

## **MINUTES of the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Parish Annual Assembly held in the village hall on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024 commencing at 7.10 p.m.**

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**Present:** Parish Councillors - Cllr. J Smith (Chairman, Tolleshunt D'Arcy Parish Council), Evans, Ewing, Denney, Henderson, Middleton

District Councillor – M Thompson  
John Barber – Tolleshunt D'Arcy Village Larder  
Steve Howard, Vanessa Reeve - Parish Working Group (PWG)  
Michelle Curtis - Clerk to Parish Council  
16 members of the public

### **1. Introduction**

The Chairman explained that whilst this was a meeting of the parishioners, by convention the Parish Council Chairman chairs the meeting and facilitates discussion whilst the Parish Clerk takes the minutes.

### **2. Minutes of the Annual Assembly 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

The Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were approved as a true record of the meeting.

The Chairman signed the minutes.

### **3. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman gave the assembly a PowerPoint Presentation (Appendix A), giving an overview of the Parish Council's work over the last year.

### **4. Questions**

A resident asked why the Parish Council keep so much money in reserves. The Chairman advised that a year's precept is held in reserve in line with government guidance. This is also in line with the Parish Council's Reserves Policy.

A resident asked whether the levelling of the grass verge in Tollesbury Road could be done ourselves rather than through the Local Highways Panel.

The Chairman explained that as this is highway land, permission would need to be sought, and the work would need to be carried out to Essex County Council (ECC) Highway's specifications.

A resident suggested that a GoFundMe page was set up to raise funds for highway projects, i.e. installation of village gates.

The Chairman said this was possible if residents wished to take this forward.

The Chairman advised that the Maldon District Council Local Highways Panel has been relaunched. The budget for the district has been reduced to £100,000 for the year and it is understood that these funds have already been allocated. All applications previously submitted are now invalid and if the Parish Council wishes to apply for any projects, they need to submit new applications.

A resident asked what the Parish Council had committed to spending funds on in the new financial year. The community may feel that the Parish Council is spending money in one area when the residents may feel that the money is being spent in the wrong way for example, the Parish Council may have committed money to the Recreation Ground but residents may feel this money needs to be spent on highways.

The Chairman advised that the next project being explored is the installation of a concrete path from the Village Hall path round to the Pavilion. This would provide better access particularly those in wheelchairs.

The Chairman advised that the budget and all expenditures are available to view on the Parish Council's website.

A resident stated that Church Street is very dangerous, especially for school children, as vehicles speed and the paths are very narrow.

The Chairman advised that the Parish Council pays the MDC Community Engagement Team to carry out TruCam (Speeding Patrols) on Tollesbury Road, Kelvedon Road and Church Street.

A resident advised that the warning school ahead sign in Tollesbury Road had fallen over.

The resident was advised that this had been reported to ECC.

A resident asked whether Tolleshunt D'Arcy had a community police officer. We could invite them to attend the Annual Assembly.

The Chairman advised that there was no Community Police Officer assigned to Tolleshunt D'Arcy.

A resident reported that the path between Church Street and Festival Gardens was overgrown.

The Chairman advised that this has been reported to ECC.

The Chairman reported that several residents were concerned regarding the proposed development at Champions Wood. There has been a new development.

Cllr Thompson advised that there is a new consultation as ECC did not like the flood plan. This has been updated and there will be a new consultation. Cllr Thompson advised that all previous comments submitted by residents still stand.

A resident asked about the fence posts on the amenity land in Festival Gardens. MDC has advised that the posts are there for the fence.

**Action:** Cllr Thompson to take this up with the Enforcement Officer at MDC.

## **5. Tolleshunt D'Arcy First Responders**

Catherine Saunders gave a PowerPoint Presentation (Appendix B) to the assembly.

Catherine advised that the running costs are approx. £300-£400 per annum. Any donations to the First Responders would be greatly appreciated.

Cllr Middleton thanked Catherine for all her hard work and time in progressing the First Responders.

## **6. Tolleshunt D'Arcy Village Larder**

John Barber gave a PowerPoint Presentation (Appendix C) to the assembly.

## **7. Parish Working Group**

Steve explained that he and Venessa were from the PWG.

- The PWG set up Community Sweed Watch (CSW) and Vanessa will provide more information on this.
- The memorial garden – Trish would like to say thank you to all those who have contributed to the JustGiving Page. The target has nearly been reached and the page is still running for anyone who wishes to contribute.

Discussions have taken place with Bonz regarding the trees overhanging the garden but there is nothing we can do about it.

- 20's Plenty – It is pretty much dead in the water. Wales did a blanket 20mph across the country. There was such strong opposition, that this is being reviewed. ECC has never been in favour of the 20mph, so unless there is a considerable change in the next election, it is unlikely that 20's Plenty will progress.

Vanessa presented her slides (Appendix D) and raised the following:

- CSW has been in operation since November 2023. There are 3 approved sites. There are 12 volunteers and the group would welcome more volunteers. There have been 32 patrols since November and have caught 71 offenders who are driving at an average of 40mph. Tollesbury Road is where most offenders have been caught. Once the group has been running for a year, the group can apply for new sites around the village. It is felt that the presence of CSW in the village is slowing the traffic down. The group report the offenders to the CSW hub, which then sends letters to the registered keeper. The CSW can also report any offensive drivers. The police may join the CSW patrols. A copy of the CSW rota is sent to the police.

A resident asked why the Henry Smith Trust were not present to give a presentation. The Chairman reported that Gerry Munson had declined an invitation to give a presentation.

The resident stated that Gerry Munson had removed some members of the small committee as they asked questions as to how the funds were being spent. The Chairman advised that the Henry Smith Trust was independent of the Parish Council. Any questions should be directed to the Trustees.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Annual Assembly.

There being no other business for discussion, the Chairman closed the assembly at 8.16 pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....

**TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY  
PARISH ANNUAL  
ASSEMBLY  
17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024**



LOCAL COUNCIL  
AWARD SCHEME  
QUALITY

# TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

## **Domestic Arrangements**

- ❖ **There is no fire drill scheduled so if the alarm sounds please leave via the emergency exits and meet in the car park.**
- ❖ **We aim to finish by 8pm but are happy to continue beyond then if required.**
- ❖ **Remember this is your Assembly.**

**Following the Annual Assembly:**

**Village Hall AGM**

# TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

## **Agenda**

- ❖ **Apologies**
- ❖ **Minutes of the Last Assembly**
- ❖ **Chairman's Report**
- ❖ **Questions**
- ❖ **Tollesbury First Responders**
- ❖ **Tolleshunt D'Arcy Village Larder**
- ❖ **Parish Working Group – Community Speed Watch**

## **Chairman's Report**

- ❖ After making a significant contribution for 9 years Lyndsey Barwick resigned and will be greatly missed.
- ❖ We are very grateful that Ian Ewing, Wayne Middleton, Richard Evans and James Denney have joined the Parish Council and have already become valued members.
- ❖ Wayne and Richard have already attended Councillor Training Courses

## **Finance**

The 2022/23 returns were submitted and returned no adverse comments.

The 2023/24 Internal Audit will be carried out in May.

Income and expenditure for 2023/24:

- Income - £32,553 (includes £22,721 precept)
- Expenditure - £35,380
- Earmarked Reserves - £9,267
- Closing balance as of 31st March 2023 - £30,007

# TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

## **Pavilion**

In June 2023, Bee Fit CM9 gave notice to terminate their agreement to hire the Pavilion.

In September 2023, Blackwater Gymnastics entered into a three-year lease agreement to hire the Pavilion.

For further information on Blackwater Gymnastics, visit:

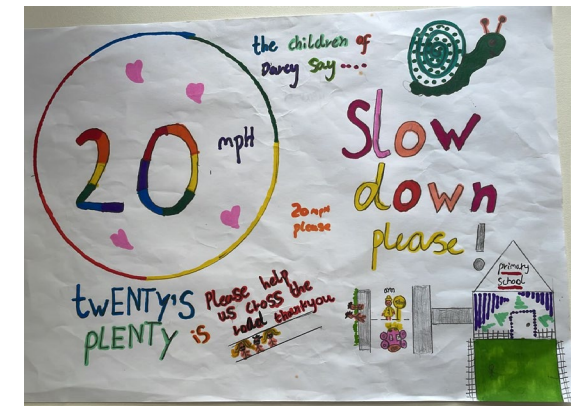
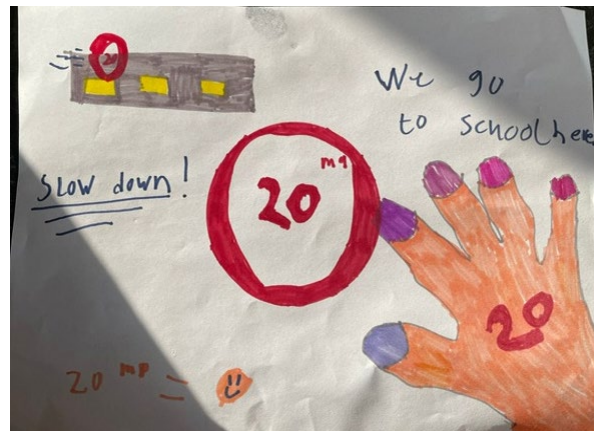
[www.blackwatergymnastics.co.uk](http://www.blackwatergymnastics.co.uk)



# TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

## Traffic/Speeding Issues

The Parish Council worked with the Primary School and held a poster competition. The winners from each class were awarded a Smythe's gift voucher. A banner with the four winning designs was displayed outside the school.



## **TruCam Patrols**

The Parish Council has continued the agreement with the MDC Community Engagement Team (CET) formerly the Community Protection Officers (CPOs) to carry out TruCam (Speeding) Patrols in the village.

TruCam Patrols April 2023-March 2024

200 - Captures

15 - Conditional Offer (£100 fine and 3 points on licence)

185 - Speed Awareness Course (£90 costs and speed awareness training. Only offered as an option once in any 3 year period)

## **Traffic/Speeding Issues**

- ❖ The Parish Council remains supportive of the 20s Plenty campaign unfortunately its unfocused and badly managed implementation in Wales has led to adverse public opinion.
- ❖ The Parish Council's submissions to the Local Highways Panel (LHP) have still not been considered and the latest information suggests that as the budget has been reduced again even previously approved schemes will have to reapply. It is increasingly apparent that this process is broken probably beyond repair.
- ❖ The costs of providing any speed calming measures is governed by ECC Highways and is beyond the budget of parish councils.



# **QUESTIONS**

**TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**

# **TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY FIRST RESPONDERS**

# **Tollesbury & Darcy Community First Responders**

2024 Parish Annual Assembly Update  
17<sup>th</sup> May 2024

# Community First Responder Groups

- [Tollesbury & D'Arcy Group Coordinator – Catherine Sanders](#)
- Tollesbury Group
  - Kit bag funded by EEAST (East of England Ambulance Trust)
  - 4 active members
- Tolleshunt D'Arcy Group – established 2023
  - Self-Funded a kit bag
  - 4 active members
- Both groups are recruiting and have an additional 2-3 people awaiting training

# Roles Of A Community First Responder

When you dial 999 emergency call, the call is prioritised by the Ambulance 999 controller to establish if it is suitable to send a community first responder.

If so, the nearest available group is alerted via their group Ambulance phone.

An ambulance will always be mobilised at the same time.

CFR will remain at scene until handover to Ambulance

Such calls suitable for a CFR to attend include (but not limited to);

- Cardiac Arrest
- Heart Attacks
- Strokes
- Seizures
- Asthma Attacks
- Diabetics
- Breathing difficulties
- Choking

Unsuitable calls

- Car Accidents
- Trauma
- Infants under 2 yrs old
- Known drunk/drugs

# Funding & Kit Bag

- In 2022/3 we raised around £4,700 to fund the Tolleshunt D'Arcy kit bag
- Fundraising - £3,200
- Locality Grant - £1,500



# Volunteering & Call Outs

Month	Hours on Call	Call outs	Location
January	162.5	8	4 Tollesbury 2 Tiptree 1 Salcott 1 T. Knights
February	82	0	
March	183	8	3 Tollesbury 3 D'Arcy 1 Goldhanger 1 Tiptree
April	181.5	10	5 Tollesbury 1 D'Arcy 1 Totham 1 Wickham Bishops 2 Tiptree

TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY





## TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY VILLAGE LARDER

THE TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY VILLAGE LARDER (TDVL) IS A NON-REGISTERED CONSTITUTED CHARITABLE TRUST AND RUN BY 4 TRUSTEES AND 2 VOLUNTEERS

THIS IS OUR REPORT SINCE LAST YEAR'S VILLAGE AGM



## WHAT DOES THE VILLAGE LARDER DO

We distribute donated food from Local & National Retailers along with donations from the local community to those who need additional assistance within the Village.

We do not discriminate against those who need assistance or question them.



## WHAT DOES THE VILLAGE LARDER DO

We provide a Coffee Morning open to all Villagers providing free Tea, Coffee and Cake each Wednesday from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm.

We are now arranging with Maldon CVS and Citizens Advice regular help sessions to be made available for giving legal advice and other support services.



## HAVE WE HELPED

During the past year, we have distributed over £2000.00 worth of food and other goods along with providing two cash grants.



## FUNDING

We currently have received grants from the following:

- Tolleshunt D'Arcy Parish Council.
- Henry Smith (Tolleshunt D'Arcy) Trust.
- Cash donations from the Local Community.



CURRENT ACCOUNTS

T O L L E S H U N T D ' A R C Y  
VILLAGE LARDER

INCOME

CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

BANK ACCOUNT	£	1,055.59
PETTY CASH	£	141.55

GRANTS RECEIVED

TOLLESHUNT DARCY PARISH COUNCIL	£	250.00
HENRY SMITH TRUST	£	250.00

CASH DONATIONS

CASH COLLECTION BOX	£	1,319.80
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TOTAL INCOME AND HOLDINGS 30.04.2024	£	3,016.94
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T O L L E S H U N T D ' A R C Y  
VILLAGE LARDER

EXPENDITURE

TOLLESHUNT DARCYPVILLAGE HALL (HIRE CHARGES)	£	350.00
CASH GRANTS	£	150.00
FOOD AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS (PETTYCASH PURCHASES)	£	170.28
FOOD AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS (BANK ACCOUNT PURCHASES)	£	619.61
GENERAL RUNNING COSTS (SUNDRIES & PRINTING)	£	241.50
TOTAL EXPENDITURE YEAR-END 30.04.2024	£	1,531.39

T O L L E S H U N T D ' A R C Y  
VILLAGE LARDER

BALANCING

TOTAL INCOME AND HOLDINGS 30.04.2024	£	3,016.94
TOTAL EXPENDITURE YEAR-END 30.04.2024	£	1,531.39
INCOME LESS EXPENDITURE	£	1,485.55
CURRENT MONIES HELD		
CURRENT ACCOUNT HOLDINGS	£	1,249.48
PETTY CASH HOLDINGS	£	236.07
TOTAL MONIES HELD IN BANK & PETTY CASH 30.04.2024	£	1,485.55



COMMENT

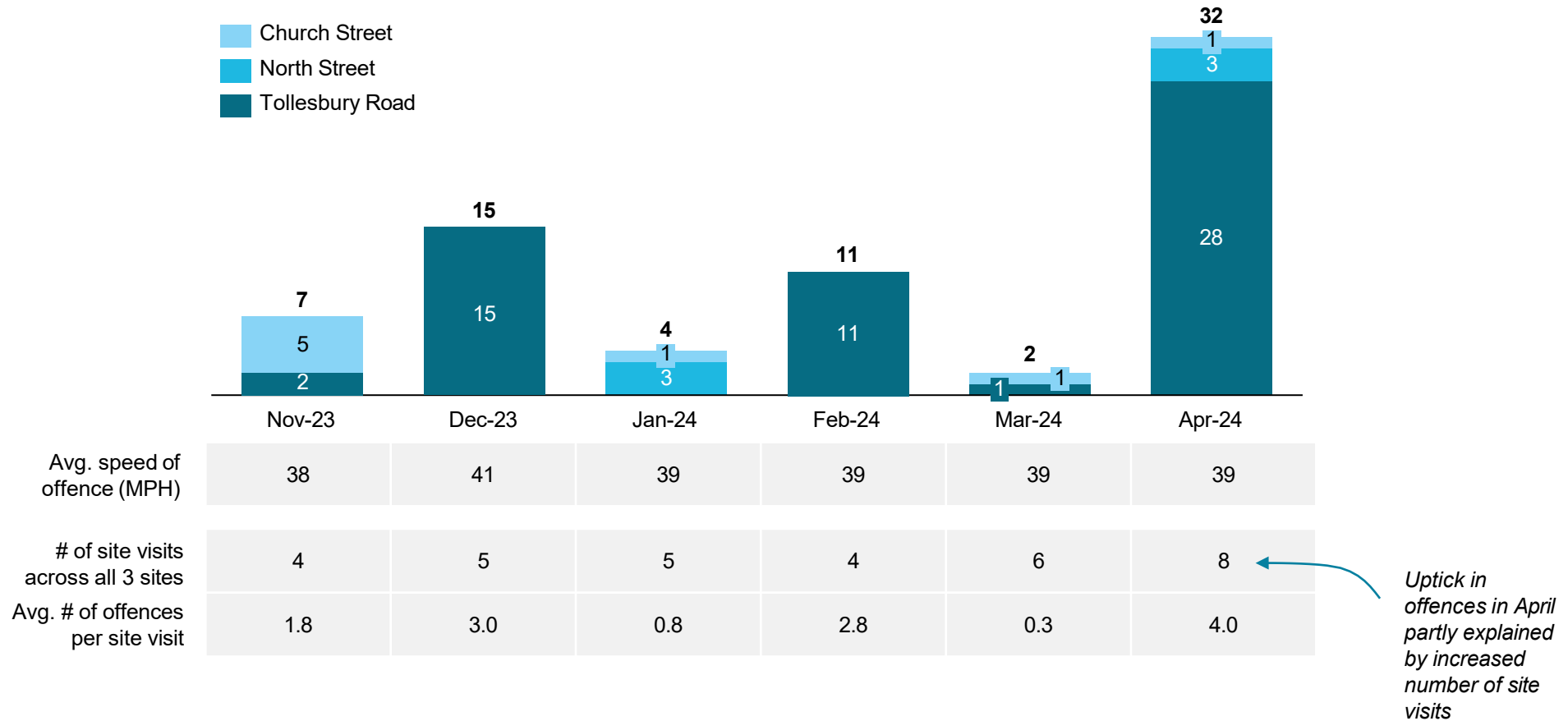
A COPY OF OUR ACCOUNTS IS AVAILABLE ON  
THE NOTICEBOARD IN THE FOYER OF THE  
VILLAGE HALL

**PARISH WORKING  
GROUP &  
COMMUNITY SPEED  
WATCH**

# Community Speed Watch was catching 2-3 speeders per site visit before a significant uptick in April. We expect this increase to continue through the Spring and Summer.

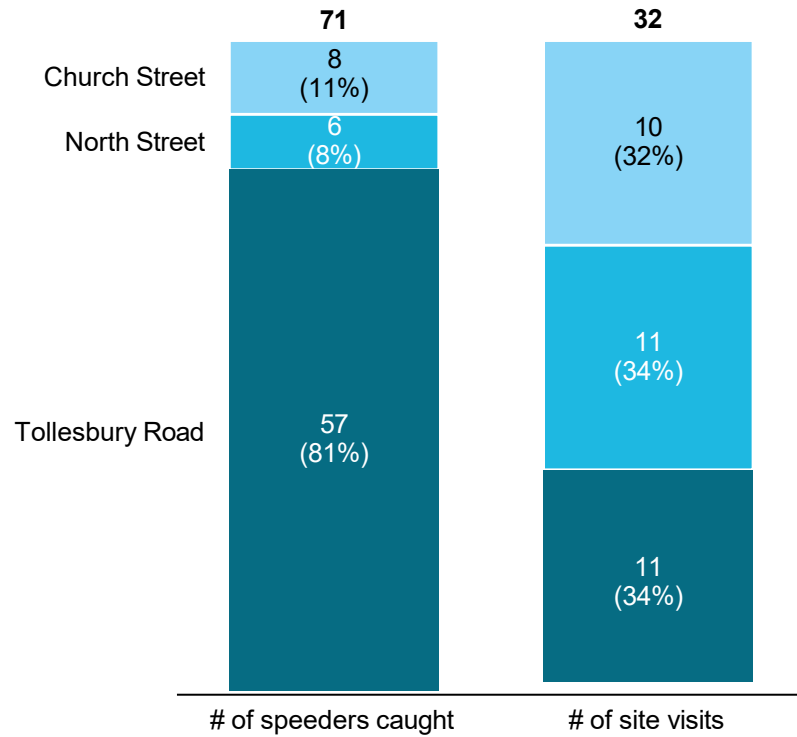
## Speeding offences by road

# of speeders caught, November 2023-April 2024



# Tollesbury Road accounted for the vast majority of offences.

**Speeders caught and site visits by road**  
November 2023-April 2024



**# of speeding offences per site visit**  
By site, November 2023 - April 2024

