

# **Little Totham Parish Council**

## **Minutes of Meeting, Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025**

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April in the Evangelical Hall, at 7.30pm

### **PRESENT**

Chairman N. Lawrence

Councillors: A. Birkin, T. Gritton, V. Hare, J. King and S. Venton

Parishioners: 3

**25.42 Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received from Councillor Hughes.

### **25.43 To invite Councillors to declare an interest in matters on the Agenda**

Councillor King has an ongoing interest in the common land.

### **25.44 Minutes 04/03/25**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025 be approved and confirmed.

### **25.45 Update for parish newsletter**

Councillor Venton will write the update this month.

**RESOLVED Councillor Venton to send paragraph to the clerk.**

### **25.46 Switchover to digital phones in Essex**

Councillors want to raise awareness of this issue to local residents.

**RESOLVED Include in newsletter update, on Facebook page and noticeboard.**

### **25.47 Planning enforcement**

Tolleshunt Knights Parish Council will submit the next FOI request to MDC.

**RESOLVED Continue to review information received from MDC.**

### **25.48 Common land**

Dyer and Crowe has asked to see Mr Mabbitt's paperwork in order to formalise their quote for the work.

**RESOLVED Chairman Lawrence to liaise with Mr Mabbitt and Dyer and Crowe.**

### **25.49 a) Planning applications**

25/00218/PADOT PP-13765277 Prior approval for change of use of agricultural buildings to flexible commercial use at Little Renters Farm – respond to raise concerns about increased traffic movements, lack of footway access, no public transport and degradation of local roads.

### **b) Planning decisions**

Variation of condition 2 on planning permission 20/00493/FUL (on appeal) Erection of 13 Business and General Industrial Units complete with related infrastructure including road, parking spaces, drainage, landscaping and ecological area at Beckingham Business Park, Beckingham Street, Tolleshunt Major.

#### **25.50 Outdoor gym equipment project**

Councillor Venton and the clerk met with Sovereign Play on site to discuss options. Now awaiting full pack of information and quote as follow up to this meeting.

#### **25.51 Devolution**

District Cllr Siddall presented an update about devolution and local government re-organisation at the recent Maldon Chairman and Clerk's forum. There should be no direct changes for Town and Parish Councils in the district.

#### **25.52 Annual Parish Meeting and AGM of the Parish Council**

The clerk will check availability of the church hall to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will precede the May monthly meeting on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm.

#### **25.53 Tru Cam report**

There were 3 captures for speeding during February. The new hourly rate for Tru Cam patrols from April 2025 will be £43.24/hr. Councillors all agreed to continue with the current arrangement of 2 hours per month.

#### **25.54 Invoices presented for payment**

M. Gardiner	Clerk's salary March	£230.72
LT Evangelical Church	Hire of hall	£20.00
MDC	Tru Cam patrols Jan-March	£305.78

#### **25.55 Correspondence**

The contract for grass cutting had been renewed with Skippers for 2025/26. Clerk will ask grounds team at MDC if they carry out play equipment repairs. All councillors agreed to the request for use of land for the car show and fete.

All other correspondence had been circulated to councillors.

#### **25.56 Update from District Councillor**

No update.

#### **25.57 Public questions**

Questions/issues raised:

- Thank you to Peter Hare for repairing the bridge.
- Possibility of re-starting the Community Speed Watch scheme.
- Vehicles parking opposite the Swan making access to Post Office Lane difficult.
- Recent problems with cars parking and obstructing access in Scraley Road outside Heybridge Swifts FC.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.19pm

Signed by the Chairman.....

ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S AGENDA – 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
Apologies from Councillors Birkin and Venton