

LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Barn on Monday 19th June 2017 at 7.25pm

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

Members of the Public: 1
Also present the Clerk and Clerk Emeritus

PUBLIC FORUM

Postponed to later in the meeting.

17/18-11 APOLOGIES & ABSENCES:

Cllrs C Ambrose Smith, D Ambrose Smith, Green and Kerridge – Apologies.

17/18-12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Friends of the Woodland Garden (item 17/18-20) – Cllrs D Jordan and F Brown.
Village Hall – Clerk Emeritus.

17/18-13 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Planning Sub Committee meeting of 5th June, Resources Sub Committee and Full Council meetings of 15th May 2017 were signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of those meetings.

17/18-14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None for this meeting.

17/18-15 RESOURCES SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

The recommendations of the Resources Sub-Committee which took place immediately prior to this meeting of the full council were accepted.

17/18-16 CLERK'S FOLLOW UP DIARY:

The CCTV upgrade had now commenced and it was anticipated that by the end of this week a new and improved system would be operational and the Police would have their own remote access to both cameras and recordings.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.31pm in order for Mrs Maria Stableford to provide an update on the Footpath Survey that she had carried out following the Village Surgery.

All Parish Councillors had been provided previously with the comprehensive report (with supporting photos) that had been written by Mrs Stableford concerning the condition of the pavements in and around the village. The report highlighted the problems that those with mobility issues encounter whilst travelling around, these included wheels getting caught in pavement rain gullies, lack of dropped kerb areas to enable wheelchairs and scooters to cross the roads.

Mrs Stableford has spoken to several residents with mobility issues and some had indicated their willingness to assist and work with the Parish Council in order for remedial works to be undertaken to ensure better access for all.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Stableford for the work that she had undertaken in preparation of the report.

The meeting re-convened at 7.41pm.

17/18-17 FOOTPATH SURVEY

The meeting discussed the report and it was agreed that a Working Group be set up to review the entire contents of the report to consist of County Councillor, District Councillors and Parish Councillors. Members of the public with specific interest in the topic are also invited to join this group in order for the matters to be dealt with accordingly.

FB commented that whilst it would appear that all footpaths across Cambridgeshire are currently being (or have been) upgraded, Littleport seems to “have fallen off the list”. It was agreed that our County Councillor be asked to bring this matter to the attention of the relevant officers at the County Council.

Volunteers were requested for sitting on the Working Group and Cllrs Dos Santos, Norman, Cox, Lee and Jordan offered to assist.

The Clerk was instructed to call an inaugural meeting of this Group for mid-July inviting Mrs Stableford to be a member of the Group.

JW asked for, and received, confirmation that the work of the new group would run in tandem with the group who will be developing the Transport Plan for the village.

17/18-18 LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS – YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2017

The Clerk requested those present to approve the governance statement confirming that the Parish Council had performed their duties in respect of financial compliance in accordance with prevailing legislation. The governance statement was confirmed.

The Clerk also provided all those present with a copy of the reconciliation report that had been prepared by Mr John Alexander and which would be submitted to External Audit with the Annual Return.

The Chairman then duly signed the Annual Return which would now be submitted to External Audit for examination.

17/18-19 LITTLEPORT VILLAGE HALL – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Parish Councillors were asked to support an application to the District Council for the sum of approximately £23,200 to be released from the S106 Community Infrastructure fund to meet the shortfall for the remedial works to the ceiling that are due to take place in the Village Hall during the month of August.

It was AGREED that the application be submitted.

17/18-20 FRIENDS OF THE WOODLAND GARDEN – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Parish Councillors were asked to support an application to the District Council for a Facility Improvement Grant in the sum of £8,322.40 on behalf of the Friends of the Woodland Garden to enable them to complete the works required to bring the Community Woodland Garden into use as a public open space.

A question was raised as to whether the Woodland Garden would involve any Parish Council funds and it was confirmed that no, the Parish Council would be acting solely as “banker” for the project and no Parish Council monies would be expended.

It was AGREED that the application be submitted on behalf of the Friends of the Woodland Garden.

17/18-21 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:

Due to the recent General Election the work of the District Council had been relatively quiet due to Purdah.

There had been a “re-jig” of the committee structure at the District Council but no formal meetings of any note had taken place recently.

17/18-22 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:

Due to annual holiday, a full report will be provided for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm

Signed:
Chairman

Dated: