



Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 6th October 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	Not Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Not Present

1. Forum for Members of the Public

One member of the public attended to express concerns regarding the flow of water past his property. Solutions to the problem were discussed and had the support of the Parish Council.

One member of the public attended to request that the new tennis court, whilst being available for Reach villagers to play badminton or netball on, should not be marked out for these sports. This was agreed to by the Parish Council.

2. Declaration of Interests

There were none.

3. Discussions with Karen Whymark and Phil Clark regarding the Devil's Dyke

The project was discussed in detail and the Parish Council was pleased to hear that a Devil's Dyke walk would be organised to further enlighten Parish Councillors and villagers about the aims of the project and the actions to be taken.

4. Minutes of Previous Meetings

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

5 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

No new applications have been received.

5 (2) County Council Report

There have been over 4,000 responses to the review of library services, showing how highly these are valued. Opportunities to maintain the quality of the service whilst delivering the required savings are being explored. Mobile libraries will operate monthly in future.

I have attended a number of meetings of a small group considering Highways Policy and issues, including general policy, the winter maintenance schedule, policy for environmental weight limits and third party funding. We are keen to enable third parties, such as Parish Councils, to help fund local initiatives. On winter maintenance, salt stocks have been purchased with top-up stocks pre-ordered for later in the winter.

I have also been asked by the Leader of the Council to act as Cabinet Assistant to help and advise the cabinet members looking after issues surrounding children and young people. Much of that work will surround budget discussions, where the funding position should become clearer after the Chancellor's announcement on October 20th.

5 (3) District Council Report

ECDC and Cambridge Constabulary are discussing a project to provide CCTV for Soham and Ely.

It is expected that at the November Strategic Development meeting the proposal for a Traveller's site in Swaffham Prior will be dismissed.

A visit was made by members of the Strategic Development Committee to the Tesco Zero Carbon Store in Ramsey. It proved to be a very worthwhile visit.

5 (4) Financial Report

The Parish Council is in a financially sound situation.

5 (5) Neighbourhood Panels Report

No report provided since this meeting coincided with a Neighbourhood Panel Meeting. Councillor Fielding, our Neighbourhood Panels Office resigned from this post and **the Clerk** was asked to sort out a rota for subsequent meetings so that the Parish Council is always represented.

5 (6) Parish Council Members

The Chairman had attended the recent formal opening of the new Bridge over Reach Lode.

5 (7) Play Spaces Officer Report

Remedial work has now been carried out satisfactorily. **The Clerk** awaits restraints for the large goals and will then suggest suitable restraints for the 5 a side goals.

5 (8) Rights of Way Report

The Rights of Way Officer will list what improvements are needed with regard to signage and present this at a subsequent meeting.

5 (9) Speedwatch

There was no activity in the preceding month. A request for volunteers has been included in the latest issue of the Parish Magazine.

5 (10) Village Centre Committee Report

The repairs to the roof remain to be carried out and the fire alarm remains inoperative.

6. Cemetery Charges from October 2010

It was agreed that these should be raised by 5% and then revised upwards to the next 50p.

7. Footpaths Review - Comments from Councillors on their Village Inspection

Councillors King and Platt had toured the village earlier on in the day and listed all areas where they felt remedial action was required. It was agreed that these two councillors would ask individual residents to take action to ensure that footpaths were not blocked by vegetation.

8. Land Availability on Two Areas of the Burwell Road

The first area is on the right hand side of the Burwell road as you leave Reach which is used as the car park for Reach Fair. The Chairman has been in discussions with County Farms to ensure that this land is available to Reach Fair for this purpose at a reasonable cost. The Chairman of the Parish Council has now handed this over to the Chairman of the Village Centre Committee.

The second area is the 24 acres on the left hand side of the Burwell road as you leave Reach. The National Trust is interested in purchasing this land and working with Reach villagers to maximise its utilisation. The National Trust has recently received a valuation of the land which they believe is not totally unacceptable and the Clerk has arranged a meeting between interested parties within the village and the National Trust on the 18th of October.

9. Land Registration

It has been established that the Hythe and the Drying Ground are not registered. **The Clerk**, working with **the Chairman**, will endeavour to give them Common Land status when the window of opportunity arrives, which was supposed to be later this year, but is now delayed by 12 months.

10. Noticeboards on the Bus Shelters

It was agreed that instead of notices being posted on the exterior of the bus shelters, a board should be placed at the interior back of the shelters. **Councillor King** will secure the necessary wood and with assistance from the Clerk, as required, will put the boards in place. The rules established for the noticeboards during the July 2009 Parish Council meeting were reviewed and amended and will be posted in each shelter and on the website.

11. Pollution in Agricultural Land - Update

It was reported that the lorry transport of top soil to cover over the pollution have now ceased and this item can now be closed.

12. Salt Bins (new) Locations

The Parish Council recently heard that it is proposed (but not confirmed) that Reach will be included on the primary gritting route in future. Since the Parish Council has purchased three new salt bins it was proposed that one be placed near the road that dissects the Fair Green and the other two be placed close to the first and the second bends on Great Lane as you leave the village. Specific locations have now been identified with the help of Highways and local residents will be informed of the decision of the Parish Council by **the Clerk**.

13. Tennis Court Update

The Parish Council agreed on a preferred supplier for the tennis court and asked **the Clerk** to produce a Supply Agreement to be discussed at a special meeting to take place the following week.

14. Tree on Fair Green Remedial Action

The tree on Fair Green has been inspected and requires some attention. Three quotations were discussed and a supplier selected. **The Clerk** will inform all suppliers of their decision.

15. Planning Applications

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that planning application 10/00702/FUL had been withdrawn.

16. Information Items

Councillor Dunnett will look into the cost of plastic spikes to go onto the top of the swings on the Green to deter pigeons.

Councillor Fielding will investigate the legal situation with regard to residents planting trees on Highway land.

It was suggested that if guttering was added to the cemetery shelter together with a water butt, this

would be helpful to visitors looking after the graves. **The Clerk** will look into this and report back at the next meeting.

17. Payments

100932	D. Blocksage	Cemetery Mowing September	£134.00
100933	CR Contracting	Mowing September	£278.00
100934	David Parr	Clerk's Pay Q3 2010	£589.00
100935	David Parr	Clerk's Expenses/Re-charges	£142.23
100936	Rita Dunnett	Playground Expenses	£64.12

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 2nd November 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: