

TUTBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Open Spaces Committee meeting minutes.

Village Hall, Monk Street, Tutbury on Monday 6th October 2025 at 7.00pm.

Present – Francis Crossley- chair, Lydia Crossley, Gill Hough, Mary Upton, Dave Morris, Dave Bull, Ken England.

4 members of Tutbury Tigers Football Club.

10/25/OS/01- Apologies –Cllr P Steadman, Cllr CSmedley.

10/25/OS/02 - Declarations of Interest & Dispensation Requests – a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to keep their register entry up to date. b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), any Other Registerable Interests (ORI) and/or any Non Registerable Interests (NRI) in items on the agenda and their nature. Councillors who have declared a DPI, or an ORI must, where relevant, leave the room for the specified item.

-Cllrs M. Upton, G. Hough (both have grandchildren who play for Tutbury Tigers Football Teams).

10/25/OS/03 - Public Participation. - Tutbury Tigers Football Club representatives.-

The chair opened discussions by suggesting that Item 8 be brought forward to this part of the meeting. The chair explained the reasons for the Council deciding on a 1 year agreement rather than a longer term. In the main due to issues that have occurred over the previous 12-18 months.

- Photos were passed around showing the changing rooms before they were cleaned.
- A line marker in the shower area/cardboard boxes left in a pile/ the rubbish bin left in the corridor.
- A padlock was replaced by the club without our knowledge.
- A skip full of rubbish is on site, without our knowledge.
- The kitchen door damaged.

A representative of the club stated that they were also not happy with how the changing rooms had been left. They now have regular cleaners visiting. Members were also informed that the skip will be removed within the next couple of weeks.

An impassioned plea was made by Tutbury Tigers representatives as to the long benefits that will be afforded by offering a long term agreement that would enable the club to raise monies through grants. It was also commented on by the Tutbury Tigers

Treasurer who said that he felt embarrassed by some of the things that have gone away recently and that concerted efforts are being made to improve communications, both within the club and to the Councils committee.

The Chair commented that the ground is owned by the Tutbury Parish Charities and the changing rooms will always be in the ownership of Tutbury Parish Council. No matter how long a future agreement is in place the area will not be solely for Tutbury Tigers use. As a Council we can also apply for grants to improve the area.

10/25/OS/08- To receive an update and confirm details of the 1 year user agreement with Tutbury Tigers.- Members debated the impassioned plea for a long term user agreement. It was raised by at least two members that they took on board the sentiments of Tutbury Tigers and that they want to ensure that there are stronger communications between the Club and the Parish Council. A member made a proposal that a 3 - 4 months probationary period be adopted to mend some bridges as well as prove that the promise to improve communication bears fruit. It was agreed that the 1 year user agreement stands as written. Tutbury Tigers agreed that their treasurer will be the Clubs contact with the Parish Council. It was also suggested that a Parish Councillor sit on Tutbury Tigers committee. This may be debated at a future meeting.

10/25/OS/04 – To consider and approve actions to repair the changing rooms concrete ramp and install a barrier post. – A member of the public stated that “in their opinion” the crack had occurred due to lack of reinforcement, and curing of the concrete. It was discussed at length and interventions from members of the Council made it clear that they couldn't fully agree on this sentiment. There is also a step between the edge of the ramp and the ground. The chair will meet with the original contractor to obtain a quote to install a concrete post on the damaged corner and make good the ground around the ramp.

10/25/OS/05 – To consider and approve actions for the damaged tree at Cornmill Lane playing fields.- The chair informed the committee that the large tree near the changing rooms has been vandalized. The tree had been donated years ago when the changing rooms first opened. He asked Football club representatives how it happened and who did it. The representatives indicated that a vehicle had hit it and branches cut off to spare other vehicles damage. None of them saw who hit the tree or cut the branches off. In response the chair stated that our upcoming tree survey will have to be our guide for actions on the tree.

10/25/OS/06 – To consider and approve action to repair the driveway barrier gate at Cornmill Lane.- The chair informed the committee that the metal barrier which closes across the barrier gates does not close properly. This means that the padlock will not engage in the metal box. The post will need to be dug out and reset in concrete in such a way as to allow the metal barrier to close and lock.

Resolved: A representative of Tutbury Tigers Football Club has offered to undertake the repair work at no cost to the Parish Council. Members agreed to accept the offer in the interests of security, provided that the repair can be completed promptly.

10/25/OS/07 – To receive an update on changing rooms, grant progress and maintenance works. Review the changing rooms condition and energy survey, and agree the next steps.- The chair read out the conclusions and recommendations of the recent survey that we had agreed to have carried out on the changing rooms. These included upgrades and modifications internally. These included slip resistant flooring, forming individual shower cubicles and plumbing alterations. The survey indicates that the budget for the works would amount to around £36,000. After a short debate it was agreed that we recommend applying for the relevant grant applications. This will go back to full Council to discuss.

10/25/OS/09- To receive the chairs report.- The chair reported that the outdoor gym equipment has now been installed. However, the signs have not been installed. We have however been invoiced for the work. It was proposed and agreed that we do not pay the invoice until the signs are erected on each site. We may also need to replace the padlock on the main gates at Cornmill Lane. The chair has used easing oil on it to free it for now.

10/25/OS/10 – To consider and approve tree inspection and maintenance- St Marys churchyard, Chatsworth Drive, Castle Triangle and Cornmill Lane playing fields.- The chair read the two quotes obtained for the work and it was agreed to use the cheaper quote. The chair will inform the Clerk before the next full Council meeting.

10/25/OS/11 – To consider and approve actions to address concerns of boundary line on Elm Lane footpath.- After a brief discussion it was agreed to ask the Clerk to obtain a survey map of the area to indicate boundary lines.

10/25/OS/12 – To approve payment for Church wall repair.

The chair reported that the next section has now been completed and that the invoice for the works be paid. It was agreed unanimously to pay the invoice. The next repairs to the wall will be during spring of next year.

10/25/OS/13 – To delegate the clerk to obtain the most competitive rates and renew gas and electricity contracts at Cornmill Lane playing fields.- After a brief discussion it was agreed that we delegate to the clerk in the interests of time saving.

10/25/OS/14 – Items for the next agenda.- Grant application, Cornmill Lane barrier and padlock.

10/25/OS/15 – Date of next meeting.- 3rd November 7.30pm.