

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
MONDAY 3rd MARCH 2014
AT THE BEECHES**

Those Present; - Cllr Beckett (DB); Cllr Patterson; (CP) Cllr Mrs H Thompson (HT); Cllr Mitchell (BM); Cllr Mrs Malkin (JM) Cllr Mrs P Wilkes (PW); Mrs Glenda Preece (GP); Cllr Chaplin; Cllr Radcliffe (RR); Cllr Neal (LN); Cllr Mrs V Bruyneel-Smith (VBS); arrived at 7.22pm
Members 11
Quorum 4
C Cllr Palmer
13 Parishioners

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13-14/213 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

13-14/214 C Cllr Schumann;

13-14/215 COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on agenda

DB Declared an in interest in item 13-14/230a) Planning Applications because of his position on ECDC planning committee.

13-14/216 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (15mins)

A number of residents from Bowers Lane felt the chairman had not represented the village fairly at the recent ECDC planning meeting regarding the planning application at 83 The Causeway, Isleham. Mr Chawner asked the Councillors what they consider their role is as parish councillor's in this community. If this is to benefit the whole community and ensure everyone has a fair hearing as was stated by Mr Beckett then he had failed in his duty in Mr Chawner's opinion.

Mr Ellwood asked why the planning application for grazing on Prickwillow Road was refused. This was not a Parish Council but a District Council decision.

Mr Flatt informed the Council that the barbed wire fence around his land has been checked with the Farmers Union and is legal.

Mr Ellwood asked why there was no money for the play area? He has been told this is nothing to do with 'The Beeches' however in his opinion if the building had not been built there would still be a play area.

Mr Saunders presented the Council with a petition showing support for the play park to help get the project moving. The petition has 450 signatures so far.

The question of whether there was any progress on play area funding? This is to be covered later on the agenda.

Mr Dunbavin asked about the Council's position regarding the skate park and was informed this is on the agenda for discussion. Mrs Dunbavin informed the Council Sanctuary Housing have awarded the group a grant of £1000.

Cllr VBS arrived at 7.22pm

13-14/217 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD 3rd FEBRUARY 2014

It was proposed by PC and seconded by BM that the minutes of the last meeting held on 3rd February 2014 are approved and signed.

CARRIED

13-14/218 MATTERS ARISING/CLERKS REPORT (for information only)

- A request for information regarding the planning application at 83 The Causeway has been received and responded to by the Clerk.
- The proposed cricket netting will be discussed under recreation ground matters.
- The electric box is being removed on Tuesday 4th March and the manhole cover should be lowered by the end of the week.

Monthly Financial Matters and Recreation Ground Matters were brought forward to enable members of the public to leave once these matters had been discussed should they wish to do so.

13-14/219 POLICE MATTERS (8.25pm)

- a)
- HT reported that the police have issued some parking tickets outside High Street Church on a Sunday evening recently.
 - There is no improvement in parking outside the school.

13-14/220 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT & BUSINESS

- a)
- The County Council will be increasing their share of the Council Tax by 1.99%
 - Money will have to be borrowed in the future to build new schools because of a decrease in government funding.
 - There are a large number of pot holes on the Prickwillow Road and Fordham Road
- b)
- It is budget time at ECDC there will be no increase in the East Cambs budget this year. (8.4million pound budget)
 - East Cambs DC have to make savings this year of £400,000 and they are looking at a £3million deficit in 3 years' time.

13-14/221 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS (Brought forward after Monthly Financial Matters 7.42pm)

- a)
- Two new Beech Trees have been planted on the Recreation Ground.
 - The MUGA Lighting system has been changed and is now on a timer so the lights are no longer activated by the gate.

Gary Cowling and Adrian Sheldrick attended the meeting on behalf of the Cricket Club and presented a risk assessment showing how cricket balls might affect the car park and new play area based on data and assumptions from 2013 season and assuming there would be games on the recreation ground every week.

- 91% of the balls leaving the field are at a low level but the higher hits are potentially more dangerous.
- Providing a 4m netting would give an 80% reduction in risk.

It may be possible to use temporary measures this summer – the biggest concern is that cricket balls may enter the play area and it was agreed that enquiries would be made to C J Murftitt to see what the cost would be of keeping the security fencing for the cricket season.

Copies of the risk assessment will be distributed to all councillors so they are able to digest the information and consider the matter at the next meeting.

- b)
- It was agreed that the cubs can use the recreation ground for a barbeque to promote the work of the Cubs and to seek to start a Scout pack in the village.

Clerk

- c) It was proposed by BM and seconded by CP that the quotation from Barcham Trees for trees for the recreation ground is approved. The funds for these trees have been donated by parishioners. Clerk

CARRIED

- d) It was proposed by PW and seconded by HT that the Recreation Ground Grass Cutting Contract is offered to Mr Ray Sheldrick for the forthcoming year. Clerk

CARRIED

- e) It was agreed that the Parish Council will apply for the grant from Amey Cespa towards the provision of the skate park.

- f) It was proposed by PC and seconded by RR that the Council apply to the DCLG for borrowing approval in order to take out a public works loan of £100,000 to be used to provide a play area, contribute to the skate park and pay for the necessary cricket safety fencing. Clerk

CARRIED

- g) A report on play provision from ECDC has been received by the Council. They had suggested that the Council contact Cambridgeshire Acre re funding for the new play area however the only suggestion made was Sport England who were contacted but would not support the play area as it has no sporting outcome. Noted

13-14/222 CEMETERY MATTERS

It was proposed by PW and seconded by HT that the Cemetery Mowers are booked in for their annual service at Pecks in Ely.

CARRIED

13-14/223 ICA REPORT

- a)
 - The ICA is still intending to sell off excess furniture to raise funds for the curtains and blinds needed for the centre.
 - 3 new members have joined the Centre Management committee
 - WiFi will soon be enabled throughout the whole building
 - A large doormat is being sourced for the entrance to the building
 - 200 new/second hand chairs and round tables have been purchased with the grant money from Lloyds TSB.
 - PC asked the Council who the old chairs from the village hall belong to?

It was proposed by RR and seconded by GP that the Council donate all old furniture/equipment from the village hall to the ICA to do with as they wish.

CARRIED

An email has been received from the architect with regard to the meeting held in January. No information is available at this time as they are awaiting responses from other consultants. RR suggested if we have not heard within 4 weeks we write again.

- b) It was proposed by PC and seconded by CP that the quotation notice board with toughened glass from JB & SB Fencing– the ICA should pay half the cost of this. Clerk

CARRIED

- c) A sign for the Beeches needs to be made the Clerk will ask JB & SB Fencing for a quotation for this. Clerk

13-14/224 OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CENTRE

The Council agreed that the opening of the Centre should be a day other than gala day.

13-14/225 MONTHLY FINANCIAL MATTERS (Brought Forward – after Matters Arising 7.35pm)

a) It was proposed by PW and seconded by BM that the January Bank Reconciliation is approved.

CARRIED

b) It was proposed by PW and seconded by RR that the February Bank Reconciliation is approved.

CARRIED

c) It was proposed by JM and seconded by PC that the March Accounts are approved and paid.

Clerk

Salaries £1859.84

Tax & NI £415.39

Building Project £66,834.89

Other Expenditure £7,444.86

Petty Cash £55.64

Total: £76,610.62

CARRIED

The cheques were signed by Cllr Chaplin and Cllr Radcliffe.

A meeting still needs to be held with the Informer team to discuss invoicing for future editions of the Informer.

GP/
PW
Clerk

It was proposed by GP and seconded by BM that a donation of £100 is made to MAGPAS.

CARRIED

13-14/226 HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATH MATTERS

a) The problem with pot holes has been much worse this year because there have been no gullies dug which is causing water to build up thereby creating pot holes. The council will write to the Highways Department.

Clerk

b) There is no further update on the Zebra Crossing however there are planning notices up on Malting Lane and Mill Street advertising the fact that it will be put in.

c) Jason Tyrrell has asked that the Council provide him with a list of street names where the footpaths need remedial works before the end of the financial year so that they can be considered for next year.

All
Clerk

d) Additional garden waste bins are available from ECDC at a licence cost of £48 per year. The bins are available on a first come first served basis.

13-14/227 CORRESPONDENCE/MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

a) Weekly Highlights sent to Councillors by email.

13-14/228 TO CONSIDER A PARISH COUNCIL FACEBOOK ACCOUNT FOR INFORMATION ONLY

It was proposed by RR and seconded by CP that an information only Facebook is set up for the Parish Council. Only the Parish Clerk will be able to post information on the site.

Clerk

CARRIED

13-14/229 NATURE RESERVE

It was agreed that Philip Clark and Alistair Burn attend the April meeting to bring the council up to date with the progress on the nature reserve and the possibilities for creating a nature reserve at the Luggar Bank.

13-14/230 PLANNING MATTERS

a) **Planning Applications**

13/00024/FUL Proposed replacement dwelling at 22 Little London for Mr & Mrs Turner – no objection

b) **Planning Approvals**

13/01064//OUT Construction of 1no three bedroom; two storey detached dwelling and double garage at 83 The Causeway, Isleham for Mr Earl.

c) **Other Planning Matters**

Buildings Of Local Interest Consultation – the Councillors were given the information and will bring any suggestions to the next meeting.

RR suggested that a planning officer come to talk to the Parish Council about planning law and the Parish Council role in responding to planning applications.

Clerk

13-14/231 TO SET DATE FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Monday 28th April 7.30pm

13-14/232 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

a) 7th April 2014

The date of the July meeting will be brought forward to Monday 30th June

13-14/233 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

DB reminded Councillors to notify the Clerk of any business and payments at least 7 days before the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.21pm

1. LGA 1972 s85
2. Dec of Interest Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2012
3. Minutes LGA 1972 Sch 12, para 41(2)

Signed:

Chairman

Date: