



## Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010

### Attendance

Michael Aves	Vice Chairman	Present
Ross Clark	Chairman	Present
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	Not Present
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	Present
Angela King	Councillor	Not Present
Helen Platt	Councillor	Present
David Parr	Clerk	Not Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Not Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Part-time

### 1. Forum for Members of the Public

One member of the public attended and commented on a planning application.

### 2. Declaration of Interests

There were none.

### 3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

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

### 4 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

No payments were made and no applications received since the last meeting.

### 4 (2) County Council Report

In my role as Cabinet Assistant helping with the children and young people portfolios, I attended 2 Star Chamber meetings in November. These are meetings where Senior Officers and budget holders are questioned on their initial budget plans for the coming years. The meetings are intense in nature and designed to ask searching questions about future plans. This will then help form the budget proposals, which will be published shortly. I also attended 2 informal meetings of the Cabinet.

The Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee met. There was 2 major items on the agenda - the current and future position of the Section 106 community infrastructure levy and a progress report on this winter's gritting programme. On the first, the Committee questioned officers regarding the negotiation process, on how developer contributions are managed so that the money is spent for the intended purpose and on links with District Councils to ensure the system operates as efficiently as possible.

On winter gritting, the committee heard that salt stocks are full, with a further 5,000 tonnes ordered from Ireland for delivery in January. Following responses to the consultation on the precautionary network a number of changes have been made to take into account comments from Parish Councils,

including acceptance of changes suggested by Reach and Swaffham Prior Parish Councils. County Council Highways are writing to Parish Councils offering to indemnify Parish Council workers who help with snow clearance on footpaths etc. Information for householders saying they can clear snow etc outside their properties has been published on the Directgov and County Council websites. There has also been a good response from local farmers offering to help clear roads of heavy snow.

I also attended a meeting of the member-led review group looking into how the County Council can help stimulate the provision of affordable housing in the County.

#### **4 (3) District Council Report**

No report provided.

#### **4 (4) Financial Report**

The Parish Council is in a financially sound situation.

#### **4 (5) Neighbourhood Panels Report**

No report provided since no meetings have taken place.

#### **4 (6) Parish Council Members**

No meetings attended.

#### **4 (7) Play Spaces Officer Report**

Based on £5 per metre costs, the **Play Spaces Officer** will acquire and arrange to put in place spikes to deter birds from alighting on the top of swings.

#### **4 (8) Rights of Way Report**

The planting of four trees on highway land was discussed. **The Clerk** was asked to write to the residents in question, not asking them to remove the trees but reminding them that this is highway land and they must not seek to enclose it.

#### **4 (9) Speedwatch**

There was no activity in the preceding month.

#### **4 (10) Village Centre Committee Report**

The fire alarm is now operable but the repairs to the roof remain to be carried out.

### **5. Cemetery Rainwater Collection**

**The Clerk** will endeavour to add the necessary guttering, downpipe and water butt to the shelter within the cemetery.

### **6. Land Availability – 24 acres on the Burwell Road**

At a recent meeting, the three main areas of community involvement (1) orchard, (2) horse ménage and (3) cricket/football pitches were reviewed with the National Trust. In addition, the possibility of horticulture therapy will be considered. The National Trust, continues to seek funding for this venture.

### **7. Noticeboards on the Bus Shelters**

It had been 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**, with help from **the Clerk**, will secure the necessary wood and arrange for the boards to be put in place.

### **8. Precept 2011/2012**

If there are Parish Council elections in Reach in May 2011 then there will be a cost to the Parish which was not considered when the decision was made to not increase the Precept year on year. The Parish Council confirmed their decision not to increase the year ending 2012 Precept.

## 9. Tennis Court Update

The court is now completed other than the final painting which will take place in March/April 2011. A small, local opening ceremony will take place on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00pm.

## 10. Yellow Salt Bins – are they acceptable?

Following one complaint regarding the yellow colour of the new salt bins, it was agreed that no action need be taken on those in place other than an offer to the one complaining resident for the offending bin to be painted green should she so wish.

## 11. Planning Applications

The following comments have been forwarded to the relevant planners.

### 10/00871/LBC (Manor House)

The new plans have no vertical measurements on them. We are concerned that the barn should not be increased in height beyond the 6.3 metres specified in the 2007 application. Neither should the barn be extended forwards closer to the house.

### 10/00872/FUL (Manor House)

Same response as 10/00871/LBC.

### 10/00871/LBC (Manor House)

The Parish Council had no comment on this.

### 10/00930/FUL (7 Burwell Road)

This is better than the previous application. There are no measurements on the plan but we think that the new extension should not be less than 1 metre from the boundary.

## 12. Information Items

Some remedial work needs to be carried out locally by the Environment Agency. At the suggestion of the EA **the Clerk** will arrange a meeting with them prior to the work being carried out.

## 13. Payments

100941	Donarbon	Donation Refund Payment	£1,650.00
100944	AMSS	Tennis Court Creation	£31,137.50
100945	Countryside Services	Tree Pruning	£293.75
100946	C R Contracting	Mowing November	£59.00

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2011 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](http://www.reach-village.co.uk)).

**Chairman:**

**Date:**