

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
2nd MARCH 2015
AT THE BEECHES**

Those Present; - Cllr Beckett (DB); Cllr Mrs H Thompson (HT); Cllr Mitchell (BM); Mrs P Wilkes (PW); Mrs G Preece (GP); Cllr Radcliffe (RR); Cllr Mrs Malkin (JM); Cllr Neal (LN); Cllr Chaplin (PC); Cllr Patterson (CP) Cllr Mrs V Bruyneel-Smith (VBS) arrived at 7.29pm

Members 11

Quorum 4

11 Parishioners

Keeley Russell from Balfour Beatty

The meeting opened at 7.15pm.

| | P | Action |
|--|---|--------|
| 14-15/219 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE | | |
| None | 1 | |
| COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on agenda | 2 | |
| Cllr Beckett: Planning Applications (ECDC Planning Committee) | | |
| Cllr Wilkes: 14/238c) 14/01347/ADI 3No. Illuminated signs (retrospective) 2 West street, Isleham for the Co-operative Food | | |
| 14-15/220 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (15mins) | | |
| Keeley Russell attended the meeting on behalf of Balfour Beatty. | | |
| Mr Challis reported that parking on Sun Street seems to have increased since the Post Office moved. The double yellow lines by Church Lane are being parked on. (The Council will inform the police) | | Clerk |
| Mrs Wells asked if the bench in memory of Graham Wells could be sited on the recreation ground not in the garden at the back of the centre. The recreation ground working group will meet with Mrs Wells to discuss the location. | | |
| Mr Weston informed the Council that the street lighting on Hall Barn Road was increased by 2 street lamps so that there was adequate lighting for Neighbourhood Watch. Since that time there has been considerable development of the road including back fill; Cornwell Close, Nursery Close and the Industrial Estate. The 2 street lamps earmarked for removal on Hall Barn Road were purchased by the village. | | |
| are those two street lights. 23 lights have to be removed so if these two lights are kept in 2 others would need to be removed. Keeley will talk to the contractor tomorrow. | | |
| Mr A Sheldrick asked if the cricket club have to buy a new mower can the Parish Council help with the VAT. The council are not able to reclaim the VAT on behalf of another village group. | | |
| Mr Wilding has received a request from a resident at The Pits, regarding having a sign at the entrance at the top of The Pits to the allotments to state no entry to lorries or large vehicles. | | |
| Mrs Winters asked if another no through road sign could be erected at Limestone Close on the other side of the road. She also asked if it would be possible to have Limestone Close restricted to residents only parking. This is matter for the County Council. | | |
| Mr McLay asked why a street light is being taken up at 41 Mill Street and a new one put in at no 30. Keeley Russell informed Mr Mclay that as Mill Street is a major traffic route according to current regulations it is no longer adequately lit. | | |

Balfour Beatty are contracted to put the lights in as per their contract and little or no variance is allowed. Ms Russell will meet with Mr McLay to discuss further.

VBS arrived at 7.29pm

Mr Challis asked if the web-site is going to be up-dated.

The Chairman moved that item 14/15 232b Heritage Lighting is brought forward while Keeley Russell is in attendance. (7.43pm)

There are three options open to the council:

- Replace existing heritage lights with 6m steel posts as the others.
- Take on the lights as they are and pay the upkeep fees of £80 per column per year (+ any replacement costs over the next 25 years at £3000 per column)
- Replace the existing with heritage lights

It was proposed by PC and seconded by BM that the heritage lights are replaced with standard 6m columns.

8 in favour

3 against

CARRIED

14-15/221 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD 2nd FEBRUARY 2015

3

It was proposed by PW and seconded by BM that the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2015 are approved and signed with an amendment to state 'regarding the roadway' at 14-15/208b)

CARRIED

14-15/222 MATTERS ARISING/CLERKS REPORT (*for information only*)

None

14-15/223 POLICE MATTERS

- a) BM reported that a few youngsters were seen heading around the back of the church social centre and asked if the police could be made aware of this?
Parking on Sun Street and the corner of Church Street/Church Lane is causing congestion.
- b) The Shape Your Place website is closing on 25th March. The County Council will be looking for other ways of communicating with the public.
- c) It was agreed that JM and GP will attend the Parish Conference on 2nd April.

14-15/224 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT & BUSINESS

- a) None.
- b) Council is now looking forward to the elections in May and there is some debate over the affordability of the proposed new leisure centre in Ely.

14-15/225 RECREATION GOUND MATTERS

- a) A boot scraper has been ordered by the Youth Football club.
- b) Football Festival May 2015 – 2nd weekend in May 16/17th. Mr Caffarelli will liaise with the cricket club.
- c) DB outlined the quotations for the cricket netting.
Gary Cowling (invited to speak by the chairman) stated that 7m will give significant protection although it won't protect all the balls, it will affect the low hit sixes. It would be sensible to consider vermin protection along the bottom of the netting.
Adrian Sheldrick (invited to speak by the chairman) commented that he is happier with a more robust winding system.

It was proposed by RR and seconded GP by that the quotation from SJD sports is approved subject to a total figure of £5,500 including vermin protection.

10 in favour
1 against

CARRIED

- d) The skate park contractor has moved on site today. A decision had to be taken this morning to remove the topsoil to lay stone in order to get the roadway laid to the site. It will be approximately 5 weeks to completion of the project.

14-15/226 PLAY AREA MATTERS

- a)
- Access into the play area is extremely muddy. TW is considering putting down bark chippings. The grass also needs feeding.
 - PC suggested that the tiger mulch surface should be extended to the gate. This will be considered at a future meeting.
 - Wicksteed are coming to drill holes in the small tunnel to allow the water to drain through.

14-15/227 CEMETERY MATTERS

- a) Nothing to report.

14-15/228 ICA REPORT

- a) There has not been an ICA meeting since the last Parish Council meeting. A few fundraising events have been organised at the centre: curry night/steak night/quiz night and the VE day celebrations.
- b)
- The Centre Official Opening will be held on Saturday 2nd May from 12.30 – 2.00pm. Two meetings have been held and an agenda has been agreed.
 - Mark Goldsack will oversee the event. Canapés will be served. There will be a blessing by either Rev Mike Banyard or the Bishop of Ely. There will be a toast.
 - It was agreed that Vernon Place and Ruth Diver will be asked to unveil the plaque and officially open the centre.
 - At the end there will be guided tours of the building. The school orchestra and choir will be asked to play and sing at the end of the event.
 - Invitations will be sent to grant providers and village groups. All councillors are invited to attend. Anyone you think should be invited please let the clerk know.
 - Cheffins have agreed to sponsor the day.

- c) Before a grit bin is purchased the council will investigate alternative methods of de-icing.

14-15/229 DIAL-A-RIDE

The Ely and Soham Dial-a-Ride service will close down at the end of March. Either Forest Heath dial-a-ride or Fenland dial-a-ride will take over the service from 1st April. Mr Daw offered to set up a car share scheme but his offer was turned down.

14-15/230 MONTHLY FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) It was proposed by RR and seconded by PW that the February bank reconciliation is approved.

Noted

CARRIED

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

Clerk

Salaries £2,023.43
Tax & NI £360.55
Other Expenditure £2,694.30
Petty Cash £60.19
Total: ££5,138.47

CARRIED

The cheques were signed by Cllr Chaplin and Cllr Radcliffe

- c) It was proposed by RR and seconded by PW that a budget of £500 is set aside for the official opening of The Beeches.

CARRIED

- d) Internal Review Procedures

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Wilkes, Cllr Mrs Preece and Cllr Mitchell will go on a rota to verify the Council's monthly accounts management.

- e) It was proposed by RR and seconded by PC that the Clerk may use the Parish Office to work for Swaffham Bulbeck Parish Council. The Council will receive the £100 per year home work allowance payable to the Clerk for electricity and heating.

CARRIED

- f) It was proposed by BM and seconded by CP that photocopying should be charged at 5p per copy.

An amendment was proposed by PC and seconded by LN that the council should charge 10p per copy to include paper and ink to avoid any confusion over whose paper is whose.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

14-15/231 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

It was proposed by CP and seconded by GP that the new financial regulations are adopted by the Council.

CARRIED

The Council's Standing Orders have been reviewed and there are no amendments to be made this year.

A Risk Assessment Package has been purchased in order that the Council undertake a full review of its assets and risks.

14-15/232 HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATH MATTERS

- a)
- There is a lot of mud and leaves on the path from the bus stop to the Griffin. ECDC will be asked to clear the footpath.
 - There has been no response from Highways re signs on Fordham Road.
 - The pot hole on Waterside Road has been filled
 - At Knaves Acre Drove the road drops away either side towards the verge. The Council will email county councillors and the Highways Department.
 - Beck Road footpath is badly damaged and needs to be reported to the Highways Department.
- b) It was agreed that the heritage street lighting will be removed and replaced with standard poles. (See 14-15/220)

Clerk

14-15/233 CORRESPONDENCE/MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- a) Weekly Highlights sent to Councillors by email.

Noted

14-15/234 ALLOTMENT MATTERS

- a) The Council will check with highways to see whether we can put bollards on the green drove at the top of the pits to prevent lorries driving down it.

Clerk

14-15/235 ORCHARD MATTERS

Some posts have been put in around the entrance to the orchard to prevent vehicles from driving on to the orchard land.

14-15/236 WASH MATTERS

A van has been abandoned on the wash and has been reported to the police.

14-15/237 PLANNING MATTERS

a) **Planning Applications**

There has been a change in the constitution at ECDC which enables applications to be called in at a later date.

14/01383/LBC Internal Alterations The Griffin, 11 Church Street, Isleham for Mr & Mrs Missing – no objection

15/00117/FUL Single storey rear extension at 2 Croft Road, Isleham for Mr Clint Grove – no objection

15/00142/FUL Single storey extension to rear and covering garage to form annex 48 East Fen Road, Isleham for Mr & Mrs S Petts – no objection

15/00127/FUL Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension. Re-location of front door to front elevation at 2 Goodchilds Gardens, Isleham for Mrs Emily Rutterford – no objection

b) **Planning Approvals**

Noted

14/01344/FUL Two storey extension, single storey extensions and cart shed garage at 10 Little London, Isleham for Mr & Mrs Flynn

14/01345/LBC Two storey extension, single storey extensions and cart shed garage at 10 Little London, Isleham for Mr & Mrs Flynn

c) **Planning Refusals**

14/01336/FUL Remove existing single storey extension and replace with a two storey extension which incorporates existing outbuilding at 14 Pound Lane, Isleham for Mr Jamie Stevens

14/01347/ADI 3No. Illuminated signs (retrospective) 2 West street, Isleham for the Co-operative Food

d) **Other Planning Matters**

The Parish Council are keen that the Priory Garage continues to be used for business purposes; however an opinion cannot be expressed on this to the District Council until an application is made.

The house on the corner of Church Lane appears not to be lived in, and once again is falling into a state of disrepair. The Council will write to ECDC to see if they can take any action and ask them to keep us informed of progress.

14-15/238 AGENDA ITEMS FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Crime Reduction Officer
Promotion of Parish Council Elections
Reports from village interest groups

14-15/239 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

- a) Extra-ordinary meeting Monday 16th March 7.15pm
Annual Parish Meeting Monday 16th March 7.30pm
Monday 13th April 2015
Monday 11th May 2015

14-15/240 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 9.50pm

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: