

## LITTLEPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Parish Council Meeting held in The Barn on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

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

Also present the Clerk and Assistant Clerk

1. DECLARATIONS: Councillor Gardiner declared his personal interest in Agenda Item 16

2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME :

Councillor Gardiner outlined background to the Stepping Stones receipt of hedging plants from Sainsbury's indicating there were too many plants for the playgroup to utilise at their play group.

3. YOUTH PRESENTATION:

The Chairman welcomed Viv Merryweather, three young members of the Youth Club together with Nathan Jones of AdEC.

The presentation outlined the works and events of the past year pointing out that funding for the next financial year and staff cuts are inevitable. They would be looking to the Parish Council for funding in the current year.

A question and answer session ensued. Councillor Wright asked what contributions the young members paid for attending the various events. No charges are made. He felt strongly that some nominal fee should be charged.

Ms Merryweather and team were thanked for attending.

4. SECONDARY EDUCATION IN LITTLEPORT

The Chairman welcomed Ian Trafford Education Property Officer, Wendy Haigh Principal Policy Officer and Alison Cook School Planning Officer from Cambridgeshire County Council.

It was noted that currently 40% of the children attending City of Ely College are bussed in from Littleport. Due to development in the area a need for a further secondary school was

established resulting in Littleport being chosen for the new school. A number of sites have been identified however each has its own problems which will require viability evaluations.

Once a site has been identified planning and design will take about 18 months a further 18 months in the building and time for site acquisition.

Funding will come from Section 106 Agreements/Infrastructure levies.

The site option adjacent to the Leisure Centre could reduce costs by sharing facilities which are underutilised during the week and has 35 acres of open space around it.

Bussing students to Ely is costing around £400,000 P/A this money would produce revenue savings which would service capital expenditure.

Millfield Primary School still has the capacity for extension. County Council are aware of a campaign to provide a "free school".

The three officers were thanked for attending

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Remembrance Day Parade 14<sup>th</sup> November

Letter of thanks from RBL for the new hooks on war memorial which have subsequently been vandalised. New hooks will be in place shortly.

Level Crossing on by pass will be closed overnight 13/14 November

Conservation Area Drop in session 21<sup>st</sup> October

Reminder to Advisory Committees to hold their Precept meetings.

6. APOLOGIES: Councillors Constable and Lee

7. MINUTES:

The reports of the Finance and Parish Council Meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010 and the Planning Committee Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2010 were confirmed

8. FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Chairman reported on the following recommendations of the Finance Committee

- i. To accept the grass cutting quote from CGM Landscapes as the lowest at £2008.70 P/A
- ii Section 137 Grants  
To make a token payment of £100.00 to My Time Active subject to approval from CPALC  
To award St George's PCC £200.00 towards the upgrade of the hearing loop
- iii. Ely and Soham Dial-a- ride to submit their request for funding on the appropriate form

Agreed

9. FOLLOW UP DIARY:

Members were asked to confirm the telephone etc details on the list of contacts. Members were asked to note the private numbers of the Clerk and Assistant Clerk are there for emergencies only. Amendments and corrections will be made to the list.

Cemetery Land purchase – contacted agents for vendors and purchasers. Checking if District Valuer needs to be involved. Spoken to CPALC regarding loan. Agreement for the loan must be obtained from Department of Communities and Local Government IDB still to report back on lowering the water table.

Attended a meeting to look at fencing the Adizone and providing lighting mounted on the Leisure Centre. Quotes not to hand.

Still chasing up the Insurance claim for the Cemetery Break in.

#### 10. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

Councillor Mrs. Ambrose Smith reminded members of the Masterplan meeting this week and the Neighbourhood Panel next week.

Councillor Wright reported on meetings he had attended saying that the proposal for a uniform colour for taxis in ECDC had been dropped

Councillor F J W Brown combined his reports:

He urged the council to send a message to the Masterplan group on their preferred site option for the new secondary school.

Canon Kirk may be in a position to hand over the Paddocks in 2011/2012

Thames Link are proposing to stop the Main Line Service from King's Lynn to London and provide a shuttle link to and from Cambridge for all stations up the line.

The Drainage System rear of the Holmes requires planning permission.

A consensus of members when asked for their preferred option for the new school opted for the Leisure Centre site by a large majority.

#### 11 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

See above.

#### 12. MURFITT INDUSTRIES:

Members received the correspondence regarding Murfitt Industries plans for the site on Wisbech Road., Currently it is being used to store processed materials and they have no plans to redevelop the site to its former use as a tyre processing plant.

#### 13. STAFF CRB CHECKS:

Awaiting response to enquiries whether council staff require them.

14. BRANCHING OUT – ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS PROJECT:

Agreed to ask Marion Arnold the Age UK Community Warden if she knows of any persons who would benefit from the Branching Out students unit on Environmental Awareness.

15. YOUTH PROVISION:

Members received the document outlining the possible cuts in Youth Service provision unless external funding is obtained.

Councillor Wright proposed members of the youth groups should make contributions and any grant application should be conditional upon seeing some self help.

Councillor Hayes reported that the parish is likely to receive an approach from another youth group offering their services.

In confirmation of the foregoing report

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CHAIRMAN

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DATE