

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

Those Present;- Cllr Beckett (DB); Cllr Baines (SB); Cllr Mrs H Thompson (HT); Cllr Mrs Wilkes (PW); Cllr Mrs R Thompson (RT); Cllr Chaplin (PC); Cllr Patterson; (CP) Cllr Mrs Malkin (JM); Cllr Neal (LN); Cllr Earl (ME); Cllr Mrs V Bruyneel-Smith arrived at 7.21pm
 Clerk: Mrs D Bayliss
 Members 11 Quorum 4
 12 Parishioners
 County Councillor Palmer
 Brendan Troy; Katie Child

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11-12/121 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 1
 None

11-12/122 COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on agenda 2
 PW 11-12/132b (Personal)
 DB 11-12/135b (Prejudicial)
 JM 11-12/136c (Prejudicial)
 Cllr Beckett requested that it be recorded that he is also a member of the planning committee at ECDC and although he will take part in the discussions any comments made may be subject to change when he is presented with all the facts at District level and do not constitute a pre-determination of any matter.

11-12/123 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION 3
 Mrs Clarke; as suggested at the last meeting questions were submitted in plenty of time for the meeting why is that they will not be answered in the meeting?
 Mr Fleet commented that they want the public in general to know what we are asking; Full answers to the last set of questions have been provided and the answers will be included on the website with the minutes of this meeting. These will not be discussed further at this forum but if there are further questions the council will seek to answer them. Mr Fleet has more questions to follow which will be requested under the freedom of information act. His first question is does the PC have a FOI statement?
 Mr Flatt asked why it has taken so long to get this far with the plans for the centre.
 Mr Ellwood commented that the council needn't have rushed to move the MUGA and the Cricket Square when the project is not yet ready to proceed.

Clerk

11-12/124 ISLEHAM VISION
 The Chairman welcomed Katie Child and Brendan Troy
 See attached reports
 There were only 28 responses to the questionnaire sent out by ECDC which was not overwhelming therefore a number of questions have been submitted to the council for consideration. These will be discussed by the Planning Working Party and a final recommendation be brought back to the next Council meeting for approval.

SB/PW
 /ME/
 JM

11-12/125 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD 3rd OCTOBER 2011 4
 It was proposed by PW and seconded by JM that the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October are approved as a true record of the business transacted.

CARRIED

11-12/126 MATTERS ARISING/CLERKS REPORT (*for information only*)

- A written reply has been sent to Mr Fleet answering the questions raised at the last meeting.
- An access protection marking will be placed in front of the Parish Church
- A new grit bin has been installed at the top of Maltings Lane
- 11-12/111 Letter to lady on Dunstall will be referred to under allotment matters
- The Clerk will be on holiday from Monday 21st – Monday 28th November

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11-12/127 QUALITY STATUS

- a) The Quality Status Portfolio is almost complete and will be submitted to the Quality Status Panel on 9th December subject to adopting the following documents:
- b) It was proposed by CP and seconded by SB that the Training Statement of Intent is adopted by the Council.

CARRIED

- c) It was proposed by HT and seconded by CP that the Community Engagement Statement of Intent is adopted by the Council.

CARRIED

- d) It was **resolved** that the evidence statements declaring that all employees have been issued with a written contract of employment and stating that the Council has not had a report issued in the public interest in the last three years, should be signed by the Chairman

11-12/128 POLICE MATTERS

- a) The Police Report for October was read to the Council
- b) The last meeting of the Neighbourhood Panel was held on Tuesday 4th October. JM again emphasised the need to encourage the public to attend the meeting where representatives from the District Council, Police etc listen to individual views about matters relating to their parishes and pass them on to the relevant bodies.

Noted

11-12/129 VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

- a)
- The caretaker Mr D Green has handed in his notice and wishes to leave at the end of November. The post has been advertised and interviews held which will be discussed later in the meeting.
 - The Soham Children's Centre have requested copies of all risk assessments and safety certificates relating to the hall

Clerk

11-12/130 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS

- a)
- It was proposed by PC and seconded by CP that a proper yale lock is fitted to the pavilion so that it cannot be removed and stolen.

Clerk

CARRIED

- The Youth Football Club is planning to replace the football nets on the MUGA.
- It was proposed by PW and seconded by RT that two new signs are purchased for the recreation ground stating that no dogs are allowed on the recreation ground.

CARRIED

- Following an incident with a dog on the recreation ground the Clerk will write to all the clubs asking them to make away teams aware that dogs are not permitted on the recreation ground.

- b) PC proposed that we leave bike ramps on the field for the youths, it was agreed that the ramps will remain for now and new ones will be considered with the skate park when it is installed.

- c) ME & CP will look at the MUGA net box to see if it can be upgraded. A report will be brought back to the next meeting.

11-12/131 ICA REPORT

- a) Tenders are in and are between £1.65 and £1.9m. Due to the figures being over the budget the council had anticipated, we are in the process of evaluating the tenders to look for possible savings and also looking for extra external funding sources. At the moment the project is under threat of not continuing and when we have more information and answers to questions there will be a public meeting.

11-12/132 CEMETERY & CHURCHYARD MATTERS

- a) It was proposed by PW and seconded by CP that the cemetery mowers are booked in with GMS before 31st Dec 2011 in order to qualify for 15% discount. The service will be carried out before the end February 2012.

Clerk

CARRIED

- b) It was proposed by SB and seconded by HT that the Council approve the recommended works to the yew trees in the cemetery.

Clerk

CARRIED

The repairs to the Church floodlighting are being carried out.

11-12/133 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT & BUSINESS

- a)
 - In spite of the report that there can be no new school for Isleham unless there are 500 new homes built James Palmer will continue to lobby on behalf of the Parish Council; even if it is unlikely at the moment it is always possible that things will change over the next few years
 - PW requested that the possibility of a shuttle bus service from Isleham to Fordham to enable young people to access public transport to the sixth form colleges. JP will look into this although costs are extreme and funds are low
- b)
 - DB has had an interesting meeting with Jane Hollingsworth about affordable housing and the possibility of moving towards community land trust which would mean that tenancies on properties could be decided by people in the village. There are currently trials being carried out at Wilburton and Streatham and the District Council are looking to see how they progress. The Council are keen to see local youngsters have housing in the village without necessarily qualifying on the housing register.

11-12/134 MONTHLY FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) It was proposed by PW and seconded by LN that the October Bank Reconciliation is approved.

CARRIED

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

Clerk

Salaries £1783.77
Tax & NI £488.35
Other Expenditure £31093.52
Petty Cash £39.49
Total Expenditure £ 33405.13

CARRIED

The cheques were signed by Cllr Baines, Cllr Chaplin and the Clerk

- c) A new cost centre has been created to show the New Community Centre expenses and an updated budget report has been issued to each councillor.

- d) It was proposed by RT and seconded by PW that the Council do not provide a mobile phone for the Clerk.

Clerk

CARRIED

- e) It was proposed by PW and seconded by CP that the gas and electricity contract continue with British gas.

- f) Shell Gas – Price increase of 5.0 pence per litre
Shell Gas has also notified the council that they have sold their company to the UGI corporation who will be trading as AVANTI Gas.

11-12/135 HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATH MATTERS

- a) Winter Gritting training evenings will be held on Wed 23rd and Wed 30th November.

Clerk

- b) DB left the meeting at 8.40pm after explaining where the hedge is and what the criteria for its removal are.

SB took the Chair and the letter was read by the clerk;

It was proposed by CP and seconded by PW that the hedge is removed on the condition that the criteria is met as set out on the Hedgerows Regulations leaflet.

JM abstained from the vote

CARRIED

DB returned to the meeting

- c) The Council are generally not in favour of paying someone to sweep up the leaves on Malting Lane when the job should be done by ECDC. If the situation is not resolved satisfactorily then either Tim or Ed will be asked to sweep the leaves off the footpath.

Clerk

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11-12/136 ALLOTMENT MATTERS

- a) RT gave an update on the situation at the allotments
- Only two tenants from the Dunstall allotment attended the meeting to pay the rent which raised the question of whether there needs to be a meeting to collect the rents; this will be decided before next year
 - Another advert for the allotments will be placed in the Informer
 - The road way is good
 - The response to the sign has been good
 - There is some uncertainty among allotment holders about cutting the hedge on the road side. This will be addressed with the tenants and amended in the rules as necessary
 - The tree on the Lady Maynard allotment site will be removed on Waterside on 16th November

b) The information received from the County Council regarding the Three Tree Allotment Site will be included in the Planning Working Party meeting to be held on Monday 21st November. Clerk

c) It was proposed by ME and seconded by PC that JM should be reimbursed £100 for the Orchard training workshop which includes the membership fee for the East of England Apples and Orchards Project. Clerk
JM abstained from the vote

CARRIED

The cheque was raised at the meeting and included in the account payment.

d) It was **agreed** that Mr Chapman may have a shed and a poly-tunnel on his allotment; the shed should be a maximum of 6' x 8' and RT will contact him to discuss the size of the poly-tunnel

e) It was **agreed** that Mrs Hillary should be allowed a maximum of 15 chickens on her allotment

11-12/137 CORRESPONDENCE/MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

a) Weekly highlights have been forwarded to councillors by email.

b) A number of questions were received from Mr Fleet and Mrs Clarke. A reply has been sent to them both however owing to the amount of information involved a full response will not be recorded in these minutes. Copies of the answers are available on request from the Clerk.

c) The Council have received some correspondence regarding access at Spooners Drove. There seems to be some misunderstanding about whether the access is private or a public right of way. Information received from the County Council indicates that this is a private access and a reply has been sent to this effect.

d) Queens Diamond Jubilee Beacons - The Clerk will write to the church to see if they are interested in having a beacon on the roof of the Church (before 14th November – PCC meeting). Clerk

e) Small Grants for Olympic Events – N/A

f) The Playing Field Noted

11-12/138 PLANNING MATTERS

a) 11/00829/PDR Construction of summerhouse at 4 Orchard Close, Isleham for Mr & Mrs Moy – no objection Clerk

11/00832/FUL Siting of caravan for tourist accommodation at land at 18 Prickwillow Road, Isleham for Mr S Mayle – no objection

11/00757/FUL One three bedroom chalet style dwelling and garage at rear of 28 Hall Barn Road, Isleham for Mr A Dilley – no objection

b) Planning Approvals

11/00739/FUL Garage extension & carport at 27 East Road, Isleham for Mr D Madgwick

11/00740/FUL Change of use to equestrian at Blainville 23 Prickwillow Road, Isleham for Mr M Fordham

11/00310/FUL 1 no four bed detached house with associated parking, & new parking area

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for existing house at 4 Croft Road, Isleham for Mr Harlow
E/03007/11/CW Installation of a 45m x 60m cement stabilised hardcore pad to store mix vegetable waste prior to composting on land at Mettleham Farm Centre, Hasse Road, Soham.

11/00718/FUL Remove single storey extension, construct side extension and detached cart lodge at 9 Dockings Lane, Isleham for Mr & Mrs Ruddock

c) Other Planning Matters

Forest Heath LDF (Information)

ECDC Tree Work Approval – 41 Mill Street, Isleham

11-12/139 TRAINING

a) A training day is being held at Ely Cathedral Centre on Monday 14th November. The subject is the Localism Agenda; the Clerk will be attending. If any of the councillors wish to attend please contact the Clerk for further information. SB requested notes from the meeting as he would like to attend but is unable to.

Clerk

11-12/140 TO APPROVE THE MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

That the public (including representatives of the press) be excluded during the consideration of the remaining item No 141 because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the item(s) there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Category 1 & 2 Part 1 Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

Clerk

The meeting was closed to the public and press at 9.34pm to discuss the appointment of a new village hall caretaker

VBS declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting at 9.34pm

11-12/141 VILLAGE HALL CARETAKER

a) The meeting was re-convened at 9.44pm and the following decision was recorded.
PW, JM, CP and the Clerk carried out interviews with two of the three applicants for the post of Temporary Caretaker to the village hall and pavilion and after some discussion recommend that the post should be split into a job share between the two applicants with Andrew Smith being offered the post of Village Hall Caretaker at 6 hours per week and Geoff Debrowa being offered the post of Pavilion Caretaker at 4 hours per week. It is hoped that if the applicants are happy with this proposal that they may be able to cover for each other's holidays which will suit the current needs of the Council. An extra 12 hours will be given in the first month – 4 extra for the pavilion and 8 for the village hall.
It was proposed by LN and seconded by PW that the recommendation is accepted.
8 in favour
2 against

CARRIED

The meeting was re-opened at 9.44pm and the following decisions were recorded.

VBS returned to the meeting at 9.48pm

11-12/142 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

a) Monday December 5th

11-12/143 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

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.

a) Community Land Trust presentation on behalf of Lady Peyton Charity
There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.49pm

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

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Signed:

Chairman

Date: