

## LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2004 at 7.30pm

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

Also present District Councillors Morrison and Rodrigues and one member of the public.

### 1. CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU.

Mrs Beverly Howard failed to attend the meeting.

### 2. SECTION 106

The Chairman welcomed Miss Eleanor Hoggart, District Solicitor with East Cambridgeshire District Council who confirmed that the Highfield Section 106 Agreement had been completely updated in April 2004 following the rejigging of the original application. A further 106 Agreement will be drawn up to cover the additional houses in the second phase of the application. Miss Hoggart answered questions raised earlier by Councillors as follows:-

Paid before residential occupation = Monies paid over on or before the sale of each house.

Paid pre-occupation is the same as above.

Other significant monies paid to Littleport – JDR Cables; the Burberry Agreement is in limbo as the developer is not willing to sign up at present.

Reassurances were given that any piecemeal payments would not be lost in the coffers of East Cambs but would sit in separate accounts and are accountable to the developers.

Number of properties required before a Section 106 Agreement kicks in is 9 and above.

Affordable housing is currently 30% but could rise to 50%.

Miss Hoggart answered Councillors questions and pointed out monies for a new cemetery could be linked to social and community budget and not specifically as an add on to Section 106 Agreements.

Councillors asked what had happened to the proposed “Family Centre” and whether this had been superseded by the Healthy Living Project which is district wide?

Apparently the Community Services Department were responsible for the change, however no money has yet been spent from the Section 106 Agreement.

Miss Hoggart was asked to look the possibility of amending the current proposal and restoring the original proposition, to provide for the provision of a multi purpose hall “Family Centre” to be built to serve the community, using the relevant part of the Section 106 funding.

### **YOUTH CENTRE PROVISION** (Not to be confused with “Family Centre”)

- Miss Hoggart was also asked to speak the County Council about the “**Youth Centre Provision**”
- The former youth club in Parsons Lane is destined for demolition, as part of the new Primary School development.
- Since the closure of the secondary school, the management of the above facility became the responsibility of **The Littleport Community Primary School**, over the years the building’s function and purpose seems to have changed, whether by design or drift it is not clear. With emphasis on the younger child, more in keeping with the gamut of age addressed by a primary school. “Youth Provision” is noted by its absence
- The parish Council believed that the **former youth club** should be rebuilt at a new location.

The land comprising the site of any future building providing youth provision should be vested in the Parish Council

This proposal requires careful analysis together with the production of a sound business plan.

Miss Hoggart will send copies of future correspondence to the Parish and will ring fence youth contributions.

There will be a Section 106 Agreement on the land sold off by the County Council once it has built the new Primary School on Parsons Lane.

When questioned on the affordable housing on the Highfield development the 78 properties would be split between local Housing Associations and pepper potted around the site. It is unlikely Littleport Town Lands Charity would be able to acquire any of the properties due to its letting policy which is restricted to Littleport residents over 60.

Before leaving Miss Hoggart reported on a police action plan for Littleport to combat vandalism and anti social behaviour.

The Chairman thanked Miss Hoggart for her attendance and contribution.

A copy of the Highfield Section 106 contributions follows this report

### 3. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a] The Chairman had attended the train naming ceremony at March on June 2<sup>nd</sup> to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Soham bomb. (Ammunition Train disaster) Ron Barber and the Clerk also attended.

- b] The Chairman and Clerk had attended a joint meeting with City of Ely Council to discuss the PCSO agreement. Further meetings will be arranged.
- c] Letter of thanks and photographs from St George's Toddler group re 137 donation
- d] Hereward Housing is holding a Roadshow on Parsons Lane Playing Field 2<sup>nd</sup> July from 8.30 – noon.

#### 4. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Binks, Crane, Howard, D T Murfitt, Pyrah and County Councillor Bailey

#### 5. MINUTES:

The reports of the Finance and Annual Parish Council Meetings held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2004, the Planning Committee meeting held on 1st June 2004 and the Play Equipment, Allotments, Open Spaces and Footpaths Working Party meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2004 were confirmed.

#### 6. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Councillor Norman reported on the recommendation to set up a sub group to look into setting up a SAGE accounting package for the Parish Council accounts with a £1000 limit on expenditure. The sub committee to include the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Councillor Wright and the Clerk. Agreed.

#### 7. FOLLOW UP DIARY:

The Clerk reported:

- a] Village Sign – Councillor Crane had contacted SS Ambrose and they had submitted a quote to overhaul and repair the sign. Agreed this be brought back to the next Council meeting for discussion.
- b] PCSO's - Superintendent Raine had reported there had been no success in recruiting a PCSO for Littleport only 4 applicants out of 100 were deemed suitable. He hoped to have an officer in post by September.
- c] High Street Toilets – David Groom had noted the parish council's comments and would keep them advised as to future developments
- d] School Governors – the Community Primary School were happy for Councillors to apply for vacancies as Community Governors.
- e] Youth Provision meeting 5<sup>th</sup> July
- f] No further progress on Youth Club meetings in the Primary School Community Room. Have spoken to Mark Peck at County Council and written to City of Ely College.
- g] Street Lighting has completed the works at the Leisure Centre to light the footpath. Councillor Hayes thanked the Parish Council on behalf of the Leisure Centre for this.

#### 8. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Morrison reported on his attendance at the Ely Transport Study Meeting, Environment and Transport Meeting and the Partnership Meeting.

Littleport Players had received a community award from the Cambridge Evening News for their work with young people.

The introduction of car parking charges in Ely is currently under discussion and seminars are due to take place.

A Plastic bottle recycling trial for one year has started. Green waste recycling will be extended to Littleport in August.

The sites for the proposed relocation of the District Council Offices has been short listed to three.

Councillor Wright urged councillors to read the Ely Transport Plan carefully, there was no recommendation to increase the number of parking spaces in Ely and the proposed bus services around Ely will cost £380,000 p/a. Maintenance of the car parks will still fall on the ratepayers shoulders. A number of questions have not been adequately answered. It will be some time before charges for parking are levied. Any income generated from the Waitrose Car Park would go to the store and not the District Council under the terms of their lease.

#### 9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Clerk reported on an E-Mail from County Councillor Bailey that he was continuing to hold meetings with Mark Peck from the County Council Youth Services team

#### 10. ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

The Council received the Annual Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2004. The area of land at Parsons Lane under community assets was reduced to 4 acres following the leasing of the remainder for the provision of the Medical Centre.

The responses to questions raised in the Annual return for the year was agreed and for the Chairman and Clerk to sign the document.

#### 11. PLAY EQUIPMENT, ALLOTMENTS, FOOTPATHS AND OPEN SPACES:

Councillor F J Brown reported on the recent meeting of the Working Party.

The remedial works to complete the skate park equipment should be completed by the 9<sup>th</sup> July. Outstanding works include installing a litter bin, landscaping the area leading from Camel Road and the installation of a barrier to the front and the hedging and fencing to the side and rear of the site.

A neighbour from 15 Camel Road was experiencing problems with youths taking a short cut to the park via the rear of his property, graffiti had been applied to his fence

and then onto a ditch which is a potential health hazard. The ditch requires a physical barrier and the Environment Agency will be contacted.

Graffiti is a problem and thought would be given to providing a special area in the village for an official graffiti wall. Copies of the Skateboard Park plans to be circulated to councillors.

Councillor Mrs Kerridge asked if the council staff could be asked to cut the open spaces near the junction with Camel Road and Silt Road and to contact the County council to check when they are going to cut the verges in the village.

12. TRAFFIC CALMING - ELY ROAD:

Revised plans for the proposed traffic calming on Ely Road, south of Grange Lane were received and approved. Councillors were pleased that the County Council had listened and taken note of the earlier comments passed by the Parish Council

13. OFFICE ACCOMMODATION – DISTRICT COUNCIL:

Correspondence relating the proposed relocation of East Cambridgeshire District Council was received.

14. YOBBISH BEHAVIOUR:

Correspondence from Mrs Gloria Rudd concerning the resurgence of yobbish behaviour in Main Street was received. It was noted that further incidents had occurred since her letter including the trashing of an empty flat above the chemists and damage to a newly refurbished flat above the estate agents. Councillors all had sympathy for the residents of Main Street and agreed the Kebab Shop was partly to blame for exceeding their permitted opening hours.

It was agreed a letter be sent to Superintendent John Raine at Cambridge airing the views of the council including their dissatisfaction at the lack of policing, more coverage is required at vulnerable times.

15. CALC MEETING:

The chairman to attend the meeting on July 1st or to delegate to another councillor.

In confirmation of the foregoing report

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CHAIRMAN

.....  
DATE