

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LITLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN
LITLINGTON VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 8th JANUARY 2019**

PRESENT: Cllr Bathmaker (Chairman), Cllr Williams, Cllr Barlow, Cllr Gray, Cllr Wiltshire, Cllr Sharp, Cllr Jones, Cllr McClelland
District Cllr Cathcart
Members of the Public 1

7.30 pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Pledger and County Cllr Kindersley

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

The Chairman and Cllr McClelland declared a non pecuniary interest under Item 11.3 as friends of the grant applicants.

03. OPEN FORUM –Comments and observations from Members of the Public

3.1 Recreation Centre refurbishment proposal

There was no further update. The Recreation Ground Management Committee would be meeting at the end of January.

3.2 Other issues

3.2.1 Church Street Drains

Concern was expressed over the drains between the Church and the shop most of which were blocked with leaf sludge. One was completely full. If there was a lot of rain they would not be functional. The Clerk to report on the County Council website. Cllr Barlow added that he was aware that the owners of Manor Farm had cleared the leaf sludge from both sides of the road on a couple of occasions.

-Clerk

04. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

4.1 District Council

Cllr Cathcart reported that a meeting of the District Council had been held the previous day. The main issue was the compilation of the next Local Development Plan which was likely to happen sooner rather than later with a focus on more housing now that there would be more parties involved. Cambridge City was to be one of the most likely cities in the country for growth. Many Councillors were hopeful that there would be no further housing requirement. The Chairman stated that as a village Litlington did not want to be in the speculative planning situation again. Cllr Cathcart believed that as there was a LDP currently in place the village should be fairly safe for the next 2-3 years.

The adopted Plan was then questioned. Cllr Cathcart advised that it was only a provisional sign off by the Inspector with the condition that a review take place as a matter of urgency.

Cllr Cathcart was not aware of any formal approach regarding the East/West railway. He felt now that the northern route was a possibility and would be consulted on maybe in the next six months.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Cathcart for his report.

4.2 County Council

Cllr Kindersley was not in attendance.

05. APPROVE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

5.1 Parish Council Meeting 11th December 2018

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

06. LIVE INITIATIVES/UPDATE ON RESOLUTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

6.1 Action Point Review of Parish Plan

Cllr Pledger was to prepare a list for circulation to Councillors.

6.2 Update on Clunch Pit Activity and Information Boards

*-Cllr
Pledger*

Cllr Jones reiterated that the boards were with him. He had asked the landowner if his contractor could dig the holes for the posts. It was agreed that there was no urgency for the installation.

6.3 Traffic Issues

6.3.1 LHI Scheme 2019/20 –Panel Meeting

The Chairman circulated the County Council feasibility report for the application submitted in July 2018. He confirmed that he would be attending a Panel meeting at the County Council offices on the 16th January to support the application which if successful would cost a total of around £10,000 with the Parish Council committed to £3,500. The Chairman added that the MVAS and Community Speedwatch kit would be usable if the speed limit was reduced as the equipment was capable of 30/40/50mph settings.

*-Cllr
Bathmaker*

6.3.2 Update on third party funding for speed reduction on Bassingbourn Road

It was agreed to wait until the outcome of the 2019/20 application was known before pursuing.

6.3.3 MVAS Update

The residents had the apparatus and could configure the sign which was currently on Royston Road. The equipment was capable of many functions. Cllr Williams suggested that the sign might be too high on the post.

The Chairman then requested permission for expenditure for four more sign fixing mounts for the posts. The cost for each was £45. These would eliminate the need for the mounts to be moved every time the MVAS was repositioned. The expenditure for the four mounts was agreed.

6.4 Defibrillator Training

The Clerk reported that Community Heartbeat had apologised for the lack of response regarding the original requested training date at the end of November 2018. This had been due to illness. The Clerk had now requested a training session on the 27th February and asked for confirmation asap so that this could be advertised around the village.

07. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received was discussed under agenda items.

08. PLAY AREA /RECREATION GROUND/CENTRE

8.1 Play Area update

Cllr Williams confirmed the equipment was satisfactory. Cllr Gray was keeping an electronic record although he had recently experienced some issues with his computer.

8.1.1 Quotation for repairs highlighted in 2018 RoSPA report

Cllr Gray was awaiting a quotation for all items highlighted on the report for repair. This should be available by the next meeting.

8.2 Recreation Centre Operational Issues

There were no issues raised. The Clerk was hoping to arrange a meeting of the Management Committee on the 30th January 2019.

8.3 Recreation Ground

There were no issues reported.

8.3.1 Visibility of Play Area

Cllr Gray had cut back some shrubbery and the Recreation Centre and play area were now more visible from the road.

Cllr Williams urged the recreation ground hedge cut before the Spring. A second quotation was suggested but it was agreed that as the same contractor, Mr Oliver, had provided best value over the years to give the contract to him again this time. Cllr Sharp agreed to follow up with Mr Oliver.

-Cllr Sharp

8.3.3 Proposal for a Tennis Court -Quotations

The Clerk had agreed to meet with the contractors to show them the recreation ground and the area where the tennis court could go. The contractors would be advised that the positioning could change if the recreation ground reorganisation went ahead.

09. REQUESTS FOR STREET FURNITURE

9.1 Direction Sign for Village Hall and Recreation Centre

The Chairman had spoken to the County Officer about the signs. It was pointed out that the direction sign for the Village Hall could be mounted on either the direction post or the lighting column. There was a query with a post for the Recreation Centre sign. It was suggested that this could be mounted on the same post as that for the visibility mirror. The Chairman agreed

to liaise with the County Council officer Andi Caddy.

9.2 Visibility Mirror and installation update

The Clerk had arranged for the contractor to source the pole.

9.3 Dog Waste Bin installation update

There was no further update.

9.4 Royston Road Nameplate

There was no further update.

10. PLANNING

10.1 Recreation Ground Lease

The Chairman advised that the rent was peppercorn which meant that there would be nothing to pay. The lease was for 99 years with a standard surrender clause.

It was agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman, Cllr Wiltshire sign the lease. The Chairman to liaise with the Solicitor over the statutory Declaration which would need to be taken to an independent Solicitor for swearing.

*-Cllr
Bathmaker*

11. FINANCES

11.1 Payment of Accounts

K BAKER

Recreation Centre cleaning December 2018	£108.00
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LITLINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Hire of hall July –December 2018	£118.00
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MRS L WILTSHIRE

Reimburse for Christmas celebration	£ 26.70
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MR G BARLOW

Reimburse for Christmas celebration (inc £2.58VAT)	£ 15.46
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BASSINGBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

Contribution towards stationery –mop heads	£17.98	
stationery	£31.71	£ 49.69

SLCC

Contribution towards membership 2019	£ 24.00
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MRS G BILES

Litterpicking October –December 2019	£ 200.20
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MRS S WALMESLEY

Clerks Salary & Expenses 1/10/18 -31/12/18	£1037.69
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HMRC

PAYE October –December 2018	£ 163.60
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TOTAL	£1743.34
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Agreed. PROPOSED Cllr Jones SECONDED Cllr Sharp

11.2 Budget/Precept 2019/20

Details circulated at the December meeting had been considered by Councillors. It was noted that there were healthy reserves. Councillors unanimously agreed the draft budget and also agreed that the Precept for 2019/20 would remain the same as the current year, £22,000. The Clerk to arrange the Demand for South Cambridgeshire District Council.

-Clerk

11.3 The Crown More Than A Pub initiative

The Chairman reported that some residents of the village had put together an application for a bursary to enable them to carry out a feasibility study on The Crown. The application was successful and the survey went ahead. The bursary now needed to be claimed within the next two weeks. There was though a problem that the payment could not be made into a personal bank account and, as there would not be enough time for the village group to set up a bank account, a request had been made to channel the money through the Parish Council. Once received this could then be directed to the parishioner who had financed the survey. The Chairman confirmed that this transaction would have no impact on the Parish Council finances. CAPALC advice had been sought and as long as everything was transparent they had no issue with the proposal.

A discussion took place on the survey and who would have access to the findings. Cllr Jones advised that as far as he was aware the report would be accessible to all including the Publican, although it would be owned by the village group. He added that the Publican had been accommodating at the time of the survey.

The Chairman then asked Councillors to vote on agreeing to the Parish Council bank account

being used to channel the bursary. The Chairman and Cllr McClelland abstained from the vote with all other Councillors in support that the Parish Council bank account could be used.

12. COMMUNICATION WITH RESIDENTS

12.1 Emergency Plan

Cllr Gray agreed to arrange a meeting with the working group to discuss the draft Plan he had circulated at the end of 2018.

-Cllr Gray

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR INFORMATION FOR URGENT CLERK ACTION

13.1 Christmas Tree

Cllr Barlow reported that there had been a few problems with the lights once the tree was up. The tree this time had been more of a problem to erect and suggestions had been made to plant a permanent tree. Cllr Gray advised that his was waiting for a quotation from a nursery for a 3.5 metre tree. Cllr McClelland would also obtain a costing. A discussion took place on lighting for 2019 where it was suggested additional lighting be purchased for the surrounding trees on the green. More substantial baubles were also suggested for pre-school.

13.2 The Crown

Cllr Gray advised that the publicans had stated that they would like some notice of any events held in the village so that they were prepared for additional customers. The Chairman confirmed that they were aware of the Carol Service on Christmas Eve, when the pub was crowded. Cllr Wiltshire advised that the premises were also very busy on Boxing Day.

13.3 30mph Flashing Sign

Cllr Williams advised that the sign was not working. The Chairman agreed to report on the Cambridgeshire County Council website.

-Cllr
Bathmaker

13.4 Village Hall Ceiling Tiles

Cllr McClelland had received concerns from some Pre-School parents over the village hall tiles and whether they were safety checked for asbestos. Cllr Williams confirmed that the tiles were safe but would bring the concerns to the attention of the Village Hall Committee.

-Cllr
Williams

13.5 Clunch Pit

Cllr McClelland advised that some of the areas identified in the past as areas of interest were overgrown with brambles. She suggested a working party to clear. Cllr Jones and Cllr Barlow offered their help.

-Cllr
Jones/Cllr
Barlow

13.6 Older Parishioners

Cllr Sharp expressed concern over some residents of the village who did not have any help. Cllr McClelland reminded Councillors that there was a scheme advertised by Cambridgeshire County Council, with some funding available, to help vulnerable people. Cllr Cathcart added that there was also a South Cambridgeshire District Council working group looking into loneliness and isolation in villages.

13.7 St Catherine's Church Project

The Chairman had been made aware by the Churchwarden that an application had been made to the South Cambridgeshire District Council Community Chest for a grant towards the toilet and kitchen project which was estimated to cost £61,000. Cllr Sharp added that this high cost was due to there being an absence of a sewage and water system on the land. Cllr Cathcart advised that he was also aware of the request and would support the application as long as it didn't affect the fabric of the Church.

14. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING- 12th February 2019

There was no further business. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 pm

Chairman

Date