

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
19 MARCH 2024**

**Present:** Councillors Raynes, Strange, Flint, Hodgson, Hopkinson, Saunders, Taylor & Toplis

30+ Members of the Public (Adults/Children), Cllrs Linthwaite, Hughes & Burfoot

**135/2024            APOLOGIES**

Cllr Challis

**136/2024            VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**137/2024            DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS**

Cllr Toplis declared a personal interest in the Complaint from Tansley Juniors FC.

Cllr Hodgson declared a personal interest in Planning Application 24/00141/OUT and would leave the meeting during the discussion.

**138/2024            PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, POLICE, COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**

Dr R Emmerson read out the following prepared statement in his capacity as Secretary of Tansley Juniors FC:

This statement has 5 sections with bullet points at the end of each one.

**Section 1 – The Fete Field**

*The Fete Field development was a collaborative effort by the Parish Council (then Chaired by Reg Whitworth), the Football Club and The Village.*

*The cost, as you know, was £241,000, 69% of the funding came from the Football Foundation which is mostly funded by the Premier League. The Parish Council contributed just 7% and now have a significant asset. Reg put a lot of time and effort into this project and was fully aware that Football was the sport where lots of grants were available. Steve Chapman completed many of the grant applications and continues as the Football Club treasurer and project leader. We did not want to become Trustees initially because our Club was too small and had only existed for 8 years.*

*As a Football Club:*

*We are presently using a £22,000 Football Foundation grant to maintain the ground.*

*We have paid £30,000 in rental payments since 2004.*

*We have provided a further £35,000 in grant income and donations.*

*We cover 99% of the Fete Field running costs.*

*We put in over 300 volunteer hours at The Fete Field last year. Without this the field reverts to a bog.*

*We have never been against considering other users or sports.*

*We have access to further grants to improve the kitchen and replace the shed which the Parish Council, at the moment, is reluctant to access.*

*During the summer we don't have priority and must book any activity on the Fete Field like anybody else. We do get refused.*

*Without the Football Club, there would not be a Fete Field.*

*The Fete Field is important to the Football Club and the Football Club is important to the Fete Field.*

- ***All the Parish Councillors need to be completely aware of what is happening before any decisions are made.***

**Section 2 Tansley Juniors Football Club**

*Tansley has had a football team since 1927. Reg's father played for this team.*

*The present Club started in 1996 as a single U7 team managed by Steve, Kathy Norton and myself. We played initially at the school and then Heathy Lea.*

*We know Heathy Leas very well. We tried to drain it, put up new nets beside the road, repaired the shed, which has no services and put hard core on the parking area. The access is dangerous and the parking inadequate as everyone, including the Tansley players, had to be driven. People parked down the A615 which was also dangerous.*

*The pitch as you know, is too small for U16s and above.*

*To make Heathy Lea useable, in today's world, would cost around £250,000 we think.*

*This would take an awful lot of work, requires a good working relationship between the Parish Council and the Football Club to get any grants and the grants also require the Football Club to be accredited and have as many stars as possible.*

- **Abandoning an existing site will fatally weaken future grant applications. Big grants and big projects, need successful collaboration and trust between organisations. We do not feel we can trust this Parish Council.**

### **Section 3 The FA Accreditation System**

*A Football Club can gain up to 3 star accreditation within the FA. Tansley Juniors FC is a 2 star club. To keep this level of accreditation, we need to have 9 teams with two over U16 teams and 1 all girl team. We also need a child welfare officer, multiple policies, accounts, a constitution and a management system.*

*So, you see we need to have a full-size pitch available which isn't possible at Heathy Lea and we need to have a large number of teams, and thus more than one pitch, to gain sufficient accreditation to access large grants which we can't at Heathy Lea.*

*This accreditation system used to be called "Charter Standard" which we needed for the original Fete Field development.*

- **We could have informed you of all this before the survey, but we have not been allowed to communicate with all of the Parish Council.**

### **Section 4 Tansley Juniors Success**

*Our present Football Club has been going for 28 years.*

*We have won County awards, have a handful of players making professional teams, provided ball boys for Premier League Cup finals at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, won local leagues and cups, have a good working relationship with Matlock Town FC, run a successful summer tournament, are admired by DCFA and trusted to do a good job by all the local leagues. We now have 200 boys and girls playing in 13 teams and 35 trained and vetted coaches. We have a reputation for fairness and inclusivity.*

*We have provided football coaching for Tansley Primary School.*

*We have an annual prize giving to celebrate all the players. Vicki Raynes came one year to give out some medals as Parish Council Chair at our invitation.*

*On the gable end of the Fete Field Pavilion is a polished marble slab pointing to the sky. On it are the names of players and coaches who have died but we remember and thank. The Football Club pays for these names to be added.*

- **The village of Tansley should be proud of their Football Club and are a lot are but we are not sure we have the support of this Parish Council.**

### **Finally, Section 5 The Parish Council Process**

*We have been trying to get a meeting with this Parish Council since October last year. I asked for a meeting, with the Tansley Juniors Football Club, to be on the February Parish Council agenda. This was to discuss a memorandum of understanding, written by Steve, when a lot of these issues could have been raised. The Tansley Juniors Football Club Development Plan and the Memorandum of Understanding has been seen by all The Parish Councillors, I understand. The Parish Council minutes say that the Parish Council decided to meet us after the survey. The minutes also say that there have been two occasions when the MOU has been discussed but these meetings don't seem to have been minuted.*

*We also think there are inaccuracies in the Parish Council February minutes under item 132.2024.2 "The Fete Field Committee Meeting".*

*After one of our coaches' meetings, we were getting the feeling that relationships were becoming strained between the Parish Council and the Football Club. We were not having much success organising a meeting so it was decided that I would contact Vicki Raynes personally. This was done on 11 February 2024 and Vicki replied two days later. Vicki stated that she "was not sure there was any conflict between the Parish Council and the Football Club" and that the new Councillors had been asking questions about the Fete Field and its use. Vicki informed me of the survey and stated that "the survey comprises of questions suggested by Parish Councillors" and that she thought "it best that we see what the community says" before we meet. I replied stating my concern about bias. I have the emails here if you want them.*

*We understand that before any consultation, or survey, "some level of engagement with stakeholders" is good local government practice and that "enough information is given to ensure that those consulted understand the issues".*

On the Tansley Parish Chat Facebook page, Vicki Raynes stated that the questions in the survey were “posed by residents”. This differs from what I was told but there does not seem to be any minutes available to determine how these questions were chosen and by whom.

With regards to the survey, some questions in number 3 feel like they are trying to collect information against Tansley Juniors and questions 3d and 3e represent leading questions representing assumption bias. They deliberately lead those completing the form towards sports other than football and relocating the football team to somewhere completely unusable.

Question 4g about making the pavilion into a shop is also leading and biased as no other options are offered just one. The change of use of the pavilion would not be practical if football was to remain at the Fete Field and this question was posed without discussing at the Fete Field Committee.

- **We believe that all councillors did not receive enough information about the Fete Field and the Football Club.**
- **We believe that the Parish Council did not engage with stakeholders such as the Football Club and Fete Field Committee when constructing the survey.**
- **We believe the Parish Council have undermined the authority of The Fete Field Committee.**
- **We believe usual local government process and good practice was not followed when constructing the survey.**
- **We believe that important minutes were not kept and made available to others to scrutinise the process that took place.**
- **We believe that question 3 and part of 4 on the survey are misleading and biased against Tansley Juniors and questions 3d, 3e and 4g should be discarded.**
- **We believe the Parish Council cannot see the bias, so we have notified out District Councillors before it is necessary to take it further.**

*End of Statement*

The Chair asked all Councillors for their views on the letter of complaint, which Dr Emmerson has submitted to the Parish Council.

Most of the members of the public were there to voice their concerns regarding the parish survey and Tansley Juniors FC.

1. The Survey was a general survey related to many other aspects of the village other than football, housing, parking and appearance, it is not reasonable to expect the football club to relocate, it would be far too expensive.

2. The root cause seems to be the lack of a working document, the subletting of the Fete Field, there should be a proper document in place, to determine; how it is controlled & administered.

3. Thanks to Dr Emmerson who has outlined how it is currently managed and overseen.

4. Some of the village ask, ‘why is all about Football’.

5. Wait and see what is wanted in the village, i.e. Tennis, cricket, and discuss with the football club when results of the survey are returned.

6. There used to be football club in the village, which used Heathy Lea which was not really suitable. There needs to be some agreement, Fete Field is a first class facility, an expensive facility and there needs to be a proper financial agreement, as it should carry on for future generations to use. The Chair agreed there had been a lot of flak with regard to the Survey - there had not been any deliberate intention to cause upset.

Steve Chapman would send a list of dates for a meeting to take the agreement further.

**RESOLVED:** To reply to the letter of complaint after the return of the survey.

(7 voted For).

## **139/2024 MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL**

The Minutes of Full Council held 13 February were received, with an amendment regarding the proposed grant for windows blind for the Community Hall was raised by Cllr Hodgson.

Cllr Toplis disagreed with the minutes and wished to have them changed with regards to the meeting that had been held by the Fete Field Committee. This was refused by the Clerk as what had been minuted was what had been voiced in the meeting.

#### **140/2024 EXCLUSIONS**

No items in exclusion.

#### **141/2024 COMMUNITY HALL**

Utility Checks –the Community Hall needs to ensure that utilities are checked, and PAT testing of equipment carried out.

Cllr Hodgson left the meeting.

#### **142/2024 PLANNING MATTERS**

**24/00141/OUT** Outline application for the erection of 1 no dwelling house with all matters reserved except access at Dickins Place Alders Lane Tansley – A precedent has been set for building adjacent to the settlement boundary at Starth Lane, also an agricultural industrial building was granted planning for a home adjacent to the SFB.and next to the proposed site for development - no objections (4 for, 2 against, 1 abstention)

Cllr Hodgson rejoined the meeting.

**T/24/00042/TCA** Fell Leylandii Trees Fell 3 apple Trees at Holly Tree Cottage Alfreton Road The Cliff Matlock – no objections.

**24/00030/FUL** Change of use and conversion of mill buildings to form 11 no residential apartments', erection of 14 no new build residential dwellings, the retention and upgrade of the remaining outbuildings for commercial/business uses (E(g)iii and B8 Use Classes) and associated demolition at Lumsdale Mill Lumsdale Road Lower Lumsdale -Object -Whilst it is development on a brownfield site, which is good for the environment, drainage is an issue, there must be the services in place to be capable of taking the foul sewer from these extra domestic properties, which at the current time does not appear to be so, given the problems in the surrounding are i.e.. Bentley Brook, Asker Lane etc. The main sewer does not appear to be coping with these properties without the addition of further properties. The proposed housing material is not sympathetic with the surrounding properties i.e. traditional stone. The Local Need Flood Authority needs to be involved and advise the developer and DDDC of their findings.

This needs to be refused as it will lead to even more flooded properties in the future.

One PCllr was in favour everyone else against.

Cllr Linthwaite has put in a complaint regarding the combined sewer at Radford Row/Asker Lane discharging into Bentley Brook, and has reported to STWA twice last year. The sewers have lifted near to the Scout Hut, they are not replacing like for like.

**24/00217/FUL** Demolition of agricultural buildings, extensions to dwelling house, change of use of agricultural land to domestic garden and associated landscaping at Hopkin Farm Red Hill Lane Tansley – no objections

**24/00182/ADV** Erection of roadside directional business sign at Land North of Alfreton Road The Cliff Tansley – object, no more signage is needed, it would set a precedent, the signage is not necessary.

#### **142/2024.2 Planning Decisions:**

**T/24/00019/TCA** Fell x1 Willow Tree at Brook Cottage Oaksedge Lane Tansley - permitted.

**23/01312/VCOND** Variation of condition no 2 of application 21/01419/FUL to substitute approved drawings with summerhouse drawings of differing design and form at Aled House 5 Tansley House Garden Tansley – permitted with conditions

#### **143/2024.3 Planning**

##### **143.2024.3.1 Old Nursery Gardens – drainage issues**

Nothing has been received back yet from the Flood Team, they said they would empty the pond and flush the sough out. The Developer of the site put dye down the sough and DCC passed this, although there is stone in the sough, which the owners would have to pay to remedy. The drains have not been built to the drawings that were provided.

Verification reports have been requested but these have not been forthcoming. The representative of Woodall Homes said they would investigate Green Lane. The holding pond fencing is unsafe, children and animals can get through. Cllr Burfoot would chase up the Flood Team. Cllr Linthwaite has complained to the monitoring office regarding the sough.

Cllr Toplis left the meeting.

**143/2024 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

**143.2024.1 DDDC – request for village cleaning rotas**

This has still not been received so we will ask again.

**143.2024.2 Litter Pick – Great British Spring Clean** dates will be circulated.

**144/2024 VILLAGE ISSUES – update**

**144.2024.1 Whitelea Lane feedback regarding repairs**

The Developer is paying for the 30mph sign to be moved further out. Whitelea Lane to be repaired and finished to ensure adoptable highway is to the standard required, adjacent to Old Nursery Gardens.

**144.2024.2 The Pinfold – request to list**

Efforts have been made to contact DCC regarding this.

**144.2024.3 Police & Crime Commissioner – Automatic Number Plate Recognition – Pilot Scheme – re-deployable ANPR cameras** to be moved to locations where specific crime problems exist.

**RESOLVED:** To contact to take part

**145/2024 FETE FIELD**

**145.2024.1 Complaint from Tansley Juniors Football Club re survey**

Dealt with earlier within the agenda.

**145.2024.2 Funding regarding Fete Field Car Park**

Cllr Hodgson has applied for funding for the car park area, if successful then it requires 20% match funding. The CEO of CVS has sent another form for completion.

There are also grants available for Defibrillators, although we do not have a location at the present time.

**145.2024.3 Request to place a commemorative bench at The Fete Field**

The letter has now been received and the bench would be the same as the other commemorative bench. There is another bench that requires replacement also, which the Parish Council will organise.

**RESOLVED:** to allow the request and allow for two benches to be installed, one by the parishioner and one by the Parish Council.

**145.2024.4 Utility Checks – the Pavilion needs to ensure that utilities are checked, and PAT testing of equipment carried out.**

**146/2024 COUNCILLORS'**

**146.2024.1 Bently Walk Church Street**

There have been complaints regarding parking for the Stancliffe Homes workers vehicles and sweeping. The road has been swept and the Tavern have allocated 10 spaces, there could also be parking at The Fete Field. Andy Bradley of the FFC would be approached regarding this.

A hotwire would go out regarding vehicle movements.

A member of the public from outside the Parish Boundary requested a survey, we are unable to open the survey up to people outside the Parish.

**147/2024 FINANCE**  
**147.2024.1 Accounts Paid**

Date	Cheque No	Particulars	Amount £
13.2.2024	000222	D Toplis (paving Fete Field) Section 106	4800.00
13.2.2024	000223	D Bunting (stone walling Pinfold, garage forecourt)	2550.00
13.2.2024	000224	SOC Services (winter clearance Fete Field area, comm hall, pre spring tidy of burial ground, pruning)	159.00
13.2.2024	000225	S A Leighton (sal 170.40, post 6.00)	176.40

**Income Received: Nil**

**147.2024.2 Bank Reconciliation & Accounts** were received.

Meeting closed at 21.00hrs .....