**Meeting Type** Ordinary

**Date**  13th February 2023

**Time**  19.15

**Venue**  Tysoe Village Hall, Main Street, Tysoe

**Councillors Present** David Roache (Chairman), Jacqui Sinclair (Vice-Chairman), Malcolm Littlewood, John Tongue, James Bardey, Alison Cross

**Apologies**  Matt Jarvis-Cleaver, CC Chris Mills

**In Attendance** Cllr John Feilding, Charmaine Swift (Parish Clerk & RFO)

**Members of the Public**  20

**148. WELCOME and APOLOGIES**

Cllr Roache introduced the meeting and welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.

Apologies were received from Cllr Matt Jarvis-Cleaver and CC Chris Mills

**149. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

None received.

**150. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

i. The Council confirmed the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on January 9th 2023 as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Cllr Roache signed the minutes.

Proposed Cllr Cross Seconded Cllr Tongue All in Favour

**151. Self-Referral to Monitoring Officer outcome – Cllr Roache**

Cllr Roache noted the events leading up to his decision to self-refer himself to SDC’s Monitoring Officer subsequent to a complaint from Mr & Mrs Forrester. He then read out the letter of apology which had previously been given to Mr & Mrs Forrester (See Document 151a) and also formally apologised for any distress caused. Councillors present would look at later. Cllr Roache asked that the Clerk post the letter of apology and also a copy of the notes made in reply (see Appendix 3) and The Monitoring Officer’s letter (See Document 151b) on the Parish Website.

**Action: Clerk to post both letter of Apology to Mr & Mrs Forrester, The Monitoring Officer’s letter and Cllr Roache’s on Tysoe Parish’s website. Actioned 14.2.2023 & 16.2.2023.**

**152. PUBLIC FORUM 15 MINS ONLY**

**a)**

Mrs Forrester stated that in the past nearly 30 years, they have never had a problem with any residents of The Barn. In June 2022 she asked that an item be placed on the agenda and a discussion be had regarding the mental health & wellbeing of residents, that it be considered when in dispute with the Parish Council could be included under the Parish Councils responsibility. She asked that as part of the Parish Council’s responsibility would they please take this seriously as she and her husband have been under an enormous amount of stress.

Mr Forrester said that the apology was accepted with the understanding that all related papers would be published. Cllr Roache interjected and stated that he had said that the letter of apology that he had read out, and the Monitoring Officer’s letter would be published.

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Mr Forrester then said that Cllr Roache had honourably taken the decision to refer himself to The Monitoring Officer. But it seemed that most Councillors went along with what was done to him and his wife. He asked Councillors to understand that throughout the time spoken of, he and his wife had always had 2 aims in mind. One, to protect their property, which everyone has the right to do, and the other is to see justice done.

**b)**

A member of the public wished to raise a question regarding Salt Bins on the Epwell Road. It appeared that the was now only one salt bin half-way down Sunrise Hill, the second bin, at the top of the hill, was missing. The resident had been talking to SDC Highways Department since September 2022, and no salt had been delivered since then. The resident had been told that she needed to go back to Tysoe Parish Council as they had purchased the bin at the top of Sunrise Hill. The problem was that as there was no salt, when it snowed or was icy, there was no salt to spread.

Cllr Littlewood explained that he had spoken with Tom Ridgeway, SDC, last September, regarding the bin and the Parish Council had arranged for a new bin to be placed at the top of the hill and salt was delivered but the bin was not filled appropriately.

Cllr Cross said that she would speak with Highways regarding the missing bin and the salt.

**Action: Cllr Cross to speak with SDC Highways to organise a second salt bin and salt for both bins on Epwell Rd.**

**c)**

A member of the public wished it noted that he would disapprove if there were any question ever to arise concerning any payment of residents’ legal fees.

**d)**

Councillors were informed that the bench in front of the Pavilion was broken. Councillors said they would look into the ownership of the bench and see if it could be replaced**.**

**Action: Clerk to look into ownership and advise Councillors.**

**e)**

Councillors were advised that the street light outside of Avon Avenue was not working again.

**Action: Cllr Cross to speak with Highways to get the street light fixed.**

**f)**

**Tysoe Supports the Ukraine Update – Mr Fred Price**

Mr Price gave a short talk on the work of the group of people in Tysoe, working hard to help the people of the Ukraine. He said that he would firstly report on the work so far. Detailing that over 1,000,000 people have died on each side of this war. 5 million have been internally displaced and 8 million have left the Ukraine and are now refugees. 5 million people have returned to the Ukraine, after having left.

113,700 people have arrived in the UK by way of the Government Scheme, of which 298 are in Stratford.

Secondly, Mr Price reported on where things are now.

He thanked the Parish Council for funding the banners which are now placed on the roads into the village and keep up the profile of the Tysoe Supports the Ukraine work.

The group have raised money and need to raise more. Mr Price said that he had visited the country and there was a great desire amongst the Ukrainians to live with the situation, and a terrific demand for people to come to the UK. Unfortunately we cannot take everyone and other countries are being looked to for help.

The next steps are to continue to keep up the profile of the initiative of people to keep offering homes in the UK, and encourage the community to keep opening up their homes. The government have now extended the Homes for Ukraine initiative and offer £350 for the first 6 and again 6 to 12 months, then £500 for the second year.

Mr Price also said that there was a great need for saws, garden forks and spades in Ukraine.

Cllr Roache thanked Mr Price for his efforts.

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**153. WARD MEMBERS UPDATE**

1. CC Chris Mill’s Report to TPC. **Ref: Doc. 153a**

Cllr Roache noted receipt of CC Mills report and asked if anyone had a question concerning it?

Those present said they had not.

1. DC Feilding’s Report to TPC**. Ref: Doc**.153b

Cllr Feilding gave a precis of his report, advising those present that building contractors now employ their own Building Inspectors. 80% of all new buildings are now not inspected. Also that David Platt and The Monitoring Officer are due to retire shortly.

Cllr Feilding advised that WCC have trees available, if anyone is interested, they should contact CCllr Chris Mills.

Cllr Roache said that he had written 6 weeks ago to John Careford and Ian Shaw with regarding the delays in planning applications being processed. As yet, he has not received a reply. Target dates are always being missed for example, The Cameron Homes application had been delayed for two and a half years.

**Action: DC Feilding to speak with the Planning Department about the Cameron Homes application. Actioned 14.2.2023.**

**154. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Tennis Club request.

A request was made on behalf of the Tysoe Tennis Club for a donation of £140, the fees for the Tennis Coach who led the tennis Taster sessions beginning in August 2022. The Tennis club are determined to raise awareness amongst children in Tysoe and its surrounding areas. The sessions last year had children from the age of 7 to 16/17 years of age.

The proposal was that Tysoe Parish Council agree to make a grant of £140 for the cost of a Tennis Coach for Tennis Taster Sessions.

Proposed: Cllr Sinclair Seconded: Cllr Tongue **All in Favour**

1. The Reading Room.

An email has been received by the Clerk that formally requests access to the Reading Room on Main Street across the grass verge which is parish green.

After some discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Littlewood speak with the Trustees of The Reading Room to advise on the best surface to be laid. The proposal was received to allow access across the grass verge to The Reading Room.

Proposed: Cllr Littlewood Seconded: Cllr Cross **All in Favour**

**Action: Cllr Littlewood to speak with Mr Sewell regarding an appropriate surface for the access across the verge.**

1. Tysoe Flower Show

TPC has received a request to hold the Tysoe Flower Show and Fete on the Recreation Ground on August 19th 2023.

The proposal was received to agree to the request from the Tysoe Flower Show 7 Fete Committee.

Proposed: Cllr Cross Seconded: Cllr Bardey **All in Favour**

**155. FINANCIAL REPORT 2022 – Parish Clerk**

1. The Council received and approved the Finance Report for January 2023

Proposed Cllr Sinclair Seconded: Cllr Tongue **All in favour**

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1. The Council approved the following payments already paid by the authority of the Annual Payments List or awaiting payments:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Voucher No | Item | Payable to | Amount £ |
|  | Salary | Clerk | 389.13 |
|  | WFH Allowance | Clerk | 26.00 |
|  | Income Tax | HMRC | 97.20 |
| DD | Electricity | Green Energy | 467.49 ( & Jan) |
|  | Mowing | Thomas Fox Inv 35806 | 813.60 |
|  | Tree & shrub maintenance | Thomas Fox Inv 36151 | 288.00 |
|  | Windows Subs | TPC | 59.99 |
|  | Memorial Bench | Wealden benches | 494.95 |
|  | Advertising | Tysoe Record Inv 001/200123 | 70.00 |
|  | Training (Elections) | WALC Inv 60 | 36.00 |

Proposed: Cllr Sinclair Seconded: Cllr Tongue **All in Favour**

1. The Council received and approved the bank statement and bank reconciliation for the period 1.1.2023 to 31.1.2023. Cllr Roache checked and signed the bank statements and the bank reconciliation.

Proposed: Cllr Tongue Seconded: Cllr Sinclair **All in Favour:**

Cllr roached asked if anyone had any questions on the Finance Package – there were none.

**156. Review of Policies**

Cllr Roache noted that both the Data Protection and Powers & Duties Policies needed to be reviewed as part of the annual review of policies. Both policies had been circulated prior to the meeting and had no changes. Cllr Roache asked if there were any questions or comments on the Policies, there were none.

**157. Precept – Cllr Roache**

Cllr Roache noted that The Parish Council had requested £35,472 as their Precept for 2023/24 which was an increase of 3%. He said that there had been a big increase in street lighting and mowing costs. There was a modest amount in the budget to celebrate the Coronation and also to review and implement changes to the Parish website.

The impact of the precept on council tax would mean that for a house in Band D the precept amount would be £61 per house. Cllr Roache pointed out that Tysoe compared very well to other Parishes. He also wished it noted that SDC advise all its Parish Councils to keep 1 years’ worth of normal costs in reserve.

**158. Recruitment of Councillors**

Cllr Roache reiterated the fact that several Parish Councillors would be standing down in May and that Tysoe Parish Council would like to ask anyone who feels they have something to offer, and are eligible, is able to apply to become a Parish Councillor. Application packs will be coming out soon and can be obtained from the Parish Clerk, or Stratford District Council. The pack needs to be completed and returned by April 4th at 4pm, to The returning Officer.

**159. AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

**i. Employment/HR – No update**

**ii.** **Infrastructure & Environment – Cllr Cross**

Cllr Cross explained that after lengthy discussions and research last year, Cllrs all agreed in the Autumn that in the interest of cost saving and in-keeping with Tysoe’s dark Sky Policy as voted for in It’s Neighbourhood Development Plan. Some streetlights would be replaced with new and more efficient ones and others, that were considered as surplus to requirements, would be removed.

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Cllr Cross also pointed out that where some lights were not working, as electricity was still flowing to the streetlight, a charge was still being made.

The light at Lane End has been replaced. Most of the lights at junctions and on main roads will remain, 25 of 50 are being removed. Some of the lights remaining are also low cost UV ones. Lights have been left in the core of the village and on the main routes through it. Electricity to the lights is charged at the commercial rate of 84p/unit plus VAT.

1. **Planning – Cllrs Tongue & Cllr Littlewood**
2. **23/00280/TREE Bretby, The Square, Tysoe, Warwick CV35 0SL – Cllrs Sinclair & Bardey**

Both Cllr Sinclair & Bardey reported that they had no issues with this application. The proposal was received to make no objection to the application.

Proposed: Cllr Sinclair Seconded: Cllr Bardey **All in Favour**

1. **Voneus**

Cllr Littlewood reported that he had a letter supporting planning applications for around 200 telegraph poles to be placed throughout the village. Many of which had already been erected in December 2022. The consultation return date was March 3rd 2023. This work has been carried out under the guise of “Permitted Development Rights” an existing law which dates back to the days of the GPO. Despite a request from the Parish Council, Voneus have refused to give up a map of where all of the telegraph poles are to go.

Cllr Roache reported that the clerk had received two emails of complaint regarding a piece written and printed in The Tysoe Record by Cllr Roache. (Please see Document 159 3a & b)

Cllr Roached replied to the correspondence (See Document 159 3c) Noting that he and other Councillors had received a lot of complaints from residents regarding the work carried out by Voneus, the damage caused which was still awaiting reparation, and the loss to some residents of internet, mains water and electricity, also the noise created.

This work, intended to install fibre broadband in the village was allowed under Permanent Development Rights, a law dating back to the days of the GPO. No permission is required by the company to do the work, but any company doing this work should both inform the Parish Council & residents and consult with them. Voneus said that the lack of consultation was down to an oversight on their behalf and that it would not happen again. Cllr Roache said that this was not true as in the cases of a number of other villages in the vicinity, Voneus have neither informed or consulted with anyone there either. The claims made in our village with regard to Voneus are all true of the other villages concerned.

Cllr Roache said that the £10,000 compensation he requested of Voneus would amount to approximately £20 per house in Tysoe.

Cllr Roache has now sent an email to 2 Secretaries of State, Michael Gove, and Michael Donolan regarding the issues with Voneus, he has yet to receive any reply.

A member of the public then stated that the article written had been an ill-considered piece.

Cllr Tongue wished to record a vote of thanks and appreciation to Cllr Roache for his efforts to try and sort out the issues with Voneus.

1. **Road Safety – Cllr Littlewood & Chris Bell (Documents 159iva and ivb)**

Cllr Littlewood reported that Tysoe has a problem in the village as shown up by a recent traffic survey. There is a congestion issue at drop off and pick up times near the school.

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There have been 2 accidents in the village recently. The first involved a station Wagon that drove into the back of another vehicle. The second, going out of the village just after Church Farm Court. Both of which were not in school time. Cllrs Littlewood, Tongue, CC Mills and a representative of The Highways Department previously. Highways have made some suggestion as to changes in white lines along with other suggestions around ways to alleviate the bad parking problems being caused, which are dangerous.

The Head-teacher of Tysoe Primary School requested help from TPC and Chris Bell was invited to attend a meeting at the school with Cllr Littlewood as he has some expertise in this area.

Cllr Littlewoods update (Doc 159iva and Mr Bell’s Report on the meeting at school (Document 159iv b) had previously been circulated.

Chris Bell stated that the most dangerous time is pick up time at the end of the school day when the school bus is parked near Peacock Lane.

The Headteacher of Tysoe Primary School expressed her frustration as parents do not listen when asked to take care in parking and not park dangerously. She has contacted the Police, but they have not been helpful in this matter.

Chris Bell stated that parking on yellow lines is no longer a criminal offence, it is a civil one.

It was agreed at the Primary School meeting that the resolution was to get the school bus company to park on the road by Church Farm Court and campaign of information would start at school.

There was a suggestion that the white line recently painted by SDC Highways was wrong, and subsequent to a site visit between Councillors, Chris Mill (WCC) and Highways, some remedial work would be carried out.

**vii. Trees & Green Space – Cllr Sinclair**

1. Cllr Sinclair reported that the replacement memorial bench had been delivered and would shortly be placed on the Recreation Ground. She would then get the brass plaque placed upon it.
2. Please see report from Rosemary Collier – Tysoe Wildlife Review – Doc 159 Vii b

**viii. Welfare** – Upper Lighthorne Primary Care – Update Cllr Roache

1. Cllr Roache stated that there had been a successful outcome to the request by a group of local Parishes and their Councillors to secure means to alleviate the pressure on local GP’s.

1. **Dementia Conference – Cllr Roache**

Cllr Roache requested on behalf of Gill Roache, that she attend the Dementia Conference in April and report back to Cllrs at the May meeting.

**x. Making Space for Nature – No update**

**160. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

a) March 13th Ordinary meeting

b) April 17th Ordinary meeting

c) May 15th |AGM, followed by Ordinary meeting

d) June 1st Parish Assembly

e) June 12th Ordinary meeting

**161. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS & MATTERS ARISING**

a) Coronation Tree

b) Wording for Jubilee tree plaque

c) Bench outside the pavilion

d) Signatories change over

e) Homecare for Tysoe Residents

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**162. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

Cllr Roache closed the meeting at 9.25pm

**163. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

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