

# 7TOFT WITH LOUND & MANTHORPE, PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk  
Rosemary Woolley  
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## Minutes of the Parish Annual Meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 1900 At the Toft Hotel

### **Present**

Richard Stephenson  
Jeremy Dawson

Richard Hartley  
Graham Freeland

David Kruetzberger  
Gary Andreson

D.Cllr Martin Wilkins

C.Cllr Robert Reid

Clerk – Rosemary Woolley

**001/17 Chairman's opening remarks** – Cllr Stephenson opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

**002/17 Apologies** – None

### **003/17 Minutes of the last Meeting & Matters Arising**

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

### **004/17 Chairman's Annual Report** – Cllr Stephenson reported as follows:-

This term sees the completion of the second year in office for the current councillors. All councillors are able to continue in office for the foreseeable future.

We are very pleased that the management of the Toft House Hotel have very generously allowed the regular council meetings to be held in their premises. We continue to offer our sincere thanks and appreciation on behalf of the parish.

Congratulations to both Rosemary Woolley and Robert Reid on their recent election to the LCC

## **Events**

The Queen's Birthday Celebration on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2016 was well attended and proved to be a great success. A good time was had by all! Thanks go to all who helped in the organisation both before and during the event.

The bonfire night celebrations were once again a success although weather conditions resulted in a lower turn out compared to previous years. Richard Blanchard again stewarded the release of fireworks and thanks as always go to him for providing a safe environment. The St John Ambulance staff were in attendance and helped to ensure the evening went off without incident.

## **Highways**

Various issues relating to verges, street lights, signage and potholes were considered and dealt with during the year.

The integrity of the bridge in Manthorpe was investigated by the Agency. Their report advised that the bridge was in a reasonable condition with no need for further remedial works. The Council is monitoring this situation.

The Council had some limited success following an appeal to a specific haulier to use the main arterial roads around the Parish rather than directly through the villages. The Agency is not prepared to make this compulsory. The Council continues to monitor the use of the roads by haulage contractors.

The Council continues to raise concern with the Highways Agency that the repair to the electronic speed limit sign at Witham/Manthorpe cross roads has not been repaired as previously advised to us last year.

## **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.

A rent review was completed and actioned with regard to Jasmine Cottage.

The Councillors reviewed all other land assets and can record there are no issues arising.

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).

## **Planning Applications**

There were no specific issues arising from planning applications brought before the Council.

## **Local Public Support**

With ever increasing cuts in both District and County Council budgets an appeal to all Parish residents was made in the local Parish magazine highlighting the need for "self help" in areas where the Councils will no longer take action. This is ongoing.

## **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 from Parishioners will be warmly welcomed.

### **005/17 Financial report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.**

Staff costs increased in 2016-17 as payment was made for twelve month period. During 2015-16 the clerk was only paid for nine months.

Total receipts for 2016-17 were up by £3000 on previous year due to two periods of VAT reclaimed total = £1892. Two residents contributed £900.00 towards the cost of new fencing at the Playing Field – Manthorpe.

During 2016-17 a new fence at the Playing field erected at a cost of £7930 plus there was two parish events held – the annual fireworks and Queens 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations.

### **006/17 Reports from County Councillor & District Councillor**

#### 1. D.Cllr Martin Wilkins reported:-

- There had been a change of Leader, Deputy, Cabinet and committee system at district.
- The Chief Executive would be leaving to take up a post in south Cambridgeshire.
- Extra money had been placed in the Community Fund to assist event and projects.

#### 2. C.Cllr Robert Reid reported:-

- He shared the District Councillors confidence with the changes at district.
- He had concerns about Unitary Authorities.
- He thanked everyone who voted for him.

### **007/17 Reports from outside bodies:- None**

### **008/17 To receive concerns & consider resolutions from electors of the parishes of Toft cum Lound & Manthorpe –**

- Concern was expressed about cars parking on public footpaths and suggested that a notice be placed on their windscreen or in the parish magazine. It was agreed to monitor the situation.
- Suggested that the telephone box at Manthorpe should house the defibrillator.
- A resident complained about HGV's using Manthorpe as a short cut. The Chairman asked that residents take the registration number, date and report to the Clerk.

### **009/17 Meeting closed 7.30pm.**

