

## LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 18th January 2010 at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

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

Also present 19 members of the public, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk

1. DECLARATIONS: N one
2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME –

A representative from the members of the public attending the meeting read a statement opposing the proposed siting of the Adizone Equipment on the open space at Woodfen Road. The Clerk read out a statement produced by Councillor Hayes noting their objections and the options open to the council.

Following an open discussion the Chairman thanked the public for their attendance.

Councillors resolved to alter the order of business and bring forward Agenda Item 12

### 12. ADIZONE PLAY EQUIPMENT:

Following the local resident's objection to the location of the proposed Adizone Play Equipment councillors discussed the options of alternative sites for the equipment. Two alternative sites suggested were Parsons Lane Play Area or the Leisure Centre.

Councillor Wright proposed in the light of the Petition by residents of the area the council can no longer support the site at Woodfen Road Seconded by Councillor Pyrah and carried. Councillor Mrs Boyd and Councillor Murfitt abstained.

Councillor Wright continued that the Parsons Lane Play area was also surrounded by houses and residents would have to be consulted. He suggested that the council should enter into negotiations with the Leisure Centre. Members were concerned that the equipment should not be a liability to the Leisure Centre and the Parish Council accepts responsibility. Councillor Wright proposed that the equipment should be located at the Leisure Centre and the Chairman and Vice Chairman should enter into negotiations with the Leisure Centre

Management Committee. Seconded by Councillor Pyrah and carried with Councillor Mrs Boyd against.

3. YOUTH COUNCIL: Still waiting for Ely Youth Council to respond to invitations

4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Response from East Cambs Strategic Partnership re: Funding opportunities for Littleport – circulated

Neighbourhood Panel Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> January

Code of Conduct Training reminder to councillors

5. APOLOGIES: Councillor Constable

6. MINUTES:

The reports of the Finance and Parish Council Meetings held on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2010 and the Planning Committee Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2010, were confirmed

7. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: None

8. FOLLOW UP DIARY:

The Clerk reported- Grit bin locations were subject to County Council Highways approval and Willow Court did not have a safe location for a bin. The bins are subject to enough other councils taking up the offer of the cut price.

Black Horse Drove extension and improvements were being retendered and the three previous firms will be invited to re-tender. The Clerk confirmed the Management Committee had a constitution and it was difficult to produce an accurate business plan whilst they were unable to hire out the hall. These issues will be followed up.

Improvement East – Cecilia Tredget responded to the request for funding to assist the council amends its bylaws pointing out there were no funds available to parish councils.

9 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

Councillor Ambrose Smith reported on a positive second Masterplan meeting.

Councillor Wright reported on the impact of the District Council's deficit in the next few years. This will impact on pay freezes, promotions and redundancies. Small grants and AdEC will be hit. It is possible that pre planning advice may be charged for in future. There are no plans to charge for car parks at present.

10. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: No report

11. PRECEPT 2011-2011:

Members considered the precept allocations for the year 2010 -2011 and agreed to increase allocations for expenditure on new paths in the cemetery by £4000. Due to a clerical error

the Village Hall support showed £25000 instead of £1500. After the adjustments the sum requested from East Cambs Distract Council is£117205 for the year 2010-2011 compared to £134098 in the current year.

A copy of the precept follows these minutes.

13. CCTV – ESSENTIAL REPAIRS:

Members approved the Chairman’s actions to authorise the replacement and expenditure of £6699.00 plus VAT for the CCTV recording devise and associated works.

14. MASTERPLAN REPORT:

Councillor Pyrah reported on the second meeting of the Littleport Masterplan and thanked the five councillors for attending. There will be an open exhibition in the Village Hall on January 30<sup>th</sup> and February 2nd when it is hoped the presentation made by Sally Bonnett will be repeated,

Members questioned the need to employ consultants at a cost of £40000 when the work could be done in house by District Council Officers.

In confirmation of the foregoing report

.....

CHAIRMAN

.....

DATE