

# Trudoxhill Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.30pm (Village Hall)

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**Present:** Sheila Salmon (Chair), Diana Francis, Jack Symes, Charlie Bonham-Christie, Cllr Barry Clark

**Clerk:** Sam Winstanley

**Public Attendees:** 7

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## 23/403 Apologies

RMT, CK, (P Ham)

## 23/404 Disclosure of Interest

none

## 23/405 Minutes of the last meeting

Approved

Meeting suspended to take questions or comments from the Public

*Member of Public – 2023/0272/HSE – too close to neighbours, far too high, although difficult to tell as cross section has not been provided, nor detail on foundation depth after requests. Roof will be noisy, mature tree will have to be removed. New garage will be directly next to neighbouring bedroom. Contrary to application, does overlook neighbours and will adversely affect quiet enjoyment. Will be built on agricultural land.*

*Member of Public - 2023/0272/HSE – Echoed the large part of the previous speaker. Building in historically agricultural land is a wider problem than this application, first time developers/ homeowners looking for profit, is a blight on the village and counter to the documented plan for this area. If we do not stand up against this then the green space in the village will continue to be eroded. The trees in the area are consistently being removed.*

*Member of Public – There was already planning permission in the garden for another home... so why look to get a new approval that is in agricultural land?*

## 23/406 Planning

23/406.1 2023/0272/HSE at Laurel House Farm, Main Frome Road To Foghamshire Lane

Site visit not possible this time due to illness. From previous visits, not much has changed. Application seems to be incomplete if not misleading in places – the representations received from parishioners make sense and speak to the issues it will cause and the precedents it may set and the continued level of engagement speaks to the level of concern. There has been no response to calls for further information on the building height, so it has been impossible to understand remediation plans, if any. Proposal requires change of use of a piece of agricultural land, which does nothing to preserve the greenspace, only looking to change the rules to achieve the same goal

### **RESOLUTION – 4/4 voted to recommend refusal**

## 23/407 Finance

23/407.1 Financial Report

The clerk reported £1547.08 in bank, £538.85 up for the year. However, there is £425 outstanding billing, and £250 early payment for advertising in YourView padding the year, so the parish ends up £137 over budget, which can be absorbed by reserves.

## 23/407.2 Accounts for payment

K Gale – £112.50, Clerk – £276.90, Dean Press – £36

## 23/407.3 2023-24 Budget

The clerk had previously sent out a budget for the year and recommended keeping a float of £1000 in the current account until the precept arrives to cover for any delays after the handover to the unitary – the councillors discussed and were happy to adopt the recommendations.

### **RESOLUTION – 3/3 voted to adopt the budget**

## 23/408 Reports

To receive reports and updates on:

### 23/408.1 Highways (SS)

Communication has been a struggle recently. Not getting much back on ASW, Highways have said they should carry on mostly business as usual, but that is slow, particularly due to budgetary issues. Potholes are returning and being monitored.

### 23/408.2 SpeedWatch (SS)

Regular sessions, meeting requirements. There are still some recklessly fast drivers being caught.

### 23/408.3 The Village Hall

After very little response for volunteers, participation or ideas, the committee is looking at a very pared down offering for the coronation.

### 23/408.4 Unitary Update

*Cllr Clark* - We are now Somerset Council. Overspend has projected down to £24M from £36M. Looking for large cultural change. LCN meets this month, Cllr Clark is concerned with the name "Frome" and concerned they may try to take over. Heating oil grant is not yet over.

## 23/409 Correspondence and Emails Received

### 23/409.1 AONB Night sky talk

The clerk reported that the speaker is available again in May and June and the council asked to book as soon as possible.

### 23/409.2 Somerset Day

The council will look into flags and poles

### 23/409.3 Vote of no confidence in David Warburton

The council discussed FTC's decision to take this vote and whilst they agreed that the lack of representation for the parishioners of Trudoxhill in Westminster by the continued absence of David Warburton is regrettable and unacceptable, they did not see this as parish council business, and urged parishioners to express their views directly to Mr Warburton.

## 23/410 Other Business referred to the Clerk

### 23/410.1 YourView, content & advertising

The clerk made a call for assistance with content, the new editor is currently out of the country and unavailable; the clerk is putting the Spring edition together.

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### 23/410.2 New Website

The clerk reported that the new website was almost ready for launch and would send a preview to councillors before making the switch from the old.

### 23/410.3 Litterpick

Was poorly attended, perhaps going back to posters to advertise may increase attendance.

### 23/411 [Date of next TPC meeting](#)

4<sup>th</sup> May