

ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Interim Clerk Mrs Jeanette Borderick, 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

4TH March 2024

AT THE BEECHES

Those Present; Cllr R Radcliffe (RR); Cllr D Beckett (DB); Cllr Mrs Preece (GP); Cllr Mrs P Wilkes (PW); Cllr M Caffarelli (MC) Cll Chris Elmer (CP); Cll Alan Dennis (AD); Cllr C Corbin (CC); Cllr Anne Noble (AN)

Members: 10

Quorum: 4

Clerk: Jeanette Borderick (JB)

Parishioners: 10 District Councillor 1 Julia Huffer

Cll Radcliffe announced the sad death of Mr Geoff Garbutt, who served on the Parish Council for many years. A moment of silent appreciation was held.

423-24/222	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE LGA 1972s95	Action
	Alistair Burn	
23-24/223	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	
	None	
23-24/224	OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (15mins)	
	Mrs Clarke expressed concern about the mounting cost of installing traffic calming measures on Fordham Road and Pound Lane. This to be discussed item 23-24/237 Mrs Deacon, Head of Isleham Primary School, expressed her appreciation of the environmental initiatives between the school and the Parish Council, and suggested further activities the school would like to be involved with. RR thanked Mrs Deacon and the Environmental WP for the work they were undertaking	
232-4/225	TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 4th March 2019 Proposed DB, seconded MC	Unanimous
23-24/226	MATTERS ARISING / CLERKS REPORT	
a	Clerk Vacancy: Clerk Mrs H. Dunn has resigned. Mrs J Borderick has agreed to take the position on a temporary basis	
b	Web site development: CC reported that Aubergine offered a favourable deal that will meet our needs, and they will minimise set up costs by adjusting to our need	
c	IT upgrade: This is now up and running, and Rialtas will be installed. The telephone has arrived, and up-to-date software protection	
23-24/227	COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT & BUSINESS	
a	District Councillor Mrs Huffer reported the District Council has had a Council Tax freeze for the 11 th consecutive year, the only district council in the country to do so. It has a balanced budget for the next 2 years, free parking is to be retained, the building of 100K house is to be funded, there is no external debt or borrowing, and	

	funding for a Bereavement Centre. Julia and Kelly are investigating the possibility of getting a privately run bus to take children to 6 th form colleges in Cambridge	
b	County Councillor: MG away	
23-24/228	MONTHLY FINANCIAL MATTERS:	
a	Approve accounts January 2024: Queries Adobe – do we need the whole suite? Proposed CC seconded AN	Unanimous
b	Approve Bank Reconciliation for January 2024. Proposed DB seconded AD	Unanimous
c	RFO suggested we keep a Petty Cash account of £50. The Financial Regs will need to be amended. Proposed CC seconded DB	
d	Fixed Asset Register: Councillors were asked to study this and contact RFO with any changes	
e	Dunstall Grant Application: Jack Palmer, 80 Waterside, Isleham, aged 19 The applicant has lived in the village for over 12 months and is employed as an apprentice HGV Technician at Manchetts, Newmarket. The grant is claimed for tools, £400 relating to his work, and is supported by his employer. Proposed by PW seconded by DB that we pay the maximum grant of £400. Cllr V B-S arrived at 7.42pm	Unanimous
23-24/229	ICA REPORT/THE BEECHES	
a	Trustee Report (MT) Matt thanked the Parish Council for meeting with ICA/ICE re. the lease	
b	1. IPC/ICA meeting 26/2/2024 It was suggested that to conform to the lease: 2. IPC to pay for use of meeting rooms etc at the local rate 3. IPC pay The Beeches £30 per month for broadband, utilities etc in the Parish Office. Proposed PW seconded GP 4. The changing rooms be returned to the management of the Beeches. Proposed DB seconded MC	
	It was also agreed that The Beeches arrange bookings for the Memorial Garden, and hold Aa business calendar available to the Parish Council. Prop GP , sec PW	Unanimous
	Patio Grant Application: ICA had applied to the Cambridge Community Foundation for this grant, which was refused, though they were informed it would have been more favourable if it was supported financially by the Parish Council. Councillors agreed RFO be asked to obtain 3 quotes for the cost of the patio to bring to next Parish Council meeting.	
23-24/230	RECREATION GROUND, PLAY AREA & SKATEPARK MATTERS	
a	Access way and MUGA works (DB/RR). MUGA works are progressing, but the remaining Tennis Court will need a complete clean, which cannot be carried out until the weather improves. Additional works were emailed to Councillors. It was proposed by PW, seconded by CC that these be approved at a cost of £5322. This will be covered by funds in the MUGA reserve fund.	Unanimous
b	Fertiliser for Recreation Ground: AN has obtained a quote for bespoke fertiliser, delivery time 2-4 weeks, report emailed to Councillors. It was agreed that 2 further	

	quotes be obtained, to be considered by the Recreation Ground Committee, cost of up to £1400 proposed by CC, seconded by VB-S.	
c	Spinner Roundabout replacement deck: at a cost of £600 -quote from Wicksteed to repair this. Proposed by DB seconded by PW	Unanimous
23-24/231	ENVIRONMENT & THE WASH MATTERS	
a	Wash Gateway and link to EA proposed work: the EA will not be doing any work on the bank. For any work the Parish Council does we will have to obtain a permit to improve, at a cost of £170.	
b	Village Planting Schemes: AN reported that more bushes had been planted to fill gaps in the hedge. Thanks to the Nature Reserve for their help, and to children at Isleham School. The bulbs planted in the Autumn are looking very attractive.	
c	Village Memorial maintenance, cleaning, and tidying: The Isleham Society have volunteered to take over this work which was proposed CC seconded PW. IPC will continue to pay for any maintenance of the Memorial.	Unanimous
d	IPC noticeboard on The Pound: The Isleham Society would like to use this, placing it on the wall. Proposed CC seconded PW to transfer ownership of the Board to the Isleham Society at no cost.	Unanimous
23-24/232	CEMETERY AND BURIAL MATTERS	
	Burial Fees 2024/25 Comparisons of other local village costs of burial, which showed Isleham prices much lower. It was agreed prices must cover the costs involved in maintaining the cemetery. It was proposed by CC and seconded by DB that the price list must be simplified, and charges increased by 50%	Unanimous
23-24/233	ALLOTMENTS	
a	Mapping Allotment plots: MC will do this on 8th March	
b	Allotment Security: Zoe Leeson reported that thefts had occurred on the allotments. The Allotment WP had emphasised that the gate must be kept locked, which is not happening. The WP will take this forward,	
23-23/234	PLANNING MATTERS	
	Planning Applications:	
a	23/00996/FUL Boundary Fence – retrospective. Plan submitted showing reduction of 1.8 metre fence to 1.3 metres. 7 Beech Close	No comment
b	24/00146/FUM Land North of Health Centre, Brewhouse (GIA) Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire. Development of a new health care facility of 1.895m2 (GIA) and pharmacy of 120m2 (GIA) (Use Class E(e)), associated car parking, lighting, landscaping, public realm and utilities, demolition of existing Staploe Medical Centre, pharmacy, and 59 Brewhouse Lane (and associated structures) and utilisation of existing access to Brewhouse Lane.	Fully support development
c	TPO/E/O"/24 River bank adj Trelander, 18 Prickwillow Road, Isleham to adj Larkhall Farmhouse, 38 Prickwillow Road, Isleham. Tree Preservation Order.	No Comment
23-24/235	Planning Approvals	
a	23/01267/FUL Co-op 2 West Street, Isleham. Installation of roller shutter approved.	
b	23/01357/CLP 14 Church Lane, Isleham Ely, Cambs CB7 5SQ. To cover the lawful	

	development of the installation of a heat pump at the right rear (which is in addition to an existing air condition unit already installed at the property)	
23-24/236	Other Planning Matters	
a	23/01326/FUL 25 The Pits, Isleham, scheme for replacement dwelling withdrawn.	
b	Cheveley Neighbourhood Plan.	Noted
23-24/237	HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATH MATTERS	
a	County Council Weed Management proposed PW, seconded DB we have no objection to the proposal to re-instate weed management	
b	LHI Pound Lane/Prickwillow Rd Calming Proposal. A meeting was held between representatives of IPC, local farmers, and Highways officers, to discuss the way forward. Plans have been drawn up, but agreement has not been reached. Mrs Clarke expressed her concern about the mounting cost of the project, which will result in increased cost for the village, whilst Cllr RR said pedestrian safety is a high priority. Highways advice is that Gateways are successful, and do slow down traffic. A further meeting is requested. Chris Reed, a parishioner, will email his concerns to CC LHI Fordham Road Traffic Calming Proposal – awaiting final costings	
c	Highways 20mph Funding Scheme: this is an annual scheme, but there was a suggestion that it may be the last year it operates. However, it was agreed that we will not apply this year, as the closing date means there is no time for the required public consultation.	
23-24/238	PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES AND REVIEWS	
a	Isleham Informer: Concern previously expressed about the cost to the Parish Council of this publication Suggested by GP that we increase advertising costs, they have remained the same for at least 5 years. Agreed they will be raised from 1st April by 20% GP asked if PC would pay half towards the cost of an A5 flyer – one side publicising advertising rates, the other side advertising The Beeches. Proposed CE seconded AD 4 quotes have been obtained from printers, as Gipping Press who have printed the Informer for several years, have raised their prices. It was suggested by CC and seconded by PW that we accept the quote of £720 from Limelight Design and Print, who offer a full cover magazine plus a free design service for £720. CC suggested we may no longer need the Adobe licence.	
b	Policy Review Working Group: RR will email round suggested dates for a meeting	
23-24/239	CORRESPONDENCE/MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY	
	Feed in Tariff Payment: thanks to CC for getting this sorted. The rate for exported electricity will be 7 1/2p per unit from 1 st April	
23-24/240	Excluded Matters	
	The meeting was closed at 21.01, when the press and public were asked to leave Proposed by PW and seconded by VBS UNANIMOUS	
	Meeting reopened 21.43	

23-24/-241	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	Monday 8th April	
	Annual Parish Meeting Monday 29th April	
	Monday 13th May	
	AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING	
	<i>Any business and payments, to be considered at Parish Council meeting must be delivered to the Clerk for inclusion on the agenda at least 7 days prior to the meeting.</i>	