

## LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 17th August 2009 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor F J Brown  
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 T J Lee  
Councillor M Pyrah  
Councillor A N Wright

Also present the Clerk and Assistant Clerk

1. DECLARATIONS: Clerk Agenda Item 13
2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – None
- 3 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Reminder to Committee Chairmen and spokespersons to consider holding their budget meetings.

Resident from Little Downham phoned to say how pleased she was to see a new Coop store coming to Littleport

ECDC are looking for facilities to carry out small scale vaccinations for vulnerable people.

Code of Conduct Training to take place in the autumn.

4. & 5 YOUTH PROVISION and SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT:

The Chairman welcomed Jo Sollars from OCYPS to the meeting to provide an update on youth provision in Littleport.

Mrs Sollars started by saying there have been changes in the management structure at County and working under one directorate since April 2009 has been successful. Viv Merryweather has been appointed as a new locality youth worker.

From the autumn the team will be working in partnership with the Fire Service to provide a drop in facility at the Fire Station on a Friday night for the 15 – 19 year old.

Mrs Sollars went on to report she was a member of a new group working with the police regarding anti social behaviour, the group was formed by the police as part of their action plan arising from the Neighbourhood Panel's list of priorities. Councillors F J W Brown and Wright were unaware of this group.

Councillor Wright proceeded to read out an e mail regarding a resurgence of anti social behaviour at the Skate Park.

Councillor Mrs Kerridge asked if there was a shortfall of provision in Littleport compared with the rest of the district. Mrs Sollars did not think so. Councillor F J W Brown asked what the cost was per head for youth provision in Littleport. The figure was not known.

Councillor Hayes asked what the County Council's specific responsibility for youth is. The Education Act wording is not clear – only says satisfactory provision.

There is only a modest budget to cover the three youth workers and some for part time sessions. Work with Littleport youth is carried out at City of Ely College at lunch times; shortly the existing youth club will relocate to the Scout Hut.

Councillors were concerned about the service level agreement and wondered if other parishes had signed up to it. Following discussion members could not see the need to for the agreement. A simple contract year on year should suffice with a statement from the County outlining the costs. The Parish Councils contribution equates to 3% of their annual precept, it is unknown what percentage the County Council puts in to youth.

It had been noted that the charges for the youth club had been reduced from £2.00 a session to £1.00.

Councillor Cox asked what has happened to the Section 106 money for youth provision. Mrs Sollars would be happy to report back to the council with the answers to their queries.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Sollars for attending.

6. APOLOGIES: Councillors Gardiner, Murfitt and Norman

7. MINUTES:

The reports of the Planning, Finance and Parish Council Meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2009, the Planning Committee Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2009, were confirmed

8. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: None

9. FOLLOW UP DIARY:

The Clerk reported:-

Friars Nine – Council cannot register the land until it has been fenced off securely for 12 years.

Black Horse Drove: Community Hall Planning Application – flood risk assessment may be required.

Play Area – Monster Play delivering the equipment next week – our cemetery staff will erect the equipment under the supervision of the suppliers. Will require purchase of cement for the installation. The undertakers have been informed that the staff will be away from the cemetery for several days. Councillor Pyrah reassured Councillor Mrs Kerridge that the men had the necessary insurance cover.

An insurance claim has been submitted to Allianz regarding the damage done to CCTV Camera 6 and its power supply caused by a power surge.

Sanctuary Hereward's response to the letting policy changes had been circulated and members were pleased with the outcome. However it was agreed to write again asking for confirmation that they will make all efforts to check with existing house tenants to see if they want to downsize to bungalows thereby freeing up family accommodation.

#### 10. & 11 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS & COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

Councillor F J W Brown combined his two reports.

The footpath near to Parsons Lane Primary School is being extended; preventative measures to stop cars going on the adjacent grass are being considered together with the siting of some play equipment.

Councillor Brown has complained about the condition of the Ely/Littleport by pass.

#### 12. ELY /LITTLEPORT BY PASS

Members were unanimous in their criticism of the recent road works carried out on the bypass and level crossing.

Agreed to write to Network Rail about the poor reinstatement of the level crossing. It was further agreed to enlist the support of City of Ely Council campaigning to the County about the poor condition of the whole bypass and to protest publicly.

#### 13. VILLAGE HALL REPAIRS:

In the absence of Councillor Norman members were presented with a detailed list of repairs etc required at the Village Hall including re roofing the building. Some estimates for the work have been received including £12/15000 for the roof.

Councillor F J W Brown suggested the money be drawn from Section 106 and that the flat roof should be covered with fibreglass which has a 50 year guarantee. The matter should be dealt with quickly.

#### 14. BRANCHING OUT – WOODEN GIFT:

The Clerk reported that Branching Out were able to produce a gibbet or a carving in wood.

Councillor F J W Brown proposed a gibbet seconded by Councillor Cox. Councillor Mrs Kerridge proposed an amendment seconded by Councillor Lee to ask the Littleport Society for suggestions. The amendment was carried 6 – 4.

#### 15. CHAIRMAN'S ACTION:

The expenditure approved by the chairman to fund the CCTV camera repairs and replacement computer was confirmed.

16. AGE CONCERN:

Councillor Mrs Kerridge reported on the shortfall in funding for the Age Concern Warden scheme. Following her detailed report Members concurred that this was a worthwhile scheme and fully supported the work of the Warden and they would like to see a copy of the accounts.

Councillor Wright said the scheme has unanimous support and serious consideration be made at the next budget round.

17. PARSONS LANE/WOODFEN ROAD PARKING RESTRICTIONS:

Members approved the County Council's proposals for parking restrictions in the vicinity of Parsons Lane Primary School.

18. ASSISTANT CLERKS CONTRACT:

The Assistant Clerk left the meeting.

Members agreed moving the Assistant Clerk to NJC Scale 17 with effect from the anniversary of her appointment. New scale 12/37 of £16,663.

In confirmation of the foregoing report

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CHAIRMAN

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DATE