

LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 16th June 2008 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor C M Ambrose Smith
Councillor D J Boyd
Councillor F J W Brown
Councillor P M Cox
Councillor J H Crane
Councillor B W Hayes
Councillor S D Kerridge
Councillor G Norman
Councillor M Pyrah

Also present two members of the public, the Clerk and Trainee Clerk

CHAIRMAN]: Councillor Norman was appointed chairman for the meeting.

1. DECLARATIONS:

Councillor Hayes declared his interest in Agenda Item 13 and Councillor Norman Item 18

2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – None

3. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- i ECDC have secured a £5000 lottery grant for a teen shelter in Littleport –require more qualified information
- ii. Notification of changes of ECDC Chairman, Vice Chairman and Leader of the Council. Members congratulated Councillor F J W Brown on his appointment as Leader of the Council.

4. APOLOGIES: Councillors F J Brown, Gardiner, Lee, Murfitt and Wright

5. MINUTES:

The reports of the Finance and Annual Parish Council Meetings held on 19th May 2008, the Planning Meeting and the Special Parish Council Meetings held on 2nd June and the Allotments, Open Spaces, Footpaths and Play Equipment Working Party Meeting held on 9th June 2008 were confirmed.

6. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Members approved the amendments to the Financial Regulations and the referral of the Neighbourhood Watch funding request to the Neighbourhood Panels.

7. FOLLOW UP DIARY:

- i. Paddocks transfer reached stalemate. Clerk asked to write to David Barker correcting the inference that progress on the transfer was his fault.
- ii. Police will be responding more fully a later date to the request for alcohol free zones
- iii. Moore Stephens External Auditors acknowledged receipt of Annual Return

- iv. Leisure Centre will be forwarding their business plan shortly – delayed due to amendments
- v. Awarded a £350.00 grant from the Parish Paths Partnership

8. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

Councillor F J W Brown reported that the Ely Master plan was going back through the process and a working party was being put together for a Littleport Master plan and urged the parish council to become involved. Issues such as improved Station Car Park both quality and affordable housing and street lighting improvements should be considered.

Councillor Ambrose Smith hopes to be involved with the working party and will be pushing for the return of a secondary school.

9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: No report

10. ROYAL BRITISH LEGION:

Members approved paying over the balance of £934.59 from the VJ Lottery grant to the Littleport Branch of the Royal British Legion to help defray the costs of the Standards cleaning and repairs.

11. ALLOTMENTS:

Members received the report on the recent meeting.

12. SCOUT AND GUIDE HUT:

Councillor F J W Brown opened the discussion by expressing his concerns at how the sub lease from the Leisure Centre is being interpreted and the Leisure Centre is abusing the facility.

Various correspondence has been circulated and the Clerk read a letter from the Leisure Centre secretary responding to grievances. Members need to be sure of their facts. According to the sub lease it is at the discretion of the Trustees of the Leisure Centre whether or not to invoke the 5 day rule which would allow the Leisure Centre access to the Scout and Guides facilities for a maximum of 5 days annually.

All the leases and agreements to the Camel Road site should be investigated and the Parish Council should act as mediator.

Councillor Brown proposed the Parish Council consult with the trustees to see how they stand and then call a round table meeting with everyone. Seconded by Councillor Pyrah and carried.

13. JOINTLY FUNDED MINOR IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES 2009-10:

Councillor Hayes left the meeting.

Following lengthy discussion members agreed to put forward improvements to footpaths on Parsons Lane and traffic calming measures near the two primary schools on Parsons Lane and Grange Lane.

Councillor Hayes returned to the meeting.

14 BT PHONE BOXES:

Members agreed it was a fait accompli regarding the removal of three pay phones in this district. BT should be asked to make provision elsewhere for the public to make telephone calls.

15. LDF:

Members were urged to make sure they are happy with the content and to look at the affordable housing statements. Release of land for self build for local people was a very successful initiative years ago.

Because of the complexity of the document it was agreed to hold a special meeting to cover the LDF documents. Agreed to hold the meeting on 23rd June 2008 following the scheduled planning meeting.

16. REQUEST FOR NEW BUS STOPS:

Members agreed to refer the requests from several residents of Lynn Road for a new bus route/stop the County Council.

17. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS:

In confirmation of the foregoing report

CHAIRMAN

.....
DATE