

# TILSHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2018

**Present:** Cllr. Adam Harris (Chairman), Cllr. Debby Potter (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Robert Leachman (Finance Officer), Cllr. Pauline Colin, Cllr. Gillian Goldsmith, Cllr. Judith Moore, Cllr. George Murray, County Cllr. Darren Henry, the Clerk & one member of the public.

**PUBLIC MEETING:** A statement was made from the floor. It was hoped that bonfires, and the village yearly bonfire, would not be stopped as she felt that these were traditional and part of the countryside. The Chairman confirmed that there were no plans to prevent them, and gave the following Wiltshire Council link for those interested: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/env-health-smoke-nuisance](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/env-health-smoke-nuisance). The Chairman said that Wiltshire Council had other links on various information that maybe of interest, and there was google.

There being no further business the meeting went into the closed meeting as numbered on the Agenda.

- 1. Opening remarks by the Chairman and action points:** The Chairman welcomed all those present. He signed the Minutes of the previous meeting with the full approval of those who had been present, as a true record of that meeting. He particularly wished to have minuted his thanks to Cllr. Potter for chairing the two meetings that he had been unable to attend. He informed the meeting that the Clerk had decided to retire but had assured him that she would not leave until a new Clerk had been appointed and was ready to take over. She had felt that after nearly twenty years it was time to go and that she appreciated how hard the Parish Councillors worked which was why she was prepared to stay until one was appointed. The Chairman informed the meeting that he and Cllr. Potter had visited Katie Fielding of Community First in Devizes to seek advice on how to advertise for a new Clerk. **ACTION POINTS:** (1) **Flood Embankment:** County Cllr. Henry informed the meeting that there was actually nothing to see. However, a video had been made of the construction of the flood embankment which would be presented to the Parish Council. The Chairman reported that Daniel Everett had already spoken to him about this, and that the Parish Council looked forward to seeing the video. (2) **Parking of red van at junction of Candown Road and A360:** This has been reported a number of times. **Action:** Clerk to write to the owner of the red van if the Chairman has not spoken to the owner beforehand. According to The Highway Code 243 there should be no parking within ten metres of a junction. (3) **Cherry Tree:** See Agenda item (7) below. Environment.
- 2. Clerk & Correspondence:** The Clerk confirmed that she would remain until a new Clerk was ready to take over. She had received an email from Mr. McKillop, estate agent, saying that the man hole cover by the playing field is the responsibility of Highways and not the Old Pipe Factory. **Action:** The Chairman said that he would report this to Highways. In fact, he did this during the meeting! The Clerk handed out the magazines received since the previous meeting.
- 3. Military & Police:** No report. No concerns.
- 4. Planning Applications:** Two received since the previous meeting. (1) Application Ref: 18/10783/TCA. Application for Works to Trees in a Conservation Area. Proposal: T1 – Fell and grind stump self seeded Sycamore T2 – Coppice Sycamore. At: South Manor, High Street, Tilshead. No objections were raised to this application. (2) Application Ref: 18/11080/TCA. Application for Work to Trees in a Conservation Area. Proposal: Conifer trees G1 for the reduction of all trees along the back boundary, down to the previous points. Removing approximately 203 in height Silver Birch T1 for the crown reduction by 1-1.5m and deadwood removed. At: West Barrow Cottage, High Street, Tilshead. No objections were raised to this application.
- 5. Finance:** Cllr. Leachman (Finance Officer) presented one cheque for signature to Cllr. Judith Moore for £31.99 for the purchase of paint for the bus shelters for which she was thanked. Cllr. Murray was thanked for giving his time and painting the bus shelters. **Precept:** The Chairman explained the Precept

April 2019 to March 2020 in detail which was then discussed and agreed. There will be an increase of 4%. However, as a new Clerk will have to be appointed that will incur further expenses, and these could be large ones. He is waiting for further financial information from Community First, and once received a parish council will be called to further discuss the precept, even if it is in January. (NB. One has been called for the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019). The Chairman, Parish Council and the Clerk wished to have minuted their thanks and appreciation to Cllr. Leachman for all the hard work that he does financially on behalf of the Parish Council. The Clerk also wished to have minuted that she would not have been able to carry out the work as Clerk if he had not undertaken the role of Financial Officer for which he has served as many years as the Clerk. Cllr. Leachman informed the meeting that £200 had been contributed by the Tilshead Newsletter towards the new bench, and £200 contribution towards the cost of the porch, adding up to a full contribution of £400. The Chairman and Parish Council wished to have minuted their thanks for their generosity.

6. **Highways:** It was reported that two street lights are out in the village. Action: The Chairman would report this. (NB. This has been done).
7. **Environment:** Cherry Tree: A discussion took place about the future of the cherry tree (beside the Village Hall). A tree surgeon had recommended that it should be cut down. However, it was thought prudent to have a second opinion from another tree surgeon before a final decision was taken. Action: The Chairman said that he would consult the County Tree Surgeon and ask for a second opinion with cost, and report back to the next meeting. **An Agenda item.** Bonfires: If residents take offence at bonfires they should consult the Wiltshire Council link scheme (See open meeting above) which has come to light since the previous meeting.
8. **Village Hall & Hillier Field Reports:** Cllr. Leachman informed the meeting that the Village Hall Christmas lights had been put up by Frank Druce and our Chairman. Thanks are minuted to them both for doing this. Playing field: Thanks and appreciation are minuted to Cllr. Potter and Anne White for clearing up the playing field. Sixty saplings have been planted on the playing field – these are to mark the end of the First World War. Cllr. Potter reported that a hedgerow had been planted on the allotments made up of witch hazel, dog rose, elder and a further mixture, again to mark the end of the First World War. Cllr. Potter said that the hedge would take between three and four years to mature.
9. **URGENT MATTERS:** (1) Village Signs: Cllr. Potter reported that Katie Davey from Highways had been in touch with regard to positioning of village signs. Katie Davey suggested that the extension of the pavement should be done in stages towards the Camp Site. The right of way sign by the garage needs moving to be clearer and the branches of the tree cut back. It was suggested that a horse sign could be positioned there. A new school sign for present position. Action: Waiting for Katie Davey's report. (2) Training course for Financial Officers: Cllr. Leachman (Finance Officer) informed the meeting that he would be attending this course on the 26<sup>th</sup> February at a cost of £65. The Chairman said that he would be attending the evening course. (3) Proposed new Para Bench: Cllr. Murray informed the meeting that he had been in touch with the Parachute Regiment Association and had hoped to have some information for this evening's meeting but had not yet heard. He will leave it until the New Year before contacting them again. (4) Complaints Procedure: The Chairman informed the meeting that Katie Fielding from Community First had given him a template on how complaints should be handled. Action: Agenda item for February. (5) Flooding: No concerns at the moment. However a meeting has been booked with the Flooding Officer who is visiting Tilshead on the 16<sup>th</sup> January, and will walk around the village with the Chairman. Cllr. Colin would also like to be present and this was agreed. A flood plan would then be made. Action: Agenda item for February.
10. **Forecast of next Meeting:** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7 pm in the Village Hall. If necessary a meeting will be called in January 2019.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9 pm.

Signed as approved:  
Dated:

Adam Harris (Chairman)  
2019

