This account is in the process of being closed with the funds transferred into the Barclays account.)

*VAT reclaim in progress*: £3,513.63

b) The AGAR will be presented at the June meeting.

c) The payment to Sutcliffe of £86.20 was declined as Cllr Darrell believed she had already paid it. The following payments were approved:

| Payee             | Detail                 | Net      | Vat                       | Gross    |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------|---------------------------|----------|
| Clerk's Training  | ILCA                   | £120.00  | £24.00                    | £144.00  |
| Insurance Premium | BHIB                   | £500.00  | £60.00<br>(insurance tax) | £560.00  |
| Picnic Benches    | NBB Recycled Furniture | £1900.00 | £380.00                   | £2280.00 |

**12 "Review of the grass cutting tender and the council's procurement policy in light of the guidance in the LGA document: A Councillors Guide to Procurement".**

21/041

Cllr Hooper points out that events have overtaken us as this matter has been dealt with by the Communications Committee.

**13 Any planning matters.**

21/042

Applications 2021/1021 – 2021/1024

Applicant: Mr Leeming, Location: Land West Of Norwich Road Tacolneston Norfolk. Proposal: Reserved matters for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following outline permission 2016/2635

The council had no observations in relation to these four applications that were previously granted on appeal.

**14 Public Participation.**

21/043

There was none.

**15 To confirm the date of the next ordinary Parish Council meeting as 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 7pm.**

21/044

Agreed.

Cllrs Taylor and Darrell were thanked for their hard work as acting Clerk/RFO and Cllr McClenning was thanked for his tenure as Chairman.

The meeting ended at 21.17

Signed:



Date:

9/6/21



On 19 May 2021, at 19:17, Barry Duffin <barry.duffin@btinternet.com> wrote:

The mark of a Council is not what it does when times are good and the sun is shining. The mark of a Council is how it responds to unexpected events and how it steps up when the chips are down. When Covid arrived in March 2020 the District Council were best prepared to provide, the help and support that tens of thousands of residents and businesses desperately needed.

Over £80 million has been expended locally in the last 12 months to help the most vulnerable with hardship and isolation payments, council tax support and other help for the homeless and destitute, together with targeted grants to businesses to protect livelihoods and save jobs. That's in addition to the national Governments furlough schemes, business rate rebates and increase in Universal Credit.

It isn't just the work South Norfolk has done with central Government that's made a difference. Our Help Hub staff have extended working hours and operated 7 days a week working with local community groups and Parish Councils to ensure every fridge has been filled whilst we have collected every bin. Many many residents who would not normally reach out to their Council have been helped in one way or another.

We were delighted to recognise the tireless work of volunteers who helped with food shopping, collecting prescriptions and assisting at vaccination centres.

Turning to the economy, over £1m per week has been channelled to businesses in direct grants during lockdown to help them survive until they can start fully trading again. This money has been a lifeline for employers including shops, pubs and other businesses who have been forced to close. I am proud of a dedicated staff that dropped everything to distribute funds quickly and without delay with the fastest and most generous schemes in Norfolk.

Whilst our leisure centres have been closed, a quarter of our staff have been redeployed to coordinate vaccinations, street marshalling and test and trace.

In addition 25 staff also volunteered to work on our hospital wards, and supporting the NHS in other ways when the pressure was greatest.

You may not have seen any of this work as you and your family members have been forced to stay at home. But be assured that your Council staff have never worked as hard or as flexibly to keep essential services going in the most difficult of circumstances to keep you safe and secure and nurture an economy that can bounce back when lockdown is finally over.

Some of our greatest challenges are ahead but be assured that everyone associated with our Council will keep our promise to create better lives and a stronger economy to benefit every resident and business in our district.

Barry Duffin District Councillor

Report for your use

Barry

**Cllr Barry Duffin**

**Forngett Ward**

**South Norfolk District Council**