

# The Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting for Torworth held at Torworth Grange Café on Tuesday, May 1st, 2018 at 7pm.

**PRESENT** 

Chair: Councillor C. Willis (CW) Vice-Chair: Councillor J. Helliwell (JH)

Councillors: H. Helliwell (HH), G. Hadley (GH), D. Lacey (DL), M. Lacey (ML) and R. Willis (RW)

County Councillor: T.Taylor (TT)

District Councillor: None in attendance

Clerk: Claire Challener (CC)

Apologies: District Councillor M. Gray (MG), Councillor R. D'Amelio (RDA)

Members of the public: None

#### OPEN FORUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

1.5.18: Chairman's Welcome

2.5.18: Apologies from M. Gray

3.5.18: Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting declared as true and accurate by the Chairperson C.Willis.

4.5.18: Chairman's 2017-18 Report (see below) (make amendment – see 12mins of recording)

# 5.5.18: Annual report by County Councillor Tracey Taylor

TT comments that this year has very much been about listening and learning about processes and about the Bassetlaw villages.

Highway matters have proven a struggle and there are many issues on going.

TT comments on the recent speed limit reductions in Barnby Moor and the inconsistencies up and down the roads.

TT notes the Quarry planning applications and further comments that the nicest part of the job so far has been working with the community. TT Thanks the team for treating her kindly over the last year.

- 6.5.18: Annual report by District Councillor Michael Gray absent.
- 7.5.18: Report on the 2017-18 Financial year: see below.
- 8.5.18: Report from local groups.

#### Allotment Society

There are 13 allotments on the site with 14 holders. One being split over 2 holders. The financial position for the year march 2018 ends at £223.8.

They saw a 53% increase in cost on Water usage the previous year and therefore have increased rental of the allotments in line with this to £30 per annum.

The rabbit fence now is in disrepair and requires replacing which is something they will be looking into during 2018/2019.

Burial Committee Report requested for next year.

9.5.18: Any other business – None.

# Chair's Report to Torworth's Annual Parish Meeting May 01, 2018

It is once again my pleasure to report on the highlights of Torworth Parish Council's activities between April 2017 and March 2018; many of which have been pretty significant issues for our little village.

In terms of the Parish Council itself, we have had a few changes: Dawn and Mark Lacey were co-opted in as new councillors. We have had a difficult time enticing a Clerk to join our ranks, but it is with great delight that last month we hired Claire Challener who has already taken a firm hold on our council business. We also adopted a logo for all its letterheads, and will be shortly ordering ID badges and lanyards. The Council continues to be a very active member is several local committees such as Central Bassetlaw Forum, the Tinker Lane Community Liaison Group, and also has representatives on the Torworth Playing Field Committee, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, and the Ranskill and Torworth Scarecrow Festival committee.

#### **Planning**

Applications for planning consent rose this year, with approval being granted for 4 barn conversions at Manor Farm, improved access to the Solar Farm, and roof repairs at Poplar Farm. Consent was denied by Bassetlaw District Council for a 2-storey extension on Underwood Avenue. Section 106 for shale gas exploration at Tinker Lane was finalised, and we've recently received advanced notification regarding a sand and gravel quarry between Torworth and Barnby Moor. The Parish Council has also applied for the Separatist Inn to be classified as an Asset of Community Value though we are still awaiting to hear BDC's decision.

#### **Neighbourhood Plan**

Last year, Cllr D'Amelio took a stall at the Scarecrow Festival in order to promote Torworth's Neighbourhood Plan. Despite best efforts, and a fabulous looking stall, very little interest was gained by local residents. Parish councillors will begin to push forward with the Plan; however, help is still required.

#### **Finance**

TPC has been privileged to have been awarded multiple grants this past year: The Transparency grant will be used for the purchase of office equipment, website training, and extra clerical pay in order to bring the council up to code in terms of the new Data Protection policies. The £2700 CIL money from BDC which will be invested into the community within the next 5 years. District Councillor Michael Gray has provided the council with £90 and County Councillor Tracey Taylor has granted £400 towards the purchase of football nets. The IGas Community Fund has granted £1500 towards a defibrillator and a further £1500 towards the purchase of a swing set. We thank everyone for their kind contributions to our village.

The rise in costs across the board has meant that for the first time in many years, TPC had to raise the precepts. We have also move over to online banking and debit cards for ease of banking though strict guidelines have to be adhered to.

# **Amenities and facilities**

This past summer we reclaimed around 1500f<sup>2</sup> of land from over grown bramble in the playpark and will be seeded shortly. A new park gate was installed and picnic tables purchased for the play park. TPC also signed the National Tree Charter and was awarded a legacy tree which will be planted at the playpark once it has grown a little larger. Various other repairs to the zipline, boundary fence, and benches were also completed.

Dog fouling continues to be a concern, with a large rise in complaints being received by parish councillors. Despite repeated reminders for residents to pick up the Council will be forced to start issuing fines.

TPC have again planted daffodils along the Great North Road, and will do so again this autumn. We also purchased lamp-post poppies for Remembrance Day which received positive responses not only from residents but from people living further afield.

We have also invested in the village by employing two village wardens who are employed to conduct monthly litter picks, play park inspections, small repair work, snow warden duties, and any other tasks directly by the Parish Council. The wardens are covered by the PC's existing insurance and have been provided with the necessary safety equipment, first aid kit, risk assessments, and hi vis vests. So far, the wardens have bagged 50 bags of rubbish, several tyres, broken windows, and building materials from the verges.

The Parish Council will again pay for the rental of tables and chairs at this year's Scarecrow Festival. Last year, it was very well attended and over £1000 was raised by the Playing Field Committee.

The Council is still looking into getting a street light installed at the entrance of the play park as there is no lighting at the end of Hold's Lane. We are also still looking at replacing the trees felled along the Great North Road and re-erecting the village sign which was knocked over last winter.

#### **Traffic**

HGV's on the Baulk and Graves Moor Lanes continue to be a problem, especially taking into consideration the added traffic that will flow through our roads once shale gas exploration and quarrying begins operation. Very little headway has been made in terms of reducing or rerouting the HGVs and we will continue to pursue this in the forthcoming year. Vehicles speeding through the village continues to be a problem though Highways has agreed to implement an interactive speed board at the south end of Torworth.

#### **Police**

The Council is disappointed by the continued lack of a PCSO at our meetings, and a refusal to email out a monthly crime figure report. We are also frustrated by the heavy police presence at Tinker Lane and a refusal by the police to answer emails or to attend a CLG meeting their despite reassurances on the contrary.

In all, it has been a very busy year and looking ahead, it is going to continue. I am privileged to work with a talented team of parish councillors and would like to thank each and every one of them for their time.



# **Torworth Finance report for year ending March 2018.**

## **Opening Position**

The closing bank balance for the year ending March 2017 was £6943.80. Outstanding amounts, having not yet been credited amounted to £551.12 at point of time. In addition, there was a cheque reversal of £40.29 and a financial error in the year (16/17) of 0.03 taking the financial position at time of opening (17/18) to £7535.14.

Opening balance as per Year End	£	6,943.80				
Plus Last year amounts not within Expenditure						
Cheque '001082	£	6.00				
Cheque '001074	£	14.00				
Cheque '001091	£	461.39				
Cheque '001097	£	25.60				
Cheque '001090	£	30.00				
Cheque '001092	£	14.13				
			£	551.12		
Out of date cheque reversal - cheque '001129	£	40.19				
			£	7,535.11		
			£	7,535.11		
					£	0.03
Bank Opening Balance					£ 7,5	35.14

#### Income

For the Year ending March 2018 total income for Torworth Parish Council receipted to the Bank account was £8236.23.

Of this £5687 related to the Precept, £98 to the BDC Grant and £38 to the Cemetery grant. All of which, are directly recovered through Council Tax. Precepts being set annually by the Parish Council.

Other amounts receipted in the year included £995 from NALC to assist the Parish Council in compliance to the Transparency Regulation of 2015. A VAT refund of £927.28 and two further grants from District and County Council totalling £490.

## **Expenditure**

For the Year ending March 2018, total expenditure for Torworth Parish Council debited to the Bank account was £7963.08

Of this amount £2385.00 related to grass cutting and mowing of contractual areas and verges.

£1986.38 related to spend on Parks and amenities of which £1161.78 related to the purchase of a gate for the park.

Clerical support and Wages for the year totalled £1341.00 which included payments from November onwards to the Village wardens of £294.00.

Significant spending amounting to over £100 is detailed below as per governance requirements:

Torworth F	arish Council	- Expenditure over £100		
Chq	Date	Payee	Details	Total
1096	04.04.17.	R.Hyland	Wages	£ 102.20
1098	04.04.17.	G.Mudford & Son	Hire of furniture	£ 306.00
1101	05.05.17.	Joint Burial Board		£ 126.00
1103	05.05.17.	N.Notts Landscapes	Mowing	£ 158.40
1105	06.06.17.	N.Notts Landscapes	Mowing	£ 384.00
1112	23.06.17	TEF Engineering	Gate for Park	£ 1,161.78
1099	04.07.17.	R.Hyland	Completing end of year accounts	£ 100.00
1109	04.07.17.	Ranskill Fencing	Digger Hire	£ 145.00
1114	04.07.17.	N.Notts Landscapes	Mowing	£ 463.20
1115	04.07.17.	Christie Willis	Expenses	£ 350.00
1117	05.09.17.	N.Notts Landscapes	Mowing	£ 463.20
1122	05.09.17.	Christie Willis	Clerical Support	£ 250.00
1125	03.10.17.	N.Notts Landscapes	Mowing	£ 384.00
1126	03.10.17.	N.Notts Landscapes	Mowing	£ 384.00
1134	06.11.17	Christie Willis	Clerical & logistical - October	£ 150.00
1139	06.11.17	North Notts Landscape	Grass cutting, verges & hedge	£ 546.00
1140	01.12.17	Anna Buckley	Clerks wages - November	£ 146.15
1147	09.01.18	Anna Buckley	Clerk wages for December	£ 194.86
1150	06.02.18	Christie Willis	Clerical support - January	£ 100.00
1158	06.03.18	Christie Willis	Clerical support Feb	£ 150.00

# **Budget Expenditure versus Actual Expenditure**

Total Budgeted spend for the year 2017-2018 was set at £6900.20. The actual spend for the year was £1062.88 over Budget.

The main area of overspend related to Park and Amenities due to a gate purchase.

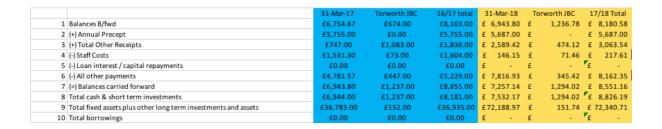
The over spend on Admin relates directly to the underspend on Clerk. The Clerk position was vacant for 9 of 12 months and as such clerical and administration work outsourced to cover the role requirements.

BUDGET						
Expenditure	Expecte	d for 17/18	Actua	l for 17/18	Mc	vement
Contract mowing	£	2,850.00	£	2,385.00	£	(465.00)
Park & amenities	£	120.00	£	1,986.38	£	1,866.38
Clerk	£	1,531.20	£	478.21	£	(1,052.99)
HMRC			£	25.40	£	25.40
Admin	£	520.00	£	1,350.30	£	830.30
Misc.	£	1,200.00	£	774.58	£	(425.42)
Subs	£	553.00	£	73.42	£	(479.58)
Burial	£	126.00	£	126.00	£	-
VAT			£	763.79	£	763.79
Total	£	6,900.20	£	7,963.08	£	1,062.88

# Closing Position of the Accounts March 31st, 2018

The closing position for the financial year is £8551.16. Of which £7257.14 relates directly to Torworth Parish Council and £1294.02 being the Joint Burial committee share.

Overall the end balance of this Financial year is £303.84 less than previous. Giving a small deficit year on year.



## **Asset Register**

The Asset register value for the year stands at £72187.97.

It should be noted that the Asset Value valuation method for land is Nominal meaning far below the real value or cost.

The asset register was last updated March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 and insurance valuations may require further review.

Date	Description	Supplier	Location	Cost or Value	Method of Valuation
June & Aug 2011	Park Equipment	Play & Leisure	Village Park	£ 61,504.36	Insurance
TBC	Land		Village Park	£ 1.00	Nominal
TBC	Play Park Furniture		Village Park	£ 7,115.90	Insurance
TBC	Village signs/gates/noticeboard		Village	£ 2,253.78	Insurance
Oct 2014	Laptop		Clerks House	£ 300.00	Cost
TBC	Shipment Container		23 Willow Avenue, Ranskil	£ 1,012.93	Insurance
				£ 72,187.97	

# Other:

The Parish Council has share ownership of the Joint Burial Ground at 18%. Ranskill owning the remaining 82% share.

# TORWORTH AND RANSKILL ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION (Taraa)

Chairman:Treasurer:Secretary:Joe TaylorKaren PlantStephen

Saddington

'Pentlands' 33 Southfall Close 3 Ravenshill

Close

Mattersey Rd Ranskill Ranskill

Ranskill Retford DN22 8NE Retford DN22

8LY

Retford DN22 8NF

Date: 28th April 2018

# **Report to Torworth Parish Council**

Please find detailed below the following information:

#### 1. Allotment Information.

- 13 allotments are on the site.
- 1 empty allotment.
- 14 allotment holders (this is due to some allotments being split between 2 holders who each pay half rent).
- 1 person on the waiting list.

## 2. Names of Committee Members.

Please see details above for the names of committee members.

# 3. 2017-2018 Financial Report.

See attached Treasurer's report and financial sheet.

## 4. Other info.

- The water costs are shared with the user of the adjacent paddock who pays for the winter usage whilst T&RAA pays for the summer usage. As part of this arrangement T&RAA turns the water supply off to the allotments for the October to March period.
- 2 small polytunnels are on the site but no sheds or greenhouses.
- The biggest issue is the incursion of rabbits onto the allotment site due to the
  poor state of the boundary rabbit fencing. The wire netting at ground level is
  rusting through so the rabbits can gain access to the site. Although allotment
  holders have endeavoured to repair the fencing more holes are appearing than
  can be repaired. Additionally, many of the fence posts have rotted at ground

level. Action will need to be taken to rectify this situation as soon as possible before the damage caused to crops by the rabbits becomes excessive.

If you require any more information or clarification, please contact me on 01777 816258 or <a href="mailto:stephensaddington58@gmail.com">stephensaddington58@gmail.com</a>

Regards.

Stephen Saddington Secretary