

**MINUTES of a Meeting of Tatsfield Parish Council held on the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 in the Meeting Room, Aileen McHugo Building, Westmore Green, Tatsfield TN16 2AG commencing at 8.00 p.m.**

**Present:** Mr David Pinchin (in the chair)  
Mr Ian Hayman Mr Jason Syrett Ms Alex Davies Mr John Rand

**In Attendance:** Samantha Head (Clerk)  
Cllr Martin Allen (TDC)

And 6 parishioners

The meeting commenced at 8.01 pm

**1. APOLOGIES**

3738/0423 Kim Jennings and Ashley Clifton had sent their apologies. These were received and accepted by members.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (relating to items on the agenda)**

3739/0423 Jason Syrett declared an interest in item 10a – Tatsfield Green – Boundary Dispute.

**3. Approve and sign the MINUTES of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

3740/0423 It was resolved that the minutes reflected a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023. They were duly signed by the Chair.

**4. Public Participation**

- A query why no frogspawn in the village pond. (A little too early)
- A parishioner said he had come to complain about the recently installed InPost lockers. (This would be dealt with under item 10c)

**5. Officer's report**

- The Clerk noted that the interest rate for the Unity Trust savings had increased from 4% to 4.25% (effective from 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023).
- JS Windows had reported that, following visual inspection, he was unhappy with the effect of the moss removal on VH roof and would be redoing on one or both of the bank holiday Mondays in May – FOC.

**6. PLANNING:**

**(a) Planning Team for April: Jason Syrett and David Pinchin**

3741/0423 It was resolved that the planning team for April would be Jason Syrett and David Pinchin.

**(b) To determine the Parish Council's position on Appendix A:**

**TA/2023/249 Aston Acres, Kemsley Road, Tatsfield TN16 2BH**

Installation of new pond within the corner of the site as indicated on the plans. The pond has already been dug out leaving the sand blinding layer and membrane to be installed as well as finishing the soakaway.

3742/0423 Comment: No comment

**TA/2023/347/TPO The Dome, 56a Paynesfield Road, Tatsfield TN16 2BG**

Field Maple) – Thin by 35% and remove dead wood to increase light to surroundings gardens and reduce canopy weight. Approximately 18 metres in height.

3743/0423 Comment: No comment

**TA/2023/164 103 Paynesfield Road, Tatsfield TN16 2BQ**

Conversion of double garage and erection of pitched roof over. Erection of single-storey rear extension, loft extension in association with gable roof extensions to the front and rear elevations, side dormers with high level windows. (Amended plans)

An existing bungalow with single storey side garage located towards the far end of 'made' Paynesfield Road within the Defined Village. Extension with new roof storey creates three bedrooms and a shower room at first floor with two side dormers plus a rear extension single storey to replace the conservatory and extend across the back of the house. The existing garage is lost through conversion to a bedroom as part of the plans. Existing 3-bedroom house becomes a 6-bedroom house.

This application was discussed at the previous meeting. However, it has been presented again following a minor amendment.

3744/0423 Comment: The Parish Council wishes to reiterate its previous comment: Objection. Tatsfield Parish Council object to this application on the grounds of over-development of the existing plot. As a result of the proposals, an existing 3-bedroom bungalow (which is not set very far back from the existing pavement) becomes a large 6-bedroom house that will lose the existing garage and, as a result leave only one car parking space on the driveway.

Under the TDC Parking Standards SPD, a house of this size, if permitted, would require 3 car parking spaces. The inclusion of this level of parking with the loss of the garage would then result in the paving over of the entire front garden of the house with a large dropped kerb which would be inappropriate in streetscape terms and result in the loss of existing on street parking.

#### **TA/2023/284 Hill Cottage, Barnfield Road, Tatsfield TN16 2LG**

Demolition of rear extension. Erection of one and a half storey front extension with dormer windows over.

This application has not been formally notified by TDC but has appeared on the list on the TDC planning portal.

3745/0423 The Clerk would seek an extension to the deadline for comment. If this was not possible, members resolved to agree and submit a comment by email and ratify the decision at the next meeting.

3746/0423 The Clerk was requested to inform Tandridge Planning Department of the Council's decision.

### **7. Finance:**

#### **(a) Finance Team for April: Jason Syrett and David Pinchin**

3747/0423 It was resolved that the Finance Team for April would be Jason Syrett and David Pinchin.

#### **(b) Authorise payments (including authorisation of Internet banking) detailed in Appendix B**

3748/0423 Items on Appendix B were duly approved. Payments and supporting invoices were checked and signed by members of the Finance Team for April.

#### **(c) Items for expenditure:**

- Down to Earth Trees Ltd: To supply 6x Quercus Robur 8-10cm girth @£128 per tree - £768  
Planting sundries – 2x stakes per tree, mycorrhizal fungi, strapping, tacs and seasoned woodchip - £150  
Labour - £800  
Total: £1718 plus Vat of £343.60

3749/0423 Members approved the above expenditure.

### **8. Notified Items**

#### **(a) Furze Corner**

Jason Syrett gave the following update:

He is continuing to pursue discussions with TDC re: taking over the lease at Furze Corner. Last month, the Heads of Terms but the PC is still waiting to be sent a draft lease. Jason Syrett had attended an informal meeting with the PFA reps, who are the historic leaseholders, to discuss to discuss the cricket season, inventory of items in the building, current keyholders, bills and other associated costs. Several people have expressed an interest in joining the working group. The cricket club wish to remain at Furze Corner and Tatsfield Rovers have expressed an interest in returning to Tatsfield should the facilities be up to spec.

#### **(b) Coronation celebrations – 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

Ian Hayman gave the following update:

The Coronation celebration is almost fully arranged. Posters have been designed and printed and the event will be advertised shortly. The bunting will be put up at the weekend. There's a possibility that the event will be run as a picnic and BYO alcoholic drinks. The event will run from 13:00-15:00. John Rand will be manning the first aid tent. Dave Mitchell had offered to help at the event. Celebrations will continue at The Ship from 17:30.

#### **(c) The Big Help Out – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

Jason Syrett noted that there would be two events: the main event would be a tidy up of Millennium Wood and there would also be a litter pick of Westmore Green following the Picnic the day before. This will run from 2-3 hours.

**(d) Surrey ALC CIL Survey**

Surrey ALC had sent out a CIL questionnaire and asked all PCs to respond by 28<sup>th</sup> April. Members noted that the PC did not receive that much in the way of CIL money. It is like a top-up to the Precept to use on certain items to benefit the community.

3750/0423 Members agreed to submit survey responses, highlighting the above comments.

**(e) Request to consider a natural burial ground in Tatsfield**

A parishioner had written to the PC to ask them to consider a natural burial ground in the parish. Members noted that in the first instance there would need to be a demand for this and, if there was, land would need to be found. After discussion, members felt that the ideal location would be adjacent to St Mary's Church but this probably would not be feasible due to the proximity to the church and the fact that it has recently expanded its burial area.

3751/0423 Members agreed to raise the question in the next Parish Magazine PC report to ask if there is a demand for a natural burial ground in the parish.

**(f) Grey Gables, Ricketts Hill Road – driveway**

A parishioner had written to the PC to draw its attention to the recently re-laid driveway at Grey Gables. The parishioner felt that the driveway had been widened, resulting in the loss of some of the verge which forms part of Tatsfield Green (PC owned land). They had also noted that it appeared that the roots of one of the trees has been damaged. Several of the Parish Councillors had been to site to look at the driveway. It was generally felt that the driveway had not been widened, save for the corners at the highway edge – but this was considered a positive addition as it would hopefully protect the grass verge when vehicles were turning in and out of the drive. It may look wider as much of the verge had been reduced to mud and the new boundary wall had created quite a stark look.

3752/0423 Members agreed no further action at this time but it was hoped that the grass verge would be reinstated soon.

**9. Reports from County Councillor, District Councillor, Village Organisations and External Organisations**

**a) County Councillor**

Becky Rush was not at the meeting and no report was given.

**b) District Councillor**

Martin Allen gave the following report:

Cliff Thurlow is no longer the Interim Chief Planning Officer but he is still working within the planning team. The new CPO is Mark Berry. There is a new Assistant CEO who had been in post for 6 weeks. The final TDC meeting of the 'year' would be on 20<sup>th</sup> April.

**c) Neighbourhood Plan**

Jason Syrett gave the following report:

There is now a new officer in place at TDC to oversee the NP process. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is awaiting their comments on the draft plan (which has been ready since Christmas). A couple of small updates have been added. Nothing more will be done with the plan until after the May elections.

**d) Airport**

David Pinchin gave the following report:

The last BHACC meeting was in January and the next meeting would be at the end of April. Martin Allen and David Pinchin have kept in touch with the CEO, David Winstanley. He attended the APM last month and gave a really helpful presentation with a much better description of the NSA and proposed preferred route. The number of incidences of overflying has reduced, as have the number of complaints. Overall, the business of the airport is doing very well and The Landing hotel is now open.

**e) Police**

The Clerk had notified the police of the PC meeting and sent the agenda. It was noted that they attended the last PC meeting and had provided very useful advice.

**10. Parish Council Land/Property**

**a) Tatsfield Green**

- Boundary Dispute (Under Part 2)  
This item would be discussed under Part 2.
- Plaque for the Red Oak

The red oak was planted to commemorate HM Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee.

3753/0423 It was agreed to purchase a plaque to commemorate the planting of the red oak.

It was further suggested that an additional tree (native species) should be purchase to commemorate the Coronation of HM King Charles III. To be planted on Tatsfield Green, nearer to where the old noticeboard had once stood.

**b) MUGA**

- Gates for the games area

The Chair noted that there had been quite a lot of out-of-hours infiltration of the MUGA courts. People were climbing the main gate and entering the courts which have no gates. This was contributing to some anti-social behaviour. Ian Hayman has been sourcing quotes to have lockable gates made for the courts.

3754/0423 Members agreed to putting gates on the MUGA courts.

It was noted that the police advice regarding anti-social behaviour was report, report, report. This increases police intelligence and can then lead to an increase in patrols by the police and / or follow up action.

**c) AMB / Car Park**

- InPost lockers

The Chairman gave the following update: The new InPost lockers had now been installed but they were not due to go live until 1<sup>st</sup> May. The possibility of installing InPost lockers had been discussed by the PC at several meetings as local residents had expressed their struggles in using such facilities in Oxted and Biggin Hill. The PC had spoken to the Post Office to confirm that it had no intention of installing InPost lockers. A location had been discussed and agreed which was against the fence adjacent to the AMB. Several residents from Bassetts had complained to the PC about the positioning of the lockers and so the PC had put this item on the agenda for this meeting. Jason Syrett has written to InPost to ask about potential improvements to the roof surface but had not yet heard back. A proposal had been made to the Bassetts RA to extend the fence height by one and a half feet to cover the back of the lockers and lessen the visual impact.. It had also been suggested that some trailing plants could also be added to soften the look of the structure. It was noted that despite the complaints from Bassetts, overall, the community had responded positively to the installation.

A Bassetts resident then addressed the PC to say that the lockers were located approximately 8ft from his kitchen window / front door. His complaint however did not relate solely to the aesthetic but to the 24-hour footfall. He felt that the only locations considered by the PC were the Post office or the AMB. In his opinion, it created the impression that no consideration was given to having the facility near to Bassetts. There was no consultation. The PC is viewed as the custodians of planning permission in the area but he believes that the PC has disregarded any planning permission. He has written to Martin Allen (TDC) and Claire Coutinho (MP).

David Pinchin stated that it was never the PC's intention to upset the neighbours. However, this was the ideal location for the lockers – it is a prominent position, on a well-lit footpath that leads to and from the school.

Another resident stated that the lockers were exacerbating ASB (kicking the lockers). This happened on 31<sup>st</sup> March around 01:00 and this was reported to the police on 1<sup>st</sup> April. He suggested that the lockers were moved to the side wall of the Village Hall where the mosaics are currently sited.

Jason Syrett noted that the PC has signed a lease and InPost has funded the works for the base and electrics. If the unit was moved, the PC would be liable for the associated costs.

3755/0423 Members agreed that they would need to consider all points raised and would need to speak to the InPost representatives before being able to make a decision. Therefore, this item was deferred to a future agenda.

- FOI request (under Part 2)

This item would be discussed under Part 2.

**11. Meetings to attend/ correspondence**

None

**12. Matters for reporting or Inclusion in a Future Agenda**

None

Final public participation:

- Has ASB advice been publicised?
- Martin Allen said he would speak to the Bassetts Residents' Association re: ASB.
- The THS Spring Show will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 15:00 – 16:45 and the plant sale will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> May from 09:30 on Westmore Green.
- Martin Allen then thanked those councillors who were standing down and those who were standing for re-election.

The meeting closed at 9.21pm

The next Parish Council meeting would be held on Monday 22nd May 2023 at 8pm.

