

ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Clerk: Mrs Diane Bayliss
Chairman: Mr Derrick Beckett
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
MONDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2011
IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Those Present;- Cllr Beckett (DB) Cllr Mrs H Thompson (HT), Cllr Carter (TC), Cllr Mrs Malkin (JM) Cllr Baines (SB), Cllr Mrs Wilkes (PW), Mrs R Thompson (RT), Cllr Mrs Hobbs (EH), Cllr Neal (LN),
Clerk: Mrs D Bayliss
Members 11 Quorum 4
10 Parishioners:

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Action

10-11/236 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and approved from C Cllr Palmer, C Cllr Powley, and Cllr Earl (P)

1

10-11/237 COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on agenda

SB Planning Matters 10-11/252b) Prejudicial

LN Monthly Financial Matters 10-11/247h) Personal

LN Planning Matters 10-11/252a) Personal

DB Planning Matters 10-11/252a) Prejudicial

DB Planning Matters 10-11/252 Personal – Member of ECDC Planning Committee

RT Highways/Footpath Matters 10-11/250b) Personal

2

10-11/238 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs Clarke addressed the Council with a number of questions related to the Community Centre project which the Chairman agreed to have minuted:

1. Is the PC now in a position to confirm the total proceeds from the sale of the cemetery land? *This matter will be addressed later in the meeting Item 10-11/247d)*

2. There are concerns regarding the business plan and the uncertainty shown over some areas.

Could we have assurances that the Business plan:

- Is in two parts covering the capital project and the ongoing revenue items?
- Was the BP independently audited and found to be fit for purpose, and therefore did the Parish Councillors get full (independent) assurance that the plan worked?
- The BP seemed to be based on the successful Over model. However Over is located on the outskirts of Cambridge, whereas Isleham is a small fenland village – how was this factored into the calculations?
- What margin is there in the plan for over estimates of revenue income and underestimates of running costs?
- What assurances can the PC give us that further funds will not be asked from us if (a) the initial building project over-runs on budget? And (b) the estimates running costs and income generation are wrong?

These points will need to be replied to at another time as the PC has not had any direct input into the business plan.

3. Will all grants and funding be in place before the project starts? *Obviously £1m will be in place and most of the other grants should be as they usually have to be applied for before the project commences.*

4. Vote: the village vote was compromised – at the meeting one lady (who was speaking against the project) said that she did not get a voting paper, but managed to “pick one up at the Co-op” – how did that happen and what assurances do we have that non-council tax payers did not get one - or that multiple votes were cast? *PW addressed this matter as she personally gave a form to the lady in question who works at the Co-op. All photocopied forms were disregarded in the count either for or against the project.*

We would like a village referendum on such an important issue as this. *The Parish Council are under no obligation legally to carry out a referendum on this matter.*

10-11/239 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD 10th JANUARY 2011

It was proposed by TC and seconded by PW that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th

3

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January 2011 are approved as a true record of the business transacted and signed by the Chairman.

CARRIED

10-11/240 MATTERS ARISING/CLERKS REPORT (*for information only*)

- The hedge on Waterside has been cut back by the County Council.
- The Clerk is still awaiting a third quotation for the allotment roadway.

10-11/241 POLICE MATTERS

- a) The police report for January was read to the Council.

noted

10-11/242 VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

- a) The village hall working party met in January. The village hall budget has overrun this year so any expenditure will be kept to necessary items only. New smoke alarms and a mop are needed so these will be purchased. A new license called PPL is now required and will affect all groups who play music in the hall.

10-11/243 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS

- a) The Chairman congratulated Mr Ray Sheldrick on being awarded Grounds-man of the year.
b) The Council agreed that the Gala may be held at the recreation ground and village hall as in previous years It was proposed by TC and seconded by RT that the Council contribute half the cost of the toilets.

Clerk

CARRIED

- c) It was proposed by JM and seconded by SB that the play area inspection is carried out by Wickstead.

CARRIED

- d) It was proposed by RT and seconded by PW that letters are sent to the churches and interest groups to see if they are interested in holding an event for the Poppy Weekend in June.

CARRIED

10-11/244 CEMETERY AND CHURCHYARD MATTERS

- a) One of the holly trees in the new cemetery needs to be removed as it is right outside the side door of one of the new houses. Bloor Homes will provide the tree and arrange for its upkeep.

10-11/245 CORRESPONDENCE/MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- a) Weekly highlights with links to ECDC meetings have been sent to Councillors by email.
b) The Playing Field.
c) Ely/Soham/Littleport Newsletter.

Noted

Noted

Noted

10-11/246 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT & BUSINESS

- a) There was no report from the County Council.
b) Information on Localism Bill has been distributed by email.
c) There is to be one policy and resources committee who will deal with all financial decisions and various sub committees dealing with various other items.

10-11/247 MONTHLY FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) It was proposed by SB and seconded by EH that the January Bank Reconciliation is approved.

CARRIED

- b) It was proposed by PW and seconded by SB that the February Accounts are approved and paid.

Clerk

Salaries £1653.51

Tax & NI £414.10

Other Expenditure £2967.14

Petty Cash £24.50

Total Expenditure £5059.25

CARRIED

The cheques were signed by Cllr Baines, Cllr Carter and the Clerk.

- c) Following perusal of the budget report it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by SB that the Council apply for borrowing approval to the Secretary of State in order to proceed with the New Community Centre.

Clerk

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6 in favour
3 against

CARRIED

d) It was reported to the Council that the final sum received for the Cemetery Land was £764,929 including £36,000 which is to be reclaimed from ECDC via the section 106 agreement.

e) It was proposed by PW and seconded by JM that Mr Cox's contract of employment is approved for a further year.

CARRIED

f) It was proposed by DB and seconded by TC that the contract of employment for Mr Green is approved and will be reviewed in one year.

CARRIED

g) It was proposed by PW and seconded by EH that Mr Sheldrick continues to maintain the recreation ground for a further year.

CARRIED

h) It was proposed by TC and seconded by PW that the funding request from the Staploe Transport Association is approved at £400 in line with the budgetary provision already agreed for this year.

P/A
March

CARRIED

i) It was **resolved** that the Clerk should write to the County Council asking that the Village Maintenance Grant is not cut by more than 12.5%.

Clerk

10-11/248 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

a) The Parish Council election is to be held on Thursday 5th May 2011.

b) An election pack is available this evening for those councillors who wish to stand for re-election at the forthcoming parish council elections. Nomination papers can be submitted to the Clerk who will take them to the District Council on Wednesday 30th March 2011.

10-11/249 PARISH PLAN

- a)
- There may be changes to the recycling bank services so until this is sorted out an extra bin will not be installed. If the service does change a 7sqm bank will be installed; if not a second 2.5 litre bank will be installed.
 - The County Council are arranging the installation of the bollards on Malting Lane.
 - A number of sites have been suggested for the dog bins which are to be installed early in the new financial year. These are East Road/The Causeway; Hall barn Road/West Street; The Priory; East Road/Sun Street; Coates Drove; Outside the Post Office; Station Road and the industrial estate on Hall Barn Road.
 - The footpaths will be checked over in March in order that any remedial works can be carried out.
 - Concerns were raised about the leaves on the footpaths particularly in Malting Lane it is hoped that the new village maintenance person will clear these up next winter between visits from Veolia.

Clerk

10-11/250 HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATH MATTERS

a) JM reported that the passing place on Waterside is dangerous, the Clerk will pass this onto County Highways.

Clerk

b) The Council will contact the Environment Agency about the bank on Waterside Road/Fen Bank as it is being eroded away by cars parking on the verge.

Clerk

c) It was **agreed** that the Council will not have Gateway Features for Fordham Road installed at the present time.

Clerk

d) It was proposed by JM and seconded by SB that the Council make further enquiries about safety fencing or raising the kerb on the corner of Malting Lane/Beck Road.

Clerk

CARRIED

10-11/251 ALLOTMENT MATTERS

a) The Allotment Working Party met on 24th January.

- A press release has been sent out to local newspapers

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- A notice board advertising allotments on the Dunstall Site is required
- JM is looking into the possibility of setting up a Community Orchard
- Work has begun on the borehole
- The quotations for the roadway will be brought to the next meeting

It was proposed by RT and seconded by TC that the notice board (6' x 4') is purchased from Impress Express at a cost of £150.

Clerk

CARRIED

- b) It was proposed by SB and seconded by RT that Karen Jones is allowed to erect a shed (maximum size 6' x8') and is permitted to keep a maximum of 15 chickens.

Clerk

CARRIED

10-11/252

PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Planning Applications

Clerk

10/00982/FUL Erection of dwelling (existing dwelling to be demolished) at Chalk Farm, Temple Road, Isleham for Mr & Mrs Pammenter – no objection

DB left the meeting at 8.39pm and TC took the chair for the next item:

10/00923/FUL AMENDMENT to Proposed 4No Bedroom Detached 1 ½ storey dwelling – to replace existing derelict 2 Bedroom Semi-detached dwellings and conversion of existing clunch outbuilding to new garage at 44 East Fen Road for Mr Mayes – Re-orientation of dwelling to front of highway with changes to design detail – It was proposed by SB and seconded by HT that the council offer no objection to the proposal as long as the clunch wall is to be retained.

CARRIED

- b) DB returned to the meeting at 8.42pm

Planning Approvals

Noted

10/00978/FUL Proposed single storey rear extension at 11 Coates Drove for Mrs E King

10/00948/FUL Modified proposals of previously approved application (Ref No 10/00388/FUL Proposed two storey rear extension along with covered porch to side, including demolition and subsequent reconstruction of existing potting shed and other ancillary residential accommodation at Field Farmhouse 1 Temple Road, Isleham for Mr & Mrs Connor

10/00170/FUL Erection of detached house and garage to the rear of existing dwelling at 8 East Fen Road, Isleham for Mr & Mrs Baines

10/00786/FUM Creation of 21no. Three and four bedroom houses, plus associated roads, paths, car parking, garages and public open space (amendment of planning permission 09/00179/FUM)

- c) Other Planning Matters

Noted

It was proposed by PW and seconded by RT that the name 'Orchard Close' is put forward as first choice for the new development on Beck Road and that 'Millennium Close' is put forward as the second choice.

CARRIED

10-11/253

NATURE RESERVE

- a) JM reported that there are to be changes to the way the nature reserve working party is run owing to cuts by the County Council. Enquiries will be made into what insurance is necessary for the working group to carry on with their work without Charlotte Lowry as it is likely her job will cease in May. The Clerk will contact Witchford PC to see how they run their parish paths working groups.

Clerk

Funding has been procured for a recycled notice board to be erected at the site.

- b) It was proposed by PW and seconded by TC that the bin is installed at the nature reserve by T Wilding at a cost of £45.

Clerk

CARRIED

10-11/254

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

- Dial-a-Ride Bus
- Youth Bus

Clerk

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- Funding by Parish Council for village services such as Nature Reserve and Footpaths
- Write to village interest groups asking them to send a representative to the meeting.

10-11/255 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Monday 7th March 2011

10-11/256 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Village Maintenance Person

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.04pm

- 1) LGA 1972 s85
- 2) Dec of Interest Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 Part 2
- 3) Minutes LGA 1972 Sch 12, para 41(2)

Signed:

Chairman

Date: