

# TODWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the council meeting held in Todwick Village Hall at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 2021.

Covid-19 safety measures were in place.

## **Present**

Councillor Dixon – Chairman

Councillor Jeffrey

Councillor Morley

Councillor Newbold

Councillor O’Sullivan – To 9.30 p.m.

J R Walker – Clerk & Financial Officer

Joshua Bacon – RMBC Councillor

Julie Pass – RMBC Neighbourhood Coordinator - Aston and Todwick Ward

## **21/48 APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Councillors Carter and Wright and their reasons for absence were approved.

Councillor Dixon reported that Parish Councillor Davis was presently barred from sitting and voting due to an administration omission. He had undertaken to liaise with RMBC Electoral Serviced and rectify the following day after which he would be reinstated and continue his role as a parish councillor with immediate effect.

Members were concerned to learn that Councillor Wright had again had to attend and be kept in hospital and sent their very best wishes to him and his wife Sue.

## **21/49 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS**

(a) No disclosures were made by members of any disclosable pecuniary interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 or any other relevant interests under the Members’ Code of Conduct

(b) No requests were received for dispensations to councillors to take part in discussions and votes where they have declared disclosable pecuniary interests

## **21/50 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

No items were raised

## **21/51 PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

## **21/52 REPORT BY THE CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER**

The Clerk and Financial Officer had written to both Business Stream and Barclays Bank in connection with cheque number 101647. This had been received by Business Stream but had not been recorded as being presented at the bank. No reply had been received from Barclays but Business Stream had replied saying that the Financial Control Team was investigating.

Monies received

Nil

Payments made since last meeting

1. Aviva – Clerk’s Pension	18.27
2. Todwick Village Hall – Meeting Rent	15.00
3. Susan Wright – Covid-19 and other Cleaning at Sports Pavilion and Play Equipment in April, May and June	600.00
4. James Dixon – Royal British Legion Poppies	150.00
5. Green Pastures Pest Control – Pest Control at Allotments and Recreation Ground	123.75
6. Robert Needham – Works at Recreation Ground and Mary Gregory Play Area	102.50
7. RMBC – First Quarter Grounds Maintenance	3673.72
8. Susan Wright – Covid-19 and other Cleaning at Sports Pavilion and Play Equipment in July	200.00

Payments to be made

1. Streetscape Products & Services Ltd – Release of Retention	2298.00
2. HMRC – July Tax/NI	189.68
3. J R Walker – July Salary & Expenses	814.17

Un-presented cheques

1. Business Stream – Allotment Water Bill	9.75
2. Todwick Village Hall – Meeting Rents	15.00
3. Green Pastures Pest Control	123.75
4. Susan Wright – Covid-19 and other Cleaning in July	200.00

Present bank statement balances

Business Saver Account	Community Account
(Cheque Feeder)	(Cheque)
£50,593.73	£1.00

Total balance after all payments to date = £46,944.38

**21/53 SALARY AND WORKING HOURS OF THE CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER**

The Clerk had submitted detailed information in advance of the meeting.

**Resolved:**

- (i) To defer a decision on the working hours and salary of the Clerk and Financial Officer until the September meeting.
- (ii) That Councillors Jeffrey, Morley and O’Sullivan undertake an assessment and present a report at the September meeting.

*The meeting was suspended at 8.00 p.m.*

**OPEN SESSION**

1. RMBC Councillor Bacon outlined his priorities in representing Todwick parish including problems being experienced in accessing the A57 and the poor condition of carriageways and footways.

He would be holding a surgery for anyone in the Aston and Todwick Ward at Aston on the coming Saturday. In future intended to hold some surgeries in the village hall at Todwick in advance of a parish council meeting.

He would be ensuring Todwick had a voice at the Borough Council.

Discussion was held about the funding available to him and the other RMBC Councillors and he would be prioritising where the monies he had at his disposal should be spent.

2. Julie Pass thanked Members for accompanying her and Councillor Bacon on a walk around Todwick immediately before the meeting. She explained her role in working with RMBC Councillors and parish councils.

The Clerk raised the need for a meeting to allocate the grant monies obtained in connection with flood resilience measures and she undertook to assist in arranging this.

*Open Session closed and the meeting was reconvened at 8.30 p.m.*

## **21/54 COMMITTEES AND ORGANISATION REPORTS**

(a) A report from Green Pastures Pest Control was received.

**Resolved:** To accept the report.

(b) Quotations were received for the Pest Control Contract for the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022

**Resolved:** To award the Pest Control Contract to Green Pastures Pest Control in the sum of £495

(c) Councillor Dixon reported on various issues at the recreation ground for the future consideration of the Council.

**Resolved:**

- (i) To defer any decision on future works until the September council meeting
- (ii) That the Clerk arrange inspection of all play equipment by Wicksteed Leisure Limited.

(d) Councillor Dixon reported on a meeting he and the Clerk had at the MUGA with Matthew Day from Streetscape Products and Services Limited.

**Resolved:**

- (i) To pay the outstanding retention monies to Streetscape Products and Services Limited.
- (ii) To seek quotations for the removal of weeds within and around the MUGA and return of the surface to a playable condition.

(d) Consideration was given to deciding upon applying for a grant from the FCC Community Action Fund.

**Resolved:** To defer any decision until the September council meeting.

## **21/55 GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

(a) The Clerk reported that no report had been received from the external auditor for the 2020-2021 financial year but he anticipated receiving this before the September meeting.

(b) Consideration was given to undertaking a review of Standing Orders

**Resolved:** To defer any decision until the September council meeting.

(c) Consideration was given to the preparation of a new Complaints Policy

**Resolved:** To defer any decision until the September council meeting.

(d) Consideration was given to the preparation of a new Disciplinary Policy

**Resolved:** To defer any decision until the September council meeting.

(e) Consideration was given to the preparation of a new Grievance Policy

**Resolved:** To defer any decision until the September council meeting.

### **21/56 PLANNING MATTERS**

No planning applications had been notified since the last meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> June.

### **21/57 EVENTS**

Councillor Morley reported on progress towards the setting up of a group separate from the parish council to manage future events. It was envisaged that the Funday and evening concert would be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**Resolved:**

- (i) To support the setting up of an independent events group.
- (ii) That the parish council fund and manage the bonfire and fireworks display for 2021.

### **21/58 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE**

Councillor Dixon gave examples why the parish council should consider employing a contractor on a regular basis to undertake a variety of maintenance tasks in the village.

**Resolved:** To defer any decision until the September council meeting.

### **21/59 HIGHWAY MATTERS**

Councillor Newbold had observed the Borough Council spraying weeds on highways in the village on the 20<sup>th</sup> July followed by the road sweeper on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July. The sweeping had presumably removed the weedkiller sprayed two days earlier.

### **21/60 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

No report had been received from the Neighbourhood Watch.

Councillor Dixon had agreed with Virginia Anderson to include a page of neighbourhood watch information in future editions of The Informer newsletter.

### **21/61 WEB SITE**

**Resolved:** To defer consideration until the September council meeting.

### **21/62 PARISH PLAN**

**Resolved:** To defer consideration until the September council meeting.

### **21/63 EMERGENCY PLAN**

Councillor Dixon had been unable to finalise the plan.

**Resolved:** To defer consideration of the emergency plan until the September council meeting.

### **21/64 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR**

No applications to fill the vacancy had been received.

### **21/65 DISCUSSION OF ANY ITEM(S) FOR WHICH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED**

There were no items from which the press and public had been excluded

### **21/66 PARISH MATTERS**

The Clerk reported on the continued poor health of Margaret Clark the previous internal auditor for many years. She was confined to bed and was very concerned that her garden was growing out of control. He asked members to consider what action might be possible to help her.

**21/67 ROTHERHAM STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE**

**Resolved** To vote for Monica Carroll and John Peter Swann in the ballot to select parish sector representatives plus one deputy to the Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council Standards and Ethics Committee.

**21/68 ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING**

No items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting of the Council were suggested.

**21/69 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved:** That the parish council next meet on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.00 p.m. in Todwick Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

..... Chairman

..... Date