

TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Page 24/024

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th December 2024 held at Tackley Village Hall

Present: Councillors Liz Marshall (LM) Chair), Andrew Lines (AL) (Vice Chair), Angus Paxton (AP), Richard Holland-Oakes (RHO), Steve Hill (SH), John Gibbins (JG).

Cherie Carruthers (CC) (Clerk to the Council)

3 Members of the public

24/080:Public Participation: None.

24/081:Apologise of absence: Cllr Sue Lygo were noted.

24/082:Declaration of interest: LM in items 8.i – a family member is a recipient of a payment.

24/083: Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 18th November 2024 were approved as a fair and true record: Proposer SH, seconder RHO.

24/084:Section 106 consultation: AL reassured the public present that the consultation had not been concluded and that the PC will put in a method framework allowing for a phased decision making on the proposed projects. It was not a done deal, and residents would still have other opportunities to vote.

There is to be 4 stages of the process:

- 1) Jan / Feb - Collate the feedback from the consultation forms submitted in November / Dec 2024.
- 2) Feb / Mar – Shortlist projects and decide what is going forward based on criteria and assessment of each project.
- 3) Mar / Apr - Representative of each project to meet with PC to talk through project.
- 4) Apr / May – PC to conduct a vote on the projects. Based on results, specific funds to be allocated to the projects.

CC referred to a copy of Judy Robson's email (see appendix 1), Mr Jim Tarry read this aloud. AL understood that residents may believe they have missed an opportunity to steer the vote, but not a vote and that opportunity will happen in the future.

CC explained that the PC had also discussed the Housing Needs Assessment at the November meeting, this was to be published in the newsletter but agreed that both items needed to be both online and in paper format.

AL agreed to extend the deadline for the feedback forms to the end Feb, and it to be included in the Jan 2025 newsletter. SH advised that the final vote needed to be a yes or no vote, and the projects means tested before inclusion.

AL clarified that the feedback form is not a vote it is a feedback form, the voting will take place April / May.

24/085: Green Space Contract:

LM had previously circulated a draft, the contract is now split 3 sections, close mowing, short buzz cut and long cutting. Contractors can tender for all or part of the cutting rotations, it was agreed to circulate and send out to tender – CC to tidy up. LM to send CC potential contractors.

24/086: Relocating Crecy Hill dog poo bin: CC to request that the bin is moved from its current location up on the bank to the bottom for easy access.

TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Page 24/025

24/087: To consider matters of finance and policies:

- i. Ratification of Payments – invoices to be emailed beforehand: It was approved that the following payments were ratified and the impact the payment would have on the budget and reserves. Proposed: SH, seconded: RHO: **APPROVED**

Gross Amount (£)	VAT (£)	Payee	Details	Power
867.53		Clerks Pay	Nov Salary	LGA 1972 S111
50.00		B Marshall	Oct bin emptying	LGA 1972 S112
906.00	151.00	Greenscythe	Nov Green Spaces maintenance	Open Spaces Act
154.76		Mary McIntyre	Mailchimp Reimbursement	LGA 1972 S112
50.00		OCC	Allotment Rent	Open Spaces Act
40.00		Tackley Village Hall	Nov and Dec Hall Hire	LGA 1972 S112

- ii. The Standing Orders, Risk Assessment, Financial regulations and Code of Conduct were APPROVED and **ADOPTED** for 2024-25 municipal year. **Proposed SH, Seconded AP – all in favour.**
- iii. **Grant applications:**
 - Warm Spaces grant request for £100.00 – Proposed AP, Seconded RHO – All in favour
 - Tackley Bell Ringers: £100.00 grant for 2023, and £100.00 for 2024. It was requested that an annual grant request is submitted each year. Proposed SH Seconded AP – All in favour

24/088 To AGREE and APPROVE the 2025-26 Budget: CC had circulated the finance and budget papers.

The members went through the budget lines individually and discussed the proposed budget. They noted that to set a balanced budget, including all requested budget bids, the PC needed to levy a precept of £39,589, which was not feasible.

It was asked if the Heath spending could be carried out over 2 years by RHO. AP asked if could be taken from S106 money. SH asked if there any grants that can cover costs, for this. LM advised that PC has been responsible for the Heath since 1957 and the PC had spent virtually no money on it thus far, but some grants would be applied for various works, but applications tend to be more successful if there is already some financial support for projects. RHO when does the work need to start, LM need to start Spring 2025. AP noticed that each year over last 5 yrs Heath getting slightly worse not better, it does need doing. Bigger population which will increase the wear on the Heath, legal responsibility to increase to biodiversity.

CC advised that it is not prudent to set a nil increase in the budget, it will eventually it catch up with the PC and a large increase will be required. She noted that the projected closing balance is not sufficient to cover any budget bids. She recommended that the members note the rising costs of maintenance of the village, and if the PC wish to enhance the village it would need funding.

The budget for 2025-2026 was APPROVED and ADOPTED.

TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Page 24/026

24/089:It was **AGREED** and **Approved** to set the 2025-26 Precept at £32,039, £62.07 per house per annum, a 6.6% increase.

A vote was taken round the table: AL Opt 3, RHO Opt 3, JG Opt 3, SH Opt 3, AP Opt 3.

Table below shows the options upon which the members voted.

		Current Year	2025/26	Gain	2025/26 wish list	2025/26 Opt 2	2025/26 Opt 3	2025/26 Opt 4
Precept (£)		29,425	30,039	614	39,589	34,839	32,039	30,940
Tax Base		505.67	516.2		516.2	516.2	516.2	516.2
Cost p/h		58.19	58.19		76.69	67.49	62.07	59.94
Inc p/h p/a					18.50	9.30	3.88	1.75
Percent Inc				2.08%	31.80%	15.98%	6.66%	3.00%
From reserves -/+								-8,649

24/090:To consider other matters:

- i. **RHO** – chase confirmation that work on the safety railing will be commencing in January 2025.
- ii. **LM** – read out an email from Judy Robson, asking why the PC had not arranged Remembrance Day Parade this year: LM responded that due to other commitments the same weekend, she was unable to organise this year, she mentioned it to the council two months previous, but no one stood up. RHO advised that he had had long discussions with a resident and will plan what we need to ensure that it will happen in 2025. A note will go in the next newsletter to see if any residents would like to join a small organising committee so that if one person is unavailable, it can still go ahead
- iii. **Julie** Farren (Chair Village Hall Cttee) requested to see all the feedback forms – CC agreed to scan and send to her. AP set up a meeting between the PC and VH to have a discussion.

Next meeting: 20th January 2025 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 20.21pm.

Signed as a true record of the Tackley Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 17th December 2024.

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Date.....