

## **DRAFT Minutes of the Tolpuddle Village Meeting Thursday 7 November 7.00 pm, Tolpuddle Village Hall**

Present: Nigel Pitman Chair

Julia Johnstone Clerk

32 members of the public

### **1. Welcome, apologies and future limited paperwork explanation**

The chair welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Hilly & John Taylor, Dave Smallwood, Rosie Turnbull, Martin Cooke, Alison Donnison, Ian & Suzanne Cray.

For future meetings paper copies of minutes and agendas will not be provided - they will continue to be displayed on village noticeboards, village website and PAPC website and are available electronically via the email address above.

### **2. Minutes of the last meeting (21 May) and matters arising**

Previous minutes accepted.

Telephone Kiosk: Julia Johnstone confirmed the PAPC have agreed in principle to adopt the phonebox. Colin Hamilton kindly agreed to lead on the conversion to an Information Point as no alternative uses were suggested.

#### **Action Point**

Defibrillator signage: Peter Churchill confirmed the PAPC would arrange signage for Tolpuddle and Puddletown defibrillators **Action Point**

Village Website: [www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk](http://www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk) Nigel Pitman confirmed that FGP Ltd would sponsor the website at no cost to the village. He hoped it would be used to promote Tolpuddle.

### **3. Parish Council report**

Peter Churchill (Chair Parish Council) detailed some of the challenges facing the PAPC -

- i) Improving community involvement. There is a new PAPC website (with links to the Tolpuddle website), facebook and workshops.
- ii) Increasing the number of councillors. Three new councillors and a clerk have recently been appointed. Nicky Ling is the new Tolpuddle councillor. Peter was pleased with the increased number of female councillors.
- iii) The lack of a relationship with the new Dorset Council was a concern.
- iv) There is a need for improved IT facilities in Tolpuddle & Puddletown village halls to facilitate paperless meetings and make the halls more attractive for external hire.

Peter also advised that South Weston Energy Ltd have bought the 20 year rights for oil drilling to the north of the A35. This will be a 'nodding donkey' providing 1000 barrels/8 large tankers per day. There should be no traffic though the villages. SW Energy have had a preliminary meeting with the PAPC and are happy to hold further ones.

### **4. Village Survey**

Peter Walton (Parish Councillor) said there is no Tolpuddle neighbourhood plan and it is 8 years since the last village survey. A new survey could lead to a village plan (no statutory force but would provide a community view). The PAPC would provide funding. As all were in favour of this Peter will discuss with the PAPC.

### **Action Point**

## **5. Parish Communications**

Sylvia Salcedo (Parish Councillor) is holding a workshop in the hope of enhancing communications between parishioners & the PAPC. The subject is 'Our Community Spaces' with the aim of providing 2 focus issues for 2020 (Thursday 7 November, Puddletown VH)

## **6. Police Report**

No Police report was received however Peter Churchill said there were few issues other than scam phone calls and emails.

## **7. Rights of Way**

Lynne Bailey reported that overall, the Tolpuddle & Burleston rights of way are passable. Regarding issues from the last meeting:

- a replacement 'Authorised vehicles only' sign has been put up at the eastern end of bridleway (S46/4) in Tincton Hang;
- the gate onto the A354 at the end of the bridleway (S11/7) north from Burleston was still padlocked shut on 28<sup>th</sup> October. In response to an e-mail about this, the senior ranger for our area said he would visit the site on the 7<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Other problems that have been reported to county:

- a deep hole in the bridleway to Ashley Barn (S46/1);
- that bridleway (S6/1) west of Park Farm is overgrown, although, at present, it is possible to use the edge of the farmed area;
- that footpath (S46/7) south from Park Farm needed cutting;
- a fallen tree is blocking the bridleway to Dewlish just north of the Tolpuddle area.

Any issues can be reported to Lynne or Dave or directly to County via the [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) website

## **8. St John's Church**

Philippa Francis reported that the Church will be closed until Christmas due to the re-wiring and installation of a new heating and lighting system from Monday November 25<sup>th</sup>. Services will be held in the Village Hall until Tuesday Dec 24<sup>th</sup>- 3.30pm Crib Service (Church) and Wednesday Dec 25<sup>th</sup>- Christmas Communion (Church)

Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup> is the Village Christmas Party- 3pm with fun and games for the children and a crèche for the "Grown Ups"- with raffle and a bar followed by Carols with the band under Martyrs Tree and a collection for the Children's Society. Then we will all process along to the Martyrs Pub for drawing of the Raffle more singing, mincepies and mulled wine (kindly provided by the pub). The Raffle will be drawn there and further collections for the Children's Society. Heather still has a few of her beautiful calendars full of local photos for sale 01305 848165. All the proceeds from these are being donated to our Sparks Appeal

## **9. Village Hall**

Peter Walton (Chair VH committee) reported on upcoming social events. There has been a review of the VH business strategy in order to increase its appeal to commercial organisations. The committee are very grateful to the Unite Union who have given a donation for the replacement of the curtains. There is a maintenance programme which includes the external paintwork.

### **10. Orchard Meadow**

Martin Cooke provided the following report –

'The Parish Council secured £9,500 of funding from the National Lottery Community Fund and with Orchard Meadow reserves and precept funding has enabled new equipment to be installed in Orchard Meadow. In July a new steel and timber kickwall and basketball hoop structure was installed. In November, hopefully in the week comm 18th, the toddler play equipment within the fenced area will be replaced with new baby swings, climbing/slide structure, carousel and tactile panel. In addition new a new frame will be installed for the spiders web climbing net.

A volunteer work party will be held at 10am on Sunday 8th December - please come along and help'

There were 2 written questions - Abi King asked what was happening to Beth King's bench and Rosie Tunbull suggested the provision of a multi-use volleyball/badminton net.

Julia Johnstone to discuss with Martin Cooke

**Action point**

### **11. Future events not already discussed**

The Firework party has been rescheduled to Friday 22 November

### **12. AOB**

i) Tony Gould said he and Ray Kerslake represent the village at meetings regarding the Martyr's Festival and asked for feedback. Phillippa Francis commented on the lack of traffic cones in Southover Lane. Various reasons had been given for this by Highways.

ii) There were complaints about the drainage problems in Southover.

Julia Johnstone to email PAPC Clerk regarding both issues

**Action**

**Point**

iii) Julia Johnstone will arrange another litter pick in the spring

**Action**

**Point**

### **13. Date of next meeting (AGM) Thursday 21 May 2020**