

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LITLINGTON PARISH
COUNCIL HELD IN LITLINGTON VILLAGE HALL ON
TUESDAY 8th JUNE 2021 at 7.40pm**

PRESENT:

Cllr Wiltshire (Chairman), Cllr Sharp, Cllr Williams, Cllr Gray, Cllr Parker, Cllr Bathmaker, Cllr Barlow, Cllr Jones, Cllr Pledger
District Cllr Cathcart (part)
Members of the public 3

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. Cllr Parker declared a non pecuniary interest during discussion under Item 7.2 as the adjoining landowner to the Clunch Pit.

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

3.1 Village Cage (lock up)

Councillors were advised that the brickwork and roof were in need of attention. The brickwork at the bottom was coming away. It was noted that the maintenance of the building was specialised and any recommendations of contractors would be appreciated by the Clerk.

This would be an agenda item at the next meeting to agree how the repairs could be carried out.

4 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

4.1 District Council

Cllr Cathcart reported that he hoped there would be some information on the Local Plan Call for Sites in July. He added that there was very little else to report.

He was asked about the Thakeham project and if there was any further developments. He confirmed that as far as he was aware there had not been a planning application submitted.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Cathcart for his update.

4.2 County Council

Cllr Kindersley had circulated a report.

5 APPROVE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

5.1 Parish Council Annual General Meeting 4th May 2021

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

6 LIVE INITIATIVES/UPDATE ON RESOLUTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

6.1 New Website Investigations

Cllr Bathmaker reported that he had looked at the new website set up for Arrington Parish Council and this seemed to meet requirements and was a lot cheaper than other quotes received. The Clerk would forward a link to the website so that other Councillors could see the content which could be adapted to suit Litlington. A decision would then be made at the next meeting.

-Clerk

6.2 Update on Repair to Church Wall

The Clerk had received a quotation of £375.00 plus VAT from a structural engineer to provide a formal report on the condition. She had also tried other options without success.

Cllr Sharp had advised on the history of the wall. The responsibility for maintenance was between the residents of St Catherines Court and the Church. As this was a closed burial ground the Parish Council was responsible for the grounds and wall. If any alteration was required to the wall a Faculty from the Diocese would be needed.

Councillors agreed that the wall required attention and to get the process underway the structural report would be needed. It was agreed to appoint Peter Dann Ltd to carry out the survey at a cost of £375.00 plus VAT. Clerk to arrange. **-Clerk**

6.3 Bicycle Signage for Abbots Close/Footpath

Cllr Barlow had found some signs and suggested that a pack of 4 be purchased at a cost of £5.96. Once received the signs would be located at the Malting Lane footpath junction outside the stile, the post inside the stile and on the brick wall. The Clerk to arrange the purchase. **-Clerk**

6.4 Parish Post –Next Edition

Cllr Barlow advised that he had received nothing to include in a publication following the appeal made at the AGM for each Councillor to forward an article. The next Prospect was due out at the beginning of July so if the Post was to be printed, and ready to go out with that, copy would need to be with Cllr Barlow by the 21st June. **-Cllrs**

6.5 Proposal for Platinum Jubilee Tree for Village Green

The suggestion of a tree species was in hand with Cllr Barlow. It was noted that the weekend in early June 2022 would include a bank holiday and there were street parties planned across the country to celebrate the Queens 70 years on the throne.

The Platinum Jubilee would be an item on the next agenda to discuss how the village could celebrate the occasion.

7 **CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1 Litlington Post Office Stores –Application for variation to a Premises Licence

The Parish Council had been advised that the village shop owner had applied to South Cambridgeshire District Council for a variation to a premises licence. Representations were invited. Councillors believed that the variation would give the owner more flexibility in his opening times. There were no comments.

7.2 MAGPAS Air Ambulance –Appeal for Donation

The Parish Council had received an update on the air ambulance service to explain how support can make a difference in the community. Councillors were asked to consider a donation as the service had experienced some of the busiest periods ever.

It was noted that the Parish Council had donated before. Cllr Wiltshire proposed a donation of £100 which was seconded by Cllr Bathmaker with all Councillors in agreement.

7.3 Unsocial Behaviour –Clunch Pit and Bridleways

The Clerk had been contacted by a resident concerned over a recent accident in the village where a dog off lead within the fenced area of the clunch pit aggressively jumped the fence and chased two horses causing the riders to fall off. The resident stated that there had been other incidents with dogs who were visiting from Royston and surrounding villages.

It was recognised, that because the area was fenced, people tended to let their dogs off lead there as it was a secure space. A discussion took place on the permissive paths around the clunch pit. Cllr Parker added that he was the owner of the land around the area. The legal position of dog control and parking on the verge to Byway 11 was also discussed where it was suggested bollards be installed on the verge to stop parking and therefore deter visitors. This would also help with the dog fouling which occurred on the Byway.

It was agreed that Cllr Barlow and Cllr Parker would source some signage. The Clerk was asked to obtain the legal wording regarding the control of dogs. An item would also be put in the Parish Post. **-Clerk**

8 PLAY AREA /RECREATION GROUND/CENTRE

8.1 Play Area

8.1.1 RoSPA Report 2021

The report had been circulated to Councillors and discussed at the AGM. The Clerk added that the order had been placed for the repair to the zip wire and she had asked to be contacted when the repair took place so that advice on maintenance could be sought from the contractor.

8.1.2 Proposal for additional play equipment

Cllr Pledger reported that she had approached three companies and received a reply from one. She added that the budget of £7000 would not buy very much.

A discussion took place on the different materials used to construct the equipment. With the budget available the choice was limited. After further discussion it was agreed to release a further £5000 from the 'Village Projects' allocation 2021/22 which would enable a revised budget for the play equipment, and safety surfacing, of £12000. Further quotations would be pursued for the next meeting.

8.2 Recreation Centre

8.2.1 Reopening of Building –Update from Recreation Centre Management Committee

Group classes had resumed in the building. The AGM of the Recreation Centre Management Committee would be arranged soon.

8.3 Recreation Ground

Cllr Williams asked for the mound on the recreation ground to be cut back. Cllr Gray advised that the youngsters using the mound for their bikes had attempted to cut the foliage. He would follow up with them and if the job was too hard would notify the Clerk who would then arrange with the village grasscutting contractors to carry out the work. Cllr Barlow stated that tree stakes were missing and might be somewhere in the overgrowth. If they could not be located Councillors agreed that replacements could be purchased.

The Clerk reported that she had been made aware that a dog on the recreation ground had bitten a child. Fortunately the bite was minor but the dog should not have been on the recreation ground. There were plenty of notices pointing this out but they were often ignored. Cllr Gray added that he had witnessed someone get out of their vehicle and walk past a notice with a dog. He had put a notice on her windscreen.

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 installation update

This was in hand for the Clerk to arrange.

10.2 PFHI Update on Improved Signage South Street/Meeting Lane/Bassingbourn Road junction

The Clerk to follow up with the Local Highway Officer.

-Clerk

10.3 Agreement of expenditure for Traffic Flow Survey

In January 2020 Cllr Pledger had reported on a quotation for a traffic flow survey for £925.00 plus VAT which was the only quote out of three received. At the time Councillors agreed not to go ahead. Cllr Pledger reminded the meeting that residents had taken time to respond to the Parish Plan questionnaire where it was clear there was a need for some data on vehicle movements to make decisions on traffic in future.

A discussion took place on how the results from the survey would be used.

Councillors agreed that the professional survey, carried out by ??, should take place adding that it must be during a school weekday term time.

Cllr Pledger and Clerk to arrange.

-Cllr Pledger & Clerk

10.4 Proposals for Future LHI projects

It was noted that the results from the Traffic Flow Survey would be a basis in future to agree proposals for LHI projects. It was suggested that for the next bid 2022/23 an

additional MVAS could be applied for. It was also suggested that the upgrade of another part of the path to Bassingbourn could be a project although the remainder of the path needing attention was in the parish of Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth.

Details of the next LHI bid had not yet been received from Cambridgeshire County Council. Councillors would discuss again at the next meeting and agree a project.

10.5 MVAS Replacement Batteries

The two replacement batteries had been received. Cllr Williams advised that they had both been charged in the Recreation Centre. It was agreed that Cllr Williams would be reimbursed for the electricity charge used at her home on previous occasions.

11 **Payment of Accounts**

OPUS ENERGY Street lighting energy charge April 2021 (inc £7.64VAT)	£160.32
K BAKER Rec Centre cleaning April 2021	
Rec Centre cleaning May 2021	£216.00
CPRE Membership 2020/21	£36.00
CHUBB FIRE AND SECURITY Rec Centre safety contract (inc £32.76VAT)	£196.57
CAMBRIDGE WATER BUSINESS Recreation ground water October 20 –April 21	£45.54
LGS SERVICES Internal Audit 2020/21 (inc £19.00 VAT)	£114.00
E-ON Recreation Centre electricity (inc £11.56VAT)	£282.74
INFORMATION COMMISSIONER Renewal of data protection registration	£40.00
TOTAL	£1091.17

Agreed. PROPOSED Cllr Bathmaker SECONDED Cllr Parker

12 **COMMUNICATION WITH RESIDENTS**

12.1 Coronavirus Volunteer Group

Regular updates continued to be sent out from South Cambridgeshire District Council. It was agreed that this item would be removed from the agenda in future.

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

13.1 Overgrown Verges

Cllr Sharp expressed concern over the hemlock and cow parsley overhanging some of the village roads making footpath access and visibility dangerous. It was noted that a local Farmer had cut back some of the overhanging shrubbery on Abington Road and that the County Council contractors would not be so fussy with their verge cutting.

13.2 Litlington and The Mordens Mobile Warden Scheme

Cllr Sharp advised that he was to attend a meeting of the scheme Trustees and asked Councillors their views on whether to continue contributing financially as there were currently no members from Litlington. He added that the members from the village had pulled out as it was too expensive for the service the scheme provided.

It was agreed that residents would be given another opportunity to join and this would be advertised through the Parish Post. Cllr Sharp to prepare an item. **-Cllr Sharp**

13.3 Brook Road obstruction of Footpath

Cllr Gray stated that a recovery vehicle often obstructed the footpath outside Brook Farm which prevented pedestrians from using the footpath and had to walk past on the road. It was recognised that this had been an issue in the past. The Clerk to report on the County Council website so that the officers could follow up with the appropriate authorities. **-Clerk**

14 DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

13th July 2021

15 CLOSE OF MEETING

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