



## Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2012

### Attendance

|                  |                     |             |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Michael Aves     | Vice Chairman       | Present     |
| Malcolm Brearley | Chairman            | Present     |
| Ross Clark       | Councillor          | Not Present |
| Rita Dunnett     | Councillor          | Present     |
| Hilary Fielding  | Councillor          | Present     |
| Joyce Harrison   | Councillor          | Present     |
| David Thomas     | Councillor          | Present     |
| David Parr       | Clerk               | 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 to discuss item 9.

### 2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

### 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

### 4. Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting

The Minutes of the 2012 Annual Parish Meeting were reviewed and signed.

### 5 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

No payments were made or applications received since the last meeting. The Clerk reported that for the Diamond Jubilee party approximately £400 will be required from the Amenity Fund as opposed to the £1,000 offered.

### 5 (2) County Councillor's Report

I have been helping Burwell Day Centre (and Burwell Parish Council) to speed up negotiations to renew the lease for the Day Centre. Hopefully that will reach a conclusion at the July meeting of Cabinet.

Cabinet met on 12 June when we took the decision to seek a new design and build framework contract for the Council's capital programme. We decided to reserve 15% of capital projects to be tendered outside the framework which should give more companies opportunities and give us evidence that we are achieving value for money across the programme. Cabinet also agreed consultation responses to the ECDC paper regarding developer contributions and to proposals to develop North West Cambridge (including Section 106 contributions). Cabinet also agreed an exemption from current tendering rules for three services for homeless single people in Cambridge City.

We are seeking to re-invigorate the role and work of Councillors as corporate parents across the County and a number of meetings have been held with officers to draw up a paper to present to Cabinet.

There were two meetings in June to start the planning process for next year's business plan and budget.

### **5 (3) District Councillor's Report**

No report was provided.

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

The Parish Council is in a financially stable situation and expects to increase its reserves during the current financial year. However potential mowing cost savings may not materialise should the wet/warm weather continue.

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

No members attended any such meetings during the last month.

### **5 (6) Parish Council Members Meetings**

No members attended any such meetings during the last month.

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

**The Clerk** has yet to complete repairs to the rocking rooster.

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

It was noted that a number of the byways within the village are becoming overgrown. It was decided that working with the Rights of Way Officer, Karen Whymark, **the Clerk** would remind landowners of their responsibility to keep byways adjoining their land clear.

### **5 (9) Speedwatch**

Grahame Radford has agreed to become Speedwatch Officer and it is expected that Speedwatch activities will recommence shortly.

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

There was nothing to report.

### **5 (11) 24Acres Committee Report**

Fund-raising activities continue with good success. The Parish Council agreed that orders can now be placed for the orchard trees, the avenue of limes and the new tree on the Green. It was agreed that **the Clerk** would try and minimise the amount of any cash with order requirements.

## **6. Dog Control in the Village**

A villager had complained about a large dog which was not on a lead that had scared his child whilst walking around the village. It was agreed that **the Clerk**, via the website, would remind villagers of their responsibility to keep their dogs under proper control.

## **7. Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012**

As part of this celebration, the Parish Council will take the opportunity in November to plant a Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea Sativa*) on the Fair Green which will take over from the current horse chestnut upon its demise. Within Reach magazine will cover the costs of procuring and planting the new tree.

In addition, an avenue of 60 lime trees will be planted on the Swaffham Road on its approach to Reach. Nick Acklam, who suggested this project and the Clerk are working together to make it happen.

## **8. Reach Wood Annual Meadow Mowing**

The Parish Council arranges for the paths in the wood to be mowed but annually, the meadow is mowed. Villagers were concerned about the method of mowing and its effect on the wildlife and a meeting has been arranged with the Woodland Trust to discuss the issue.

## **9. Waste Collection Potential Changes**

There are changes proposed for our waste collection services with one major change being the possible move from using recycling black boxes and brown sacks to wheeled bins (where possible – otherwise the current services will continue). One villager who attended the meeting was concerned about a number of aspects of this, including the "ugliness of these bins in a village such as Reach".

ECDC have publicised the potential changes on their website and there is a survey which villagers can fill in. **The Clerk** was asked to alert villagers to this and ask them for their thoughts on this issue.

#### **10. Sewage Works Plans Update**

A new European Directive requires further sewage monitoring and Anglian Water have decided that pumping the wastewater from the current works in Reach to the larger site in Burwell is the most efficient and sustainable way to proceed. Work will now start in September 2012 and will be completed in a 5/6 week period. Whilst the sewage works at Reach will be closed Anglian Water still requires the site and at this stage they do not propose and removal of the current infrastructure although this will be reviewed from time to time.

#### **11. Street Lighting Update**

In July 2011 CCC in partnership with Balfour Beatty commenced a 25 year street lighting contract. This will include upgrading of lighting columns and lanterns across the county. In addition, some columns will be removed to reduce the street lighting budget. Changes in Reach are proposed and these include the removal of three street lights on Fair Green. Proposed changes in Reach will not take place until early 2015 and there will be significant consultation before then. The Parish Council decided to gain experience over the next two years from local villages (including Burwell) which will be affected first and be prepared to endeavour to optimise street lighting in Reach when the consultation period opens which will be six months before work starts.

#### **12. Trees on the Burwell Road**

A villager had expressed concerns regarding some trees on the Burwell Road which might prove a danger to houses and residents if they are not pruned. The trees are owned by Sanctuary Housing and **the Clerk** has been in touch with them expressing the villager's concerns and also asking what intentions they have for the land and asking them to tidy up the verge.

Natalie Osborne, Housing Officer at Sanctuary Housing has promised to carry out the required work to include tree cutting, verge vegetation reduction and weed clearance.

#### **13. Planning Applications**

There were none.

#### **14. Information Items**

A letter from Jan and John Robinson was read out which thanked the Parish Council for giving them the opportunity to attend the Jubilee picnic at Burghley House. It appeared that despite the less than perfect weather a good time was had by all.

A new Code of Conduct is being proposed. Currently the Parish Council adopts the ECDC code and it was decided that when ECDC had updated this code, the Parish Council would review it with a view to adopting it.

#### **13. Payments**

|                 |                                     |         |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| E-ON            | Street Lighting Electricity YE 2012 | £331.28 |
| D. Blocksage    | Cemetery Mowing June 2012           | £134.00 |
| C R Contracting | Mowing June 2012                    | £310.00 |
| Lanes Bakery    | Diamond Jubilee Food                | £361.95 |
| D M Parr        | Salary April-June 2012              | £589.00 |

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 1st August 2012 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: