



## Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 5th September 2012

### Attendance

Michael Aves	Vice Chairman	Present
Malcolm Brearley	Chairman	Present
Ross Clark	Councillor	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

No members of the public attended.

### 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 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

The Amenity Fund has £3,621.05 in its bank account. The Amenity Fund Committee has agreed to funding of £1,750 towards the 24Acres venture with the possibility of another £250 towards the Observatory, subject to further information being provided. Taking all of the above into account, this leaves the Amenity Fund with £1,621.05 of available funding.

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

No report provided.

### 4 (3) District Councillor's Report

Fly-tipped tyres at Headlake Drove still await clearance.

Paradise pool in Ely has been refurbished at a cost of £50,000.

The Localism Act 2011 includes an obligation for Local Authorities to publish a Tenancy Strategy.

### 4 (4) Financial Report

The Parish Council is in a financially stable situation and hopes to break even over the course of the financial year. The Parish Council agreed that should excess mowing be required due to the exceptional growing conditions this summer, then this mowing should be carried out even if it means using reserves.

The Parish Council agreed to some modifications requested by the external auditor to the YE2012 plan.

### 4 (5) Neighbourhood Panels Report

No members attended any such meetings during the last month.

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

No members attended any such meetings during the last month.

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

The Clerk, having further reviewed the damage to the chicken on the play area, confirmed that it was beyond his capabilities to repair it. **The Clerk** was asked to seek quotations for the work to be carried out and report these back at a forthcoming meeting.

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

**The Clerk** confirmed that he would write to landowners in very early September reminding them of their responsibility to keep byways adjoining their land clear.

**Councillor Clark** stated that a Freedom of Information request showed that the contractor could not confirm that mowing of the Devil's Dyke had taken place as planned in the early part of the year. **The Clerk** was asked to send a letter to Highways, highlighting the Parish Council's major concern over the issue of this and potentially other areas of delinquency of the contractor.

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

The Clerk reported that Grahame Radford, Speedwatch Officer, had stated that Speedwatch activities will recommence during September.

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

No report provided.

#### **4 (11) 24Acres Committee Report**

Fund-raising activities continue with good success. The field has now been harvested and the sowing of an ideal grass seed mix is expected to take place later in September. It is planned that planting will take place at the end of 2012.

### **5. Child Protection Policy**

The Parish Council decided to adopt the ECDC Child Protection Policy.

### **6. Equal Opportunities Policy**

The Parish Council decided to adopt the ECDC Equal Opportunities Policy.

### **7. Street Lighting Maintenance Contract**

The Parish Council agreed to sign up for a three year maintenance contract with Balfour Beatty.

### **8. Waste Collection Potential Changes**

There are changes proposed for Reach 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). Councillors had a number of questions and concerns regarding these potential changes and **the Clerk** has invited David White from ECDC to come along and address a village meeting (or a local villages meeting). A reply is awaited.

### **9. Planning Applications**

There were none.

### **10. Information Items**

A local resident had expressed some concerns about a dog that had repeatedly scared her horse. **The Clerk** was asked to pass on these concerns to the dog owner.

Councillor Brearley, who is planning to leave Reach, informed the Parish Council of his intention to resign as Chairman prior to the next meeting. **The Clerk** was asked to add the election of a new Chairman to the agenda of the next meeting.

**11. Payments**

D. Blocksage	Cemetery Mowing August 2012	£134.00
C R Contracting	Mowing August 2012	£265.00
SPPC	Donation towards Commemorative Bench	£100.00

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 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: