

Tilney St. Lawrence Parish Council

Serving the villages of Tilney St Lawrence, Tilney cum Islington and Tilney Fen End

Minutes of the **Annual Parish Meeting** held on the 7th March 2016 at the Village Hall. The Meeting commenced at 7.pm.

In attendance:

Parish Councillors: Cllr B Ayres (Chairman), Cllrs. C Ayres, D Calton, P Cullen, J Day, D Jones, E Jones, C Mills, G Place, J McManus, R Savage.

Clerk: Mr R Smith

Local Government Electors: Mrs J Crawford, Mrs A Thompson, Mr A. Whitear, Mrs M Whitear.

1. Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Hearn and Sapey.

2. Minutes of the Previous Annual Parish Assembly:

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held Monday 2nd March 2015 were confirmed and signed as an accurate record by the Chairman.

3. Chairman of the Parish Council's Report:

The Chairman of the Parish Council reported that the Parish finances were in a strong position and that a sound fiscal policy continued to be employed.

Residents' concerns regarding speeding were being further investigated and remedial action would be considered once the results of a recent survey were received.

The Chairman further reported on some of the Parish Council's activities over the past year including:

- The replacement of the Tilney St Lawrence bus shelters,
- A new footway for Tilney cum Islington,
- An extended 30mph zone for Tilney cum Islington,
- Investigating the advantages of a Neighbourhood Plan.
- Additional grass area to be cut under contract for 2016,
- Working with NCC Highways to improve the condition of the parish's road and footways.

With regard to the future of the Post Office, the Chairman reported that the Parish Council would do everything in its power to retain this service for the village.

4. Parish Clubs and Organisations

[Where submitted, a written copy of the reports will be kept in the parish records.]

4.1. Village Committee

Mrs Crawford gave a report for the Village Committee. The Village Hall car park was one of the major concerns. There was currently a vacancy for the post of Chairperson on the committee. Mr Bodimeade had resigned due to health problems. Mrs Crawford thanked Mr Bodimeade for his hard work over the last thirteen years and wished him well for the future.

Chairman's signature:

4.2. History Group

Mr Whitear gave a verbal report on the History Group. Only two members remained, with Mr Bodimeade having resigned due to ill health. An advert was to be placed in the Village News to attract new members. Mr Whitear stated that whilst he was prepared to continue to handle the finance side, it would be useful to have some assistance with the web site. Currently there was around £600 in the group's kitty.

4.3. Short Mat Bowls Club

It was reported that the club was going well, with twenty regular attendees. Social events and matches were planned for the forthcoming year.

4.4. Welcome Club

Cllr Cullen read out a report received from Mrs Wright about the club's activities and plans.

4.5. Bowls Club

Cllr Cullen reported on the club's activities and match results during the last year.

4.6. Table Tennis Club

Mrs Thompson reported that there was a new table tennis club, meeting 3:30-5:30 pm every Friday. There were currently eleven members playing on two table tennis tables. Cllr Ayres indicated that if needed, an application to the Dr Punsfer Gift for the purchase of a new table tennis table might be worth considering.

5. Open Forum:

5.1. Westfields

A Westfields' resident had reported that some of the hedges on Westfield were overgrowing and obstructing the pavement. The Chairman said that he would investigate the issue and get back to the resident concerned.

5.2. Parish News

A resident had enquired whether reports on the Parish Council's activities could be included in the Parish News magazine.

Although the Council's meetings are open to the public and the minutes are published on the Parish Council's website, it was stated that not all residents had either internet access, or could attend the monthly meetings. The Chairman stated that he would consider whether anyone could undertake this additional work.

5.3. Car Parking around the Shop

It was asked whether it might be possible to create some additional off-street parking near the bus shelter to alleviate some of the parking congestion, which was occurring close to the St John's Road/School Road junction. The Chairman stated that consideration for additional parking would be given some thought.

6. Close of Meeting

The Meeting was declared closed at 7.30pm. Cllr Ayres thanked all those who attended and gave reports.

Chairman's signature: