

## LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2005  
at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor P M Cox  
Councillor C M Ambrose Smith  
Councillor F J Brown  
Councillor F J W Brown  
Councillor J H Crane  
Councillor S Green  
Councillor J M Howard  
Councillor S D Kerridge  
Councillor D T Murfitt  
Councillor L E J Murfitt  
Councillor G Norman  
Councillor M Pyrah  
Councillor A N Wright

Also present one member of the public

1. CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD:

The Chairman presented to Mr Roy Neal his certificate as Citizen of the Year 2004.

2. MULTI PURPOSE COMMUNITY BUILDING:

The Chairman welcomed Ms Cecilia Tredget Deputy Chief Executive with East Cambs District Council to give a progress report on the proposed building.

The Paddocks were being looked at as a possible site for the proposed building and a number of issues would need resolving. Was the site viable? A consultation process with local residents, issues on parking, Littleport Show parking, Farthing Trust Covenant.

A meeting with Canon Kirk confirmed they had no objections and the County Council are not likely to raise any archaeology issues.

County Council identified the need for co-ordination of projects and would like to come and talk to the Parish Council. The next steps are to have the site investigated, set up a steering group to develop a brief. The Parish Council would be freeholders of the property. Regular reports back to Parish Council for approval. Establish a budget.

The site access road is not due to be built until 2006 with Phase 2 of the development.

Councillor Crane wondered at the viability of a further hall in the Village when both the Village Hall and Leisure Centre were not fully utilised.

Councillor Wright proposed to move forward and to make an agenda item to appoint a steering group at the next meeting. Seconded by Councillor Mrs Howard and carried unanimously.

The Chairman thanked Ms Tredget for attending and asked for a copy of her briefing notes.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- i. Councillor Hayes was now home from hospital.
- ii. Plaque from East Cambs District Council commemorating the Skate Park Grant is displayed in the lobby.

4. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received Councillors Cooper and Hayes, County Councillor Bailey and District Councillor Morrison

5. MINUTES:

The reports of the Cemetery Working Party, Finance and Parish Council Meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2004 and the Planning Committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2005 were confirmed.

6. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Councillor Norman reported on the following recommendations of the Finance Committee.

- i. To accept the 3 years grass cutting quote submitted by K H Services
- ii. To increase the Playing Field Hire charges by £10 to £60 and future increases annually in line with inflation.

Agreed.

7. FOLLOW UP DIARY:

The Clerk reported :

East Cambridgeshire Environment and Transport Area Joint Committee would not be implementing the proposed traffic calming on Ely Road following objections to the scheme from local residents and council backing .

ECDC are proposing some training for Parish Councils on Register of Interests etc. A member of the Standards Committee will attend a future meeting of the council to clarify any outstanding issues.

Whitfield Development wants to call the new development in Victoria Street – Burberry Court.

Councillor Cooper's continued absence had been noted.

## 8. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor F J W Brown reported

- i. The press is due to release a negative feature on the funding of the Maltings Cinema. The District Council has funding in place.
- ii. Ely Road traffic calming meeting – following the rejection of the raised table at Saffron Close by petitioners and parish council the committee voted against proceeding with the scheme. The money for the scheme was allocated to other projects outside the village. Councillor F J W Brown queried that there had been enough local consultation on the scheme. It was agreed a letter be written to the Highways Department seeking clarification on the Thermoplastic coverings proposed for the cobbles on the two mini roundabouts at Grange Lane and the junction on Ely Road with the new estate road.

Councillor Wright reported on the silly season that a decision on the new offices for the District Council would soon be made and the Government have given extra money to the District Council possibly linked to the fact this is an election year!

## 9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Just to confirm I can not attend the above meeting due to the clash with Lt Downham commitments.

I wanted to report that at the meeting of the Area Joint Committee on the 10th January I spoke about and voted against the move for the Ely Road traffic scheme.

This vote against the scheme was in line with the Parish Council and the petitioners request for it not to go ahead with the raised platforms.

I know this does not solve everyone's (including the County Council's) aim to reduce the speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph.

I am still in dialogue with the officers to see if this can be achieved. However, with the current situation they are not able to implement a reduction without some physical measures.

I will attend the next Parish Council meeting and can discuss it in greater detail, and answer any specific questions on the subject.

I have been liaising with the petitioners before the meeting and have said I would update them with any new options if I can get them agreed.

## 10. AUDITORS REPORT to 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2004:

Following the previous circulation of copies of the external auditors report Councillor Wright moved acceptance of their recommendation that the Fidelity guarantee should be increased to from £80,000 to £100,000. Carried unanimously

#### 11. TWO WEEKLY REFUSE COLLECTIONS:

The District Council are looking for volunteers among the parishes to trial two weekly refuse collections. This is an inevitable but the council did not volunteer for the trial.

Councillor Wright's proposal was carried unanimously that a letter be sent drawing attention to Paragraph 3 of the District Council's letter and pointing out the strong support at the recent Parish Forum for incineration of waste and this parish council would support incineration; serious research should be carried out into the consequences of incineration.

#### 12. PROTOCOL – LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL AND PARTNERSHIP:

Councillors approved unanimously the protocol for agreeing and implementing projects as set out by Councillor Wright as follows:-

- 1] Agendas for the Partnership are to be agreed by the Chairman of both organisations.
- 2] Recommendations & Resolutions of the Partnership will only proceed with the support of the Parish Council. Voting to be by a simple majority.
- 3] Each recommendation shall be a separate item on the Parish Council agenda for resolution.
- 4] The Partnership may send a representative and/or person with specialist knowledge to present their recommendations to the Parish Council.
- 5] The Parish Council may refer projects to the partnership for research and/or implementation.
- 6] Representatives of both organisations to meet once a year for an Annual Review.

#### 13. GILBERT ROAD BUS SHELTER:

The brick built shelter at Gilbert Road has suffered further vandalism and the structure is not sound. Discussion ensued as to whether the shelter should be refurbished or replaced.

It was agreed to replace the shelter with a modern Perspex structure and this to be funded from the Emergency Reserve fund. The Clerk would look into the availability of a grant from the County Council towards the cost.

#### 14. LITTLEPORT PARTNERSHIP MINUTES:

The minutes of the Littleport Partnership Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2004 were received.

Councillor Mrs Howard suggested that part of the funding available from Cambridgeshire Social Services for local initiatives could be used to help fund the Community Warden Scheme.

It was agreed to invite Hugh Gault, Head of Policy and Resources at Cambridgeshire Social Services to attend a future meeting.

Copies of the protocol to be sent to~ Shirley Blake and Sally Bonnett.

15. FOREST HEATH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAME WORK:

The Launch of the Forest Heath Local Development Framework (LDF) & Consultation on the Draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) documents were received.

16. CCTV:

The Chairman gave an overview of the recent meeting to discuss the quotes received for the installation of CCTV cameras in Main Street. A number of items require clarification such as the ease of expansion of the schemes in future without major changes. The Chubb system may lack channels to extend their system. Annual fee for maintenance needed. Flexibility is paramount. Electrical supplies are required at camera locations.

Quotes received:	TYCO	£28930.00
	Chris Lewis Security Systems	£22350.00
	Chubb	£18147.00

Still awaiting confirmation from Barclays Bank to station some equipment inside their building.

In confirmation of the foregoing report .....  
CHAIRMAN  
.....  
DATE