

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LITLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN
LITLINGTON CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM ON TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2015**

PRESENT: Cllr Bathmaker (Chairman), Cllr Baker, Cllr Sharp, Cllr Wiltshire, Cllr McClelland, Cllr Williams, Cllr Pipe
District Cllr McCraith, District Cllr Cathcart
Members of the Public -2

7.15 pm PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Pledger and County Cllr Dent.

02. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS RELATED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations made.

03. OPEN FORUM

There were no issues raised.

04. HIGHFIELD FARM –UPDATE ON PROJECT

The Chairman reported that an update from Bio Reg had been included in the latest Parish Post so there was nothing further to report at this meeting. All planning regulations had now been complied with.

05. AFFORDABLE HOUSING UPDATE

Cllr Pipe reported that he had spoken to the County Farms Officer, Stephen Conrad, whose name had also been forwarded by Cllr Pledger following her discussion with him during the summer. Mr Conrad had advised that Cambridgeshire County Council were in the process of deciding how to proceed with its sites. The Sheen Farm site was included in a group of projects but there was uncertainty on whether this would be developed as affordable housing for local people or market housing. Cllr Pipe had told Mr Conrad that there would be a lot of local opposition to the latter. There had been a meeting planned the previous week but Cllr Pipe had not heard what the conclusion had been.

The Chairman asked the District Councillors about the proposed building of council housing. Cllr McCraith confirmed that South Cambridgeshire District Council would no longer be in a position to build council housing due to the Government legislation to decrease council house rents by 1% over the next four years. This would therefore mean less money for building. He added that negotiations were in progress with the Housing Minister.

After further discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mr Conrad asking for an update on the County Council plans for the land at Sheen Farm so that they could be recorded in writing.

-Clerk

06. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATION –

6.1 Ref 1931/15/FL

4 Silver Street

(Ms C Stevens)

-Recommendation Approval

07. OTHER

There were no other issues raised.

7.30 pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Pledger and County Cllr Dent

02. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS RELATED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no interests declared.

03. OPEN FORUM

3.1 Recreation Centre

Mrs Heather Williams had some proposals for a smaller extension to the Recreation Centre which she circulated to Councillors. This was a second option with the third proposal taking into account the investigations into both the existing Recreation Centre and Village Hall. It was noted that Cllr Jones was going to attend the next Village Hall Committee meeting to clarify some issues. Cllr Sharp suggested that containers/portacabins also be investigated as an option. Cambourne Parish Council had them installed on their sports field and they had been made to blend in. Mrs Williams stated that the working group would not investigate these adding that the cost of a portacabin was around £30,000 each. All Councillors agreed that there was a priority to get both the community facilities to comply with safety regulations.

The Chairman stated that once the third proposal was ready this project could be progressed with a village consultation.

04. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting dated 13th October 2015

Minutes of the meeting, copies previously circulated, were agreed a true record and signed by the Chairman.

05. MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Highway Issues

5.1.1 South Street/Meeting Lane Junction/Local Highway Improvements Initiative 2014/15

Cllr Pipe had no update on when County Highways were going to start the work. The application for the second phase, made under the MHI initiative 2015/16, had been submitted and acknowledged.

5.1.2 Speedwatch signs

The Chairman reported that a Speedwatch check had been carried out the previous week with 16 vehicles caught breaking the speed limit. He advised of the increasing difficulty of borrowing the equipment due to one of the county kits being damaged. He suggested that the Parish Council may need to consider purchasing their own kit which would cost around £1500. Cllr McCraith advised that Whaddon Parish Council were interested in sharing the purchase with a local parish. The Clerk was asked to follow this up with their Clerk.

-Clerk

5.2 Installation of wooden posts by contractor

One of the contractors had declined the work as there were concerns about underground services. Cllr Williams would chase up a price with the second contractor.

-Cllr Williams

5.3 Update on Parish Plan

This was carried forward to the next meeting.

5.4 Proposed Village Christmas Tree

The Chairman advised that the cost of a 20ft tree would be £100. There would also be the cost of lights for the tree. It was proposed that the erection of a tree on the village green take place this year at a maximum cost for the tree and lights of £200. A vote was taken with five Councillors in favour. The Chairman would follow this up and contact Councillors by e-mail to arrange a date for the tree to be erected.

-Cllr Bathmaker

5.5 Future newsletter format/New website –update

The latest edition of the Parish Post had just been distributed. The Chairman advised that the Editor, who had been compiling the publication for a number of years, had advised that he would be willing to continue in the short term but he would prefer someone to take this task over. Cllr McClelland offered to manage this.

-Cllr McClelland

5.6 Celebration of 90th Birthday of HM the Queen

The village Fayre committee were next going to meet in January and this would be on the agenda then.

5.7 Vacant District Council Homes

The Clerk was still awaiting a response to the letter sent to the Housing Director, Mr Hills. The District

-Clerk &

Councillors offered to follow up a response which was accepted. The Clerk to forward a copy of the letter to both Councillors. *District Cllrs*

06. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Modern Slavery Conference

The Chairman advised that he had been contacted by a parishioner disappointed that the Parish Council were not represented at the recent conference held by Cambridgeshire Police. It was stated that generally a representative attended when possible.

07. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 County Council

Cllr Dent was not in attendance.

7.2 District Council

The District Councillors reported on a recent meeting to discuss the developments with the Local Plan. A slightly revised plan had now been produced showing the new proposed settlements the same and little change to other villages. There were no changes proposed for Litlington. Once the plan had been agreed by full council it would go out to consultation. Cllr McCraith added that the District Council were working with Cambridge City Council as both councils would be affected by new developments.

08. RECREATION CENTRE/VILLAGE HALL IMPROVEMENTS

As reported under Item 3.1 Cllr Jones would be attending the next village hall committee meeting.

09. PLAY AREA /RECREATION GROUND/CENTRE

9.1 Play Area

9.1.1 Play Area Weekly Inspection Update

This was satisfactory.

9.1.2 Play Area Fence

A further quotation for a wooden replacement fence had been received. This was in addition to the quote for a wooden and metal fence advised at the last meeting. It was agreed that one further quote for a wooden replacement be sought. A decision on how to proceed could then be made at the next meeting. *-Clerk*

9.1.3 Litter Bins

Cllr Wiltshire to ask the football club of their intentions. *-Cllr Wiltshire*

9.2 Recreation Centre

9.2.1 Infra Red Heating –Update on Progress of order/installation

The infra red heaters would be dispatched by the manufacturers on receipt of payment. The electrician would arrange for their installation once received.

9.2.2 Purchase of Tables and Chairs

This was in hand. The village hall committee had now advised their requirement.

10. FINANCES

10.1 Payment of Accounts

K BAKER

Recreation Centre cleaning October 2015	£100.00
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HERSCHEL INFRARED LTD

Infra red heaters for Recreation Centre 9(inc. £314.50VAT)	£1887.00
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BASSINGBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

Contribution towards stationery	£ 16.66
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CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Rent for recreation ground land	£ 75.00
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E-ON

Recreation Centre electricity (inc. £3.70VAT)	£ 77.69
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CAMBRIDGE WATER COMPANY

Recreation ground water rate 1/5/15-31/10/15	£ 38.47
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STEWART BULLARD AND SON LTD

Recreation ground grasscutting 2015 (inc. £240.00VAT)	£1440.00
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Grass verge cutting 2015 (inc. £134.40VAT)	£ 806.40
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Church yard cutting 2015 (inc £63.00 Vat)	£ 378.00
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Malting Lane/Meeting Lane Footpath (inc.£32.00Vat)	£ 192.00	£2816.40
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TOTAL		£5011.22
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Agreed. PROPOSED Cllr Wiltshire SECONDED Cllr Williams
10.2 Budget/Precept 2016/17
 Discussions on this would commence at the December meeting.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR INFORMATION FOR URGENT CLERK ACTION

11.1 Overgrown Shrubbery

Cllr Williams again expressed her concern over the shrubbery obscuring the No Entry sign at the junction of South Street and Malting Lane. She was also concerned over visibility when exiting the recreation ground car park. Cllr Pipe agreed to cut the overhanging branches back.

-Cllr Pipe

11.2 Uneven Footpath

Cllr Williams advised that the dip in the footpath between South Street and Church Street had become deeper. She had fallen over recently when walking in the dark and was concerned over elderly residents. The Clerk to report to County Highways.

-Clerk

12. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Tuesday 8th December 2015 in the Chapel Schoolroom

There was no further business. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm

Chairman

Date