

TOFT WITH LOUND & MANTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk
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Minutes of the Parish Annual Meeting held on Thursday 18th March 2021 via Teams

Present- Richard Stephenson, Richard Hartley, Jeremy Dawson, Sue Renner, Tom McWilliams, Penny Robins, Cllr Robert Reid. **Parish Clerk – Rosemary Trollope-Bellew**

001/21 Chairman’s opening remarks – The Chairman of the Parish Council Richard Stephenson opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

002/21 Apologies – Sue Renner and Cllr Robert Reid – late attendance.

003/21 Minutes of the last Meeting & Matters Arising

It was proposed by Richard Stephenson & seconded by Richard Hartley that the minutes of last meeting were a true record and signed off by Cllr Stephenson. There were no outstanding matters from the minutes.

004/21 Chairman’s Annual Report – Cllr Stephenson reported:-

This term sees the completion of the second year of the current period in office for the current councillors.

Regular council meetings were significantly disrupted during this period due to the coronavirus pandemic. A limited number of meetings were held via video link.

The Toft Hotel as a venue for future meetings is still not available as, at this point in time, it is no longer trading. We therefor will need to secure other premises in which to hold future meetings. Possibly the Witham on the Hill Parish Hall.

Events

The bonfire night celebrations and wheelbarrow competition in 2020 were cancelled due to the pandemic.

During a short period of respite from lockdown and tier restrictions we were able to stage a scarecrow competition which was well received. Monies raised are to be donated to charity.

Highways

Various issues relating to verges, street lights, signage and potholes were considered and dealt with during the year. As in previous reports, the Highways England team has limited funds and this impacts their ability to carry out the necessary works as quickly as

we would like. This unacceptable situation continues. At the date of this report we are awaiting a call from Highways England to advise a date for a meeting which we have requested to discuss the situation further.

The Council applied for a Traffic Regulation Order for Main Road, Manthorpe and Wilsthorpe Lane, Manthorpe on 5th November 2019. The purpose being to restrict the passage of unnecessary HGVs on these unsuitable roads. Despite regular chasing up Highways England have advised our request is in a “queue” and will be considered at some stage. We have requested a meeting with Highways to discuss this issue prior to them making any decision.

The electronic speed limit sign at Witham/Manthorpe cross roads was repaired and is currently in operation.

Our request for double white lines at the brow of the hill to slow traffic in this area is another ongoing issue.

Parish Property

There have been no significant issues with parish property during the last year. The income generated from these assets continues to contribute to the cost of parish events and maintenance of assets as required.

The defibrillators in both Manthorpe and Toft remain ready for use. Instructions for use have been regularly included in correspondence within the parish (notice boards, monthly magazine).

Maintenance of the Manthorpe bus shelter, Lound notice board and various seating benches was carried out during the period.

The old red BT phone box is now in our ownership. Future use to be decided.

The process to seek funding for new playing field equipment has been delayed by the pandemic. Some public consultation has been carried out to establish the level of local support for this project. Just over 50% of the residents in Manthorpe support this project. There is limited support from residents in Toft and Lound.

The consultation process has resulted in some other potential projects being highlighted for the council to consider e.g. allotments, new village hall, outdoor table tennis table, croquet area, mini skateboard park, adult gym equipment, pop up gin bar in the shed!

Planning Applications

The Council has dealt with all planning applications submitted in a timely manner.

No particular issues have arisen.

Local Public Support

As ever our continued thanks go out to all who are involved with keeping the parish a pleasant environment in which to reside - that is those involved with grass cutting, union jack flying, litter picking, delivering parish magazine, circulating village notices by e-mail, checking the defibrillators and cleaning the telephone box!

Cutting of grass verges on the playing field and Toft “triangle” planted area continues to be outsourced.

Parish Council Finance

The Parish Council remains in a cash positive position. The Council will, going forward, actively consider the need for projects within our community which give maximum benefit to all residents. Any reasoned suggestions (as noted previously) from Parishioners that will benefit the whole community are warmly welcomed.

Extraordinary Items

During the period the Council has continued to action directions as required by Government with regard to the coronavirus pandemic.

Richard Stephenson

Chairman – TL&M Parish Council

005/21 Financial Report for year ending 31st March 2019

Please note that these are draft accounts as the financial year ends 31st March.

The rents for council properties have remained the same as last year with an income of £6595.00 outstanding is the wayleave and interest from building society account and high interest account. Forty pounds was raised from the scarecrow festival, proceeds to charity.

The Council continues to donate money from parish funds to The Royal British Legion, Witham on the Hill PCC, LIVES, Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance, Edenham School and St Barnabas Hospice, total £2275.00. The parish was unable to organise any village events therefore there was a saving on previous year of £1070.00 and the marquees remained in the hiding, the street furniture was given a lick of paint – benches, bus shelter and new roof on the playing field shed.

The council accounts look to be in a very healthy state with approximately £30,000.00 to go forward for 2021/22.

Rosemary Trollope-Bellew – Clerk Toft cum Lound & Manthorpe

006/21 Reports from County & District Councillors

Cllr Reid reported that he had arranged a meeting with Lincolnshire County Council highways manager plus Chairman of both Thurlby and Manthorpe Parish Councils.

The A6121/A151 roads were earmarked for repairs and remedial work from the beginning of June.

He was continuing to campaign for the replacement of the welcome sign and bollards at Toft, plus a safety crossing between the Hotel and Golf Course.

Double white lines had been done at the brow of the hill at Witham on the Hill and the reactive speed sign had been renewed.

Manthorpe/Thurlby road – no date as to when the traffic lights would be removed.

007/21 Reports from outside bodies:-None.

008/21 To receive concerns & consider resolutions from electors of the parishes of Toft cum Lound & Manthorpe

Tom McWilliams asked that the council purchases picnic benches for the playing field, each village a welcome sign plus silhouettes for Remembrance Day. Mr McWilliams thanked everyone at the Council for all they have done for the parishes and that they had his full support.

The Clerk reported that she had placed 3 Towers magazine and council details on the new parish website.

009/21 Meeting closed – 19.38