

ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Helen Dunn, The Beeches, 32 Mill Street, Isleham, Ely, Cambs. CB7 5RY

Email: islehampc@gmail.com

Chairman: Mr Richard Radcliffe

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD on

Monday 2nd October 2023

Those Present; Cllr D Beckett (DB); Cllr V Bruyneel-Smith (VBS) Cllr M Caffarelli (MC); Cllr C Corbin, Cllr A Dennis (AD) Cllr C Elmer (CE); Cllr A Noble (AN); Cllr G Preece (GP), Cllr R Radcliffe (RR), Cllr A Burn (AB), Clls P Wilkes (PW).

Members of the public: 7 incl Cllr Goldsack (CCC) and Cllr Pettitt (ECDC)

Quorum: 4

Clerk: Helen Dunn

		Action
23-24/112	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE LGA 1972s95	
	Cllr J Huffer	
23-24/113	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	
	Nil matters	
23-24/114	OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (15mins)	
(a)	It was reported that the Speed Watch had identified significant danger to children outside the school premises on Maltings Lane during drop off/pick up times. Contributing factors discussed include queues before school gates are opened, dogs, lingering parents, poor parking, limited access to school car park for staff, large vehicles traveling along Malting Lane. Contact Headteacher to discuss ways of improving this situation.	Clerk
23-24/115	TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD: Monday 4th September 2023	
	AB requested an update on development of the Pound It was proposed by MC and seconded by DB to approve the above minutes UNANIMOUS Approval of September Excluded minutes outstanding.	Clerk Clerk
23-24/116	MATTERS ARISING / CLERKS REPORT (also see appendix 1)	
(a)	<u>Sunnica</u> Extension of deadline noted	
(b)	<u>Weed Spraying</u> Issues including water drainage, blockages, increased grass seed effecting dog grooming requirements and increased vet bills discussed. Councillors to contribute to survey response.	Clerk
	7.38pm VBS arrived	
(c)	<u>Bloor Homes Fence – Minute 23/24 121a</u>	
23-24/117	COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT & BUSINESS	
(a)	<u>County Councillors Report – see appendix 2</u>	

	AB requested to MG the possibility of a new cycle route/path Isleham to Soham. MG agreed to attend a working party to discuss further.	AB & MG
(b)	<u>District Councillors Report</u> Nil matters	
23-24/118	PLANNING MATTERS	
(a)	Planning Applications:	
	23/00984/FUL Replacement dwelling (demolition of existing) with altered dropped kerb /access and associated works. 2 Station Road . Mr M Tarver	Clerk
	No objections	
	23/01005/FUL Single storey side extension and associated works (Retrospective) 15 Church Lane. Mr & Mrs King	Clerk
	No objections	
	23/01019/TRE T1 Beech – Cut back spread on house side above conservatory by approximately 3 – 3.5m. Raise to clear roof by approximately 1.5m, taper into remainder of canopy to shape. T2 Ash – Cut back above conservatory by approximately 2.5m. T4 Eucalyptus – Fell. 1 Mill Street. Styman.	
	No objections	
	21/01830/NMAA Non material amendment to previously approved 21/01830/FUL for erection of a coach workshop building with ancillary offices, concrete pad and associated works. 102 Beck Road. Neals Travel	
	No objections	
	23/01025/TRE G1 Lilac trees – Crown lift to 3m on highway boundary side and pollard to no less than 3m in height G2 Holly trees – Crown lift to 3m on neighbour’s side of boundary and pollard to no less than 5m in height G3 Laurel – Viburnum trees – Crown lift to 3m on neighbour’s side of boundary, pollard to no less than 3m in height and remove deadwood 26 Pound Lane. Mr Edd Evans-Morley	
	No objections	
	23/00451/FUL Retention of livestock barn and stable block with external cladding, porta cabin and completion of implements store in association with farm holding – retrospective Land North East Of 29A Prickwillow Road. Mr & Mrs Martyn & Kate Mackinnon	
	Called In to ECDC. Objections include: The development has a detrimental visual impact on the village this most rural part of our village and dominates the views from the Prickwillow Road. The reduction in height to the one building does not make the scheme acceptable. The Councils reasons that this application should be refused remain. These are:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The positioning of these large / tall outbuildings so close to a highway does have a detrimental impact on rural views The need for such large storage building for such a small parcel of agricultural land appears unjustified <p>Any approval could lead to an application for conversion of the buildings into residential dwelling(s) which would be beyond the Development Envelope and other criteria identified in the Isleham Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	Clerk
(b)	<p>Planning Approvals</p> <p>23/00200/FUL Change of use of annexe to holiday let – retrospective 14 East Fen Road</p> <p>21/01572/FUM Construction of 45 dwellings, new access, estate roads, driveways, parking areas, open space, external lighting, pumping station and associated infrastructure Land West Of Station Road</p>	
(c)	<p>Planning Refusals</p> <p>Nil matters</p>	
(d)	<p>Other Planning Matters</p> <p>Updates on the following sites were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mill St (Pattersons Stores) Hall Barn Rd /Temple Rd Pound Lane (opposite Pound Church) 	
23-24/119 POLICE MATTERS		
	<p>9 crimes were reported here in July 2023 (down from 24 offences in June)</p> <p>Violence and sexual offences 5 Anti-social behaviour 1 Burglary 1 All other crime 2</p> <p>It was noted that The Beeches main hall availability has been provided to MG to organise the Public crime meeting</p>	MG
23-24/120 PLAY AREA & SKATEPARK		
(a)	PW – Request to repair Rope Swing ASAP	Clerk & TW
23-24/121 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS		
(a)	<p><u>Boundary Fencing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that SP Landscapes have been commissioned to undertake the work. Fence to match existing style adopted by Bloor Homes at cost of £14,475. ECDC have clarified positioning of the fence on their land Further circa £400 to remove and dispose of previous fence and circa £200 to remove Blackthorn from hedge. Total circa £16k. Hedge will need to be cut back initially but can be allowed to grow back and higher once work is done. Work to be completed in December by John Allen. <p>Proposed by DB and seconded by CC to approve the above quotes .</p> <p style="text-align: right;">UNANIMOUS</p>	DB
(b)	<p><u>Agronomy quotes and soil testing</u></p> <p>AN has obtained 3 quotes and organised for an Agronomist to assess the Rec on</p>	AN

	Monday 9 th October.	
(c)	<p><u>Steve Issacson</u> Apology issued for not previously requesting extended use of the Recreation ground by the Council for the summer holiday camps. Request for the Children's bootcamp to be held again on 23/24 October 2023 with possible future dates to be added.</p> <p>GP proposed and AN seconded that the Bootcamp can continue to be held on the Rec with an agreed £1 charge per expected child attendance. For the two dates in October this would total a £60 hire charge for use of the Recreation Ground. This agreement was reached without prejudice to other users of the Recreation Ground.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">UNANIMOUS</p>	Clerk
(d)	<p><u>Tractor Shed Storage Use</u> 6 month refund approved to the Scouting Group once they have vacated the shed.</p> <p>The Beeches Entertainers to move to left hand side and the Gala Committee to occupy and pay for other two thirds. Approved by Council</p>	Clerk & JH
(e)	<p><u>Tractor Shed Pest Control</u> Update given regarding rats in the Tractor Shed. Making good progress. Approved two separate reports to be made within the pest control contract:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tractor shed and bin store (paid by IPC) • Inside the Beeches. (paid by ICA) <p>Proposed by PW and seconded by GP</p> <p style="text-align: right;">UNANIMOUS</p>	Clerk
(f)	<p><u>MUGA lights</u> Agreed to not repair lights yet and to allow another year of rent-free use</p>	Clerk
(g)	<p><u>Car Park bollard lights and Beeches Garden lights</u> It was agreed to obtain a report on all external lights at The Beeches and obtain quotes as necessary.</p>	Clerk
(h)	<p><u>Crown lift and shape trees in the car park</u> Obtain 2 quotes for the work</p>	Clerk
23-24/122 CEMETERY & CHURCHYARD MATTERS		
(a)	<p><u>Burials: BA and JB</u></p> <p>It was proposed by PW and seconded by GP to approve the above interments of ashes</p>	Clerk
(b)	<p><u>Minutes of Cemetery Working Party Meeting</u> Minutes of the above meeting were shared and noted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future burial site options were discussed and will be revisited. Investigate using plots that were last used over 100 years ago. • War Graves were cleaned last year. • Hole in new cemetery hedge is growing back fast so no issue. • Quote required for repairs on church wall • Quote required to rehang gates for Old Cemetery • Investigate whether new residential fence has been erected on Cemetery land. Check boundary • New Working Party date to be set 	Clerk Clerk Clerk Clerk
23-24/123 ICA REPORT/THE BEECHES		
(a)	<p><u>Trustee Report (MT).</u> Request to use outside of The Beeches for the Christmas Market on the 8th December.</p>	

	This was proposed by GP and seconded by PW for approval with no charge. UNANIMOUS	
(b)	<u>Meter Operator Contract (CC)</u> Meter is due for replacing. CC using broker to explore options	CC
(c)	<u>Changing Room maintenance</u> Obtain structural engineer quotes for cracks in the changing rooms	Clerk
(d)	<u>Heating</u> Urgent requirement for new heating system due to current faults and leaks. A commercial engineer is required. Consider grants for replacing heating systems. Advice being sought and options explored. It was proposed by PW and seconded by GP to approve a replacement of the tank and associated works up to £6000 and options for replacement of the water and heating system be prepared. UNANIMOUS	CC & MC
23-24/124 MONTHLY FINANCIAL MATTERS		
(a)	<u>Pay Accounts</u> It was proposed by DB and seconded by PW to approve the above accounts UNANIMOUS	JH
(b)	<u>To Approve Bank Reconciliation for August 2023</u> It was proposed by DB and seconded by CC to approve the above reconciliations UNANIMOUS	JH
(c)	<u>Dunstall Grant Application - Frederick Cadman – Carpenter Part 2</u> It was proposed by DB and seconded by AN to approve the remaining claim of £165.93 to bring total to £400 UNANIMOUS	Clerk & JH
(d)	<u>Dunstall Grant Application – Anna Palmer – University degree</u> It was proposed by DB and seconded by MC to approve the full grant of £400. UNANIMOUS	Clerk & JH
(e)	<u>Council Direct Magazine</u> Not required by any Councillor	
(f)	<u>Bank Account Changes</u> Details switched to JH Proposed by PW and seconded by DB	JH
(g)	<u>Burial fees</u> Obtain comparison fees from surrounding villages and towns. Add item to finance meeting	Clerk Clerk
(h)	<u>Isleham P C Charity Signatories</u> All 11 current Councillors should be listed as signatories for accounts as follows: Anne Noble Alastair Burn Dr Christopher Corbin Christopher Elmer Alan Dennis Marco Cafferelli Glenda Preece Richard Radcliffe Vanessa Bruyneel-Smith Pauline Wilkes Derrick Beckett	JH

	The Santander Savings and Current Account should reflect the above list and all other signatories should be removed.	
23-24/125 HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATH MATTERS		
(a)	<u>LHI Fordham Rd:</u> It was noted that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The total cost to IPC of the proposed project is circa £6,500 More detailed costing to follow Approved by Council at the stage 	
(b)	<u>LHI Pound Lane/Prickwillow Road</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive and negative comments and opinions of the public were noted. Concern noted of the width of the proposed pinch point. Check with CCC that the width is standard size and check if there are any agricultural vehicles that would be restricted here. Contact Fordham Parish Council to enquire about their recent pinch point installation, regarding width. <p>Actions proposed by CC and seconded by GP.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">UNANIMOUS</p>	Clerk Clerk
(c)	<u>Road Closure 30.10 – 17.11.23 Beck Rd Anglian water SPA project</u> The above road closure was noted	
(d)	<u>Road Closure Sheldricks Rd 9.10 – 27.10 Anglian Water SPA project</u> The above road closure was noted	
(e)	<u>Proposed speed reduction, Beck Road</u> The above speed reduction was noted and Councillors expressed an interest in making the reduction permanent	Clerk
(f)	<u>Addition of property name - 13 Ashfield Gardens – Norley House</u> Noted by Council	
(g)	<u>Orchard area – overgrown footpath</u> Agreed this is the responsibility of IPC to maintain this area. Obtain quotes x2_	Clerk
(h)	<u>Nature Reserve Footpath</u> Path is approved and will be accessible when current crop of Beet is cut. It was proposed by PW and seconded by AN to respond to last correspondence and sign the Permissive path agreement. <p style="text-align: right;">UNANIMOUS</p>	Clerk
(i)	<u>Speed Monitors</u> Batteries need replacing still until new VAS cameras arrive and are installed. TW to manage this.	Clerk & TW
23-24/126 PARISH COUNCIL POLICY UPDATES AND REVIEW		
	Nil matters	
23-24/127 CORRESPONDENCE/MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY		
(a)	<u>Football parking issues</u> Contact the football clubs and thank them for their use of the roadside cones. Request these are continued to be used and encourage safer parking.	Clerk
23-24/128 ALLOTMENT MATTERS		
(a)	Allotment fees to be discussed at the next Finance meeting	Clerk & JH

(b)	Plan next Working Party	Clerk
23-24/129	ORCHARD MATTERS	
(a)	New fence and gate required to stop cars turning and parking in the orchard, and to secure the land. Quotes considered and further circa £300 to install gate/fence required. Can CIL money be used? Obtain further quotes.	Clerk
23-24/130	WASH & ENVIRONMENT MATTERS	
(a)	<p><u>Mins of Environment Working Party Meeting</u> Minutes of the above meeting were shared</p> <p>AB outlined plans for the village and estimated £6-10k required to carry out the proposals. Add to Finance meeting</p> <p>Contact residents for cooperation</p> <p>Contact Sam Earl regarding The Pound improvements</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk & PW</p> <p>Clerk</p>
(b)	ACV (AN) Asset of Community Value -Orchard and Nature Reserve Noted by Council	
(c)	<p>Flood Action Conference feedback (AN) AN commented that following attendance of this conference, it was felt that it would be beneficial to create a Community Resilience Plan for all emergencies in the village. Particularly with vulnerable residents in mind.</p> <p>Reference the East Cambs template and request the East Cambs plan</p> <p>Create a new Working Party group</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
23-24/131	<p>EXCLUDED MATTERS 9.55pm Meeting closed to the press and public</p> <p>Proposed by PW and seconded by VBS</p> <p style="text-align: right;">UNANIMOUS</p>	
23-24/132	DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS	
	The Beeches Trustees – rearrange to late Oct/early Nov	Clerk
	Finance Meeting – Mon 23 rd October	Clerk
	Monday 6th November	
	Monday 4 th December	
23-24/133	AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT / FUTURE MEETING – see Appendix 1	

Appendix 1 October action

Agenda	Action Point	Responsible
114a	Contact Headteacher re. school parking	Clerk
	Complete and distribute draft mins	Clerk
115	Forward Sept mins for posting	Clerk

115	Contact Sam Earl re. The Pound	Clerk
115	Obtain approval of Sept Excluded minutes	Clerk
116a	Circulate weed management survey to Councillors	Clerk
116a	Complete survey	Clerk
116c	Discuss Isleham/Soham cycle route/path	AB/MG
118	Submit planning responses	Clerk
119	Arrange public crime meeting	Clerk/ MG
120a	Repair rope swing	Clerk/ TW
121a	Commission Boundary fence	DB
121b	Explore Agronomy for Rec	AN
121c	Contact SI to confirm use of Rec	Clerk
121d	Refund Scouts for 6 month hire	Clerk / JH
121d	Arrange new hire of Tractor shed	Clerk / JH
121e	Communicate new reports for pest control	Clerk / JH
121f	Notify ITC of free MUGA use	Clerk
121g	Obtain report and electrical quote	Clerk
121h	Obtain quotes for Beeches tree work	Clerk
122a	Complete burial paperwork x 2	Clerk
122b	Investigate using burial plots over 100 yrs old	Clerk
122b	Quote for church wall- Old Cem	Clerk
122b	Quote to rehang gates- Old Cem.	Clerk
122b	Check New Cem boundary	Clerk
122b	Set new WP date - Cemetery	Clerk
123b	Meter Operator Contract	CC
123c	Obtain structural engineer quotes for changing rooms	Clerk
123d	Heating – Urgent	CC / MC
124a	Complete pay accounts	JH
124b	Complete bank rec	JH
124c/d	Confirm and pay Dunstall grants	Clerk/ JH
124f	Complete bank account changes	JH
124g	Obtain comparison burial fees	Clerk
124g	Compile Finance meeting agenda	Clerk / JH
124h	Change signatories for charity account	JH
125a	Progress LHI Fordham Road	Clerk / RR

125b	Query vehicle width with CCC – Pound Lane	Clerk
125b	Contact Fordham re pinch point	Clerk
125e	Explore making speed reduction permanent – Beck Road	Clerk
125g	Obtain quotes for Orchard area paths	Clerk
125h	Permissive Path agreement – Nature Reserve	Clerk
125i	Speed Monitors battery replacement	Clerk / TW
127a	Contact football team and respond to resident re parking	Clerk
128b	Set new WP date - Allotments	Clerk
129a	Obtain further quotes – orchard fence	Clerk
130a	Contact residents - Env	Clerk / PW
130c	Obtain East Cambs template & plan for Community Resilience/Emergency	Clerk
130c	Set new date for WP – Env	Clerk
132	Rearrange Beeches Trustees WP meeting	Clerk
	OTHER WORK CARRIED OUT THIS MONTH	
	Commissioned interim repairs to Beeches hall doors	
	Liaising with Bloor Homes re. Gifted land	
	Commissioned Annual test and inspection of Lightning Protection System	
	Exploring Log Tunnel replacement/repair for playground	
	Defibrillator reset	
	Allotment review	
	ACTIONS CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS MONTHS	
035a	Organise and complete identified work at The Beeches: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Block paving - Cracks - Service hatch - Wood stain 	Clerk/TW
035a	Organise and complete identified work at The Beeches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stain fencing - Reposition post box - Window clean - Wash patio 	ICA
251	Established ownership of parcel of verge on Church Lane	
257a	Proposals for concrete patio	ICE
99d	Order no dog sign	Clerk
99e	ICE net request	Clerk

101b	Clarify Changing room responsibilities	JH / Fin WP
101d	Commission roof repairs	Clerk
103b	Follow up VAS signs	Clerk

Appendix 2 County Councillor report

Monthly report

Another quiet month for meetings but busy enough in the village

Isleham Primary School

I attended a recent Trust meeting to discuss the issues this term with child intake. Policy is National but we have arranged for early meetings with LA officers to support the school for future issues. The real issue is Isleham growth will be years before two form entry is needed and 1.5 years entry doesn't work. So travel to alternative schools remains the option at this time

Pathway to Hall Barn Rd

The clerk has been contacted I understand but this should now be ready to complete once the crop installed is harvested.

Weeds

I have walked the village and photographed numerous bad growth of weeds. These pictures have been sent to head of Highways asking to rectification asap. Meanwhile we have a motion to return cyclic weed killing which was stopped to save money!

STZ

This appears to now be dead so no plans are current for paid car or vehicle use into Cambridge. I think this is an example of people power influencing local politicians that, in my opinion, failed to value the whole county impact and focussed just on City!

Cpca

Travel plan vetoed by PBoro so not implementedZ this is mainly a political right with the Labour a mayor and the Tory PBoro Council. I'll keep you updated on outcome but it is not destined to improve any bus routes for Isleham