

**MINUTES OF THE TOLPUDDLE PARISH MEETING**  
**TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL - THURSDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> of FEBRUARY 2013.**

<b>PRESENT. Nigel Pitman</b>	<b>Chair and Parish Councillor.</b>
<b>Diana Forman</b>	<b>Parish Councillor</b>
<b>Jan Hopkin</b>	<b>Parish Councillor</b>
<b>Patrick Cooke</b>	<b>District Councillor</b>
<b>Tony Gould</b>	<b>Clerk and 36 members of the community.</b>

**WELCOME AND APOLOGIES.** The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were accepted from Julie & Adrian Bonner, David Wilkinson, Lynn Bailey, Richard Slocock and PSO Vicki Hedges.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

It was agreed that the Minutes of the previous meeting dated 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2012 constituted a correct record. Proposed by Peter Walton and Seconded by Sally Slocock. Carried.

**MATTERS ARISING.**

- It was agreed to write to C Cllr David Crowhurst thanking him for regularly attending our meetings and his service to the community.
- Chairman reported that he had taken up the question of the Community Assets Register and was waiting to be advised.

**TAINT (Tolpuddle Against Industrial Turbines)** Martin Usherwood reported on issues since the last meeting. Oliver Letwin MP had come to a very full meeting at which there were 125 people present. It was said that the overall feeling was that the project for nine wind turbines was much too large. Since then the retrospective planning approval for an anemometer had come before the District Council and was not approved: it will have to be dismantled. The formal planning application for nine wind turbines had been submitted to the District Council. Individual objections would need to be made and there would be more information on this point in due course but that time limits would not be all that great and it would be important to be conscious of these and get objections in.

Cllr. Patrick Cook advised that the application is enormous and that time would be needed in order to check all the issues before it was open to public scrutiny.

Discussion followed and Martin answered further questions.

**TRAFFIC/HIGHWAY ISSUES.** - Jan Hopkin reporting.

- Speeding by motor vehicles continues to be an issue.
- Severe weather had undoubtedly damaged roads.

The following issues were raised. The issue of dog excrement was raised and the advice is that infringements should be referred to the Parish Council: it was vital to actually observe these in order for action to be taken. Jan was asked about the timetable for lights out at night and the advice is that precise information is not to hand but that this is being done on a phased basis. It was agreed to note that several residents had done a good job in spreading grit on slopes during the recent snowy weather. It was further agreed to note with grateful thanks that Mr Dean had done very good work with a tractor and bucket on January 18<sup>th</sup> when there had been a fall of snow which temporarily blocked the by-pass.

**VILLAGE HALL** - Peter Walton reported that there is a comprehensive schedule of forthcoming events. Money is needed for the modernisation scheme in which the committee aspire to extend and improve the facilities. Grant aiding bodies have been approached.

**RECREATION AREA.** Peter Walton reported that Orchard Meadow has survived the winter flooding without damage. The play area is well used.

**St JOHN'S CHURCH, TOLPUDDLE.**

Philippa Francis reported that Phase I and II of the structural repairs have been completed. Fundraising is about to start for Phase III (disabled loo and food preparation area). Tenders are out for Phase III and there is about £10, 000 in the bank for this project.

**RIGHTS of WAY REPORT.** David had sent a written report to the Clerk who advised that there is a tree down behind the Martyrs Cottages. The County Council had been advised (the meeting was advised that this has been dealt with satisfactorily). Furthermore that there is a broken stile at the B3390 on the path towards Briantspuddle although outside the Parish Council has been reported to County. Agreed to advise the Secretary to the Parish Council.

**DEBATE ON PARISH COUNCIL BOUNDARIES.** Arising from a decision taken at the last meeting a debate took place as follows:-

**SHOULD TOLPUDDLE AND SOUTHOVER TAKE STEPS TO DE-COUPLE THEMSELVES FROM PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL WITH A VIEW TO ESTABLISHING A SEPARATE AND DISTINCT PARISH COUNCIL.**

After the motion had been proposed and seconded and the opposing view had been put, there was considerable debate. A vote was taken and the result was as follows:-

**FOR - 9 votes**  
**AGAINST - 24 votes**  
**ABSTENTIONS - 5 votes.**

The Motion was lost and therefore the status of Tolpuddle and Southover within the Parish Council remains as it has been. The Chair remarked that if people wanted initiatives from the Parish Council, items should be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

- The Library, Puddletown. Diana reported that Puddletown was the first village to establish an independent library. J Fellowes was addressing a meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup> and tickets are on sale. Kate Adie had donated some books for purchase.
- Parish Plan - reference was made to the need for a development plan.
- Future Events. Street Fair, Tolpuddle on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> of May.
  - Dorset Wildlife Trust - talk in Village Hall on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of March.
  - Church Coffee Morning Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> of March.
  - Soup and Sweet on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> of February and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> of March and subsequently third Friday in the month.

**DATE of NEXT MEETING.** It was agreed either Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> of May at 7.00pm or Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> of May at 7.00pm. To be advised.

There being no more business the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

**Note: The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2013.**