

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LITLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN
LITLINGTON VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 13th MARCH 2018**

PRESENT: Cllr Bathmaker (Chairman), Cllr Pipe, Cllr Williams, Cllr Barlow, Cllr Sharp, Cllr Wiltshire, Cllr Jones, Cllr Pledger, District Cllr McCraith, District Cllr Cathcart
Members of the Public 3

7.30 pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr McClelland, County Cllr Kindersley

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/Village Hall improvements

Cllr Wiltshire reported that there had been a meeting of the Recreation Centre Management committee on the 8th March. An update on the refurbishment project had been requested along with an update on bookings. This was still awaited and Cllr Wiltshire and the Clerk were urging a response.

3.2 Traffic Problems

3.3 Bassingbourn Road Parking Update

There was no further update from the South Cambridgeshire District Council officers.

3.4 Village Hall Play Area Update

Lorraine Baker, Chairman Litlington Pre-School, had submitted a request form, with details of seating for the area with costings. This had been circulated to Councillors. Mrs Baker advised that the equipment was made out of recycled materials similar to the bench outside The Crown. A discussion took place on insurance. The Clerk advised that when permission was given to Pre-school to fence the area they agreed to insure the play equipment in the area on the Pre-School insurance schedule. It was not clear whether this was still the case. Cllr Williams confirmed that the play equipment was not on the village hall schedule. This would be investigated.

After further discussion it was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Pipe, to purchase 2 junior picnic tables and 1 pass through seat and table at a total cost of £1145 plus VAT. All Councillors in agreement. The Clerk to place the order.

-Clerk

3.5 Other issues

There were no other issues raised.

04. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

4.1 County Council

Cllr Kindersley had circulated his monthly report.

4.2 District Council

Cllr Cathcart reported that the Local Development Plan was approaching finalisation. The response to the consultation on modifications had been submitted to the Inspector and she had been asked to provide a date for her final report. This would hopefully be in late Spring.

South Cambridgeshire District Council was increasingly relying on the housing development company to supplement the council tax. Cllr Cathcart stated that concerns had been raised, by some members, that as there was no long term expertise there was a considerable degree of risk although the company was starting to make a profit. Cllr McCraith agreed that the District Council were not experts in that field but would be contributing over £1million this year to subsidise the council tax. A discussion took place on how the housing development company operated.

The Chairman thanked the District Councillors for their update.

05. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 13th February 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

This was in hand.

6.2 Update on Clunch Pit Activity and TRO

There was no further update available.

6.3 Update on Defibrillator Purchase

The defibrillator had been received and was awaiting installation. One quotation had been received and the Clerk and Cllr Williams were pursuing others.

*-Cllr
Williams &
Clerk*

6.4 Traffic Issues

6.4.1 Royston Road

There was no further update. The Clerk reported that County Cllr Kindersley had advised that the LHI bid for 2018/19, for the installation of vehicle activated signs, had been successful.

6.4.2 One Way System Traffic Survey

A discussion took place on the best way to obtain a survey so that evidence could be given to support/dismiss the suggestion of two way traffic through the village. Cllr McCraith suggested that a survey should involve parking as there were issues with parked cars on the roads around the one way system. It was also suggested that monitoring of traffic movements through the village would provide the information needed. It was agreed that Cllr Pledger and the Clerk would seek advice from the County Highway Officers.

*-Cllr
Pledger &
Clerk*

6.4.3 Bassingbourn Road –evidence for LHI 2019/20

The Chairman reiterated comments made at the last meeting. Data from the traffic survey carried out in 2016 would be revisited and also the petition organised by Cllr Pledger. Better separation between pedestrians and traffic was suggested by a Highway Officer at a recent meeting. Cllr Pledger suggested that a way to achieve this would be to culvert the water course running alongside the road which would allow a wider footpath. It was recognised that this would be very expensive but the work could be carried out a little section at a time as in previous LHI works on the path. The Clerk would seek advice from the Local Highway Officer on how to progress this so that evidence could be gathered ready for the 2019/20 LHI submission later in the year.

-Clerk

07. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received was discussed under agenda items.

08. PLAY AREA /RECREATION GROUND/CENTRE

8.1 Play Area update

8.1.1 Play Area Weekly Inspection Report

Mrs Williams confirmed the equipment was satisfactory and the first grass cut of the season had taken place.

8.2 Recreation Centre Operational Issues

As reported under Item 3.1 a meeting of the Management Committee had taken place on the 8th March. The concerns raised over cleaning were discussed and it was agreed that a letter would be sent to the Steeple Morden Magpies, who used the kitchen, and also the football clubs. Contact would also be made with the Booking Secretary to offer support.

Cllr Sharp expressed his concern over the income from the hire of the Recreation Centre for this financial year which, it was acknowledged, would not be shown correctly on the end of year accounts.

8.3 Recreation Ground

Cllr Williams advised that the Steeple Morden youth teams were going to arrange to aerate the football pitch.

8.3.1 Proposal to cut back Recreation Ground/South Street hedge

The hedge had been cut to its usual height. Cllr Sharp reiterated that to cut the height back any further would be very expensive. Cllr Barlow reminded Councillors that the Parish Council had not made a decision on the action that they wanted to take. Cllr Jones reiterated the original request that the purpose of the item was to see what could be done to make the play area more visible from the road therefore safer for users. Currently users of the play area cannot be seen from outside the ground.

After further discussions on what action could be taken the Clerk was asked to get further clarification from the SCDC Trees and Landscapes officer on cutting back 8-10 feet of the

-Clerk

hedge by at least half the height.

8.3.2 Grasscutting 2018

The Clerk advised that the grasscutting contractor, Stewart Bullard, had advised of a £3.00 per cut increase –price per cut £103.00. Councillors agreed this increase. Clerk to advise Mr Bullard. -Clerk

09. REQUESTS FOR STREET FURNITURE

9.1 Direction Sign for Village Hall and Recreation Centre

The order of the two signs was in hand.

9.2 Visibility Mirror –Malting Lane/South Street

The Clerk advised that she had been unable to place an order for the mirror on line due to intermittent internet service. She would arrange this as soon as normal service resumed. -Clerk

10. PLANNING

10.1 Planning Ref S/0672/18/LD-for information only

Boundary House, St Catherines Court –Lawful development certificate for proposed single storey rear extension

(Mr S Childs)

10.2 Planning Ref S/1524/17/OL –Appeal

Notification had been received from South Cambridgeshire District Council that an appeal had been made to the Secretary of State against non-determination of the planning application for outline planning permission for a new dwelling at Holmcroft, Bassingbourn Road.

10.3 Planning Ref S/2378/17/FL –Update

Cllr Cathcart advised that the Planners were minded to give delegated powers to officers for the application for a new building at New Cambridge House. He had reminded them that the parish had recommended refusal to the application due to various reasons. The District Councillors agreed to contact the Planning Officer, John Koch, to establish a dialogue again. -Cllr
Cathcart

11. FINANCES

11.1 Payment of Accounts

K BAKER

Recreation Centre cleaning February 2018 £100.00

MRS P BARLOW

Reimburse for working party refreshments 3/3/18 £ 15.00

MRS G BILES

Litterpicking January –March 18 £ 200.20

MRS S WALMESLEY

Clerks Salary 1/1/18 -31/3/18 £1030.69

HMRC

PAYE 1/1/18-31/3/18 £116.60

R G OLIVER & SON

Recreation ground hedge cut (inc. £31.10VAT) £186.60

TOTAL

£1649.09

PROPOSED Cllr Williams SECONDED Cllr Wiltshire

The Chairman thanked everyone who had joined the working party on the 3rd March to clear the grips on Steeple Morden Road.

12. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 9TH MAY 2018

A draft agenda had been circulated and published in the recent Parish Post. The Clerk would arrange for the invitations to be sent out to village groups and organisations. -Clerk

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR INFORMATION FOR URGENT CLERK ACTION

13.1 Tennis Court

Cllr Pledger reported that she was very keen to pursue a request for a tennis court in the village by some parishioners. This would also fulfil the shortfall of activities for older children to take part in. It was agreed that Cllr Pledger obtain some quotations. -Cllr
Pledger

13.2 The Grove Building Works

Cllr Barlow again expressed his concerns over the condition of the road outside the building site stating that both he and the Clerk had urged County Council action. The developer had recently put some soil into the rut on the road but this was not satisfactory as it should have

been tarmac. There were also concerns over the grass bank being pushed into the drainage ditch. It appeared that the Highway Officer did not want to take on this work. It was suggested that the Building Control officer should be asked to delay the final sign off until the road was up to standard. The Chairman agreed to make this request.

*-Cllr
Bathmaker*

Cllr Sharp raised concern about the surfaces used for the driveways and a likely flooding issue in future. Cllr Pipe stated that it would have been a planning condition that the tarmac used could be drained. It was noted that the South Cambridgeshire District Council planners were made aware at the planning stage and stated that there was no indication of flooding in the area.

13.3 New Close Properties

Cllr Wiltshire advised that there were two bungalows in New Close which were assigned to residents who did not live there. There had also been some anti social behaviour involving the police. She added that the South Cambridgeshire District Council Housing Officer was aware.

13.4 Abington Road Parking

Cllr Wiltshire suggested that once the new houses were occupied the Parish Council could consider some bollards for the grass verge to stop dangerous parking. It was noted that Highway permission would be needed for the bollards.

14. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING– 10th April 2018

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

Chairman

Date