

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LITLINGTON PARISH**  
**COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY ON TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**MARCH 2021 at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr Wiltshire (Chairman), Cllr Sharp, Cllr Williams, Cllr Gray, Cllr Parker, Cllr Bathmaker, Cllr Barlow, Cllr Jones, Cllr Pledger  
County Cllr Kindersley (part)  
Members of the public 1

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All Councillors were in attendance.

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

There were no declaration made.

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

There were no issues raised.

**4 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

**4.1 District Council**

Cllr Cathcart was not in attendance.

**4.2 County Council**

Cllr Kindersley would circulate a report in the next couple of days.

He reported that Cambridgeshire County Council had agreed their budget with included a 1.99% increase in council tax generally and 1% for adult social care.

There was media coverage that there was to be an additional £4 million allocated to highway improvements. Cllr Kindersley explained how this was not the case as Central Government had reduced its contribution and there were various necessary road projects required. Some additional funding would also need to be borrowed.

Cllr Kindersley reminded Councillors that there were County Council, Mayor and Police and Crime Commissioner Elections in May 2021.

Cllr Kindersley had been involved with the latest on the east west rail route adding that if the northern route was adopted the co2 omissions would benefit.

The South West action group was still campaigning against the Thakeham proposal which was now been advertised as 10,000 homes. MP Anthony Browne had added a letter to the facebook page stating that he would not support the proposal. Cllr Kindersley advised that people were led to believe that South Cambridgeshire District Council would make the decision on the application but it was not always the case that the local planning authority decided.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Kindersley for his report.

**5 APPROVE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**5.1 Parish Council Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

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 advised that a quote for a word press site would be around £600. The contractor was also offering to create a blog page which would help to improve communication with the village and could be an alternative to the Parish Post and link

into the village website. He suggested that the Clerk become involved at the development stage.

**-Cllr Bathmaker & Clerk**

6.2 SCDC Asset Of Community Value –Relisting of The Crown

The application had been forwarded to South Cambridgeshire District Council who acknowledged and advised that the decision on the listing would be made in early April.

6.3 Malting Lane overgrown hedge

Cllr Barlow had circulated a report on his findings to Councillors. Cllr Bathmaker had spoken to the field owner who had offered to replace the hedge, which was mostly ivy, with fencing. As Cllr Barlow had identified some small hedgerow trees amongst the ivy it was agreed that he would meet with Cllr Bathmaker to see which parts of the existing hedge were worth keeping.

**-Cllrs Bathmaker & Barlow**

6.4 Repair to Church Wall

Cllr Gray had inspected the wall and circulated a report. At the present time the priority was for some repointing of the wall. In time there would be an issue as there was originally a doorway there which had been removed without a lintel.

A discussion took place on whether the doorway issue should be addressed now rather than wait, which may result in a larger job. After further discussion it was agreed that the Clerk obtain the advice of a structural engineer.

**-Clerk**

## 7 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 CAPALC Membership 2021/22

Councillors agreed to continue with membership for the coming year.

## 8 PLAY AREA /RECREATION GROUND/CENTRE

8.1 Play Area

As the new financial year started in April 2021, and there was an allocation in the budget for a new piece of play equipment, Cllr Pledger offered to investigate a purchase. The Clerk reminded Councillors of the offer from a parishioner to help with the choice. She would forward details of manufacturers to Cllr Pledger who would report back at the next meeting.

Cllr Jones suggested that the Parish Council consider saving up for a larger piece of equipment now that the play structure and see saw had been removed. **-Cllr Pledger**

8.2 Recreation Centre

Due to the lockdown restrictions the Centre had been closed since December 2020. The Chairman asked the Clerk to arrange a Management Committee meeting to discuss the re-opening as the restrictions lifted.

**-Clerk**

8.3 Recreation Ground

Cllr Williams reported that there was a lot of glass around the dug outs and expressed concern for the litter picker having to pick the glass up. There was a litter bin along side. She suggested that the Football Club arrange to sweep out these shelters. The Chairman agreed to speak to the Football Club manager. Councillors were advised that the litter picker always checked for glass inside the dugouts. **-Cllr Wiltshire**

## 9 PROPOSED FEASIBILITY TENDER FOR THE VILLAGE HALL AND RECREATION CENTRE

9.1 Update on Land Registry

Cllr Pledger advised that the application was still being processed. There was a backlog due to Covid.

## 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 LHI Planning Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Cllr Bathmaker had attended the remote panel meeting to support the application. He advised that the Project officer was very helpful. There were a few questions from the

panel members and Cllr Bathmaker explained how the Parish Council was working on the South Street/Meeting Lane corner in stages.

Cllr Pledger asked for an update on the signage improvements which were agreed at the January 2021 meeting. The Clerk would ask the Local Highway Officer. **-Clerk**

A discussion took place on the improvement works to Bassingbourn Road which were part of the LHI bid 2020/21. There did not appear to be any logic in the way that the work was being carried out. Cllr Kindersley was asked to find out the position from the Local Project team. **-Cllr Kindersley**

### 10.3 Traffic Flow Survey Through Village

Cllr Bathmaker asked that the next stage of the traffic improvements be discussed at the April meeting. In early 2020, before the first Covid lockdown, Councillors agreed to carry out their own survey on the traffic. This did not go ahead due to the decrease in vehicle movements over the past year during restrictions

## 11 **Payment of Accounts**

OPUS ENERGY Street lighting energy charge January 2021 (inc £39.93VAT)	£250.95
MRS G BILES Litter picking January –March 2021	£234.00
MRS S WALMESLEY Clerks salary January –March 2021	£1031.42
HMRC PAYE January –March 2021	£251.40
Recreation Ground hedge cut	£198.60
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1966.37</b>

Agreed. PROPOSED Cllr Williams SECONDED Cllr Jones

## 12 **PLANNING/TREE WORK APPLICATIONS**

### 12.1 Planning Applications

#### 12.1.1 Planning Ref 21/00145/S73

Sheen Farm, Royston Road –Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission S/2927/17/FL (Demolition of existing farmhouse and associated outbuildings and development of a total of 22 dwellings including 11 affordable dwellings associated green space and external works)

Cllr Gray reported that the application contained minor amendments mostly relating to the internal design of the properties.

He advised that the application referred to 11 affordable and 11 shared ownership properties and not the approved 11 affordable and 11 market dwellings. A discussion took place where it was agreed further investigation was needed. Cllr Gray and Clerk to follow up. **-Clerk & Cllr Gray**

#### 12.2 Tree Work

Cllr Barlow reported that he had encountered a problem whereby South Cambridgeshire District Council had pointed out that for the work in the Churchyard a Faculty from the Diocese was needed. He had since spoken the Arch Deacon who provided a list of conditions including the requirement for a bat survey. More research was needed but he was aware that there were bats around the Church grounds.

## 13 **AGM/ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

It was still unknown when face to face meetings would resume. The current legislation to allow remote meetings expired on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 but due to the restrictions still in place it was expected that the legislation would be extended.

Councillors agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting should be a face to face meeting and agreed to wait until further guidance was received. The AGM would go ahead remotely on the 11<sup>th</sup> May 2021 when hopefully an extension to the legislation would have been agreed.

**14 COMMUNICATION WITH RESIDENTS**

14.1 Coronavirus Volunteer Group

Regular updates continued to be sent out from South Cambridgeshire District Council.

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

15.1 Pothole –Middle Street

Cllr Williams asked for this to be reported on the County Council website which the Clerk agreed to do. It was noted that there were potholes around the village marked out for repair.

**-Clerk**

15.2 Speed Sign Batteries

It was agreed that two replacement batteries, for the MVAS, be purchased. Clerk to arrange.

**-Clerk**

**16 DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

13<sup>TH</sup> April 2021

**17 CLOSE OF MEETING**

There was no further business. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm