

LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 17th May 2010 at 7.35pm

PRESENT: Councillor D J Boyd
 Councillor F J Brown
 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 one member of the public, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk

Councillor Brown opened the meeting by thanking the Councillors and office staff for their support during his two years as chairman

1. CHAIRMAN:

Councillor G Norman was duly elected to serve as Chairman for the ensuing year.

2. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:

Councillor Norman signed the declaration of acceptance of office

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Councillor Hayes declared his personal interest in Agenda Item 10

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: - None

5. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ambrose Smith

6. VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Two nominations for Vice Chairman Councillors Gardiner and Lee were duly proposed and seconded. A ballot was taken and Councillor Gardiner was duly elected by 8 votes to 4

7 COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS:

The Chairman and Vice Chairman are ex-officio members of all the committees and working parties.

Planning: Councillors Ambrose Smith, Boyd, F J Brown, Constable, Cox, Crane, Hayes, Lee, Kerridge, Murfitt and Pyrah

Finance: Councillors Boyd, F J Brown, Cox, Crane, Hayes, Kerridge, Lee, Murfitt, Pyrah and Wright

Cemetery: Councillors Ambrose Smith, Boyd, F J Brown, Cox, Crane, Kerridge, Lee, Murfitt and Pyrah

Street Lighting: Councillors F J Brown, Cox and Ambrose Smith

Play Equipment, Allotment, Footpaths and Open Spaces: Councillors Boyd, F J Brown, Cox, Kerridge and Lee

Tree Planting: Councillors Boyd, F J Brown, Kerridge, Lee and Ambrose Smith

Office Admin/CCTV/ Website: Councillors Cox

Neighbourhood Panel: Councillors Boyd, F J Brown, Cox, Gardiner

8 CPALC REPRESENTATIVES

Councillors Hayes and Lee were duly appointed as CALC representatives for the coming year.

9. LITTLEPORT LEISURE REPRESENTATIVES:

It was agreed there should be parish council representation on the Leisure Centre committee. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Immediate Past Chairman were therefore nominated to represent the Council.

10. CPALC SUBSCRIPTION:

Members agreed to renew the CPALC subscription in the sum of £622.44

11. INSURANCE POLICIES AND DEEDS:

Insurance Policies and the list of deeds held by the Solicitors are available for inspection

12. CCTV MONITORS

The Clerk and Assistant Clerk were appointed CCTV monitors for the ensuing year.

13. STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:

The new Standing Orders and current Financial Regulations were approved without further amendment.

14. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Card of appreciation received re: Council staffs prompt actions to repair a seat in the Cemetery.

Letter of thanks from Littleport Show re: 137 Grant
Councillors F J Brown and Crane attended the Sanctuary Hereward walkabout at Highfields today.

New footpath agreed at Branch Bridge landowner and CCC

15. MINUTES:

The reports of the Planning, Finance and Parish Council Meetings and the confidential minutes held on 19th April 2010 and the Planning Committee Meeting held on 10th May 2009 were confirmed and signed.

16. FINANCE

i. PAYMENTS:

The following payments were made out of meeting for the period 19th April 2010 to 17th May 2010

102517	Anglian Water (Cemetery)	12.27
102518	Anglian Water (BHD)	42.04
102519	ECDC (rates BHD)	51.00
102520	Petrol Cash	90.00
102521	Petrol cash	60.00
102522	Elaine Sindall	22.78
102523	ECDC	55.35
102524	Petrol cash	40.00
DD	ECDC	73.00
BACS	Barclays Bank (wages)	1616.16

ii. ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

The following orders for payment were confirmed and the cheques drawn

102525	Inland Revenue	804.92
102526	L Clarke-Jones	986.31
102527	Helen Merrick	412.66
102528	ACRE	25.00
102529	J H Adams	28.49
102530	Allen's Skip Hire	358.98
102531	Aon Limited	6805.09
102532	Anglian Water (cemetery)	2.80
102533	Branching Out	68.00
102534	CCC (youth grant)	2720.00
102535	CCC (Superannuation)	888.25
102536	CGM Ltd	440.35
102537	Chubb	231.03
102538	Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	23.48
102539	Littleport Town Football Club	120.00
102540	James Lee Electrical Ltd	187.05
102541	G Murfet	78.00
102542	NALC	13.50

102543	G & J Peck	73.21
102544	PHS Datashred	89.89
102545	Thurlow Nunn Standen	22.99
102546	Victoria Tyres	17.62

iii. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

The monthly statement for April 2010 was received without further comment

17. FOLLOW UP DIARY:

The Clerk reported that she had submitted the grant application for Section 106 money to meet the costs of the extension and refurbishment of Black Horse Drove Community Centre. The appropriate committee at ECDC meet this week and a decision should be known shortly.

Attended a site meeting with Kevin Hall County Council Highways RE JFMI works at Grange Lane. Proposals will be submitted to full council for approval in due course.

Littleport Town Lands Charity made a donation to the Library Service for the Summer Reading scheme which was gratefully received.

18 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

Councillor Wright reported on the public consultation process re: moving away from committees to Cabinet format. The Parish Council can make their views known and any changes will coincide with a new council after the local elections in 2011.

Chief Officer David Archer has retired. Andrew Killington was acting Chief Executive during John Hill's 6 month absence; he is now deputy chief executive.

Members questioned the black hole in the Council's budget – District Audit said the budget is on target though Councillor Wright was not privy to how the full savings are met.

19. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

No report. Councillor Hayes asked when the Council had last received a report.

20. SKATE PARK:

The chairman declared his personal interest.

Councillor Lee had spoken to the young people who were upset at the proposed "mothballing" of the skate park. He was informed it was the best facility in the area and people travelled many miles to use it.

The youth were invited to meet the council to discuss the situation. Broken glass in the bowl was a regular hazard and the users regularly cleared the debris.

Councillor Hayes produced some factual information collated by the Leisure Centre on the usage of the facility early evening figures showed an average of 16 per day.

Discussion ensued regarding the fencing off of the facility; asking the Leisure Centre staff to lock it as dusk and to draw to the attention of the police the photographic evidence on "facebook" of anti social behaviour and ask them to prosecute.

Councillor Lee proposed the previous decision be rescinded Seconded by Councillor Crane and carried.

Members then approved the new proposition to install a bund adjacent to the footpath on Camel Road, keep the park open for a six month trial and to ask the Police to look at the website pictures and take action to prosecute.

21. CEMETERY FOOTPATHS:

Councillor Pyrah asked for a date to be agreed for a Cemetery site meeting. He continued to ask approval from the council to replace two additional footpaths in this financial year following information from the Clerk of the cemeteries increased income in the previous financial year and the early payment discount the first two paths payment could be met from the 2009-2010 budgets. The Clerk's action was approved by council.

Councillor Pyrah then reported that Gray's surfacing were still the cheapest quote at £9677 for the additional paths leaving a shortfall of £677 from the precepted amount for the current financial year.

Councillor Wright proposed acceptance of the quotation from Grays Surfacing and the £677 shortfall be found from within the Cemeteries budget Seconded by Councillor Hayes and carried. Councillors Kerridge and Murfitt abstained.

22. ANNUAL AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE 2009 – 10:

Members approved the annual governance statement which was duly signed by the chairman.

Councillor Hayes queried what did we budget and what did we spend?

In confirmation of the foregoing report

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CHAIRMAN

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DATE