



East Tisted Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Annual Open Meeting held on Thursday, 29 May 2014 at 8pm in the Village Hall

Present:	Mary Jane Carter (Councillor) Ronnie Crumplin (Councillor) Emma Dillnutt (Clerk) Kevin MacEntaggart (Councillor and Acting Chairman) Sir James Scott (Councillor)
By Invitation:	Mark Kemp-Gee (County Councillor) Basil Lansdale (Webmaster)
Villagers Present:	John Curgenvén Sandra Nicholls Lady Judy Scott
Apologies:	David Bowtell (Chairman) Chris Graham (District Councillor) Larry Johnson (Neighbourhood Watch)

1. Welcome and introduction.

Apologies had previously been received from David and Larry and subsequently from Chris Graham. Kevin explained he is Acting Chairman in David's absence and welcomed those present.

2. Chairman elected for 2014/2015.

Kevin reported that David had been re-elected as Chairman for a further year at the Parish Council's Annual General Meeting held earlier that evening.

3. Acting Chairman's business & annual review.

Kevin presented his annual review with the key points being:-

- There has been an overall 14% reduction in costs from £3350 to £2880.
- The new ground maintenance arrangements have proved very successful with nearly 10% cost savings over the year. Thanks are due to Brian Davey for keeping the playground and pond areas neat and tidy. And to Rotherfield Park Cricket Club for the great job they are doing with the cricket outfield. Having previously expressed his concern via email, John Curgenvén was reassured that the Parish Council lease this land and are therefore responsible for its upkeep. The square itself is maintained solely by the Cricket Club for their use.
- Our insurance remains competitively priced with a very minor increase on last year's premium. We are expecting to be able to reduce this in the future when playground equipment is decommissioned. Our annual playground inspection will be undertaken by ROSPA this year and their report is due imminently. Again, John Curgenvén, having previously expressed a concern, was reassured the insurance is mainly for public liability purposes.
- Following last year's audit, BDO insisted the Parish Council have a PAYE scheme, despite the Clerk's salary falling well below taxable levels. Thanks to Sir James and Alison at Rotherfield Park Estate our scheme is now in place with all affairs in order with HMRC. Administration of this will be handed to the Clerk in the near future.
- Communication within the village has improved largely due to the Neighbourhood Watch distribution list, our website and Facebook pages.
- Thanks to Mark Kemp Gee and Larry Johnson, the speed limit signage on Station Road is now enforceable by law.
- Thanks also to Chris Graham for the £500 from his Councillor budget which has contributed to the Village Hall redecoration. It has been agreed that the Parish Council will pay for using the Village Hall commencing in 2015.



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- Financial contributions have been given to East Tisted with Colemore Parochial Church Council for graveyard maintenance (£250) as well as Home Start Weywater for the valuable work they do in the community (£50).
- The Parish Council remain members of the Campaign to Protect Rural England and Hampshire Association of Local Councils.

The question of East Tisted producing a village plan was explored by those present and Basil volunteered to be involved having previously produced a similar document elsewhere. The Council would like to discuss this at a future meeting as it is not immediately clear that a plan is required.

Consultation on small sewage discharges - The communication from Damian Hinds was distributed and the conclusion of subsequent discussions was that East Tisted falls outside any proposed licensing area and therefore no action is required.

Emails from Basil expressing concern over potential public liability issues in 'Bridle Lane' had been circulated prior to the meeting. Two subsequent emails from John Curgenvin and Phil Dillnutt, both residents of Bridle Close with an interest in the matter, were also circulated. The Parish Council is unconvinced that an issue exists, particularly one to concern them. Basil has volunteered to investigate further at no public expense and report at a future meeting.

John Curgenvin appealed to the Parish Council to ensure adequate and timely communication with those directly affected as he has significant misgivings over any potential change in the current arrangements.

'A personal view from your Churchwarden' - The Council thanked Basil for keeping them informed of the Church's dwindling congregation and income. While it is obliged to provide financial assistance to maintain the cemetery, the Parish Council felt that the Church should appeal to the public at large to boost their attendance and finances.

The Parish Council have donated £250 to the Ambulance Community Responder Scheme for Selborne and surrounding villages. Dave Buckland is the co-ordinator and he is appealing for volunteers to cover shifts with full training given. John Curgenvin offered his and Sally's time and Emma will forward their details. **Action: Emma**

East Tisted Village Website – Basil presented his annual report and the Parish Council thanked him for his continued efforts.

Neighbourhood Watch Update – in his absence, the Parish Council thanked Larry for his annual report and continued efforts in co-ordinating our Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. A profile of Jess Hornsby, our Police Community Support Officer while Louisa Whatmore is seconded elsewhere, was also distributed.

4. Traffic and Highways update from Mark Kemp Gee

Mark Kemp Gee presented an overview of the highways situation in Hampshire following a challenging winter period, cuts in government grant funding and public feedback demanding improvement. A 'war chest' of monies (c.£30million) is being accumulated to blitz areas that have fallen behind, particularly, potholes, resurfacing and repairs to flood damage.



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No Parking Lines on Station Road/A32 junction – the photographs provided to Mark Kemp Gee clearly show significant safety issues, particularly on Sunday mornings during church services. There are a number of measures, with varying degrees of enforceability, that can be implemented and Mark has asked the Parish Council for clear guidance on how seriously they would like these issues addressed. The Parish Council thanked Mark for the work he has done and concluded that before any 'official' steps are taken, churchgoers should be encouraged to use the Rotherfield car park during church services. It was also suggested that the users of the garages opposite be approached with a view to allowing some space for parking for the elderly and infirm. Any decision regarding lines on the road is therefore deferred to see if these steps will address the problem.

Kevin asked the villagers if there were any issues they would like to raise and as there were none, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Agreed as a correct record of events

David Bowtell – Chairman

Date