

## LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2010 at 7.30pm

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

Also present the Clerk

1. DECLARATIONS: None
2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – None
3. YOUTH WORK PRESENTATION:

The Chairman welcomed Viv Merryweather the Locality Youth Work Co-ordinator to the meeting who proceeded to give a detailed report on the current youth activity in the village and future projects, however in the current economic crisis redundancies and cuts are inevitable. Future Council spending is likely to be capped – meetings have been arranged for stakeholders to discuss the budgetary cuts

Following questions on finance Ms Merryweather confirmed that it cost £3750 P/A to run an evening's youth club, the figure included room hire and staff costs. No response was given to the question asking whether the County Council were honouring those statutory obligations on youth provision.

Ms Merryweather was thanked for her report

4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

New chairman and vice chairman at East Cambs District Council  
Network Rail are installing equipment near Shippea Hill Station to link in with a railway communication system across the entire rail network

5. APOLOGIES: Councillors Lee and Pyrah
6. MINUTES:

The reports of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010, the Planning Committee Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 and the Cemetery Advisory Committee Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010, were confirmed

7. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: None

8. FOLLOW UP DIARY:

The clerk reported: Registration of all the Council's property was now complete and the deeds and documents have been returned to the Council.

Following a successful grant application for Section 106 funding work has commenced on the refurbishment and extension of Black Horse Drove Community Building

Littleport Village Hall Access improvements is now complete and all grant monies have been paid,

Skate Park – had a meeting with the police and they are looking into a possible prosecution on the baseball player

Adizone installation is currently underway and the Stage 1 payment had been made from a grant.

Wicksteed Play has carried out the annual inspections on the play equipment. Most of the repairs can be done in house.

Following the need to replace a smoke detector in the Barn by using a scaffolding tower – the detector was moved to allow subsequent replacements to be done by ladder. The light bulbs were also changed – it is four years since they were done. The spare bulbs will be used to replace other more accessible lights.

9. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

Councillor Ambrose Smith reported on her attendance at a meeting discussing the EDF planning process.

Councillor Wright felt that masterplans and village plans were not effective unless they were incorporated into a planning document. Tends to be a lot of talk and not much action.

He further reported there will a census next year. Census day 27<sup>th</sup> March 2011

10. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: No report

11. CEMETERY REPORT:

Members received the report from the Cemetery Advisory Committee and approved

- the purchase of a new Husqvarna ride on mower and Strimmer from Pecks
- quotations to improve cremation plots £558.00 plus VAT, path edgings £547.00 plus VAT - funding coming from within cemetery budget for 2010-2011
- Parish Council cannot use red diesel therefore bunded tank is not required.

The Clerk reported that Mr Justin Smith from Cemetery Development Services will be attending the next full council meeting to discuss the Environment Agencies response to the Horsley Hale site and the options open to the council.

Comments were passed about the apparent disharmony between council staff. The "jobs for all" employee has settled in well.

12. ANNUAL AUDIT 2009-2010 – INTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT.

The complete report submitted by the internal auditor was circulated to all members and was duly received.

The Clerk has submitted a proposal the Allianz regarding the increase in the Fidelity guarantee. This will be brought back to council when the quotation is received.

13. JOINTLY FUNDED MINOR IMPROVEMENTS 2011-2012

Members agreed not to put forward any schemes for the next bidding round. They were not keen to see the introduction of a one way system in Millpit Furlong – this had been looked at several years ago with no easy solution.

14. ECDC DECISION MAKING ARRANGEMENTS;

Councillors Ambrose Smith and Wright declared their interests and refrained from influencing councillors.

Members fully discussed all the options and noted that no costs were included for the various options.

Councillor Murfitt proposed staying with the status quo the Committee system Seconded by Councillor Francis Brown and carried unanimously. Councillors Ambrose Smith and Wright abstained.

15. STAFF APPRAISALS

It was unanimously agreed to appoint Councillor Mrs Boyd to carry out staff appraisals and Councillor Gardiner as her deputy.

16. LITTLEPORT LEISURE – SECTION 106 GRANT:

Member agreed to support Littleport Leisure in their request to ECDC for grant funding utilising the Section 106 fund.

In confirmation of the foregoing report

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CHAIRMAN

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DATE