

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

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

7.15 pm PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Jones and Cllr Gray

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

There were no interests declared.

03. OPEN FORUM

There were no issues raised.

04. TO CONSIDER PLANNING/TREE APPLICATIONS

4.To consider Planning/ Applications –

4.1Planning Ref S/0827/19/FL

Fairview, Royston Road –Detached dwelling house with garage, front entrance gates and electric kiosk

(Mr & Mrs Saunders)

It was noted that the proposed dwelling was outside of the village envelope

Recommendation –Object

Outside the village envelope

4.2Planning Ref S/0784/19/LB

Grove House, Middle Street –Repairs to the base of the external walls, and installation of a French drain to the external perimeter. Removal of external cement based rough cast render and replacement with lath and lime render. Removal of the modern celcon blocks between the studs of the front lounge wall. Insertion of insulation and new lath and lime internal plaster. The replacement and repair of windows and front door. Replacement of the lime plastering to the inglenook fireplace recess brickwork.

(Snow Walker Surveyors)

Recommendation -Support

4.3Planning Ref S/0996/19/FL

Clover House, Church Street –Conversion of attached garage into habitable use

(Mr & Mrs T Bond)

Recommendation –Support

05. UPDATE ON LEASE FOR RECREATION GROUND

There was still a query with the Declaration which the Solicitor was chasing. Councillors expressed their concern at the delay in the completion of this lease and felt that the delay could jeopardize the deal. As a matter of urgency the Chairman agreed to speak to the Solicitor.

*-Cllr
Bathmaker*

06. OTHER PLANNING ISSUES

6.1 SCDC Call for Sites

Cllr Kindersley had circulated his monthly report which included notification that five sites in Litlington had been put forward in the latest call for sites. Cllr Sharp added that these were all the County owned sites in the village.

7.30 pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

There were no interests declared.

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

3.1 Recreation Centre refurbishment proposal

Cllr Wiltshire reported that the project was no further forward. There was a lack of interest from the users of the recreation centre to join the committee, which currently only had five members, who did not have the time to put the proposal together. The Clerk explained that a proposal, including costings, timings etc needed to be compiled so that a leaflet could go to all homes in the village asking for support to continue with plans. Ideally a working group of interested residents needed to be formed to investigate loans and progress this. Cllr Pledger suggested that the Parish Council pay for someone to lead the project and to get the consultation underway. It was noted that the appointment process would still be a task for someone to deal with.

There was currently over £20,000 allocated to the project which was more than ever before and should be enough to get the project underway.

Cllr Wiltshire advised that the Management Committee was going to arrange for the proposal drawings to be available at the Annual Parish Meeting to try and get some support from residents. The Chairman offered to make enquiries with his contacts regarding help with pushing this forward.

*-Cllr
Bathmaker*

3.2 Other issues

There were no issues raised.

04. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

4.1 District Council

Cllr Cathcart referred to the new Local Development Plan which was touched on at the previous Planning meeting. He added that the call for sites had now closed and there had been a lot more sites put forward than for the last plan. It now had to be established if there was a housing need and if this was demonstrated then all the applications would be assessed. It would probably be the end of 2019 once this was done. There was likely to be a number of policies rewritten as well. Cllr Cathcart added that this was a joint plan with Cambridge City so the district view would be significantly diluted.

Cllr Sharp asked if there was any indication how much land had been put forward. Cllr Cathcart replied that the applications were being logged so more details should be known by the next meeting.

Cllr Cathcart then reported that the District Council was carrying out a review of processes which included shared services and new technology. Difficulty was being had recruiting skilled staff.

A meeting had been held with the Planning Director to discuss the East West Rail proposals. He indicated that the project would probably take a lot longer than indicated once a route was chosen. The Chairman advised that he had been trying to liaise with other neighbouring villages to get a collective response.

A discussion then took place on the anti social behaviour of some District Council tenants in the village. Cllr Cathcart advised that there was an officer who dealt with these cases and he was happy to start the process to address this. He added that it would take a long time.

The Clerk was also asked to write to the Housing Officer expressing concern over the reports.

-Clerk

The Chairman thanked Cllr Cathcart for his report.

4.2 County Council

Cllr Kindersley was asked about the Hertfordshire County Councillor report that the right turn junction across the A505 from Litlington was to close. Cllr Kindersley confirmed that this was one remaining element from the previous proposal which would need to go through the consultation process. He added that the crossing would still be open turning into Litlington from Royston. Cllr Wiltshire suggested that it would save a lot of money if the shrubbery on

the central reservation was cut back to help with visibility. Cllr Kindersley agreed to relay the request to Hertfordshire County Council. -Cllr Kindersley

He then reported that Cambridgeshire County Council was to take a leading national role in supporting the Governments nationwide rollout of Family Safeguarding. This was because Cambridgeshire had been rated as 'requires improvement' by Ofsted.

The County Council had also commissioned AWTG to carry out a survey of mobile phone coverage in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Cllr Kindersley added that this was much patchier than everybody first thought.

The 'dragon patcher' was currently in the area attending to potholes.

Cllr Kindersley concluded his report by advising that the issue of parking on the verges of Odsey continued. There had been numerous meetings with the landowner but nothing had happened. Cllr Kindersley had checked with the County Council to see what could be done but as there were no restrictions on the road none could be implemented on the verge. This was very frustrating.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Kindersley for his report.

05. APPROVE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

5.1 Planning/Parish Council Meeting 12th March 2019

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 Update on Clunch Pit Activity and Information Boards

Cllr Barlow reported that the information boards were due to be installed within the next couple of weeks. He added that trial bikes, without number plates, were again using the land around the pit. The Landowner had spoken to the bike riders with no success. It was acknowledged that video evidence was needed.

6.1.1 Request for a seat

Cllr Williams asked for a seat at the top of the pit where a lot of walkers would appreciate somewhere to sit. Cllr Barlow expressed his concern over rubbish that would be left there. He added that he had recently collected two bags. After discussion a vote was taken with the majority of Councillors agreeing that a seat should not be pursued at this time.

6.2 Traffic Issues

6.2.1 MVAS Update

The Chairman reported that there had been a few issues with the equipment mainly the battery going flat. The team needed to make sure that the battery pack was changed every four weeks. The data obtained from the equipment showed that the sign was having a really positive effect. A discussion took place on the brackets for the other poles which needed to be purchased. It was agreed that the Clerk order four brackets at a cost of up to £300 plus VAT. The sign could then be moved around the village every four weeks. -Clerk

6.2.2 LHI 2019/20 Result of Panel Meeting

The application had been unsuccessful. Councillors agreed that the process to reduce the speed limit on Bassingbourn Road, funded by the parish, should begin. It was agreed that the Clerk complete the County Council application form and submit with the payment. -Clerk

6.2.3 Traffic Survey/Review of One Way System

Councillors were reminded of the site meeting with County Highways in 2018 where two way traffic was suggested to help with the one way speeding issue. Cllr Pledger suggested that instead of a traffic survey a traffic flow survey be carried out. This would give a better understanding of the traffic flow through the village.

It was agreed that the Clerk investigate and report back at the next meeting.

6.3 Annual Parish Meeting Agenda 14th May 2019

A draft agenda had been copied to Councillors. This was discussed. Cllr Barlow reported that he would not be in a position to get a Parish Post out by the end of April so suggested that an A5 flyer be printed and distributed with the Prospect. Clerk to arrange. As in previous years the Parish Council AGM would take place before the Parish Meeting on the same evening. -Clerk

07. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received was discussed under agenda items.

08. PLAY AREA /RECREATION GROUND/CENTRE**8.1 Play Area update**

Cllr Pledger requested that some cable ties be put along the top of the small swings to stop birds from landing. She added that the seats of the swings were in a bad state of repair and suggested that they be replaced and/or a swing unit with a junior swing and cradle swings be installed. A discussion took place on the position with Section 106 funding as there had been a few individual houses built in the village recently. Cllr Cathcart agreed to find out the current position from the District Council Section 106 officer.

-Cllr
Cathcart

8.1.1 Quotation for repairs highlighted in 2018 RoSPA report

The quotation had not been received and therefore an order was yet to be placed for the agreed repairs to equipment. Cllr Williams expressed her concern over the delay as the 2019 RoSPA inspection was due. The Clerk suggested that it might be better now to wait until the latest report had been received and get a quotation then to include any additions. The Clerk would follow up with the contractors.

-Clerk

8.2 Recreation Centre Operational Issues

A committee meeting of the Management Committee had taken place before the Parish Council meeting. The next meeting, the AGM, would be held on the 11th June 2019.

8.3 Recreation Ground

There were no issues reported.

8.3.1 Proposal for a Tennis Court –Quotations

Cllr Pledger to follow up with the companies on a list she had forwarded to the Clerk.

-Cllr
Pledger

09. REQUESTS FOR STREET FURNITURE**9.1 Direction Sign for Village Hall and Recreation Centre**

The signs were supposed to have been installed at the same time as the MVAS posts. The Clerk to contact the County Project Manager.

-Clerk

9.2 Visibility Mirror and installation update

The Clerk had arranged for the contractor to source and install the pole. There was no further update.

9.3 Dog Waste Bin installation update

The Clerk reported on a meeting with the South Cambridgeshire District Council Commercial Team Leader who had agreed that a dual purpose bin could be sited opposite the Church at the entrance to the footpath on Steeple Morden Road. The cost for this would be £380 plus VAT. This was agreed. Clerk to arrange.

-Clerk

9.4 Royston Road Nameplate

There was no further update.

10. VILLAGE OPEN SPACES**10.1 Update on Footpath Leaflet**

The Clerk had distributed copies of the footpath leaflet produced in 2001. She advised that there was a box of the leaflets in storage. Cllr Barlow advised that there was some confusion shown by walkers on which were official footpaths and the leaflet would help publicise them. He would arrange for an item in the Parish Post and suggested that the leaflets be made available in the shop.

-Cllr
Barlow

10.2 Xmas Tree Order

Cllr Barlow suggested that the best place for the tree was in the centre of the green where it would not affect neighbouring residents. The Clerk reminded Councillors that the green was in the conservation area and suggested that the District Council Tree Officer be consulted on the agreed species. Cllr Barlow agreed to make contact.

-Cllr
Barlow

10.3 Wild Flower Planting

A discussion took place on possible planting places. It was suggested around the speed signs and village entrance would be suitable. Planting on the verges outside the village entrances was not considered a good idea as the Parish Council had no control over when the verges were cut. Contractors used by the Parish Council around the village would be asked to respect the planting. Cllr Pledger advised of a new Government Pollinating Strategy which had advice on which plants encouraged pollination. Cllr Wiltshire and Cllr Barlow would investigate and report back.

-Cllr
Wiltshire &
Cllr
Barlow

11. FINANCES11.1 Payment of Accounts

K BAKER

Recreation Centre cleaning March 2019 £108.00

MRS S WALMESLEY

Clerks Expenses 1/1/19-31/3/198 £ 25.30

HALES PRINTERS

East/West Rail village meeting leaflet £ 20.00

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ACRE

Membership 2019 £ 57.00

TOTAL

£ 210.30

PROPOSED Cllr Barlow SECONDED Cllr Williams

11.2 Appointment of Internal Auditor 2018/19

It was agreed that LGS Services be appointed as in previous years. The Clerk to arrange the audit. -Clerk

12. COMMUNICATION WITH RESIDENTS12.1 Emergency Plan

Cllr Gray was compiling a draft based on discussions with the working group.

12.2 Next Parish PostCllr Barlow asked for copy to be with him by the 17th May so that the Post was ready to go out with the Prospect at the end of the month.**13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR INFORMATION FOR URGENT CLERK ACTION**13.1 Village Hall Sewer Problem

Cllr Williams advised that there was an issue with tree roots, from parish trees, growing into the sewer. Anglian Water had been out to investigate. She would check the position with the Village Hall insurance company and report back. -Cllr Williams

13.2 The Crown Public House

It was noted that there had been some concerns raised over The Crown and some customers. It was noted that residents who had been keen to support the pub when it reopened were now staying away. A discussion took place on the current management. The Chairman advised that feedback should be made to the tenant.

13.3 Footpath Nettles

Cllr Pledger referred to the nettles on the path between Malting Lane and Meeting Lane and offered to arrange for them to be sprayed. Cllr Sharp agreed to purchase the weed killer. -Cllr Pledger & Sharp

13.4 Recreation Ground Gate

Cllr Sharp had agreed to remove the gate and arrange for the repair. Cllr Williams would take the lock off so that the gate could be moved. -Cllr Williams & Sharp

13.5 Unsocial Driving

Cllr Pledger expressed concern over some drivers using the recreation ground for football matches speeding, and driving the wrong way, around the one way system trying to find the recreation ground. This would be brought to the attention of the Football Clubs using the ground.

13.6 Highway maintenance

Cllr Barlow reported that a District Council road sweeper had been through the village. He added that the blocked drain on Church Street was scheduled to be cleared 12 weeks from February 2019.

13.7 Dog Fouling

It was advised that dog fouling had increased on South Street. Cllr Wiltshire would highlight this with the florescent spray. -Cllr Wiltshire

14. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING- 14th May 2019 (AGM)

There was no further business. The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 pm

Chairman

Date