

LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Barn on Monday 20th May 2019 at 7 pm

PRESENT: Councillor C Ambrose Smith
Councillor D Ambrose Smith
Councillor P Cox – **Absent**
Councillor S Green – **Absent**
Councillor D Jordan – VICE CHAIRMAN – **Absent**
Councillor S Kerridge
Councillor L Malkin
Councillor G Norman
Councillor E Dos Santos
Councillor C Webber – CHAIRMAN
Councillor J Webber

Also in attendance: Clerk

Members of the Public: 1

PUBLIC FORUM

No questions received.

19/20.001 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME
Chairman welcomed all councillors to the meeting.

19/20.002 APOLOGIES & ABSENCES:
No formal apologies received.
Cllrs Cox, Green and Jordan – Absent.

19/20.003 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:
None.

19/20.004 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
The Minutes of the Full Council meeting of 15th April, the Planning Sub-Committees of 23rd April and 14th May were confirmed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

19/20.005 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
At the start of the new 4 year administration the Parish Council consists of 11 Councillors – leaving four vacancies.
The consultation boards for the Paddocks have now been finished and a short A5 form produced for the participants to fill in. Appointments will now be made with the various youth groups and, possibly, schools (time permitting) in the village to ask them what sort of equipment they'd like to see. Obviously it is funding dependent but possible funding pots have been identified to assist with the provision of equipment and the annual running costs.
The consultation is envisaged to last approximately 2 months starting with a public open event at the Village Hall.
It would be advantageous if all Councillors could participate in the appointments on a rota basis to ensure that no just one or two are over-burdened with appointments.

19/20.006 JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

JW enquired as to whether other Councillors thought that it might be worth investigating a scheme for the younger residents of the village to receive recognition for any outstanding achievements (ie volunteering, assisting less fortunate etc) during a civic year (similar to the Citizen of the Year award for adults presented at the Annual Parish Meeting).

GN suggested that it would perhaps be a good idea if the organisations that the young people belong to did the nominating as opposed to Councillors.

It was agreed that the Clerks would investigate any similar schemes operational in other parishes and report back to the next meeting.

19/20.007 CLLR A WRIGHT - MEMORIAL

As Cllr Wright had passed away whilst still a Parish Councillor it was felt appropriate to have some form of memorial to him in the office.

It was agreed that, subject to the family's agreement, a photograph with suitable wording be produced and placed in the lobby of The Barn.

The Clerks to approach Mrs Wright to ascertain her views on the idea.

The matter would be discussed again at the next meeting.

19/20.008 REGISTRATION OF AN ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE

Now that the Salvation Army had issued a statement to the effect that there would no longer be a group in the village it had been suggested that perhaps their Hall could be registered as an asset of community value as it was felt it would be a shame if the building were demolished and residential units erected.

Following investigation it had been discovered that as the Hall had never been a school, or similar, and had just been a place of worship there was no opportunity for it to be registered as an asset of community value.

It was agreed that the Clerk approach the Salvation Army to enquire as to what their possible plans for the building were.

19/20.009 FINANCE

009.1 The Financial Statements of the Parish Council were signed by the Chairman as a true representation of the accounts held by the Parish Council.

009.2 Payments made out of meeting from 16th April to 19th May 2019 are listed on the attached spreadsheet for information. The Clerk explained that this was not a full representation as there were some transactions that had yet to be put onto the accounts software package.

009.3 No orders for payments required authorisation due to having been paid out of meeting which are listed on the attached spreadsheet as mentioned at 125.2 above.

009.4 The Chairman authorised the BACS payments to be made to staff.

19/20.010 CLERKS' FOLLOW UP DIARY

In consultation with the Chairman, the order had been placed for the installation of 57 security bollards along the front of the paddock nearest to the Cannon & Kirk site to deter unauthorised access to the site. The works will be complete by Friday 24th May 2019.

19/20.011 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Report from Cllr C Ambrose Smith on behalf of the three District Councillors:

"Following the recent Local Elections, membership of committees is in the process of being decided. There will be East Cambs Full Council on Thursday 30 May.

Representatives on outside bodies will also be decided shortly.

I attended two new member induction training days on behalf of David & Jo as it is always useful to refresh our knowledge. Significant changes are to be put in place to strengthen measures regarding Data Protection considerations within communications between members & officers and members & constituents.

New members were taken through the functions of the various departments and the responsibilities of each member of the Senior Management team. The Budget forecasts were explained, and the functions of the Trading Companies and the reasons for the setting up of these. An overview of the various tiers of local government, The Mayor & Combined Authority, The County Council, The District Council & Parish Councils.

David & I attended the Littleport & Downham Internal Drainage Board Meeting on Wednesday 15 May which was the half yearly meeting of the Board. There were some very positive reports including a short presentation by consultants who are engaged in a review of the Board's Pumping Stations. I mentioned that East Cambs wish to retain the full complement of representatives on each board, and that should it not be possible to fill these with councillors due the smaller number, steps will be taken to fill these places by other suitable candidates. I also took the opportunity to speak briefly with the Engineer (Andrew Newton) concerning work scheduled to clear the drain along Station Road. The Environment Agency are the lead authority on this but I was assured that work will be carried out towards the winter to clear this.

Christine Ambrose Smith

On behalf of Jo Webber & David Ambrose Smith"

JW updated the meeting on discussions and meetings that have taken place with the new support provider, CGL, where she, and others, have been requesting CGL to hold a drop-in style café service in the village for residents in need.

The main priority is the provision of a pilot scheme for the Social Prescribing initiative being championed by central government. Work is continuing to get this in place and further updates will be provided in due course.

The What's On website is still under development but it is hopeful that a soft trial will be carried out in early June.

19/20.012 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The County Council's Annual General Meeting had taken place and the committee membership had been agreed.

Long discussions had taken place about the instances of air pollution around schools and the County Council would be putting in place policies to ensure any new schools would not be within close proximity to roads.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

Young Person of the Year

Salvation Army Hall – Update

Cllr A Wright Memorial – Update

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

Signed:

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Chairman

Dated:

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DRAFT

