

LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor C W Webber  
Councillor F J W Brown  
Councillor P M Cox  
Councillor S Green  
Councillor D Jordan  
Councillor S D Kerridge  
Councillor J J B Lee  
Councillor L Malkin  
Councillor D Murfitt  
Councillor G Norman  
Councillor E Dos Santos  
Councillor J Webber  
Councillor A N Wright

Also present the Clerk and Clerk Emeritus

1. DECLARATIONS:

None.

2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND COMMUNITY ISSUES:

No public present.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The website is now up and running with lots of information being uploaded on a daily basis. Thanks to Paul and the Website Working Group and Su for the work that they have done in achieving this.

Letter of thanks received from Pos+Ability for the S137 grant.

Noticeboard that used to be on the Acre building is now in the Ely Road store. If any Councillor has any suggestions as to future use/position for this are to be conveyed to the Clerk.

4. APOLOGIES & ABSENCES:

Councillor C M Ambrose Smith, Councillor D I Ambrose Smith

5. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Finance Committee and Parish Council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 were signed as a correct record.

6. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

7. FOLLOW UP DIARY.

Formal complaint has now been lodged and registered with the Environment Agency concerning their handling of the sale (or otherwise) of Back Lane. A formal response to be received by the Parish Council by 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016. A further report will be brought to the next meeting.

Information still outstanding concerning the public toilets so this item will be placed on the agenda for 16<sup>th</sup> May.

Confirmation received from Lucy Frazer MP concerning the Boundary Commission's decision to re-consult on the electoral review of Cambridgeshire County Council. No formal documentation received from the Boundary Commission to date concerning this. Lucy Frazer has requested to be kept informed of any response.

#### 8. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

PC – IT upheaval still ongoing. Transformation programme stalled.

JW – special meeting held on Thursday to ratify the Devolution Agreement. Several authorities have not yet signed up to the deal. Based on the principle of the agreement as opposed to the detail. £30m per year due to be coming to East Anglia.

Issue with Sanctuary – Scheme Managers are being removed from Anchor Court. JW is liaising with the Housing Team at ECDC. If any other Councillors have come across other problems with Sanctuary to let JW know. (FB – residents are definitely getting the “short end of the stick” in relation to this landlord). Problems with it now being Sanctuary Hereward – large national company with no local knowledge. Housing provider and not a care provider.

SK – incidence of a large rent increase which it is believed to have been introduced to offset the new central government requirement to reduce rent for social tenants on a year on year basis.

#### 9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

Sent by email.

FB – noticed when in Chatteris recently that their bypass had been completed/refurbished. It was agreed that Littleport are not being treated fairly in relation to the upkeep of roads in and around the village.

IT WAS AGREED that the Clerks write to the County Councillor voicing the concerns.

#### 10. TELEPHONE BOX:

A request has been received from Littleport TimeBank (“TB”) requesting that they take over the responsibility for the telephone box situated Ely Road, corner of Grange Lane. This box is no longer in use by BT and was purchased by the Parish Council some time ago. TB would like to refurbish the box and use it as a community facility ie information point. TB have asked whether the Parish Council would be willing to ‘match fund’ their fund raising efforts to complete this work. Current estimations of the cost of refurbishment are in the region of £1,800. TB are requesting a donation of £325 initially to have the box removed and placed into safe storage.

Round table discussion took place with the following points raised:

Prickwillow use their telephone box as a community art project which is updated on a monthly basis. It is not left open – one resident has the key.

It was felt that it would be good to support this as a community budget.

What sort of information hub is it intended to be? Further information required from TB.

There is a company in the village who sandblast and paint and a quote should be obtained from them.

Does TB not have the relevant skill set within their membership to carry out the refurbishment?

If it is intended that the box be moved it should be sited within range of one of the CCTV cameras to discourage antisocial behaviour.

IT WAS PROPOSED that TB provide the Parish Council with a “worked up” scheme for the box, complete with quotations from local companies and then a meeting be convened with the Open Spaces Committee to discuss further.  
Clerks to progress.

11. BACK LANE – UPDATE:  
As per Follow Up diary above.

12. SPEEDWATCH KIT:  
Littleport’s Speedwatch Co-ordinator has received a request from the Co-ordinator for Prickwillow to share the speedwatch kit now that a group of volunteers have been trained. It has been confirmed that the kit belongs to Littleport Parish Council.  
Littleport Speedwatch team request the Parish Council’s views as to whether the equipment can be shared (with an undertaking from Prickwillow that any damage caused would be their responsibility). Littleport Speedwatch team are of the opinion that the kit should be retained for the exclusive use of Littleport.  
IT WAS AGREED that the speedwatch kit will stay for the exclusive use Littleport.  
When put to the vote there were 2 abstentions.

13. DOG BINS – AWARENESS CAMPAIGN:  
Clerks to speak to Veolia about the frequency of emptying the dog bins.  
Request to move the one on Parsons Lane opposite the school.  
Poster to be created and put on website etc.  
LM, JW, EDS and DJ to liaise with Clerks to devise, promote and advertise that bagged mess can be put into any bin, not just dog bins.

14. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS – DISCUSSION:  
The Vice Chairman put forward a suggestion that one Monday per month be assigned to sub-committee meetings only.  
DJ was requested to write up her proposal for further discussion.  
Clerks to check whether sub-committee meetings have to be advertised.  
To be placed on the agenda for May.

15. CITIZEN OF THE YEAR – NOMINATIONS:  
Mrs J Abbs Coe – ThePORT  
Mr E Clift – Speedwatch  
Following a vote of all Councillors present, Mr E Clift was DULY NOMINATED to receive the Citizen of the Year Award for 2015/16.

Meeting closed 8.18pm

Signed: .....  
Chairman

Dated: .....