

# LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Annual Village Assembly (Open Meeting)** held in The Village Hall on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 6.30pm

PRESENT:

- Councillor C W Webber
- Councillor C M Ambrose Smith
- Councillor D I Ambrose Smith
- Councillor P M Cox
- Councillor S Green
- Councillor D Jordan
- Councillor J J B Lee
- Councillor L Malkin
- Councillor G Norman
- Councillor E Dos Santos
- Councillor J Webber
- Councillor A N Wright

Also present the Clerk and Clerk Emeritus  
Also present 12 Members of the Public

OP.01 INTRODUCTIONS:

Those Councillors present introduced themselves to the members of the public in attendance.

OP.02 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Open Meeting which took place on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were signed as a correct record.

OP.03 ACCOUNTS:

The audited accounts of Littleport Town Lands Charity and Littleport Parish Council to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 and the audited accounts of Littleport Parish Council to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 are available for inspection at the Parish Council Offices during office hours.

OP.04 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD 2017:

The Chairman presented the Citizen of the Year Award for 2017 to Mrs Elaine Lee in recognition of her services to the village in respect of the enormous amount of work that she, and her other volunteer team members, have done to run the highly regarded Foodbank (and ancillary services that they provide) along with the monthly YANA "tea parties" held in the Village Hall. Mrs Lee accepted the award on behalf of all those volunteers involved.

OP.05 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman updated the meeting with the achievements of the Parish Council over the preceding 12 months and this is appended to these Minutes.

OP.06 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

**06.1** A resident asked if the Parish Council were aware of any traffic calming measures that were planned for Wisbech Road (heading into the village from the BP Petrol Station to the junction of Woodfen Road). It was confirmed that whilst Highways had not indicated that any such works would be installed, this area had

been identified as a possible location for placement of the new speed activated cameras. Cllr J Webber informed those present of the capability of the new signs logging numbers of vehicles speeding etc which could then be used as evidence to support an application to Highways for installation of traffic calming if the existence of the signs did not have the desired effect.

**06.2** A resident asked whether the previously applied for 30mph speed restriction area near Red Farm Barn was going to be installed. It was confirmed that this had been rejected by both Highways and the full County Council. A further request had been submitted for a “buffer zone” to be installed but this too had been rejected.

**06.3** A resident asked if an appointment was needed to speak to the Police in their new office at the Barn. Those present were informed that whilst it was envisaged that either the PC or the PCSO would be in attendance at least twice during a working week this was very much dependent upon their shift patterns and the occurrence of other incidents across the district. Residents who wish to see either PC Gilbey or PCSO Robinson were advised to email them in the first instance or leave a message with the Clerks who would relay any requests on their behalf.

**06.4** A query as to whether the Camel Road access to the new schools would be ready for September and the school opening so that the new Elm Side access would not be used as a temporary access to the site for all school traffic. It was confirmed that the new access is due to be ready for September and fencing would then be erected around the new school site so traffic would not be able to use Elm Side.

**06.5** The Parish Council were asked as to the reasons for the delay in the handover of The Paddocks from the District Council to the Parish Council. The matter is now being dealt with by the Legal team at ECDC but delays had occurred through legal issues in respect of Cannon & Kirk and the land having been relied upon within their asset register. The Chairman confirmed that as soon as official confirmation had been received from ECDC plans would be put in place to conduct a full consultation with all residents of the village to elicit views on what facilities people would like to see on The Paddocks.

**06.6** A member of the audience requested clarification concerning how much parish land were the County Council taking in relation to the new schools. The Chairman clarified the issue insofar as no land had been given/sold, the land was leased to the County Council and a reciprocal arrangement was in place for some land being leased by the Parish Council back from the County Council. No land had been “lost” from the village. Other Councillors commented that the schools were a village asset and would enable village children to be educated closer to their homes without the need for bussing them away from the village.

There being no further questions from those members of the public present the meeting closed at 6.57pm.

Signed: .....

Chairman

Dated: .....

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2017**

### **Achievements**

Website up and running

Held our first Village Surgery

Set up networking channels with the new schools for local organisations and business

CCTV upgrade including access to other systems for the Police use

Council Structure and protocol review

Registered for the Transport volunteering scheme

Supported our Speed watch team and were successful in our Local Highway Initiative bid

Main Street improvements have started (Pay back team)

Police now have an Office in the Barn and we are working closely with them on a number of projects.

Our new Clerk is fully embedded

Started the design process on our new cemetery

Dog Fouling campaign

Regular structured meeting with ECDC

Working with ECDC with the development of the Local Plan

Started regular Newsletters and have leaflets the Village to help raise the PC profile and engage with the community

### **We still have project to complete**

Transport Plan

Confirm design and build new Cemetery

Arrange Transport Volunteers

Ratify the Leisure Centre leases

Paddocks Hand over

Toilets