

## LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 16th November 2009 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor F J Brown  
Councillor C M Ambrose Smith  
Councillor F J W Brown  
Councillor P M Cox  
Councillor J H Crane  
Councillor B W Hayes  
Councillor T J Lee  
Councillor D Murfitt  
Councillor G Norman  
Councillor M Pyrah  
Councillor A N Wright

Also present the Clerk

1. DECLARATIONS: None
2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – None
3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Letter of thanks received from YPL re: 137 grant  
Invitation to book launch by local author  
Welney Parish Council would like to hold a meeting with other local councils to discuss local issues – agreed to attend.  
Branching Out AGM 19<sup>th</sup> November  
Allotments broken into again over the weekend

4. APOLOGIES: Councillors Crane and Gardiner
5. MINUTES:

The reports of the Finance Meeting held on 19th October 2009 and, the Planning Committee Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009 were confirmed

6. COUNCIL MINUTES:

Before approving the council minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009 for publication Councillor Ambrose Smith asked for the wording to be changed in paragraph 3 Agenda Item 21 to read Jeanette Thompson had actually..... instead of she had actually .....

The minutes were then confirmed and the matter is closed.

7. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Councillor Norman reported on the staff pay awards including a pay rise of 38p/month to Mrs E Sindall (Cemetery toilet cleaner)

8 FOLLOW UP DIARY:

Councillor Wright asked what progress had been made with the formation of a Youth Council. The Clerk would follow this up and invite members of Ely Youth Council to attend a future council meeting to outline the requirements to form a youth council.

9. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

Councillors Ambrose Smith and Wright had nothing to report.

Councillor F J W Brown reminded parish councillors of the opportunities through the Masterplan to achieve future goals for the parish.

Councillor Wright questioned when the Ely Masterplan would become a legal document. This will have to dovetail with the LDF.

10. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

Councillor F J W Brown reported on the creation of footpath around the open space at Parsons Lane opposite the Primary School. Bollards would also be erected to stop illegal trespass by motor vehicle over the area.

Notices are out for access protection marking at Milken on Lynn Road.

11. DRAFT PRECEPT 2010 – 2011:

Members considered the draft precept for the next financial year and asked questions on budgeting, should there be a general fund and renaming the emergency reserve fund.

Councillor Wright proposed submitting the estimated figure of £128185 to ECDC and when the precept is presented in January for final approval additional information will include actual spend figures to date for the current financial year.

12. SKATE PARK DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACE ORDERS AND BYLAWS:

Councillor F J W Brown proposed filling in the skate park bowl with soil, mothballing it for a period of time and placing obstacles to prevent cars coming on to the site. Seconded by Councillor Ambrose Smith.

The Designated Public Place orders are currently under revision.

The Clerk to check the status of the revised bylaws. Therefore an amendment was made to the proposition that if the bylaws exist to leave the bowl and if not to reconsider filling it in. Carried with Councillor Hayes abstaining.

The Leisure Centre would be kept informed of any actions.

13. RISK ASSESSMENTS:

Members approved adoption of the risk assessments and congratulated the Assistant Clerk for their clarity.

14. NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL PROVISION:

Councillor Cox reported on the first of a series of meetings to discuss the provision of a new secondary school. At the meeting the consensus was to locate the school in Littleport and not Chettisham. The Sixth Form curriculum requires opening up.

Members were urged to support locating the school in Littleport through the Masterplan process

15. ADIZONE PLAY AREA – WOODFEN ROAD:

The District Council have secured funding to erect an Adizone Play Area at Woodfen Road on District Council owned land.

Members questioned responsibilities for maintenance, fencing in the project, nuisance to neighbours (there are 20 houses affected by the proposal) this could be an ideal vehicle for the proposed Youth Council to be involved with.

Councillor Lee proposed accepting the District Council led project with the proviso that all the neighbouring properties have been properly consulted. Seconded by Councillor Pyrah and carried. Councillor Cox abstained.

16. PATHFINDER PLAY SCHEME PLANTING PLAN – PARSONS LANE:

The Parish Council are holding the £6070 funds for this project in their bank account. No report on the planting scheme has been received to date.

17. LITTLEPORT AREA OF SPECIAL NEED:

Councillor F J W Brown reported that Fenland were in receipt of funds but locally most of Littleport, part of Little Downham and Pymoor were missing out.

We should take the opportunity to challenge the LSP, CPALC and the LAA. We should make sure we get parity with Fenland. It is understood the office to contact is Mike Davey.

Councillor F J W Brown seconded by Councillor Pyrah proposed the Chairman should question through the LSP and CPALC why there is disparity and no recognition of the area status of Littleport. Agreed.

In confirmation of the foregoing report

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CHAIRMAN

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DATE