

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

PRESENT: Cllr Wiltshire (Chairman), Cllr Pipe, Cllr Williams, Cllr Barlow, Cllr Sharp, Cllr Mc Clelland, Cllr Jones, Cllr Pledger, District Cllr McCraith, County Cllr Kindersley (part)
Members of the Public 3

In the absence of Cllr Bathmaker, and the late arrival of Cllr Wiltshire, the Planning Meeting was chaired by Cllr Pipe.

7.15 pm PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Bathmaker, Cllr Wiltshire, District Cllr Cathcart

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

4.1 Planning Ref S/0212/18/FL

Highfield Farm, Royston Road –Construction of a new grain store and creation of a farm access track from Royston Road

(Mr R Parker)

Cllr Barlow advised that there was a requirement in the planning application, made by the Trees and Landscapes Officer, for replacement planting.

-Recommendation Support

4.2 Planning Ref S/0057/18/TC

The Barnyard, Silver Street –Crown reduction to neighbouring Ash tree to level of to adjacent Sycamore

There were no concerns raised

4.3 Planning Ref S/0294/18/TC

Redwood Lodge, South Street –Crown reduction to neighbouring Ash tree

There were no concerns raised

05. OTHER PLANNING ISSUES

5.1 Sheen Farm Planning Application

The Chairman advised that he had attended the District Council Planning Committee meeting to support the recommendation made by the Parish Council to support the application. The Planning Committee approved the application by 7 votes to 4. He added that there were concerns raised by some members of the committee but these were not relevant to the village. The reasons why approval was given were due to the lack of a 5 year land supply, the proposed development was sustainable and there was 50/50 affordable housing. The Chairman thanked Cllr Kindersley for support at the Planning Committee meeting.

5.1.1 Section 106 Projects

A list of projects with costings had been finalised and returned to the Section 106 officer and this had become part of the planning application. The Chairman added that there had also be another £30,000 agreed to install a path from the development, across the recreation ground, to South Street.

5.1.2 Local Development Framework modifications consultation 5th January -16th February 2018

Councillors agreed that there were no representations on the modifications to make.

7.30 pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

In the absence of Cllr Bathmaker the meeting was chaired by Cllr Wiltshire.

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Bathmaker, District Cllr Cathcart

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

A meeting of the Management committee was to be held on the 8th March 2018. Cllr Pipe asked about the current position regarding the extension plans. The Chairman advised that the Football Association kept changing the specification. It was hoped that an update would be made on the 8th March.

3.2 Royston Road Traffic Issues –LHI Panel Meeting Feedback

Cllr Barlow had attended the Panel meeting to support the application made. He thought that the presentation went as well as possible.

3.3 Bassingbourn Road Parking Update

The South Cambridgeshire District Council Land and Contracts Surveyor, Liam Flatters, had advised that the plans and comments received back from their architect identified an issue with space to keep in line with the highway requirement. Mr Flatters was awaiting a response from the Highway team and would urge. Once received he would let the Clerk know.

3.4 Village Hall Play Area Update

Lorraine Baker, Chairman Litlington Pre-School, advised that the funds had been raised for a new piece of play equipment plus a replacement fence. There was though a shortfall in funding for seating and planters in the area. Mrs Baker reminded Councillors that this was a community garden and so seating and planters would enhance the area for all. After discussion Mrs Baker was asked to come back to the Parish Council with a proposal and costing which would then be considered.

3.5 Other issues

3.5.1 One Way System

Concern was raised over the agenda item relating to the one way system in the village. Councillors were advised that this had previously been discussed in the village on a number of occasions and turned down. The resident asked why this issue had been raised again.

Cllr Pledger advised that the Parish Plan from 2015 highlighted a question on why there was a one way system. The Clerk added that at the recent meeting with Cambridgeshire County Highways, to look at traffic calming, the officer had stated that the system did not meet modern criteria for one way. It remained as a historic arrangement from the days of the airfield. He added that Silver Street/Meeting Lane/Church Street could be made two way very easily as the roads meet requirements for two way traffic. South Street was more challenging.

A discussion followed where it was stated there would be more traffic movements once the Sheen Farm development was built and two way traffic would simplify journeys. Concern was raised over the narrow pavements and pedestrians.

Councillors agreed that if there was to be a public meeting to discuss two way traffic again then all the facts would need to be obtained first otherwise the meeting would be a re-run of those held previously. Cllr Pledger suggested that a traffic survey be carried out as a starting point. Cllr Kindersley warned that if it was agreed to change to two way the cost would be excessive. The Clerk stated that when this had been discussed with officers in the past she had been advised that the main costs would be for the changes to signage.

3.5.2 Sewage Works Telephone Mast

The Parish Council were asked about the mast which was awaiting completion. It was hoped that once completed there would be a better mobile phone reception. Details of the planning application applicant would be forwarded to the resident.

-Clerk

04. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

4.1 County Council

Cllr Kindersley had circulated his monthly report. He advised that one of the biggest issues was currently potholes and referred to his journeys around the parishes. He urged that these potholes be reported on the County Council website. There was a new 'dragon' machine which repaired potholes in three minutes. It had not been proven that these repairs lasted any longer.

Cambridgeshire County Council had agreed their budget for 2018/19 which would be a 3% increase to the standard council tax with a further 2% for adult social care. Cuts would still need to be made to various services.

Following on from the update made at the last meeting on the NIC report, Cllr Kindersley had met with County Council officers and also an officer of Network Rail. There were two Government departments involved with the east/west rail link with nothing much happening at the present time. Cllr Kindersley had been told that until the Government knew the local authority proposal for housing in the next LDP they would could not comment. An indication of the preferred route could though be released within the next 12 months.

Cllr Kindersley had attended a site meeting at the recycling centre in Waterbeach where they wanted to build an incinerator to burn rubbish which could not be recycled. This would take around 96% away from landfill and would provide electricity to a lot of homes. The proposed chimney would be 83 metres high but, due to the site near Denny Abbey, there were some concerns. A planning application would go before the Planning Committee at some point.

Cllr Jones asked about an item in the monthly report referring to proposed train service changes. The item referred to weekend services and not the evening. He advised that the service from London to Royston was to be cut from four trains an hour to two and there would be no direct service to Royston after 10pm. Cllr Kindersley advised that he had obtained his information from the Users Group adding that he was aware that Royston service would be worse but more trains would be stopping at Ashwell station.

Cllr Sharp asked Cllr Kindersley about his thoughts on the valuation of County Farms. Cllr Kindersley advised that the County Council wanted to maximise their assets. They also had to have a realistic valuation for their accounts. He was aware that in the past South Cambridgeshire District Council had run into difficulties due to undervaluation of their properties.

4.2 District Council

Cllr McCraith added to the point made by Cllr Kindersley in relation to the east/west rail link stating that he agreed that the Government did not know where they were going.

A meeting of the District Council was to be held the following week to decide the budget.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Kindersley and Cllr McCraith for their updates.

05. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 9th January 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

Cllr Jones reported that some text had been gathered on flora/fauna/wildlife and folk law and it had been forwarded for proof reading. Cllr Jones had also been keeping the board manufacturers updated.

6.3 Update on Defibrillator Purchase

The defibrillator had arrived and was awaiting installation. Cllr Williams asked to know where the equipment would be installed so that she could get quotations for the installation. It was agreed that it should be sited on the wall by the changing room door on the side of the building. It was noted that youngsters often kicked footballs against the front wall and if the equipment was installed there it could be damaged. Cllr Williams to pursue quotations.

It was agreed that once the equipment was in place there should be plenty of signage around the village advising of the location.

6.4 Traffic Issues –Meeting with County Highway Officer

As advised at the January 2018 meeting the Highway Officer had visited the village before Christmas to discuss various issues.

6.4.1 One Way System Sign Replacements

*-Cllr
Williams*

The direction signs at the junction of Cockhall Lane and Meeting Lane were rusty and needed to be replaced. These to be reported on the Cambridgeshire County Council website. *-Clerk*

6.4.2 County Highway view on existing one-way system

A report of this item had been made under Item 3.5.1 following concerns raised. Investigations would take place into the commissioning of a traffic survey to see how the existing roads were used. *-Clerk*

6.5 LHI 2018

In his absence Cllr Bathmaker had circulated a report regarding the LHI scheme for 2019/20 where bids were likely to be invited later in the year. He referred to the funding for Royston Road traffic calming measures and stated that there was little else that could be done in support of the 30mph in the short term. This road would be monitored.

Cllr Pledger had in the past expressed her concerns over the speed of traffic on Bassingbourn Road and the inadequate footpath alongside the road. She had put a lot of effort into a petition for traffic calming but this was not supported as the Police felt the speeds were appropriate. The Highway Projects officer had suggested that there could be justification for better separation of the pavement and the roadway.

A discussion took place on whether Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council would be willing to apply for LHI funding with Litlington as the part of the footpath causing the most concern was in Bassingbourn parish. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had been asked before but, although they would give their support to upgrade the path, they had other projects within the village to fund which took priority. It was stated that the Village College was reluctant to become involved. Cllr McClelland suggested that rather than the schools, the parents should be targeted to get behind any scheme.

It was agreed that thought would be given into how this could be progressed into an eligible case for an LHI bid and would be kept on the agenda for further discussion.

07. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 GDPR CAPALC Training Dates

The Clerk advised that an evening session on the 15th March and morning session on the 16th March had been arranged. Details had been circulated. She asked anyone interested in attending to let her know so that she could book a place.

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.

8.2 Recreation Centre Operational Issues

As reported under Item 3.1 a meeting of the Management Committee would be taking place on the 8th March 2018.

8.2.1 Cleaning Contractor Complaints

The Clerk reported that the cleaner was having to clear up a lot of general litter, in addition to her cleaning duties, following the football matches. There were also some users leaving the kitchen greasy which also took her a lot more time than allocated to clear up. The Clerk had suggested that a letter be sent to users reminding them of the terms of their hire agreement. The Clerk was asked to see if the cleaner would be available to attend the meeting on the 8th March so that she could discuss the issues with committee members. *-Clerk*

8.3 Recreation Ground

8.3.1 Proposal to cut back Recreation Ground/South Street hedge

Cllr Sharp reported that he had spoken to a contractor who advised that to cut the hedge down by two feet would cost well over £1,000. The existing fencing would also be an issue. Cllr Pipe pointed out that hedge was on raised ground and so the height on South Street was different from that on the recreation ground. It was noted that a definitive response had not been received from the District Council Tree officer on what would be allowed. The Clerk was asked to circulate the latest update. *-Clerk*

Cllr Sharp reminded Councillors that the annual cut of the hedge needed to be carried out as soon as possible. It was agreed that this be arranged and also, as discussed when the RoSPA report was considered, the cutting back of the hedge to allow more space around the mound. Cllr Sharp to advise the contractor. *-Cllr Sharp*

09. REQUESTS FOR STREET FURNITURE9.1 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 had circulated details of mirror suppliers which the Chairman and Clerk had investigated. It was agreed that the Clerk could proceed with the purchase of a mirror up to a maximum cost of £60.00. -Clerk

10. FINANCES10.1 Payment of Accounts

K BAKER

Recreation Centre cleaning January 2018 less overpayment December 2017	£112.50
LITLINGTON & MORDENS MOBILE WARDEN SCHEME	
Donation 2017/18	£300.00
JEWSON LTD	
Materials for repair to recreation ground post (inc. £27.70 VAT)	£ 166.22
PPL	
Licence for Recreation Centre 2018/19 (inc.£17.11 VAT)	£102.67
E-ON	
Recreation Centre electricity invoice (inc £16.80VAT)	£352.79
MR M BAKER	
Installation of replacement post on recreation ground car park	£180.00
TOTAL	£1214.18
PROPOSED Cllr McClelland SECONDED Cllr Pledger	

11. PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS 3RD MAY 2018

Election packs were distributed to Councillors. It was agreed that the AGM of the Parish Council would be held on the same evening as the Annual Parish Meeting, 8th May 2018. A draft agenda to be circulated to Councillors for comment as soon as possible so that it could be published in the next Parish Post. -Cllrs

12. NEXT PARISH POST

It was agreed that the next Post would be produced to be distributed at the beginning of March. The forthcoming election details, Annual Parish Meeting, Working Group for the cutting out of the grips on Steeple Morden Road and information about the Defibrillator would be forwarded to Cllr McClelland for inclusion by Friday 16th February. -Cllrs

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR INFORMATION FOR URGENT CLERK ACTION13.1 The Grove Building Works

The County Council had again acknowledged the verge opposite the building site, which the builders had agreed to make good on completion of the houses, but Cllr Barlow was concerned that they did not mention the deep rut in the road. Cllr Pipe suggested that when the builders appeared to be near completion he, and Cllr Barlow, visit the site and ask the builders to repair the verge and fill the rut then. Cllrs Pipe & Barlow

13.2 Christmas Lights

Cllr Pipe advised that he had some old working Christmas decorations which he no longer needed and offered them to the village. The offer was accepted. Cllr Barlow confirmed that he was looking after the tree lights and would also keep these decorations. -Cllr Barlow

13.3 Royston Road Traffic Island Light

It was reported that the light was constantly on even in daylight hours. The Clerk to report on the County Council website. -Clerk

14. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING– 13th March 2018

There was no further business. The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm

Chairman

Date