



Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; 3rd August 1979

These Minutes were originally hand written and have been copied into this document reflecting the way the Minutes would have been presented in 2010. The original Minutes can be viewed upon request of the Clerk. Any significant changes from the original, including explanatory comments, are shown in square brackets.

Attendance

Mr Ray Folkes	Councillor	Present
Mrs Joyce Harrison	Councillor	Present
Mr Harvey Harrison	Councillor	Not Present
Mr Rodney Housden	Vice Chairman	Present
Mr Albert Johnson	Chairman	Present
Mrs Ann Jennings	Clerk	Present
Mrs Margaret Cook	District Councillor	Present
Mr Geoffrey Woollard	County Councillor	Present

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as correct.

2. Matters Arising: Cemetery

The Chairman reported that a working party had carried out the majority of the clearance work and that Mr Reed has again agreed to undertake future maintenance.

3. Lodes

The Chairman reported on the meeting held at Swaffham Bulbeck on 31.7.79 and which other interested Parish Councils were invited to attend. The Chairman and 3 councillors represented the Parish of Reach and the Shire Hall representative was Mr Aldreth. The net outcome was that a great deal of money, ie about £1.6M is required to maintain the high level system and about half this amount for low level and it was asked if the villagers themselves would be prepared to contribute an amount towards the upkeep of Reach Lode. After the conclusion of the meeting it was suggested that an effort should be made for as many people as possible to "walk" Reach Lode and it was agreed that this should take place on Sunday 12th August 1979 at 2.30pm followed on the next evening (13th August) by a Public Meeting where people could air their views on whether or not they are prepared to help meet the extra expenses needed to maintain the Lode. The Clerk was asked to inform the local press of these two events.

4. Home Defence Planning

The Clerk read out a letter from ECDC in which they asked for one or two volunteers to attend 12 seminars over the next 2 years in connection with the role of Parish Councils in Home Defence Planning in the event of a nuclear attack. It was provisionally suggested that Mr Housden and the Chairman would consider being representatives. This to be confirmed in [the] next 2-3 weeks.

5. Devil's Dyke

The Clerk read a letter from Swaffham Prior's School Headmistress, Mrs Bolton wherein she complained of the difficulty in using the public footpath leading from Reach Road to the railway cutting. Councillor Woollard asked that we should advise Mrs Bolton that he will see to the part for which he is responsible ie from the railway line to the public road. At the same time, the Clerk was asked to write to Mr Kisby to enquire who is responsible for the footpath along the Devil's Dyke.

6. Planning Applications

Planning Application Ref: E/0618/79/0 (Exors of R Hills deceased) was discussed and no objections were raised. Planning Applications for Mr R C P Scott (caravan), J O Robinson (extension to farmhouse) and Mrs C M G Waite (erection of 2 detached dwellings and demolition of existing cottages) have all been approved.

7. Council Bungalows

A letter from ECDC was read out wherein it stated that due to the lack of requests for housing in the village and also due to the lack of finance, development of the remaining six bungalows has had to be shelved. Mrs Cook stated that she was not satisfied with the matter. Mrs Harrison asked if the plots for these bungalows could be sold by ECDC in order to fulfil the local need for housing. The Clerk was requested to write to East Cambs re this matter.

8. A.O.B.

The Clerk stated that owing to the fact that the Post Office were unable to deliver the letter an PO to Mr Harris, she had, for the time being, banked the £10 until such time as we have further contact from Mr Harris.

9. Deposit Account

As we now have a large amount in the current account it was decided that a deposit account should be opened and all, with the exception of £100, transferred to that account.

10. Resignation

The Chairman read a letter from the Clerk wherein she expressed her desire to resign the post. Councillors Cook and Woollard extended their thanks to the Clerk, along with the Chairman.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

Signed by: A W Johnson

Dated: 7th Sept 1979

A **Special Parish Meeting** in connection with retention of the Lodes was held in the Village Hall on Monday 13th August 1979 at 9.00pm. Approximately 70 members of the general public attended, the majority of whom were members of the Parish.

After a detailed explanation of the problem by the Chairman, a lengthy discussion took place as to whether or not we wished to retain the Lodes in their present form. A unanimous decision was reached that all present desired to keep the Lodes. Following this, another vote was taken when the public were asked if they were prepared to contribute a small amount towards the upkeep of the Lodes over the next 20 years. The result on this occasion was 1 "no" and the remainder "yes".

Both councillors Mrs Cook and Mr Woollard will be reporting back to their respective Councils in an effort to persuade them to contribute their share of the £15,000 per annum.

The meeting closed at approx. 9.45pm.