



Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 5th May 2010

Attendance

Michael Aves	Vice Chairman	Present
Ross Clark	Chairman	Present
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	Present
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	Present
Angela King	Councillor	Present
Helen Platt	Councillor	Present
David Parr	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Present

1. Forum for Members of the Public

A resident commented on item 8 - Verge Erosion on Fair Green.

2. Election of Officers

The following officers were all re-elected:

Ross Clark	Chairman
Michael Aves	Vice Chairman
Hilary Fielding	Neighbourhood Panels Officer
Rita Dunnett	Play Spaces Officer
John Reed	Tree Officer
John Robinson	Swaffham Prior Parochial Charities Officer
Joyce Harrison	Village Centre Officer
Rita Dunnett	Village Centre Officer

3. Declaration of Interests

None

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting were reviewed and signed.

5 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

The first meeting of the committee will take place on Wednesday 12th May.

5 (2) County Council Report

As a member of the County Council Environment and Community Services Committee, I am part of a member-led review group looking at the provision of affordable housing across the County. We held a meeting with various groups involved in the provision of affordable housing, including Cambridgeshire Horizons, County and District planning and housing officers and Bedfordshire Pilgrims Housing Association, representing housing associations in general. A further meeting will be held in the next few weeks focusing on developers. The review will then produce a report to Cabinet for further consideration.

The East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership Board met earlier this month. This group considers actions surrounding crime and disorder generally, although the meeting had a particular focus on domestic violence and drug and alcohol abuse. The Board agreed to consider further work on amalgamating the East Cambs domestic violence forum with the City and South forum in an aim to reduce duplication of public services. The agreement followed reassurance that there would be no loss of focus on work in East Cambs. The Board also received the quarterly crime report from the police. East Cambs is compared as part of a group of 15 similar districts. In the areas of dwelling burglary, vehicle crime (theft of and from vehicles) and domestic violence, East Cambs ranks at an average level.

I represented the County Council at a meeting of the Littleport Masterplan Working Party and also attended a meeting of a group being formed to consider highways policy. A meeting had also been arranged for members of South Neighbourhood Panel to meet with County Council Highways to consider a number of issues raised at recent neighbourhood panel meetings, including Quy traffic calming, 30 mph limits in villages and the A14/A142 junction. The meeting clashed with a meeting I was chairing at ECDC so I was unable to attend.

I met with Andy Campbell, MD of Stagecoach Cambridge to further represent concerns about changes to the 10, 10A and 12 bus services as well as the reliability problems reported by users. It was a somewhat frustrating meeting although Stagecoach did undertake to look again at morning and evening services and come back to me. On reliability, Stagecoach indicated they had bought 50 new buses to work in Cambridge city, as from the Easter weekend. The knock-on effect of this is that buses serving our local routes should be better as some newer buses from the city routes are redeployed. I would appreciate any comments good or bad on the effect of this move.

I attended the official opening of the new play equipment at Swaffham Bulbeck and also a presentation on the work of the CAB as part of the Engage programme running at Burwell library.

5 (3) District Council Report

The role of Travellers Liaison Officer is to become part-time as part of the recent spending cuts.

The District Councillor will investigate fly-tipping opposite High Cloud stud on the Burwell road.

5 (4) Financial Report

The Parish Council remains in a financially sound situation and is on course to at least break-even during the financial year ending March 2011.

5 (5) Neighbourhood Panels Report

No panel meetings have taken place.

5 (6) Parish Council Members

Councillor Fielding attended a meeting with Peter Duffy from ECDC regarding the provision of a safe walking route over Tubney Fen when the cattle are grazing.

5 (7) Play Spaces Officer Report

ROSPA have recently conducted their annual safety check and their report is awaited.

5 (8) Speedwatch

There was no activity in the preceding month.

5 (9) Village Centre Committee Report

Despite the inclement weather, Reach Fair 2010 was a financially successful event.

Redecoration of the small meeting room has been completed.

6 (1) Parish Paths Partnership Review

The Parish Council has agreed to join this scheme with Councillor Fielding being the Parish Council's contact person. Councillor Fielding and the Clerk had a meeting with the Rights of Way Officer and at a subsequent meeting a plan of action will be put together by **Councillor Fielding** and volunteers sought to carry it out.

6 (2) Reach Fair Car Park

The land currently used for the Reach Fair car park is leased by a local farmer from Cambridgeshire County Farms. This lease expires in October 2010 so the Parish Council has been in talks with CCF with a view to ensuring that the land is available for subsequent Reach Fairs. **The Clerk** and the **Chairman** will visit CCF to get a better understanding of the situation.

6 (3) Verge Erosions on Fair Green

There is verge erosion outside 28 Fair Green which creates safety and environmental issues due to the mud that is produced during rainfall or discharge of water into the road. Highways recognises the problem and are prepared to provide some limited kerbing to direct the water flow more efficiently. **The Clerk** will ask Highways for a definitive plan of the proposed work and an indication of when it might be carried out.

6 (4) Village Tidiness

An area of land in the village is being used by a resident for composting and temporary storage of wood for burning. The Parish Council feels that this is inappropriate and could encourage fly-tipping of garden waste by others. The Clerk has contacted the residents concerned and requested that they tidy up this area and do not use it for these purposes in future. The residents have agreed to carry out the remedial work and expect this to be concluded by the end of May.

7. Planning Applications

Ref: 10/00298/RMA Construction of a 4-bed detached dwelling on land adjacent to 8 Ditchfield.

Ref: 10/00327/LBC Erection of outer doors to porch at White Roses, 9 the Hythe.

The Parish Council agreed to visit the two sites on Sunday 9th May and then **the Clerk** will let the authorities know of their comments.

8. Information Items

A resident wrote to the Parish Council complaining of the presence of one particular stallholder at the recent Reach Fair. The Parish Council agreed that the Village Centre Committee should investigate the issue and respond accordingly to the resident.

9. Payments

100909	CR Contracting	Mowing April	£170.00
100910	D. Blocksage	Cemetery Mowing	£134.00

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 2nd June 2010 at 7.30pm. The Agenda for the meeting will be issued by the previous Wednesday – and will also be posted in the Parish Council area of the Reach website (www.reach-village.co.uk).

Chairman:

Date: