

LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 20th April 2009 at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

- Councillor F J Brown
- Councillor C M Ambrose Smith
- Councillor D J Boyd
- Councillor F J W Brown
- Councillor R Constable
- Councillor P M Cox
- Councillor J H Crane
- Councillor D Gardiner
- Councillor B W Hayes
- Councillor S D Kerridge
- Councillor T J Lee
- Councillor D Murfitt
- Councillor G Norman
- Councillor M Pyrah
- Councillor A N Wright

Also present the Clerk and Assistant Clerk

1. DECLARATIONS: Councillor Lee declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 13
2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – None
3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Following the successful opening of the new Pathfinder Play equipment at Parsons Lane the aerial runway was showing signs of excessive wear and tear not conducive to the age of the equipment. Members agreed to hold off payment for this equipment, ensure the area was safe and to invite the manufacturers Kompan to a site meeting as a matter of urgency.

Independent Commission investigating traffic issues in Cambridgeshire are holding a meeting next week at the Maltings. Councillor F J W Brown will represent the council at the meeting.

East Cambs Golf Tournament 26th June

ACRE survey for affordable housing at Black Horse Drove concluded there was no requirement

4. APOLOGIES: None
5. MINUTES:

Before reports of the Finance and Parish Council and, Cemetery Working Party Meetings held on 16th March 2009, the Planning Committee Meeting and Special Parish Council Meeting held on 6th April 2009 were confirmed Councillor Cox stated that some figures had not been included the meeting notes. Councillor F J W Brown proposed accepting the

minutes as a true record Seconded by Councillor Pyrah and carried. Councillor Wright stated the correct course of action to follow was that the minutes are correct and Councillor Cox should properly request an agenda item to cover the issue. The reports were then duly signed as correct records

6. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Councillor Norman reported on the following recommendations:-

- i. Not to pay the Kompan account until satisfied with the new play equipment
- ii. Approve payment of £55613 to purchase Black Horse Drove Community Centre
- iii. Confirm purchase on new ride on mower for cemetery

Agreed.

7. FOLLOW UP DIARY:

The Clerk reported on a site meeting with a local building firm and representatives of the Black Horse Drove Community Building Management Committee to look draw up a schedule of works required prior to making grant applications for the works that day.

8. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

Councillor Wright reported there were adequate resources to fund the Littleport master plan which should commence in late summer or early autumn.

Councillor F J W Brown asked the Parish Council to put on their thinking caps for the master plan process. Suggested Littleport Station enhancement

Councillor Ambrose Smith suggested that a special meeting of the council should be held to discuss the forthcoming master plan. Agreed.

9. CEMETERY STAFFING:

Councillor Pyrah reported on the recent interviews to employ a new handy person. From the seven invited to interview, one had already secured employment, one failed to attend and the interview panel were unanimous in their selection of Jason Law from the remaining. Mr Law commenced his employment on 14th April 2009.

Councillor Pyrah produced a list and status of works carried out by Tony Sindall outside the cemetery and he was to be congratulated for this work.

The Clerk had managed to speak to Mrs Cole regarding a suitable retirement gift for John Cole following his 32 years of employment. A budget limit of £500.00 was set to cover the cost of a greenhouse and/ or cold frames and commemorative plaque. It was hoped to make the presentation at the annual cemetery inspection meeting to be held in late June/July.

10. HIGH STREET TOILETS:

The County Council have written again asking if the Parish Council is interested in purchasing all or part of the site of the redundant toilets.

Following discussion members were in agreement that they could see no commercial value in the site and wondered if the County were paying empty building rates and insurance. Not interested in purchasing the area but would relieve the county of their responsibilities and convert it into a pocket park.

Agreed to contact the Tree Officer to have Tree Preservation Orders placed on the trees on the site.

11. POWER OF WELLBEING:

Councillor F J W Brown proposed to do nothing; seconded by Councillor Crane and carried.

12. DOG LITTER BINS:

Members agreed to do nothing at this stage following a request from Remus the managing agents for Highfields. A revised planning application on the site is anticipated.

13. LLOYDS PHARMACY:

Following a complaint from a local resident regarding the frequent closures of the Pharmacy members agreed to write to Lloyds reminding them of the past agreement and support given by the Parish Council when the medical practice relocated to Parsons Lane.

14. SHAPING THE FUTURE:

Members agreed this was a never ending paper trail and what is to be gained from it, better to concentrate on the Littleport Master Plan

15. YPL –RECENT PRESS COVERAGE:

Members agreed not to respond but agreed they do provide a service. No recent formal applications for funds have been received from the group.

16. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

17. EXEMPT MINUTES

The Exempt minutes from the meeting held on 16th March 2009 were confirmed.

In confirmation of the foregoing report

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CHAIRMAN

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DATE