

TOLLESHUNT MAJOR PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY REMOTE MEETING OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD ON 5.1.2021

PRESENT: CHAIR – COUNCILLOR T PAYNE
VICE CHAIR – COUNCILLOR T DEER
COUNCILLORS M COSTER, K NEATH, A TAYLOR AND M THOMPSON (WARD MEMBER)
V BANYARD (PARISH CLERK)
No members of the public were in attendance.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting- Public session.

To allow members of the public to ask or answer questions or give evidence or information on matters relevant to the business of the Council.

No issues were raised.

4330.20 To receive apologies for absence and Declarations of Interest in the Meeting's agenda items.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor N Wood.

There were no Declarations of Absence.

4331.20 To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary remote Meeting held on 1.12.2020.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above Minutes.

4332.20 To receive information on items included in the above Minutes.

No issues were raised.

4333.20 To receive the resignation of Councillor Mr W Frost and to consider arrangements for the filling of the vacancy by co-option.

Councillor Mr Frost's letter of resignation was received and a letter will be sent thanking him for all his hard work as a Councillor over many years.

The vacancy will now be advertised for a period of fourteen working days, and if there is no request for an election the Council will co-opt at a future meeting. The vacancy will be advertised on the Council's website, notice board and Facebook.

4334.20 Planning

a) Councillors noted the following planning decisions from Maldon District Council:

20/00988/HOUSE	Dudley House Tudwick Road Tolleshunt Major	Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and new vehicular access and cart lodge building. Refused
FUL/MAL/20/00493	Land South of Beckingham Business Park Beckingham Street Tolleshunt Major	Erection of 13no. Business and general industrial units (use class B1a) and cafe (use class A3) complete with related infrastructure including road, parking spaces, drainage, landscaping and ecological area Refused The Parish Council discussed what should be done to encourage residents to respond if this goes to appeal. It was agreed that Councillor Neath will compile a draft letter to go to residents in the event of an appeal – this to be circulated to Councillors for their approval.
20/01112/OUT	3 Highams Farm Cottages Maldon Road Tolleshunt Major	Sub-division of plot and erection of 4 bed detached house with double garage and erection of single garage to serve the existing dwelling Refused

20/010117/FUL	15 Beckingham Business Park Beckingham Street Tolleshunt Major	Demolition of existing industrial unit and construction of replacement units Approved
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b) Latest planning applications – to comment on any planning applications which may be received before the date of the meeting – including:

20/01297/MLA	Field View Cottage Tolleshunt D'Arcy Road Tolleshunt Major	Application for a modification to Section 106 legal agreement executed under planning application FUL/MAL/07/00706 It was RESOLVED to object to this application on the following grounds: The removal of the three month restriction suggests the use of the property for long term rental. A longer indefinite allowable term would make it more like a residential property, especially as the application states in section 8 that “enquiries regarding longer term rent” have already been received.
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c) Enforcement issues. The Traffic Commissioner has advised that no decision has yet been made about granting an HGV licence to Stigs Services but an examiner is due to visit the site. Stigs also need a Waste Transfer Licence for their operations but as yet this has not been obtained. Residents continue to collect and send evidence about the company’s activities at Wicks Farm and it was noted that there is now a soil bund around the waste site.

Maldon District Council has opened an enforcement investigation on activities at the Essex Barn at Wicks Manor Farm.

Farm shop at the junction of Braxted Park Road and Maldon Road Tolleshunt Major. Following the recent approval to extend the farm shop it was noted that the condition to remove containers from the site has not yet been complied with. Maldon District Council will be asked to investigate. The Parish Council will also raise concerns about the amount of signage which has now appeared at the site.

4335.20 Finance

a) To receive a financial report and bank reconciliation for January. These were approved.

b) It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the following expenditure:

1.	£ 206.00	Miss V Banyard	Clerk’s salary and allowance Jan
2.	£ 47.00	HMRC	Clerk’s tax Jan
3.	£ 3.75	Miss V Banyard	Clerk’s expenses - Internet

c) Update on invoicing by Maldon District Council for playing field maintenance. The Parish Council has still not received an updated invoice and Councillor Mr Payne agreed to contact Peter Clarke again to see if this matter can finally be resolved.

4336.20 To approve the draft budget for the year ending 31.3.2022

Councillors considered the draft budget as presented by Councillor Mr Payne. It was agreed that the application for grant funding for new equipment in the play area should now go ahead, and in the meantime reserves can be used for the new toddler swings in case the grant is not obtained or takes some time to be approved.

Councillors T Deer, K Neath and A Taylor (staffing committee) will review the clerk’s salary and report back to the full Council.

It was noted that several residents in the village have been carrying out litter clearing and it was agreed that equipment should be purchased to help them do this.

It was then **RESOLVED** that the budget for the year ending 31.3.2022 should be approved.

4337.20 To set the precept for the year ending 31.3.2022

It was **RESOLVED** to set the precept for the above year at £8,400.

4338.20 To receive a report on any matters concerning the Covid-19 pandemic

Details of help which is available in the district will be published in Major News.

4339.20 To consider any issues concerning the playing field and play area – including:

- a) Play area. The play area will remain open during the current lockdown but new signs will be put up advising users that they should maintain social distancing at all times and provide their own hand sanitisers.
- b) Progress report on the application for grant funding – new equipment for the play area and field. See minute 4336.20 above.
- c) The resurfacing of the car park – update. Councillors T Deer and T Payne will measure up the car park and obtain a price for 3-4 tonnes of gravel to carry out this work.
- d) Replacement of damaged litter bin. Maldon District Council does have new bins in stock at a cost of £164.76 plus installation (if required) of £160.00. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase one litter bin which the Parish Council will install.
- d) Any other issues concerning the playing field. No other issues were raised.

4340.20 To consider any Highways issues

- a) Trucam report. November – one capture of a speeding vehicle over two half hour patrols. A resident in Tolleshunt D’Arcy Road had expressed concerns at speeding in that road and asked what action could be taken to deal with this. It was noted that the police do not allow Trucam or Community Speed Watch patrols in Tolleshunt D’Arcy Road as yet, and all sites have to be approved by the police. Councillor Neath undertook to reply to the resident and also to investigate the installation of a speed camera in that road.
- b) Update on resumption of Community Speedwatch. Due to lockdown nothing further has been heard.
- c) Local Highways Panel Scheme. Application for a walkable verge from the playing field car park to St Nicholas Hall – any updates. The clerk will contact Councillor Mark Durham (ECC) asking what progress has been made with this scheme.
- d) Any other issues concerning Highways or public rights of way. Various footpath issues raised at the last meeting have now been reported to Essex County Council. A small part of the path at Rockleys is very muddy, and Councillor Mr Payne will ask the landowner if anything can be done to improve the surface. It was reported that there are notices on the path at New Farm in Beckingham Street advising that there are dogs running loose on the property. Apparently this is allowed.

4341.20 To consider the Parish Council’s response to the Essex Climate Action Commission Interim Report

The Parish Council has noted the content of the above but will make no response at this time.

4342.20 To note any other issues which may be raised.

The Council will thank several residents who have been carrying out litter clearing in the village and will present them with flowers to thank them for doing this work. Equipment such as fluorescent jackets, bags and litter pickers will also be obtained for their use.

Councillors Mr Payne and Mr Deer will cut back part of an overhanging hedge in Tudwick Road.

Calls for volunteers to help with the running of vaccination centres in the district will be put on the village Facebook.

4343.20 To set the date and frequency of future meetings.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 2.2.2021.

4344.20 To consider other items for information or for inclusion on future agendas

Councillors will be asked to bring any ideas on village improvements to the next meeting.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 9.26 pm.

The above Minutes were approved at the Council’s remote meeting held on 2.2.2021 and recorded as Minute Reference 4346.20