

LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 19th May 2008 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor C Ambrose Smith
Councillor F J Brown
Councillor P M Cox
Councillor D E Gardiner
Councillor S D Kerridge
Councillor D T Murfitt
Councillor G Norman
Councillor M Pyrah

1. CHAIRMAN:

Councillor F J Brown was duly appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

2. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Councillor F J Brown signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:-None

5. APOLOGIES:

Councillors Boyd, Hayes, Wright and District Councillor Morrison

6. VICE- CHAIRMAN

Although concerns were raised about the nomination of the outgoing chairman as vice chairman in the absence of any other candidates Councillor Norman was duly appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year

7. COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS:

The Chairman and Vice Chairman are ex-officio members of all the committees and working parties.

Planning: Councillors Ambrose Smith, Boyd, Cox, Gardiner, Hayes, Lee, Kerridge, Murfitt and Pyrah

Finance: Councillors Boyd, Cox, Gardiner, Hayes, Kerridge, Lee, Murfitt, Pyrah and Wright

Safer Villages Initiative: Councillors Boyd, Cox, and Kerridge

Cemetery: Councillors Ambrose Smith, Boyd, Cox, Crane, Gardiner, Kerridge, Murfitt and Pyrah

Street Lighting: Councillors Cox and Ambrose Smith

Play Equipment, Allotment, Footpaths and Open Spaces: Councillors Boyd, Cox, Gardiner, Kerridge, Lee and Murfitt

Tree Planting: Councillors Kerridge and Ambrose Smith

Office Admin/CCTV/ Website: Councillors Cox and Wright

8 CALC REPRESENTATIVES

Councillors Cox and Gardiner were duly appointed as CALC representatives for the coming year.

9. LITTLEPORT LEISURE REPRESENTATIVES:

Councillors Crane was duly appointed as a representative to the Leisure Centre committee.

Members asked for the promised feedback from the committee on their business plan which was due to be agreed around March 2008.

10. CALC SUBSCRIPTION:

Members agreed to renew the CALC subscription in the sum of £596.59

11.. INSURANCE POLICIES AND DEEDS:

The Chairman confirmed that he had inspected the Insurance Policies and the revised list of deeds held by the Solicitors

12. CCTV MONITORS

The Clerk, Assistant Clerk and Councillor Cox were appointed CCTV monitors for the ensuing year.

13. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jo Fitzpatrick (ACRE) changed jobs now responsible for Landfill tax credits such as WREN etc

CALC Extraordinary General Meeting 31st May 2008

Environmental Action Day 20th May 2008

14. MINUTES:

Following the amendment to show Councillor Mrs Kerridge was a late arrival at the Planning Meeting on 21st April 2008 the reports of the Planning, Finance and Parish Council Meetings held on 21st April 2008 and the Planning Committee Meeting held on 12th May 2008 were then confirmed and signed.

15. FINANCE COMMITTEE:

The Finance Committee recommended acceptance of John Rudd's quote of £525.00 to decorate the exterior of 59 Parsons Lane. Approved

16 FOLLOW UP DIARY:

The Clerk reported:

A valuation had been carried out on 59 Parsons Lane.

17. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

No reports

18. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No report.

19 COMMUNITY BUILDINGS:

Councillor Cox reported that a comprehensive preliminary report on the Paddocks Project had been carried out and its findings would be presented shortly to a Special Parish Council Meeting. Canon Kirk are trying to trade off open space – more information is needed.

20 PAST CHAIRMAN'S ACTIONS

Members approved the past chairman's actions to include Littleport Village Hall's buildings and Contents insurance on the Parish Council's policy thus resulting in a saving in excess of £800 on the annual premium. The Village Hall has reimbursed the Parish Council with the full cost (£1520.40 for 15 months) also for the purchase of a new computer system following the complete crash of the system. The cost of the new computer will be within the precepted budget. Thanks to Councillor Cox for his invaluable help restoring the system.

21. ALCOHOL FREE ZONE – PARSONS LANE:

Members agreed to investigate this matter further and agreed it should extend to all play areas. St George's Medical Centre to be approached to see if they would like to be included. Main Street Car Park is another area to consider. If the zones are signed and designated it gives the police powers to confiscate the alcohol.

22. BLACK HORSE DROVE COMMUNITY ROOM:

County Council called a meeting of the interested parties on 12th May - the Community Association have been given a further two months to produce a business plan (11th July) and also to make an offer for the property.

23. HIGH STREET TOILETS:

County Council are looking into their deeds and are under the impression they own the toilets. Parish Council's Solicitor is doing a land registry search.

24. ELY MASTER PLAN:

Members felt the grandiose ideas will stifle the other villages. Refreshing to see something on paper but we should wait to see how it integrates with the Littleport Plan. The report was then received.

25. HIGHFIELD FARM DEVELOPMENT:

Following discussion of the proposal to off set the open space requirement on the Highfield Site with a financial contribution towards a MUGA on the Paddocks Councillor Mrs Kerridge proposed "The Parish Council requires to have the correct amount of open space provision for this development and does not wish money or equipment in lieu of this" Seconded by Councillor Norman and carried unanimously

26 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY EAST WARD:

Councillor Mrs Ambrose Smith declared her interest and left the meeting>

Two candidates had put themselves forward to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Councillor Mrs Howard. Ballot papers were issued and the result was as follows:-

David Ambrose Smith 2 votes Robin James Constable 5 votes.

27 LITTLEPORT VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

Councillors Gardiner and Murfitt agreed to join the Management Committee.

29 ANNUAL RETURN – AUDIT TO 31ST MARCH 2008

Members approved the annual return and the Chairman was authorised to sign the document on their behalf

In confirmation of the foregoing report
CHAIRMAN
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DATE