

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LITLINGTON PARISH
COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY ON TUESDAY 8th
DECEMBER 2020 at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Cllr Wiltshire (Chairman), Cllr Sharp, Cllr Williams, Cllr Gray, Cllr Parker, Cllr Bathmaker, Cllr Barlow, Cllr Jones
District Cllr Cathcart (part)
Members of the public 0

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Pledger and County Cllr Kindersley

2 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS RELATED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr Parker declared a Pecuniary interest under item 12.1.1 as the landowner.

3 OPEN FORUM –Comments and observations from Members of the Public

There were no members of the public in attendance.

4 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

4.1 District Council

Cllr Cathcart reported that the District Council was looking at their finances for the next financial year. The council was in a reasonable financial position. The Government was carrying out an assessment and there were likely to be resources cut back. The District Council continued to engage with all authorities over the Covid situation and there was a briefing for Councillors every fortnight. As everyone was aware the authority was currently in tier 2. Cllr Cathcart added that the scattering of villages helped keep the infection down although the overall figures included Peterborough and Cambridge City which had a higher number of cases. Progress was being made with the preparation for the next Local Development Plan. Sites put forward through the Call for Sites were being assessed for a consultation in 2021. There were some concerns raised that local councils would not have the opportunity to comment before that consultation and so at the last District Council meeting a motion was passed to allow communities to have a say before the final list was agreed. Cllr Cathcart added that the biggest single issue was water availability. There had been a proposal for a whole new town locally submitted to Planners. This was not in the Local Development Plan and the land had not been put forward in the Call for Sites. Cllr Cathcart wanted Councillors to be aware of this, as it was a concrete proposal, which Cllr Cathcart thought was unlikely to be successful.

4.2 County Council

Cllr Kindersley had circulated a report but had sent his apologies.
The Chairman thanked Cllr Cathcart for his update.

5 APPROVE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

5.1 Parish Council Meeting 10th November 2020

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

6 LIVE INITIATIVES/UPDATE ON RESOLUTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

6.1 New Website Investigations

Cllr Bathmaker reported that he had found two contractors who would be able to put a new website for around £500. He confirmed that both had been involved with website design before. It was agreed that Cllr Bathmaker pursue formal quotations with examples of other websites designed.

-Cllr Bathmaker

7 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Ivy on Recreation Ground Telephone Pole

Concern had been raised over ivy on the telephone pole which had overgrown the connections of the telephone lines. BT Engineers had pointed out that if the lines were damaged the parish would be charged.

The Clerk advised that this issue had been raised previously. She had tried to access the pole to cut back the ivy from the bottom but the access from the road or the recreation ground was too difficult. Cllr Gray and Cllr Barlow agreed to investigate the cutting back of the ivy from the base to allow it to die back.

-Cllrs Gray & Barlow

8 PLAY AREA /RECREATION GROUND/CENTRE

8.1 Play Area

There were no issues raised.

8.2 Recreation Centre

The Centre had reopened following the recent month long lockdown. There was still an issue with a couple of the heaters which would be repaired over the Christmas break.

8.2.1 Mound

8.2.1.1 Purchase and Storage of Equipment

Cllr Gray proposed that three shovels at £20.98 each be purchased for use on the mound. These would belong to the village. This was seconded by Cllr Williams with all Councillors in agreement. Cllr Gray agreed to arrange the purchase. He also suggested that once purchased the shovels be stored at the user's home until no longer needed.

-Cllr Gray

8.2.1.2 Request for more soil

As agreed at a previous meeting Cllr Gray had sent an e-mail to the people offering top soil but had received no response.

9 PROPOSED FEASIBILITY TENDER FOR THE VILLAGE HALL AND RECREATION CENTRE

9.1 Update on Land Registry

The Solicitor had applied to Land Registry for registration of the land based on a valuation of £300,000. The cost of registration £200.00.

9.1.1 Agreement to Purchase Land Registry Compliant Plan for £65.00

To accompany the application a map was needed. Councillors agreed the £65.00 additional cost.

10 UPDATE ON TRAFFIC/STREET FURNITURE

10.1 Visibility Mirror post installation update

The Clerk had been told by another contractor that if she sourced the post then he would arrange the installation.

10.2 Update on PFHI South Street Junction

The Local Highway Officer had forwarded the specification on which he was obtaining quotations and asked for feedback. Cllr Bathmaker suggested a sign highlighting that there was no footway entering South Street. He would co-ordinate a response with the Clerk.

-Cllr Bathmaker & Clerk

11 FINANCES

11.1 Payment of Accounts

OPUS ENERGY	
Streetlighting October 2020 (inc £8.28VAT)	£173.80

CAMBRIDGE WATER BUSINESS	
Recreation Centre water May-October 2020	£39.26
COMMUNITY HEARTBEAT TRUST	
Annual support year 4 (inc £25.20VAT)	£151.20
STANLEY TEE LLP	
Land Registry Fee and map	£ 265.00
SHIRE TREES LTD	
Work to Robina Tree (inc £37.00 VAT)	£105.98
PPL	
Licence for Recreation Centre 2018/19 (inc £17.66 VAT)	£105.98
GEOFF BARLOW	
Christmas Tree lights (inc £9.83VAT)	£58.98
PJ ROBINSON	
Repair to Rec Centre heaters (inc £12.76VAT)	£76.36
TOTAL	£1092.78

AGREED. Proposed Cllr Bathmaker, Seconded Cllr Gray

11.2 Precept/Budget 2021/22

The Clerk had provided details of receipts and payments against budget during the current financial year. She reminded Councillors that a decision on the precept amount would need to be made at the January 2021 meeting. It was noted that a replacement piece of equipment was needed in the play area. Cllr Williams advised that parents had requested a replacement see-saw. Cllr Gray offered to investigate replacement equipment with costings for the next meeting.

-Cllr Gray

12 PLANNING/TREE WORK APPLICATIONS

12.1 Planning Applications

12.1.1 Planning Ref 20/04809/PR04809/PR106A (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

Highfield Farm. Royston Road –Prior approval for the erection of an agricultural building for a grain store
(Mr R Parker)

12.2 Tree Work

Cllr Barlow confirmed that the tree work notifications were up to date.

The urgent work identified in the tree survey had been completed. The work identified to be carried out in the next phase was discussed. Cllr Barlow agreed to review the report from the survey and obtain quotations. He added that the Lime trees in the closed Churchyard were highlighted as a concern.

-Cllr Barlow

13 COMMUNICATION WITH RESIDENTS

13.1 Coronavirus Volunteer Group

The Clerk reported that she had been made aware that residents of Litlington were going to the Care and Share Food Bank in Bassingbourn. She had agreed with the Chairman to give £100 from the SCDC Covid grant to Bassingbourn to help with the cost of the additional provisions.

Representatives from The Crown had also started up a Care and Share Food Bank for residents. Litlington Townlands Charity had donated £100 to the Litlington scheme so there was now a choice.

Cllr Sharp advised that the Townlands Trustees had also agreed a donation of £20 in vouchers to be used in the village shop for households with residents over 70 years old.

14 VILLAGE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION 2020

14.1 Christmas Lights

Cllr Barlow advised that the lights had now arrived. It was agreed that a working party would meet on the village green at 9.30am the next Saturday to put the lights on the tree and also decorations made by Litlington Pre-School.

14.2 Update on Living Advent Calendar

It was noted that the plan of the windows was on the Litlington Live Facebook page. It was advised that not all residents had access to the internet and therefore did not have

this information. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Pledger, obtain a copy of the map for display in the village shop.
-Clerk

15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR INFORMATION OR URGENT ATTENTION BY THE CLERK

15.1 Recreation Ground Hedge

Cllr Williams reminded Councillors of the annual cut of the hedge. Cllr Sharp agreed to contact the contractor to arrange before the Spring.
-Cllr Sharp

15.2 Escaped Sheep

There had been sheep escaping onto the road from surrounding fields. Cllr Parker confirmed that he would be the best point of contact as he would then contact the shepherd. He added that the sheep were escaping all the time.

15.3 Sheen Farm site

Cllr Kindersley had reported that the site had been sold to a property developer. Cllr Bathmaker expressed his disappointment that the County Council had decided not to progress the development. He added that if the developer wanted to change the mix of housing they would have to go back through the planning process.

15.4 Recreation Centre Sign

Cllr Williams reported that the sign could not be seen from the road as it was covered with ivy. Cllr Barlow and Cllr Gray agreed to look when they were investigating the telephone pole.
-Cllrs Barlow & Gray

16 DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

12th January 2021

17 CLOSE OF MEETING

There was no further business. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25 pm