

## LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2004 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor D T Murfitt  
Councillor F J Brown  
Councillor L Cooper  
Councillor P M Cox  
Councillor J H Crane  
Councillor S Green  
Councillor B W Hayes  
Councillor J M Howard  
Councillor S D Kerridge  
Councillor L E J Murfitt  
Councillor G Norman  
Councillor A N Wright

Also present one member of the public and Mr Martin Smith (Internal Auditor)

### 1. LITTLEPORT COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL:

The Chairman welcomed the Head teacher Ms Joyce Willson and Mr Paul Hodson Chair of Governors to the meeting and invited questions from Councillors.

Councillors were concerned about facilities available for youth both now and in the future.

Ms Willson explained the Youth Centre is now a Community annex to the school and youth provision cannot be provided within her budget as a Primary School. Currently it is being used one night a week by Kathy Mackenzie for specific projects. Vandalism has occurred on the site and it took drastic threats to close the facility to the youth before anything was done.

The budget to cover youth activities up to now was in the control of the City of Ely College. Steve White at Cambridgeshire County Council has now taken over control of the budget.

The parish council has limited funds available to pay for the hire of the community annex for an additional night and this matter will be progressed through the appropriate channels. If successful it would establish the need for better youth provision.

Ms Willson was asked for a letter of support indicating the need for a youth facility away from school premises.

Ms Willson and Mr Hodson were thanked by the Chairman for attending.

### 2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Reminder to all Councillors the Annual Open Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 in the Village Hall. Dave Flack from the Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service will give a presentation on the Integrated Risk Management Plan
2. Letters of thanks received from:  
Victim Support – Macmillan Cancer Relief – Air Ambulance – Littleport Judo Club and Littleport Players
3. On 2<sup>nd</sup> June at March two new locomotives will be named in honour of Gimbert and Nightall. Invitations to the ceremony will be forthcoming for the Chairman of the Parish Council – Ron Barber and Clerk
4. ECDC Standards Committee – closing date for submissions now 30<sup>th</sup> April

- Suggested they approach CALC for members
5. St George's Church Open Gardens Day 5<sup>th</sup> June
  6. Royal British Legion D Day Landings Service 10.45 6<sup>th</sup> June
  7. Littleport Partnership Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> April 7.15 – asking for small articles to appear in the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the Littleport Crier.
  8. Road resurfacing works etc 2004/5 (copies of schedule circulated)
  9. The following publications are available from the Clerk  
 Overview and Scrutiny Committee Action List – Community Services Committee  
 Decision List – Forthcoming changes to the Law on Preventing Illegal working – Standards  
 Board Bulletin 7 – Flood Action – NALC Legal Topic Private Access to Council's  
 Recreation Grounds - How to make a complaint – Periodic Electoral Review of  
 Cambridgeshire County Council: Draft Recommendations - Rural Broadband - Harvest  
 magazine – Action on Debt – hlec News –
  10. ACRE is looking for Charity Trustees to join the Board.
  11. Mr Martin Smith (Internal Auditor) was attending the meeting to observe.
  12. Cambridgeshire Rural Forum Conference 19<sup>th</sup> May 9.30- 4.00 at Ely Maltings
  13. The Chairman thanked everyone for their support over the past two years of his chairmanship.

### 3. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors F J W Brown, Pyrah County Councillor Bailey and District Councillors Morrison and Rodrigues

### 4. MINUTES:

Under item 13 paragraph i of the Parish Council Minutes for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2004 a typing error was amended to read .... of the Littleport Crier on ...

The reports of the Finance and Parish Council Meetings held on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2004, the Planning Committee meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2004 and the Street Light Working Party meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2004 were then confirmed.

### 5. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Councillor Cox reported there were no recommendations for full council as all had been present at the Finance Meeting.

### 6. FOLLOW UP DIARY:

The Clerk reported:

1. Nick Abbey will be addressing the Planning Committee on May 10<sup>th</sup> 2004  
 Cecilia Tredget will be attending the next council meeting
3. No response from the District Solicitor regarding a special meeting to discuss Section 106 agreements.
4. Skate park is progressing slowly. One person has been systematically vandalising the works in progress. Police have been informed. The Skate park should be completed by the end of the month.
5. Dog litter bins and signs have to be removed from Telegraph poles. BT will fine local authorities for failure to comply.
6. New play areas for the Highfield development have been reduced to two and East Cambs staff will carry out the maintenance of them.
7. Swing chains at Parsons lane had been showing signs of wear. They have been replaced and the swing height raised.
8. Parish Paths Partnership Grant for the year 2004/5 £350.00

9. Travellers have again taken up residence on Footpath 9 at Grange Lane. The appropriate authorities have been informed.

7. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:

Councillor Wright reported the resignation of Councillor Charlotte Cane representing the Swaffhams. A by-election is being contested by all the major parties.

8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

No report but Councillor Bailey has asked to be informed on County issues.

9. STREET LIGHTING:

Councillor F J Brown reported:

- i. Requote for lighting at Leisure Centre had been received and had reduced to £7742. The Leisure Centre has no funds and this sum exceeds the £3000 approved by Council towards the costs. One of the lighting columns has already been approved from the Street lighting budget. Agreed to ask for a breakdown of the two elements of the quote to car park and footpath with the Parish Council meeting the costs of the footpath only. Also look at ways to trim costs by local digger hiring for trench works.
- ii. Outstanding column at Black Horse Drove is being held up by EDF Energy Chris Sproston is chasing up this matter
- iii. Two new columns at Woodfen Road are now up and working
- iv. New lighting column for the Harley Memorial on Church Lane installed but not connected
- v. Extension arm fitted to street light outside 14 Victoria Street to clear overgrown trees
- vi. Granby Street lights to be upgraded and lighting column in Ponds Hill to be connected to supply
- vii. No quotes have been received for the installation of ducting for CCTV

10 MAIN STREET BENCH:

Councillors considered correspondence from Julie Buck looking for solutions to solve the problems of the bench outside 29 Main Street.

The seat has been sabotaged yet again with cooking fat making it virtually unusable. The person or persons vandalising the seat should be caught and charged with committing an offence.

It was agreed the need for video evidence to help identify the culprits of anti social behaviour and vandalism in order to implement Anti Social Behaviour Contracts or Anti Social Behaviour Orders on the offenders. Covert filming was required and Cambridgeshire ACRE would be approached for their co-operation.

Removal of the bench would probably have the same detrimental effect on the elderly as the removal of the bus shelter at Mepal which was a gathering place for the young.

11. TRAFFIC CALMING – ELY ROAD SOUTH:

Councillors considered the proposals made by the County Council to extend the 30 mph speed limit to the village boundary and the various traffic calming measures.

The mini roundabout Ely Road/Grange Lane – not to close the kerb lines

Proposed give way features are seen as dangerous. Be replaced with ‘Rippleprint’, islands or gated features as used in other villages.

Councillors would like to see final plans for approval before any work commences.

12. A1101 ACCIDENT REDUCTION SCHEME:

Councillors welcomed the measures proposed to reduce accidents on this busy road at Shippea Hill. Bulldog Bridge is another area to be looked at.

13. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION DAY:

Councillor F J Brown attended the Environmental Action Day on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2004 arranged by the Fire Service in conjunction with the Police, District Council, Hereward Housing and Youth Offending team.

The day was a great success and young offenders cleaned the brick bus shelter at Gilbert Road removing graffiti etc. During a tour of the village various hazards were detected and the relevant authorities would follow them up. The caretaker’s bungalow in Parsons Lane has been the subject to a number of recent arson attacks. County Council have confirmed they are monitoring the building and it will be demolished in due course.

14. STANDARDS OF MEMBERS CONDUCT:

Correspondence on Standards of Members Conduct was taken as read and it was noted Councillors should be seen to be whiter than white.

In confirmation of the foregoing report .....

CHAIRMAN

.....  
DATE