# **FULL COUNCIL**

### **TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Held on Thursday 24th February 2022 at 7.30pm

At the Gilbert Room, Twyford Parish Hall

Present: In attendance:

Cllr. Lawton (in the Chair), Cllr. Bronk, Cllr. Hill Cllr. Pullen, Cllr. Corcoran, Cllr. Cook, Cllr. Pain, Cllr.

J.P. Matthews - Clerk

Minute	Business Transacted				
184/21	Chairman's comments				
	The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting				
185/21	Apologies for Absence				
	Apologies were received from Cllr. Sellars.				
186/21	Requests for Dispensation under Section 33 Localism Act				
	No requests were received.				
187/21	Declarations of Interest				
	No additional requests were received.				
188/21	Approval of Minutes				
	It was <b>Resolved</b> that the minutes of the Meeting of Twyford Parish Council held on 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 be approved.				
189/21	Public Representation				
	There was no public representation				
190/21	County Councillor's report				
	Cllr. Humby had submitted a report which was <b>noted</b> and is attached in the appendices.				
	Cllr. Cook commented that she had received concerns about not being able to book on the day slots for trips to the Household Recycling & Waste Centres. HCC were looking into improving the booking system and welcomed feedback on improvements to the current system.				
191/21	District Councillors' report				
	Cllr. Bronk thanked all those who had submitted comments on the Winchester movement strategy. The outcome of the consultation will be known around September of this year.				
	Winchester City Council had set the budget yesterday evening and the cost for all district and parish precepts had been circulated to the Clerk earlier on in the day.				
	The City of Lights event was quite popular, the cathedral also has a similar event soon and hopefully in future it can be expanded with the cathedral being part of the main event.				

	Southampton Airport					
	Cllr. Bronk has pressed for the release of information on how the beacons for the northern runway are being used as this affects the overflying that occurs in Twyford. Some that information will be published soon. There is consultation due to commence shortly on the airspace and approaches. More information will be available soon.					
	Cllr. Cook said there had been around 800 responses to the movement strategy and was trying to ascertain how many of those responses had come from the Twyford and Colden Common areas.					
	Cllr. Cook has written to Rob Humby at Hampshire County Council to thank HCC Highways team for their response to the tree damage on various roads as a result of last week's storm.					
	There was a discussion around various fallen trees in the parish and various footpaths and bridleways being blocked. Cllr. Cook agreed to investigate a tree of concern near to the bus stop at Pumfrett's Bank.					
192/21	Clerk's report					
	The report was <b>noted</b> and is attached in the appendices.					
	The Clerk advised that since writing the report the date for the switch of bank accounts had been delayed.					
193/21	Planning Committee					
	The draft minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2022 were <b>received</b> .					
	Cllr. Mitchell had received correspondence from a group opposed to the Southampton Airport expansion seeking support and a contribution towards their funding. He would compose a response, assisted by Cllr. Bronk and if necessary, bring a formal request to the Parish Council. This would depend on a decision from the High Court in respect of a judicial review of the planning application which is expected in the next month or so.					
	Cllr. Bronk advised that Cllr. Corcoran had kindly agreed to write a briefing on the Twyford Neighbourhood Plan for WCC officers.					
194/21	Schedule of Payments					
	It was <b>Resolved</b> to <b>approve</b> the Schedule of Payments for February 2022					
	The schedule is attached in the appendices.					
195/21	Balance of the bank accounts					
	The bank balances as of 31st January 2022 were <b>noted.</b>					
	Ordinary Accounts Interest rate					
	HSBC C/A £5,009.52 0.0%					
	HSBC Savings       £12,790.66       0.01%         Nationwide       £34,058.48       0.05%					
	Redwood (35 day notice) £80,100.28 0.8%					
	Total £131,958.94					
196/21	Bank Mandate					
	The RFO advised that following the opening of an account with Unity Trust it would be prudent to add additional signatories to the account to ensure smooth processing of payments. Current names on the mandate are Cllr. Lawton, Cllr. Sellars and the Clerk.					
	It was Resolved to add Cllr. Chris Mitchell and the Assistant Clerk, Sue Merritt, to the bank mandate. The Assistant Clerk would act as an authoriser for online payments only.					

### 197/21

### Internal Auditor's Report - Q3

The report from the Internal Auditor, attached in the appendices, was **received** and **noted**.

The Chairman said he was very pleased to see a positive report and congratulated the Clerk for ensuring the processes in place had support from the auditor. Cllr. Mitchell advised that he liked the layout of the report, it was clear and helpful points had been identified by the auditor.

#### 198/21

### Telephone Kiosks

Members considered the report, attached in the appendices. Cllr. Cook commented on the poor state of repair of the kiosk by the Post Office. The Clerk advised that maintenance could take place once the kiosks had been brought into the Parish Councils' ownership.

#### It was Resolved:

- to approve the transfer of ownership of the two telephone kiosks, one located outside of the Post Office, Twyford and the other at Shipley Road, Northfields ,to the Parish Council at a cost of £35 each
- to approve the purchase of a defibrillator at a cost of £1,655 to be installed in the Northfields telephone kiosk. The installation and electrical work to be carried out by the Parish Council's contract handyman at an estimated cost of £100.

#### 199/21

### Tree works at Northfields,

Members considered a report, attached in the appendices, on trees, adjacent to the highway, which require remedial work. Although the trees had survived the previous week's storm, the state of them still presented a potential risk.

The Clerk advised that since writing the report a second quotation had been received for £2,230 which included £590 for traffic management and £150 highway licences for use of an elevated platform.

As the results of the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) will be known in about 2 weeks' time it was thought prudent that any additional work identified in that report be carried out at the same time.

It was Resolved: to approve expenditure of up to £3,000 on the tree works quoted for and any urgent additional works identified in the forthcoming VTA. The Clerk would agree additional works with the contractor in liaison with the Chairman of the Recreation Committee. The successful contractor is C&D Trees Ltd.

#### 200/21

### Highway matters

### Cllr. Bronk provided a verbal update:

20s plenty - A question had been sent to Cllr. Todd (WCC) seeking support that 20 mph should be adopted across the city where people live, work and play. The response from WCC is that it notes the many parish council resolutions, including Twyford's, on the subject and supports those calls for 20 mph zones across the district

Speed Limit Reminder signs - Correspondence received from HCC relating to the SLRs on Shawford Road which clarified HCC's policy on the deployment of SLRs. This has been forwarded it on to the Clerk. New standalone posts are expected to be erected by HCC on Shawford Road. The assistant Clark has provided a new schedule of the deployments, although they may not include the new location opposite the Twyford school as the modification to the signpost has not yet been implemented.

Speedwatch -A demonstration of the new equipment from Westcotec took place. It was observed that the equipment requires a laptop to setup and configure the device before leaving in place for the duration of the session. Therefore, it may be more efficient if the device was set up in one location for a day with several different Speedwatch crews taking part during the day. The equipment costs have been quoted at £3,800. There may

be options to share with other groups such as Colden Common and Winchester Speedwatch. Cycleway -Feedback has been provided to Cllr. Oppenheimer at HTC and a meeting is being planned in a few weeks' time. The Parish Council wishes to challenge the baseline assessment that was used in the report published last month. The change in posted speed limit to 40 mph option is still under review and has not been formally ruled out at this stage. Road Safety Review - There has been no further update on the safety review which includes High Street and Finches Lane crossing. This has been chased with Cllr. Tod at WCC. There was a discussion regarding no cycling signs on the paths at Churchfields and whether the clarity of these could be improved by the Parish Council. **FTTP Broadband project** 201/21 The Clerk talked members through the report, attached in the appendices, and clarified the complications and timescales in taking forward the Openreach scheme. It was Resolved for the Parish Council to act as the legal entity with Openreach and progress the scheme to the next stage. **Projects** 202/21 Climate Change – The order for plant hedging whips adjacent to Berry Lane has been placed. Cllr. Pullen also advised that an order for beech hedging at Hunter Park is ready to be placed and the Clerk would make the arrangements for that. Flood Mitigation Scheme - The Clerk had arranged a meeting with the SDNPA, with and HCC in attendance, last week and discussed an updated CIL application. The conversation was productive, the final application will be submitted by the 28th February. **Operation London Bridge** 203/21 The Clerk introduced this item and explained the background to this national plan of action in the event of the death of Her Majesty The Queen. The roles of parish and town councils are varied, and the Clerk explained several areas which the Parish Council may want to consider along with statutory procedural matters which would affect the Parish Council during a period of national mourning. Views were expressed that the Parish Council should be sensitive and respectful during such a period as expected by community. Several suggestions were made and the Clerk will liaise with St. Mary's Church on the matter and report back to the Council. 204/21 **Crime in Twyford** Cllr. Mitchell advised that he has received feedback from residents of an increase in crime in the village recently, particularly thefts from outbuildings and of bicycles. There is little visible presence from the Police in the village. Cllr. Bronk advised that the PCSOs do have occasional surgeries in Colden Common. There was a discussion about whether the Parish Council could facilitate some engagement between the Police and local community. Cllr. Cook would use her contacts to see if the Police and Crime Commissioner would be available to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in May. The meeting closed at 9:37pm

## Item 190/21

### County Councillor's Report to Twyford Parish Council

### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROB HUMBY'S REPORT**

#### **FEBRUARY 2022**

### **Your Hampshire**

https://smc-seb.s4hana.ondemand.com/eu/elastic-access/sap/seb/? L54AD1F204 =c2NlbmFyaW89U0VCJnRlbmFudD1teTMwMTI4MS5zNGhhbmEub2 5kZW1hbmQuY29tJkNhbXBhaWduT3V0Ym91bmQ9J0Q5Q0VCMjl1RkJBOTcxNjRENTk2QjFDMjhBQjYwRjBDQzY2QUMzRklnJkxpbmtUcmFja2luZ0lzRGlzYWJsZWQ9ZmFsc2U&K13 =165&K14 =6464427 3f000dd25bd35aab0a7730d21b24ab9e0d01d4d382296274b9c32acbb

### **HWRC Booking System**

At my Decision Day on 27 January, I approved the retention of the booking system indefinitely at all Hampshire County Council managed HWRCs to support the management of customer demand and operations processes. The booking system, while introduced as a COVID measure, has proved adept at supporting operation and management activities at HWRCs through a predictable consistent throughput of customers and waste tonnages. The booking system has also proved popular with the public who appreciate that they can book a slot at a convenient time and attend the site safe in the knowledge they will not have to wait in a queue.

### Further year's funding agreed to keep community transport services on the road

With the COVID-19 pandemic still having an impact on levels of all public and community transport use across the county, Hampshire County Council has agreed to maintain contract payments for community transport operators at 100% from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

<u>Further year's funding agreed to keep community transport services on the road | Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)</u>

### **Highways**

It was an unusual and mixed pattern of weather last month, with persistent rainfall not going unnoticed by many. While there were fewer salt runs than we might usually see in a typical December, Highways crews remained on standby, as ever, to deal with issues such as fallen branches and excess surface water, always to keep Hampshire moving. Statistics for last month reflect the absence of any carriageway treatments as none were planned for December, also the short Christmas shutdown when no non-emergency routine maintenance work took place. With further occurrences of heavy rain, followed by spells of freezing temperatures, likely we are now bracing ourselves for the inevitable increase in road defects being reported in February, prompted by freeze thaw cycles that can accelerate surface deterioration. Reporting road defects online is always incredibly helpful to us and it remains the most effective and efficient way of ensuring reports are properly logged and prioritised for attention. The system we use also enables the status of reports to

be tracked. Road defects can be reported online via: www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems

### **Maintaining momentum towards a County Deal**

Following publication of Government's Levelling-Up White Paper (Wednesday 2 February), work continues across Hampshire and the surrounding areas to further explore options for a possible County Deal – with a focus on benefitting local communities, by bringing decisions and powers closer to people and places.

Maintaining momentum towards a County Deal | Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)

### <u>Preparations underway to welcome HRH The Prince of Wales to Winchester at start of Jubilee year</u>

Hampshire County Council is preparing to welcome His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales to Winchester next Thursday 10 February – marking the start of the Authority's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in 2022.

<u>Preparations underway to welcome HRH The Prince of Wales to Winchester at start of Jubilee year | Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)</u>

### Views wanted on proposed changes to Hampshire's home to school travel service

Hampshire County Council wants to hear what people think of two proposed changes to arrangements for its Home to School Transport Service

<u>Views wanted on proposed changes to Hampshire's home to school travel service | Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)</u>

### **Upcoming HCC meetings**

Cabinet 8 February

County Council Budget Meeting 17 February

### Item 191/21



## **Twyford Parish Council**

### Clerk's Report

Councillors are reminded that the items within this report are provided for information only and not available for debate. If it is considered that an item listed within the report should be debated fully by members, then it will be placed on the next appropriate committee or council agenda. Any member wanting clarification or further information on any aspect of items within the report please contact me in advance of the meeting.

### General reading and information.

The following publications have been received and available for members to read:

- Information Commissioner's Office February e-newsletter
- Rural Service Network Rural Bulletin 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022
- Hampshire ALC January news & views
- WCC Your Council news 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022
- South Downs Newsletter February 2022
- Consultation SDNPA Glover Landscape Review
- Consultation WCC Review of Taxi Policy and Conditions

### Other information

- 1) All members need to be aware of the disclosable pecuniary interest forms and consider whether there have been any changes since it was last written. If there was a need for any change to be made, please contact me and I will supply fresh document for completion.
- 2) The renewal on the lease to Southern Electric Power Distribution (SEPD) for the substation at Hunter Park has not made much progress. An expected Heads of Terms is due shortly which will include a slightly bigger demise to allow a fence to be installed around the substation. In the meantime, an invoice has been issued for to SEPD for rent from September 2010 to August 2022.
- 3) The transfer of bank accounts from HSBC to Unity Trust will complete on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022.
- 4) Referendum Expenses form have been submitted to the Counting Officer at WCC within the 28-day limit.

Jamie Matthews Parish Clerk 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

## Item 194/21

## Schedule of Payments – February 2022

262 263		504.69 130.00	0.00	504.69 130.00	HCC Pensions - February pensions Fair Account - Internal Audit - upto 31/12/21
261 262		1,762.18 504.69	0.00	1,762.18 504.69	Employee Salaries - February Salaries  HCC Pensions - February pensions
260		22.16 1.762.18	0.00	22.16 1.762.18	Sue Merritt - Mileage - January  Employee Salaries - February Salaries
259		5.54	0.00	5.54	HSBC Bank - Monthly Charges
256		34.00	0.00	34.00	Plan
255		324.00	54.00	270.00	Premier Gardens - Rotovation of allotment plots 9 and 25 Christopher Corcoran - 4 printed copies of Tywford Neighbourhood
272		36.00	6.00	30.00	Vodafone - Mobile Telephones - February
257	16/02/2022	6.00	0.00	6.00	Land Registry - Registry documents for TNP land query
271		11.26	1.88	9.38	invoice dates)
258		112.00	5.33	106.67	EDF - Pavilion Electricity Plus Net - Broadband (HP) (intermin invoice to account for adjusted
254	14/02/2022	144.60	24.10	120.50	British Hardwood - Tree whips - climate change project
247		102.00	0.00	102.00	Wyatt Electrical - Caretaking - January 2022
246	14/02/2022	36.00	6.00	30.00	Vodafone - Mobile Telephones - January
245		11.99	2.00	9.99	1&1 IONOS - Monthly web hosting
244		32.97	1.57	31.40	EDF - Pavilion Electricity
243	31/01/2022	21.00	3.50	17.50	Plus Net - Broadband (HP)
253	31/01/2022	215.00	35.83	179.17	ACE Liftaway - Skip hire for Hunter Park
252		45.03	7.50	37.53	Steve Pullen - Postcrete and fence line wire for HP.
251	29/01/2022	50.00	0.00	50.00	1st Colden Common Guides - Return of deposit
250	26/01/2022	36.00	0.00	36.00	Microsoft - Monthly 365 Subscription
248	26/01/2022	6.00	0.00	6.00	Land Registry - Registry documents for Parish Farm request
239	29/01/2022	1,561.68	0.00	1,561.68	Employee Salaries - January Salaries
	29/01/2022	154.84	25.81	129.03	Fenland Leisure Products Ltd - Replacement swing for Northfields
232		261.32	0.00	261.32	Wyatt Electrical - October and November 2021 Caretaking



1 Roker Way Fair Oak Eastleigh HANTS SO50 7LD

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Tel (07815) 435 380

18 February, 2022 E-mail: paulreynolds48@hotmail.com

Mr J Matthews Clerk to Twyford Parish Council PO Box 741 WINCHESTER HANTS SO23 3QA

Dear Jamie

### Twyford Parish Council 2021/22, Internal Audit (10/21 to 12/21)

I have now completed the Internal Audit for the Council as at 31/12/21 & am pleased to report that the overall internal control procedures are adequate to meet the needs of the AGAR Practitioner's Guide 2021 and the Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015 (as amended).

A series of test checks on the Council's financial records, vouchers, documents, minutes, policies, insurance & assets register were done to ascertain efficiency & effectiveness of the Council's systems. This was especially important, as the Council had to address the impact of Covid-19, resulting in a review of current processes & procedures, including remote meetings in the early months.

The attached Audit comments & recommendations will only enhance the current processes and procedures. This report should be noted & taken to the next meeting of the Council for discussion & formal minuting. I confirm that the final audit is set for Monday 9 May 2022 & this will cover the AGAR for 2021/22.

I attach invoice 21/087 for the interim Qtr.3 audit work

I would like to thank you for your help in enabling the audit to be performed remotely due to Covid-19 restrictions. I look forward to hearing your comments in due course.

Yours sincerely

AAT ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTING

PAUL REYNOLDS, FMAAT

### **Audit Comments & Recommendations**

- 1. I am pleased to report that the Composite Cashbook for the four Accounts held by the Council, has been fully agreed to the Bank reconciliations at an overall total of £130,777.40, as at 31/12/21.
- 2. Precept now fully received for 2021/22 at £109,489. Also received was CIL money £12,700 from SDNPA on 14/10/21 & an Insurance claim for £3,357 on 13/12/21.
- **3.** VAT Qtr.2 claim refunded on 8/10/21 by HMRC at £11,092.04. These regular, quarterly claims greatly assist the Council's cashflow.
- 4. PWLB loan repayment totalling £773.25 made on 1/12/21.
- 5. The Asset register needs serial nos. added for all IT equipment & any other electrical items. This will provide the required data for Hiscox Insurance should any claims arise for these items.
- 6. The new laptops & monitor, 2<sup>nd</sup> SLR & new Play equipment will need noting on the Asset Register at cost price (ie. **not** incl.VAT) to provide the AGAR box 9, final total at 31/3/22.
- 7. Current insurance policy 1891378 is held with Hiscox (via Came & Co./Gallaghers) from 1/10/21, which covers the standard Local Council aspects & includes Cyber cover.
- 8. Delegated powers to the Clerk to cover Covid-19 issues will need periodic review ensuring they are adequate for any changes in Govt. advice & legislation, including any continuance of remote meetings by Zoom / MS Teams beyond 6 May 2021, if Govt. permits.
- 9. The possible introduction of a Corporate MultiPay card will need to be detailed in the Financial Regulations. This will require specific details of users, security of the card & monitoring of usage. This will be linked to the change to Unity Bank in March 2022.
- 10. The Asst Clerk now conducts regular, visual Play area inspections & notes on signed /dated logsheets, with any action needed. This will help mitigate any litigation claims on the Council.
- 11. All minutes should still be regularly signed within the Covid-19 arrangements, thus ensuring any decisions taken become lawful.
- 12. I have given the Clerk a copy of the current Allotment tenancy terms & conditions operating at West End Parish Council, to assist with the present review at Twyford Parish Council.

### Item 198/21



## **Twyford Parish Council**

### **Telephone Kiosks**

Councillors will be aware from the previous updates that the Parish Council is going through the process of acquiring ownership of the two telephone kiosks in the village for the purposes of installing a defibrillator at the Northfields location and for continuing operation of the community library at the Post Office location.

The telephone kiosks are currently owned by charity Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT).

CHT has agreed that they are content to transfer both kiosks to the Parish Council on the same terms as originally proposed by BT when transferring ownership to Local Authorities. There is an administration fee of £35 per kiosk and the transfer is also conditional on the CHT providing the defibrillator and cabinet for the Northfields kiosk.

The defibrillator recommended by CHT is Lifeline VIEW defibrillator and a locked Defibsafe DS2 cabinet at a cost of £1,570 plus carriage of £15.

CHT would also provide external paint for both kiosks, however there will be some additional minor repairs required to hinges and glazing at both kiosks.

The installation and connection to the electricity supply would be carried out by the Parish Council's contract handyman who examined the kiosk at Northfield and estimates work to be in region of £100.

The current budget has £3,100 allocated towards the Northfields defibrillator project.

Financial Regulations require three quotations to be provided for all works over £1,000. In this situation the provision of the service is uniquely limited to one supplier and the Council must consider whether the overall cost of £1,655 provide value for money.

Jamie Matthews Parish Clerk & RFO 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

## Item 198/21



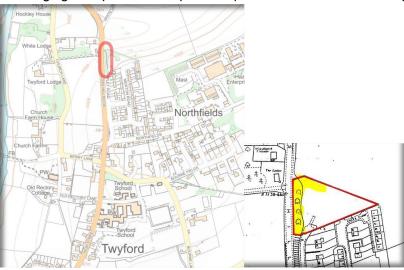
## **Twyford Parish Council**

### Tree Works at Northfields

Hampshire County Council have brought to the Parish Council's attention some potentially hazardous trees on Parish Council land at Northfields.

The area is the woodland between the play area and the B3335 road. This area was omitted for some reason from the Visual Tree Assessments that were carried out in 2020.

There are several trees which are succumbing to ash dieback in the area as well at least two dead ones and those highlighted by HCC which present a potential risk to users of the highway.







I have arranged for a Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) be carried out by Arbor-Eco Consultancy who previously carried out the other surveys at Hunter Park, Berry Meadow and Northfields at a cost of £280+VAT and this work is expected to take place in early March.

I have also written to three tree surgeons requesting quotations to remove the trees which appear to be the most at risk of failure, which is a group of 5 mainly ash trees and a sycamore.

The result of the VTA may result in more work being required. The work will involve Traffic Management on the B3335, so is likely to add to the cost of the work.

At the time of writing this report only one quotation had been received for £2,750 which includes £350 for Traffic Management.

The budget has £1,500 available towards tree management which includes surveys. Expenditure beyond this would require a draw down from general reserves.

Jamie Matthews Parish Clerk & RFO 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### Item 201/21



## **Twyford Parish Council**

### **Full Fibre Broadband Project**

After many requests by the FTTP working group, Openreach have at last a provided a final quote to install Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) to 639 properties in Twyford at a cost of £328,902.

The cost of the installation is expected to be met by individuals pledging Gigabit vouchers to the value of £3,000 jointly funded by HM Government and Hampshire County Council. This therefore requires at least 110 people to participate to enable to the project to be fully funded.

In response to an email update (see next page) sent to 170 residents who had expressed an interest in Twyford's scheme, 54 people responded to a survey. 52 respondents indicated they were still interested in FTTP and were happy to wait at least 12 months for the network. 2 respondents were longer interested and a further 2 indicate they were going to sign up to the Trooli network which is being installed in some locations.

Since the 14<sup>th</sup> January there has been a freeze on applying for vouchers in Hampshire because the county is currently subject to a procurement exercise which may result in the Twyford area receiving direct Government funding for Openreach, or another communications provider, to install FTTP to all properties.

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport provided an update on the 9<sup>th</sup> February which indicated that procurement process for "Lot 27 Hampshire" will take place between March and May.

Once the outcome of the Lot 27 procurement process in known, DCMS will un-pause vouchers if Twyford is not included in that award for Lot 27.

If the voucher scheme does proceed Openreach will need to work with a legal entity and, this could be the Parish Council, to take the FTTP scheme forwards.

When the time comes to sign a contract with Openreach the legal entity would need to provide 50% of the funding with the remaining 50% payable on completion of the network installation. This funding should be covered by the Gigabit Voucher scheme however if there is a shortfall the legal entity might need to fund the gap.

Jamie Matthews Parish Clerk & RFO 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022



Twyford Information Emails Twyford Parish Council

Twyford Parish Council

### An update on bringing Full Fibre Broadband to Twyford

#### Hello!

Sorry for the lack updates. We hoped to have provided more information on this project back in the Autumn, unfortunately the wheels at Openreach turn very slowly!

But the good news is that since our last update in September a sufficient number of people have expressed an interest to make it viable for Openreach to take forward if most people applied for and pledged their gigabit vouchers.

We've now received a 'final offer' from Openreach, which means, that if there is still enough interest, the Parish Council can decide to act as the Legal Entity to contract with Openreach to install the infrastructure.

Openreach are very busy at the moment installing fibre schemes across the country so the timescales to deliver a project in Twyford could still be a year or more away. However once a contract is signed with Openreach they aim to complete within 12 months.

#### Have you seen workers installing new cables in the village recently?

Whilst Openreach were 'busy' reviewing our project in the Autumn a new firm called <u>Trooli</u> has started to install its own fibre optic cables in the village, which will be able to connect some properties to the Trooli's own Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) network. Trooli's network is separate from Openreach, although it does share some of Openreach's ducts and telegraph poles to install its own fibre cables.

### When will Trooli's network be live?

You'd have to ask Trooli themselves, check to see if your property is going to be served by Trooli using their <u>coverage checker</u>.

## Do we still need to go ahead with the Openreach project now that Trooli is here?

It rather depends on how many people choose to sign up to Trooli now or would be happy to wait a while longer. The Openreach scheme would connect about 650 properties in the village. We think the Trooli scheme is only going to connect properties in the central part of the village and which are easy for them to install their equipment, so maybe 250 properties or so at the moment. It certainly doesn't yet cover areas we have identified as having really poor broadband speeds such as Twyford Moors and eastern parts of Park Lane.

### What do I need to do next?

We'd like you to answer this <u>super quick survey</u>, this will give us an indication whether we should still proceed with Openreach project.