

**MINUTES OF THE 630th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN TOFT PEOPLES' HALL  
ON MONDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2009**

**PRESENT: Councillors S Roberts, P Hercus, C Sinclair, G Norgett, J Betson, L Jayne & D Bilsland, County Cllr F Whelan & District Councillor Martlew. There were eight members of the public in attendance.**

Item	Content	Action
1.	<p><b>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND ACTIONS OUTSTANDING</b> Copies of the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (M629) had been circulated. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that these were a correct record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.</p>	
2.	<p><b>OPEN SESSION</b> The Chairman proposed that the meeting adjourn to hear any representations from members of the public on items on the agenda and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to adjourn. Mr J Tebbit addressed the meeting on the matter of proposals to develop affordable housing units at a location to the east of Toft. He expressed concern about highways safety for vehicles accessing and exiting the site and considered the development offered an opportunity to improve the existing cyclepath. He suggested that the 30mph speed restriction zone should be extended eastwards and that the Royal Mail posting box could be moved in the same direction to better serve the development. Mr M Warton expressed his concern about the proposals, since housing would be situated next to his business and he feared there would be complaints about noise, which could subsequently threaten continuity. He informed the Council that he employed six family members locally and that operations took place from 7.00 am to 4.00pm daily, when there was often a lot of noise owing to the emptying of skips etc. Mrs Coppin voiced concern about the highways issues mentioned previously and that residents might park at St Andrews Cottages, owing to there being limited parking proposed at the new residential site. There was some discussion about the provision of affordable housing locally and the Council heard about proposals for development at Bennell Farm, where affordable houses could be allocated to both Toft and Comberton. Members of the public were thanked for their comments and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to reconvene.</p>	
3	<p><b>COUNTY &amp; DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• County Cllr Whelan talked about plans to link Hardwick and Toft with a cyclepath, which was to be assessed by the County Council in the summer. Cllr Norgett asked whether parking issues at the shop in Hardwick would be addressed by the scheme. Cllr Whelan advised that records of "near misses" were being collated in a support of a planned bid for minor safety improvement funding later in the year.</li> </ul>	
4.	<p><b>FEED BACK FROM CIRCULATION &amp; CIRCULATION ARISING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Bilsland mentioned that he had enquired about an increase in the Council's insurance premium with Council insurers' Zurich, which he considered in excess of the increase in the vale of the Council's assets. He had been informed that premium increases were high this year to cover the risk of fraud by Councillors.</li> <li>• Cllr Hercus referred to an item in circulation about Public Sector</li> </ul>	

	<p>Quality Duties and it was agreed that both this and a request for donation from the East Anglian Children's Hospice should be included for consideration on the Council's next agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Jayne reported that she had attended a recent Neighbourhood Panel meeting on the Council's behalf. Burglary was considered a target for reduction locally and focus was to continue thereon. Underage drinking and seasonal anti-social behaviour were also local priorities for policing. The next meeting was to take place in August</li> </ul>	KAC
5.	<p><b>PLANNING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In respect of the Parish Plan, Cllr Norgett reported that the Parish Plan had been submitted for a second edit and that a copy would be available for Council review very soon.</li> <li>• The Chairman welcomed Mr Paul Harney, who addressed the meeting on the subject of proposals for development of 15-19 affordable housing units at the eastern end of Toft village, details of which had been sent to the Clerk and to each individual Councillor in advance of the meeting. He took questions from the meeting and in response to a question about plans for three-bedroomed houses, the need for which was not evidenced in surveys conducted, replied that reference to the waiting list for property by Housing Officers at the District Council had revealed a need for three-bedroomed houses in Toft and that the local authority had control on the housing mix and tenure at the site, classed as an "exception site". Concern was expressed about the quality of building materials likely to be used for the scheme, funding for which was to be provided by central government and about parking provision for just one car per residence, which was considered insufficient. There was some discussion about the Warton's business and Mr Harney expressed the view that although legal restrictions would need to be taken into account and some mitigation measures might be required, it was unlikely that residents opposition or compulsory purchase were likely factors to adversely impact on the going concern. He concluded by saying that if permission for development was not secured for this site, there were no other suitable sites and Toft's affordable housing need would therefore not be satisfied. He offered to meet with the Council to discuss plans as these were developed. The Chairman thanked Mr Harney for his presentation and encouraged Members of the public to talk directly to their Councillors about their views on the proposals. Members discussed briefly whether a public meeting should be organized; the need for more information about the Bennell Farm proposals; and concern about potential threat to the Warton's business being a major sticking point preventing outright support for what was considered a good scheme for Toft otherwise. It was therefore</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to consult with the Parish Council in Comberton on affordable housing proposals planned for that area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members were asked to consider a recommendation for the South Cambridgeshire District Council in respect of Planning Application reference S/2275/07/F, Two detached houses, garaging and access following demolition of existing bungalow, 50 Comberton Road, Toft (Amended) and it was</li> </ul>	SR/ALL

	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> to note the amendment with thanks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chairman told the Council about a recent meeting attended by John Betson, where a Travel Plan for the Comberton Village College had been discussed by representatives of the police, County Council and the College. Support of the local PCSO was assured for young people travelling to and from the college. It had been alleged that parking at the College was not a problem, with the exception of around ten times per year during meetings. Toft Parish Council's view that an enlarged college with sixth form would generate more cars and that speeding traffic was a concern had been mentioned at the meeting. The planned cyclepath linking Toft and Hardwick had been discussed and a list of actions agreed. The date of the next meeting had not been decided. It was therefore</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to note the Chairman's report with thanks.</p>	
6.	<p><b>FOOTPATHS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council representative Cllr Sinclair said there was nothing to report. Cllr Betson suggested that footpath number 2 was quite badly overgrown and there was some discussion about having it maintained. The Clerk confirmed that £400 had been awarded by the County's Parish Paths Partnership scheme to fund work to bridges to reduce the risk of slips when wet. It was therefore</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to note this with thanks.</p>	
7.	<p><b>HIGHWAYS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members reported potholes in the highway on School Lane, between No 6 and the St Andrews Cottages and at the bottom of Mill Lane, as well as in Church Road, where it was unclear whether work had already been carried out. It was therefore</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to bring these matters to the attention of the Highways Supervisor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr Sinclair mentioned that an enforcement order had been served in respect of no 2 Preston Close, where the owner had allegedly encroached upon the highways verge by planting conifers.</li> </ul>	KAC
8.	<p><b>VILLAGE MAINTENANCE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Clerk confirmed that the Toft Brownies were willing to take part in a litter pick of the village on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June, between 6.15 and 7.30pm, meeting at People's Hall. The Chairman encouraged attendance, though responsibility for the safety of the Brownies was confirmed as being that of the Brownies' organizers and it was</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to note this with thanks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There was some discussion about litter at the village green resulting from the Chinese Takeaway and it was</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the Council should provide a larger litter bin to replace the existing one at the green and that the District Council's Environmental Health Department should be contacted in respect of the perceived need for a larger bin at the fast-food premises.</p>	ALL  KAC
9.	<p><b>TOFT PEOPLE'S HALL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chairman referred to the Management Committees' plans to improve the front of the Hall. A Social Events Committee had been established and repairs to blinds were to be arranged as well as secure bicycle parking. It was therefore</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to note the report with thanks.</p>	

10.	<b>FINANCE</b> The Clerk presented the following cheques for signature:		
Cheque No	Details	Amount	
1627	CGM – Verges Maintenance	£230.00	
1628	Cambridgeshire ACRE- Membership subscription	£25.00	
1629	PlaySafety – Playground Inspection	£72.45	
1630	K Cameron – Clerk’s Salary	£285.20	
n/a	HM Revenue & Customs – Clerk’s Tax	£189.60	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Clerk presented a report about the Council’s expenditure &amp; income to date. This showed an expenditure to date in the amount of £3,574.28, income totalling £29,504.46 (including reserves), and a balance available of £25,930.18. It was therefore <b>RESOLVED</b> to note the report with thanks.</li> <li>Members considered a report of the Internal Auditor, a copy of which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Various matters were discussed and summarized in a report attached to the original minutes of this meeting and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to review effectiveness of the actions to be implemented at the next meeting.</li> <li>Members had before them copies of the Council’s annual accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009, together with the Annual Return. Members considered the Annual Statement of Governance and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the financial accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009, together with the Annual Statement of Accounts and Statement of Governance for submission to the Council’s external auditor, Moore Stephens.</li> </ul>		          KAC          KAC
11.	<b>DATE AND AGENDA OF NEXT MEETING</b> 6th July 2009, 7.00pm, at Toft People’s Hall. Plans for affordable housing in Toft and Comberton are to be included on the agenda.		KAC