

**MINUTES OF TILBURY JUXTA CLARE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD
IN TILBURY CHURCH, TILBURY JUXTA CLARE ON TUESDAY, 18th APRIL
2017 AT 8PM**

Present: Mr. W. P. Clayton (Chairman)
Mr. R. S. Brookes
Mr. R. Bryant
Mr. G. Thomas
Mr. A. Corder-Birch (Clerk)
Mr. D. Finch (County Councillor)
Together with 2 (two) members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence**

Mr. K. R. Nott (Chairman), Mrs. I. Parker (District Councillor), Mr. A. G. Bragg and in the absence of Mr. Nott, the chair was taken by the Vice Chairman Mr. W. P. Clayton.

2. **Minutes of previous Annual Parish Meeting**

The minutes of the previous Tilbury Juxta Clare Annual Parish Meeting held on 26th April 2016 were read by the Clerk, confirmed and duly signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. **Matters arising from those minutes**

Councillors reported that slow Broadband continues to be a problem. Mr. R. Bryant reported that ECC Highways had not met the requirements of the village. Mr. D. Finch suggested that the PC asks for accident black spot signs but Mr. R. Brookes found it difficult to recommend specific locations. Mr. Finch noted that there was no Community Speedwatch scheme in the village and urged such a scheme for which equipment and training will be provided free of charge. Mr. G. Thomas highlighted inconsistencies in speed limits throughout Essex. Following some discussion it was resolved that Mr. Finch will explore with ECC Highways 30mph advisory signs for the village.

There were no other matters arising.

4. **Great Yeldham Primary School Report**

The Clerk stated that Mrs. I. Parker had given a report at the Little Yeldham Annual Parish Meeting on 21st March 2017. An Ofsted report was imminent. The upper and lower ends of the school were doing well but the progress of the middle classes was disappointing. This was probably caused by staff changes because some teachers moved elsewhere for better promotion prospects and one class has two part time teachers, which is not ideal.

6. **Braintree District Council Report**

The Clerk stated that Mrs. Parker had given a report at the Little Yeldham Annual Parish Meeting on 21st March 2017 as follows:

- a. The BDC budget included the forthcoming loss of government funding and the

- retention of business rates to compensate.
- b. The possible future cuts in funding for community transport.
 - c. Improved investment arrangements by BDC.
 - d. Council Tax will increase by 3% in 2017-2018.
 - e. The Local Plan process is coming towards an end and the final plan should be presented to the Inspector later in the year.
 - f. New routes for the A120 were being considered by BDC.
 - g. At a recent meeting with the Police it was reported that London Drug Gangs were moving into the area particularly near Railway Stations.

6. **Essex County Council Report**

Mr. D. Finch gave a report a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

7. **Parish Council Report**

On behalf of the Chairman, the Clerk reported on the following;

- a) The BDC Localism Fund Grant had been reduced so the Parish Precept had been increased by the same amount to cover the shortfall only and therefore the PC budget had not increased.
- b) The skip had been well used in 2016 and another will be ordered for 2017.
- c) The planning policy against infill between all former Land Settlement houses in Great and Little Yeldham and Tilbury Juxta Clare had been included in the BDC Local Plan.

8. **Location for the skip**

It was agreed that the skip should be located on the Village Green at Tilbury Hill, which was owned by the Parish Council.

9. **Any other business**

a) **War Memorial**

Councillors and members of the public expressed concern, about criminal damage to the war memorial, situated at the junction of Clare Road and Tilbury Hill. The damage had been reported to the Police and a crime number obtained. It was understood that the memorial was insured by Tilbury Juxta Clare Parochial Church Council, which owned the memorial and surrounding land. As this was the third time the memorial had been damaged Mr. Finch suggested asking the Police for discreet surveillance equipment, which he will discuss with the Police and Crime Commissioner. It was understood that Mr. John Gardiner is currently Churchwarden of Tilbury Church following the loss of the previous Churchwardens.

b) **Potholes in Clare Road**

Mr. Brookes reported that potholes in the highway near Tilbury Grange, Clare Road had been reported to ECC Highways who had marked them with paint ready for repair.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

(Date).....

(Chairman).....