

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF LITLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN
LITLINGTON VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY 12TH MAY 2015**

PRESENT: Cllr Bathmaker (Chairman), Cllr Baker, Cllr Williams, Cllr Jones, Cllr Wiltshire, Cllr Pledger,
Cllr Sharp, Cllr Pipe
District Cllr Mc McCraith
Members of the Public: 6

7.30 pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

01. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Pipe opened the meeting and asked for nominations for Chairman. He advised that he did not want to stand for re-election. Cllr Jones then proposed Cllr Bathmaker, which was seconded by Cllr Sharp. There were no other nominations. Cllr Bathmaker accepted the position and thanked Councillors.

02. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr McClelland, District Cllr Cathcart and County Cllr Dent

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

Cllr Jones expressed an interest under Item 8.2 as a close neighbour.

04. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Cllr Pledger proposed Cllr Wiltshire which was seconded by Cllr Jones. There were no other nominations. Cllr Wiltshire was elected Vice Chairman.

05. OPEN FORUM

5.1 Motorbikes on Clunch Pit

Councillors were asked about the motorbike signs discussed at the last meeting and how many were to be purchased. The locations were discussed and agreed that there should be an additional sign on Byway 11 near the clunch pit.

Cllr Jones reported that he had been liaising with the District Council officer, Emma Knight, over noise pollution and had also been speaking with George Hay an officer from Cambridgeshire County Council. They were to arrange a joint meeting on site. Ms Knight had also been exploring options under anti social behaviour.

Councillors were then advised that a stock car was on the top of the clunch pit at one stage. A nearby resident had spoken to the driver who advised that he had travelled along the Stret from Ashwell and the clunch pit was advertised on line. The Chairman and Cllr Jones confirmed that they had in the past looked on different sites to see if the clunch pit was mentioned but could not find any reference. Councillors discussed how the car could have come through and it was advised that the Stret was only gated at the Litlington end. The landowner at the Steeple Morden end continuously pointed out the restrictions on the Stret but in most cases was ignored. Residents confirmed that complaints had been registered with the police and crime numbers obtained.

5.2 Update on Refurbishment of Recreation Centre

Mrs Williams, who was steering the refurbishment proposal, produced more information on costings requested at the April meeting. She advised that a petition had been compiled and there were a lot of parishioner signatures supporting improvements adding that Whaddon village hall had received over 100% increase in their bookings following their refurbishment. The Chairman stated that the information gathered was very comprehensive and asked how this would compete with the Bassingbourn Sports Centre. Mrs Williams stated that the plan was for the building not only to be used for sport. Cllr Wiltshire stated that the Bassingbourn Sports Centre was run by the village college and there was very little provision to use the centre if you were a member of the public. The sports centre was also closed during the weekend. The Chairman advised that this needs to be demonstrated to get the support of the District and County Councils. A discussion then took place on the funding of an upgraded

centre through the additional council tax. A discussion also took place on the Parish Plan which had asked the question that if the village hall or recreation centre became economically unviable whether one single building would be agreeable. Out of the 158 households that responded to the question 121 were in favour. Cllr Jones pointed out that this was a very specific question. Cllr Pipe suggested that some thought be given to how a smaller scale improvement could be made which Mrs Williams agreed to look into.

Cllr Pledger advised that there was grant funding available and offered to help Mrs Williams investigate the sources. Cllr McCraith added that before grants were considered the first question would be whether the project had the support of the community and how much financial contribution the Parish Council would be willing to contribute themselves.

The proposal was on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting on the 20th May 2015 which residents of the village were urged to attend to show their support. Mrs Williams would give a presentation there.

06. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

6.1 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting dated 14th April 2015

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

6.2 Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meeting dated 5th May 2015

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

07. MATTERS ARISING

7.1 Highway Issues

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

Cllr Sharp advised that residents were still waiting to meet with the Highway Officer to finalise where the speed cushions would be placed. It was noted that the lights at the junction were being worked on.

7.1.2 Speedwatch Signs

The Clerk had received an e-mail, copied to the Chairman, confirming that the speedwatch data was being chased from the Police. She would urge again.

-Clerk

7.2 Village Cage Wooden Posts

The five oak posts were to be ordered at a cost of £106.25 plus VAT. The company, Huntingdon Timber, wanted payment when the order was placed but they did not accept cheques. It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange to pay through her bank account and then claim the money back.

-Clerk

7.3 Update on Parish Plan

Cllr Jones had prepared a snap shot from the results concentrating on the village hall and recreation centre. He advised that there was masses of very good data and hoped to have a better analysis for the Annual Parish Meeting. Details of the snap shot which showed results with pie and bar charts were distributed to Councillors. He explained briefly each analysis and advised that Cllr Pledger had offered to help to progress the results.

*-Cllr
Jones &
Cllr
Pledger*

7.4 McDonalds Litter

There was no further update.

7.5 Annual Parish Meeting 2015

The Clerk had put notices on the notice boards. She queried whether the latest Parish Post had been distributed as a notice of the meeting was in there. The Chairman confirmed the Post would be distributed as soon as possible and asked for help.

-Cllrs

7.6 Purchase of Tables and Chairs

The Clerk advised that the number of tables and chairs needed was too small for the company suggested to supply. She was seeking other companies.

-Clerk

08. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 SCDC Tree Work Application –South View, Middle Street

There were no issues raised. Clerk to advise the District Council Tree Officer.

-Clerk

8.2 SCDC Tree Work Application –The Old Vicarage, Church Street

Cllr Williams expressed concern over the wall if the sycamore trees were felled. It was stated that the wall was the responsibility of the applicant. There were no other issues raised. Clerk to advise the District Council Tree Officer.

-Clerk

09. ELECTION OF COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

GRASSCUTTING/HIGHWAYS –Cllr Pipe
 PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT –Cllr Williams.
 POLICE LIAISON –Cllr Sharp
 RECREATION CENTRE –Cllr Sharp, Cllr Baker & Cllr Wiltshire
 CEMETERY –Cllr Williams.
 PLANNING –Cllr Pipe
 VILLAGE HALL –Cllr Baker
 PARISH PATHS –Mr Geoff Barlow
 TREE WARDEN –Cllr Jones
 WEBSITE –Cllr Pledger, Cllr Jones

Cllr Pledger and Cllr Jones offered to work together on the website as Cllr Pledger did not have the correct operating system. The Clerk advised that from July 2015 the Parish Council were required to put more information on the website, including the Financial Annual return. She referred to an e-mail forwarded by CAPALC which suggested a process for setting up a website for those Parish Councils currently without one. This was another requirement. The Clerk would forward the details again to Cllr Jones and Cllr Pledger.

PARISH POST LIAISON –Cllr McClelland, Cllr Bathmaker
 MOBILE WARDEN –Mrs Brown, Cllr Sharp and Mrs Bright
 PARISH PLAN –Cllr Jones, Cllr Pledger
 COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH –Cllr Bathmaker
 LITLINGTON TOWNLANDS CHARITY –Cllr Sharp, Cllr Biles and Mrs Lorraine Baker were up for re-election. This would be an agenda item for confirmation at the next meeting.

10. REVIEW OF INSURANCE SCHEDULE

Cllr Pipe agreed to review the schedule. There had been a litter bin purchase during the year. The Clerk confirmed the insurance premium was the same as in 2014/15.

11. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS11.1 District Council

Cllr McCraith reported that the Local Plan inspection continued. The conservatives had taken three seats on South Cambridgeshire District Council in the recent local election. Cllr Sharp asked whether the planning officers had a view on the latest planning application for Highfield Farm. Cllr McCraith stated that it was early days. He was then asked whether there had been any feedback from the planners on what they would be willing to allow on the Horse and Groom site. Cllr Cathcart had offered to follow this up. Cllr McCraith was not aware of any response but agreed to also speak to the planners.

*-District
Cllrs*

12. PLAY AREA/RECREATION GROUND/CENTRE12.1 RoSPA Report 2015

The report had been received and circulated. As in previous years comments had been made about the mound which had resulted in an overall high score for the area. Cllr Williams would arrange for the grass and weeds in the mound area to be cut and also for a hand cut to the hedge. Cllr Pipe advised that he had cut back the grass around the big swings and confirmed that other points raised in the report were in hand.

12.2 Play Area Weekly Inspection Update

Cllr Williams confirmed that the weekly inspections were taking place.

13. CLUNCH PIT LAND

This item had been discussed under Open Forum Item 6.1.

14. FINANCES14.1 Payment of Accounts

K BAKER

Recreation Centre cleaning 12/4,19/4,26/4,4/5	£100.00	
Cleaning materials	£ 3.59	£103.59
CAPALC		
Membership 2015/16		£266.30
E-ON		
Recreation Centre electricity (inc. £144.29VAT)		£865.75

PLAYSAFETY LTD	
RoSPA Inspection 2015 (inc. £8.40VAT)	£128.40
AON UL LIMITED	
Renewal of insurance policy 2015/16	£1112.71
CAMBRIDGE WATER COMPANY	
Recreation Centre water November –April 2015	£ 35.85
BASSINGBOURN PARISH COUNCIL	
Contribution towards stationery	£ 23.26
MRS S WALMESLEY (HUNTINGDON TIMBER)	
Five oak posts for village cage green (inc. £21.25VAT)	£ 127.50
TOTAL	£2663.36

PROPOSED Cllr Williams SECONDED Cllr Wiltshire

14.2 Annual Audit 2014/15-Agreement of Accounts and Statement of Assurance

Copies of the accounts and Annual Governance Statement were copied to Councillors. The original Annual Return was still with the Internal Auditor but Councillors agreed that the Statement of Accounts was correct and the Governance Statement could be signed with all sections showing Yes once the Internal Audit had been completed.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR INFORMATION OR URGENT ACTION OF THE CLERK

15.1 Drains

Cllr Baker advised that she had been asked about routine drain clearing which was no longer undertaken by the County Council. It was suggested that if there was a problem it should be reported on the County Council website.

15.2 Community Right To Bid

Cllr Pledger suggested that consideration should be given to registering the Crown and village shop. This had briefly been discussed before but no action agreed. The Clerk would add this to the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

-Clerk

15.3 Fenland Dog Fouling Initiative

Cllr Pledger reported that she had seen an article about dog fouling where the dog mess not cleared up was sprayed with florescent environmentally friendly paint. This drew attention to the mess hopefully embarrassing the offenders. She suggested this could be tried in Litlington and agreed to obtain more details from Fenland District Council.

*-Cllr
Pledger*

15.4 A505 Bio Plant

Cllr Sharp reported that he had visited the plant and been given a tour of how it worked and costs involved. He added that the village were going to experience a smell from the effluent spread on the fields when the wind was in a certain direction. He added that the farmers had a dispensation not to incorporate the effluent on standing crops.

16. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING –Tuesday 9th June 2014

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 PM

Chairman

Date