



## Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 6th November 2013

### Attendance

Michael Aves	Vice Chairman	Present
Ross Clark	Councillor	Not Present
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	Present
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	Present
David Thomas	Chairman	Present
Diana Ward	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

Three members of the public attended with one speaking on item 3 and another on item 7.

### 2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

### 3. Village Centre Annual Accounts Review

The ex- Finance Officer of the Village Centre, now Chairman, Grahame Radford, presented the accounts. The Parish Council reviewed and approved them.

### 4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

### 5 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

During the previous month the Amenity Fund paid £1,250 to the Parish Council for the 24Acres project and received £1,571.30 income from the Reach Fair 2013. The Amenity Fund currently stands at £2,616.09.

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

Full Council in October agreed to undertake an assessment of a European Social Fund project aimed at helping the long-term unemployed back into work by helping with interview techniques, CV writing etc. Other motions included one regarding the development of an extra care housing facility in St Ives and one regarding tolling on new roads. Building of the new Fire Station in Burwell is expected to commence in January 2014 with a completion date of August 2014.

Other items considered by Cabinet included proposals to introduce a 20mph speed limit in North Cambridge, the County Council response to the A14 route option consultation and the terms of reference for an independent review into lessons learned from the Guided Busway contract.

The Constitution and Ethics Committee met to further consider moves to a Committee system of governance. A further meeting will be held in early November with a view to making detailed recommendations to Council in December.

Two business planning meetings were held with senior officers and group leaders as work progresses on the next 5-year plan.

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

Councillor Alderson asked the leader of the County Council whether it might be possible to re-examine measures to improve early warnings to over-sized vehicles which continue to strike the railway bridge on the A142.

ECDC have asked the government "to help protect community pubs in England by ensuring that planning permission and community consultation are required before community pubs are allowed to be converted into betting shops, supermarkets and pay day loan stores or other uses or allowed to be demolished."

ECDC owns and manages business startup units and 26 companies have spun out from the two centres since 2001 - creating over 100 jobs.

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

The Parish Council remains in a financially stable situation and expects to provide a surplus during the financial year.

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

No members attended any such meetings during the last month.

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

Councillor Fielding attended a 24Acres Manage meeting with 6 people attending in total. A further meeting is scheduled when one aspect to be discussed will be the accessibility of the facility.

Councillor Fielding also alerted the Parish Council to the potential implications of legal action being taken by the National Trust to move on 30/40 horses from local National Trust land. **The Clerk** will put temporary notices in place stating that the 24Acres is owned by the National Trust and leased to Reach Parish Council".

Councillor Ward reported on a recent exhibition she attended regarding proposals to build 70 dwellings on the former D S Smith site in Burwell.

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

Some spikes are missing from the top of the swings on the Green. The Parish Council approved spending of approximately £30 on 5 metres of spikes. **Councillor Dunnett**, Play Spaces Officer, will purchase these and arrange for them to be put in place.

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

The village's new Rights of Way officer is Karen Champion. **The Clerk** will invite her to visit and meet with the Parish Council to discuss issues that exist in Reach.

The remedial action already suggested by Karen Champion was discussed and approved. **The Clerk** will provide to her the names of any local farmers who might be persuaded to assist in the work.

### **5 (9) Village Centre Report**

The Village Centre AGM took place in October and Grahame Radford is the new Chairman, with Andrew Towers Vice Chairman, Hugh de Lacy Treasurer and Rita Dunnett Secretary.

### **5 (10) 24Acres Committee Report**

All proceeds well - with the planting of the woodland being the next major event to take place on the 7th December.

The compost toilet will be delivered next week. Thanks go to John Covill for allowing the Parish Council to store items in his barn prior to moving them onto the 24Acres itself.

Claims will be made to AmeyCespa, the Big Tree Plant and ECDC during November which will improve our cash flow with the final claim to AmeyCespa for the cricket pitch taking place in April 2014.

## **6. Clerk Recruitment**

The Clerk provided an advert/job specification for the new Clerk which Parish Councillors will review. **The Clerk** will also look at any legal requirements with regard to advertising the vacancy and come up with a proposed timetable for consideration by the Parish Council.

## **7. Reach Road Development**

This was discussed and the decision made to review it further when formal planning permission is applied for.

**8. Local Highways Improvement Programme Review YE 2014**

The process followed by the Parish Council and the Clerk was reviewed and lessons to be learned identified. Overall the outcome was deemed to be satisfactory although **the Clerk** was asked to discuss with Highways the possible need to amend the water flow arrangements to one of the grids.

**9. Local Highways Improvement Programme YE 2015**

It was decided to focus our application on trying to reduce down the speed of vehicles approaching Reach from Swaffham Prior. **The Clerk** will outline the problem to Highways to see what their favoured solution might be.

**10. Precept YE 2015**

The Clerk proposed a budget for the next financial year and this was approved by the Parish Council. Within this budget it was agreed that the precept would remain at £7,150 for the fourth financial year in a row.

**11. Planning Applications**

Planning application 13/00710/FUL (retention of broadband aerial at 6 Fair Green) was approved by the Parish Council subject to it being for a four year period only.

**12. Information Items**

It was agreed that Sue Loaker, Crime Prevention Officer will be invited to the next Parish Council meeting, along with a representative of the local Neighbourhood Watch and an expert on CCTV usage. The meeting will start at 7.00am and villagers will be encouraged to come along.

**13. Payments**

BHT	Woodland Trees and Planting Items	£3,376.52
C R Contracting	Mowing October	£103.50
Andrew Trump	24Acres Mower	£700.00
Nick Acklam	Book	£11.00
Mr Cricket	24Acres Cricket Stumps	£39.98
David Thomas	Yellow Rattle Seed	£46.00

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 4th December 2013 at 7.00pm. The Agenda for the meeting will be issued by the previous Wednesday and can be accessed from the Parish Council area of the Reach website ([www.reach-village.co.uk](http://www.reach-village.co.uk)).

Chairman:

Date: