

ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Clerk: Mrs Diane Bayliss
Chairman: Mr Derrick Beckett

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
MONDAY 5th November 2012
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Those Present;- Cllr Beckett (DB); Cllr Mrs Wilkes (PW); Cllr Patterson; (CP) Cllr Mrs Malkin (JM); Cllr Mrs H Thompson (HT); Cllr Mrs R Thompson (RT); Cllr Mitchell (BM); Cllr Neal (LN);; Cllr Paul Chaplin (PC); Cllr Radcliffe (RR); Cllr Bruyneel-Smith (VBS);

Clerk: Mrs D Bayliss

Members 11 Quorum 4

7 Parishioners

County Councillor Powley

P Action
O
W
E
r

12-13/153 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

C Cllr Palmer

1

12-13/154 COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on agenda

A Dispensation from the Proper Officer was granted allowing discussion of the budget and setting of the precept for 2013-14

LN 12/13-169

12-13/155 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (15mins)

Mr C Sheldrick expressed his dismay that the football pitch had been played on last Sunday when it was so wet, he will find it very difficult to get the pitch round to a fit condition for play next Saturday. In his opinion that someone should have taken the decision to call off the match.

Mr R Sheldrick also commented that the recreation ground had been abused and left in a very poor state similar to how it was after Gala Day. He also reported that the pavilion had been left in a very bad state after the weekend. (Recreation Ground Matters)

Mr R Sheldrick again queried who the Isleham Wanderers and Isleham Warriors were affiliated to. (Matters Arising)

Mr J Fleet requested the current bank balance being held by the council and the amount of grant funding confirmed for the building of the centre.

Councils Account Balance: £733,406.32

Confirmed funding: £335,729

Mr J Fleet also asked the Chairman to confirm the likely date of the change to the development envelope. This is likely to be in the spring of next year; however there is not a confirmed date at the moment.

12-13/156 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD 1st OCTOBER 2012

It was proposed by LN and seconded by PC that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st October are approved and signed

CARRIED

RT abstained from the vote as she was not in attendance

12-13/157 MATTERS ARISING/CLERKS REPORT (*for information only*)

- The Clerk has been informed that Isleham Warriors and Isleham Wanderers are part of the Isleham Youth Football Club
- The drain at the Priory has been cleared out
- The find and fix team have been contacted, they will carry out a water efficiency assessment within the next week to see where the leak is coming from.

12-13/158 POLICE MATTERS

a) There was no police report

- b)
- JM and PW attended the meeting in October – terms of reference; place where you can go and express any concerns re highways, police matters, housing etc.
 - Requests can be made for items to be placed on the agenda - JM asked to have EMR discussed and a very informative meeting followed.
 - The meetings are very poorly attended by members of the public.

ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Diane Bayliss

Chairman: Mr Derrick Beckett

- The newsletter is very informative
- Speedwatch continues to be very successful

12-13/159 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS

a) The Chairman suggested that someone independent of the football clubs should be appointed to make a decision as to whether matches can be played on the recreation ground. It was proposed by RT and seconded by CP that any two members of the recreation ground working party may make the decision about the ground conditions particularly in very wet weather.

3 councillors abstained from the vote

CARRIED

A letter should be sent to the clubs notifying them of this decision and asking them to be mindful of weather conditions when using the recreation ground.

An Agronomist has been out to see if there is a deficiency on the soil of the recreation ground; a report is being prepared on the condition of the grass and it was suggested that the grass is not cut any more this season, and that it will need to be either spiked or verti-drained ASAP. It was agreed that a decision would be made after the written report has been received.

An email had been received from the pavilion caretaker about the state he had found the pavilion in this morning. A letter will be sent to the youth football club asking them to be mindful of the state that the pavilion is left in.

- i. It was proposed by RR and seconded by RT that the quotation for £200 from S P Landscapes for flailing the hedge on the recreation ground is approved.

Clerk

CARRIED

- ii. There have been problems over the last month with the MUGA lights going off. As this has disrupted Isleham Youth Football in particular it was proposed by RR and seconded by LN that the council refund £25 per week for the month of October.

CARRIED

- iii. It was proposed by CP and seconded by RR that the quotation from Climate Autogates for £289.80 inc VAT is approved.

CARRIED

- iv. Only one quotation for £900 has so far been received for felling the Ash – as this is over the limit stated in the financial regulations 2 other quotes will be sought.

b) ECDC Sports and Facilities Audit was delegated to the clerk to complete.

Clerk

12-13/160 VILLAGE HALL REPORT

- a) i. There are two door handles – the kitchen one will be replaced
ii. The boiler had a broken switch which has been mended by Mr T Neale
iii. The lights have been replaced by the caretaker. A further one has broken since and this will be replaced.

Clerk/
Care-
taker

12-13/161 ICA REPORT

a) The Council have reached a point with the community centre where the council has to make a decision. In order to reduce the cost of the centre it was agreed that volunteer labour could be used to excavate the site.

b) It was proposed by RR and seconded by CP that a team led by Paul Chaplin will excavate the site in line with the archaeological team if the tender price from CJ Murfitt is approved.

Clerk

CARRIED

c) It was proposed by PC and seconded CP that the solar panels are removed from the tender price if the council go ahead with the project. (the centre will benefit from the cheaper electricity)

10 in favour

1 against

CARRIED

It was proposed by CP and seconded by LN that the council accept the tender price from CJ Murfitt for the new community centre at the reduced cost of £1,381,187.17 (without the

solar panels).

CARRIED

12-13/162 CEMETERY & CHURCHYARD MATTERS

- a) i. It was proposed by RR and seconded by PW that the quotation from Greenwood Tree Surgery for removing the old hedge and replanting a new one in the Cemetery is approved.

CARRIED

- ii. It was agreed that the Cemetery Mowers should be booked in to GMS for early in the New Year taking advantage of the 15% discount.

- b) It was proposed by PW and seconded by JM that the purchase of exclusive right of burial is approved for Brian Pears and Joy Carpenter.

CARRIED

- c) RT left the meeting at 8.55pm and returned at 8.57pm
The poppy wreath will be presented at the Armistice Day Service on Sunday 11th November by Cllr Mrs Wilkes.

PW

12-13/163 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT & BUSINESS

- a) County Councillor Powley informed the Council of the gritting procedure now that winter is soon to be upon us. A briefing note was given to the Clerk which had been circulated to councillors by our officers.

The second point raised concerned the Ely Southern By Pass. Cllr Powley pointed out that he had spoken at a recent Cabinet meeting when a decision was taken about the preferred route for the Southern By Pass out of five alternatives. He had lobbied for Route B which although the most expensive at £28 million would give the greatest benefit to the most drivers. Cabinet agreed with his view and approved route B as the preferred option. Funding now needs to be sought from Central Government.

- b) There is a report going forward to the development and transport committee tomorrow – the traveller site is not going forward but the Isleham Vision will be discussed.

12-13/164 MONTHLY FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Noted

CARRIED

- b) It was proposed by PC and seconded by HT that the November Accounts are approved and paid; an additional cheque for the poppy wreath was included in the payments.

Clerk

Salaries £2,086.65

Tax & NI £532.79

Other Expenditure £4,452.30

Petty Cash £78.76

Total: £7,150.50

CARRIED

The cheques were signed by Cllr R Thompson and Cllr R Radcliffe

- c) It was proposed by PC and seconded by RR that the budget as it stands will be approved and the precept will not be raised for the financial year 2013-14.

CARRIED

The budget will be reviewed to take into account the likely changes to the village hall and pavilion income and expenditure in light of the demolition of the buildings early in the new financial year. This will be presented to the council at a future meeting.

- d) It was proposed by PW and seconded by CP that the Council take the Option to Tax with HMRC in order that all the VAT on the New Community Centre can be recovered.

CARRIED

- e) The council were asked to consider whether its staff should have CRB checks carried out. More information will be sought before the next meeting where this will be discussed further.

- f) It was proposed by PC and seconded by LN that the Council make a donation to MAGPAS of

£100.
10 in favour
1 against

CARRIED

- g) It was proposed by LN and seconded by PC that the Council do not send a donation to Victim Support.

CARRIED

RR asked if there is any general guidance for considering requests for funding. The Policy Review working party will meet to consider criteria the council can work with when considering applications for funding.

12-13/165 HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATH MATTERS

- a) i. The hedge on Waterside has been cut right back improving access on the footpath. RT said what a good job has been done and DB agreed with her.
ii. A letter of thanks has been received from Mr Challis for the work carried out on the Waterside footpath.
iii. Planings are to be put in the rutted areas of Coates Drove.
iv. Kate Day has taken over as Rights of Way Officer.
v. A complaint has been received from Mrs Hillary re the steps down to The Pits at the side of her property – refer to the county council.
vi. A letter has been received from Mr Kyte re a bus which is traversing Bowers Lane instead of going to the bottom of The Causeway and turning around – the council will find out which bus it is and contact the company
- b) The Grass Cutting Contract is due for renewal in 2013. RR/PW/JM and the Clerk will form a working party to discuss and update the areas which require cutting. The Environment W/P will also look at the trees on Waterside and the Pound Lane end of Coates Drove which need thinning.

Clerk

- c) It was proposed by PW and seconded by HT that a bid is submitted for speed reduction gates on the Fordham Road as part of the JFMHI scheme for 2013-14.

Clerk

CARRIED

12-13/166 ALLOTMENT MATTERS

- a) Allotment W/P would like to add a sentence to the allotment rules – ‘Failure to comply with the rules leaves the tenant liable to eviction’. This was agreed by the council and will be sent out to all new tenants and existing tenants next year. It was agreed that the meeting for collection of allotment rents should be only 1 hour long from next year.
- b) It was agreed that the application for a 6’ x 8’ shed and 15 chickens including a cockerel be approved for Ms N Woodhouse.

Clerk

Clerk

12-13/167 CORRESPONDENCE/MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- a) No Weekly highlights
- b) A letter has been received from the Staploe Transport Association. The council have asked the clerk to request the last two years accounts.
- c) St Andrews Festival of Light – HT will do a ‘tree’ on behalf of the council.
- d) DB declared an interest (pecuniary)
Councillors remuneration – any comments should be sent to ECDC – email to RR

Noted

Clerk

HT

12-13/168 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Planning Applications
RR Declared an interest (personal)
12/00752/FUL Modification of existing barn, modification of existing shed, change of use at Chalk Farm, Temple Road, Isleham for Mr Brian Prince
The council had no objection to the proposal as long as there is not a preservation order on the barn, if there is, then the council would query the solar panels on the roof; the only other comment was regarding light pollution.
- b) Planning Approvals

Clerk

ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Diane Bayliss

Chairman: Mr Derrick Beckett

12/00523/FUL Two storey side extension and infill single storey rear extension at 9 Fordham Road, Isleham for Mr & Mrs J Timmins

12/00715/FUL Loft Conversion at 34 Sun Street, Isleham for Mr & Mrs G Hounsome

Noted

c) Other Planning Matters

i. Draft Local Plan Timetable

Noted

ii. West Suffolk Consultation Documents

12-13/169 DIAL-A-RIDE BUS SERVICE

a) There is some concern about the cost of the Dial-a-Ride bus service to Ely for the Council, however it was pointed out that there is very little public transport available and there is only this and the Staploe bus which enables some of the older residents to get out of the village.

It was agreed that there should be better advertising for the service on the website and in the Informer and that posters will be put up around the village again.

Clerk

12-13/170 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 **171** 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).

a) The meeting was closed to the public and press at 10.28pm and the clerk left the meeting

12-13/171 CLERKS APPRAISAL

a) A discussion was held re the Clerks appraisal and the minutes were taken under the exclusion order.

The clerk returned to the meeting at 10.52pm

12-13/172 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

a) 3rd December 2012

12-13/173 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

No matters were raised for inclusion in the agenda for the next meeting. DB reminded Councillors to notify the Clerk of any business and payments at least 7 days before the next meeting.

a) There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.53pm

- 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: