



## Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014.

### Attendance

Michael Aves	Vice Chairman	Present
Ross Clark	Councillor	Present
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	Not Present
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	Present
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	Not Present
David Thomas	Chairman	Present
Diana Ward	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Not Present

### 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

There was no activity during the previous month.

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

Full Council met, items for debate included: a new scheme of members allowances to reflect moves away from the Cabinet system; introducing a no-smoking policy across council sites; introducing experimental traffic management systems; promoting the re-opening of the March to Wisbech railway line; flying the LGBT flag at Shire Hall; introducing live broadcasting of Council meetings; moving Papworth hospital to the Addenbrookes site and forming a scrutiny panel to consider the guided bus project.

Cabinet met twice during March. At the first meeting I presented a paper launching the formal response to the consultation regarding reconfiguring Children's Centres across the County. Other items discussed included the transport strategy and various planning applications including: North Ely; the Wing Development and Northstowe. The second meeting was held especially to consider the principles of the Greater Cambridgeshire City Deal as announced in the budget. Cabinet agreed unanimously to recommend support to Council.

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

The Maltings Ely, Ely museum, the Ely shop mobility scheme and the grant funding to the Arts Development in East Cambridgeshire are all being taken over by Ely City Council. Saving the District Council £230,000 over the next five years.

An Association of Drainage Authorities seminar was held and discussed how Drainage boards can work with the community, and the importance of maintenance in flood risk management.

At the Community and Environment Committee the service review of Neighbourhood panels was discussed. The level of grant funding to local Citizen Advice Bureau's was maintained as their work load has increased significantly in the last year.

#### 4 (4) Financial Report

The Parish Council remains in a financially stable situation and expects to provide a surplus during the financial year. End of year figure are being finalised by **The Clerk**.

#### 4 (5) Parish Council Members Meetings

No members attended any such meetings during the last month.

#### 4 (6) Play Spaces

Councillor Clark reported an increase in litter around the playing fields. The situation will be monitored.

#### 4 (7) Rights of Way

Councillor Fielding commented that The Community Payback people have been cutting back hedges around the village. Unfortunately there has been a lack of tidying up and removing branches etc. this time. Additionally a pair of shears were found on the Dyke.

**Councillor Fielding** to contact Cambridgeshire County Council with regard to these matters.

#### 4 (8) Village Centre

There was no activity to report.

#### 4 (9) 24Acres Committee Report

A committee has been established to arrange the opening event on 1<sup>st</sup> June. The National Trust has offered some funding for this event. The Parish Council agreed that a maximum of £650 could be used from the Amenity fund grant already approved and provided for the 24Acres projects.

### 5. Annual Parish Council Meeting arrangements

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 7th May, starting at 8.00pm.

### 6. Clerks contract of employment

The end of the probation period for the new Clerk has been reached and the Councillors approved the continual employment. A contract was agreed and will be signed. **Clerk to arrange**.

### 7. Planning Applications

The proposed housing on Rodgers Road, Swaffham Prior was discussed; the Council had no comment to make. The public consultation of the planning application for the 'Community Solar project' at Spring Hall Farm is expected soon, **The Clerk** to investigate when this is likely to happen to give the Parish Council and residents a chance to comment.

### 8. Information Items

Several complaints have been received with regard to two dogs running loose around the village and in Reach Wood. **The Clerk** to send a letter to the owners asking for the dogs to be kept in a secure area. Dog fouling is still a problem around the village; the situation will continue to be monitored.

### 9. Payments

Clerk Salary	£ 594.86
Business Services at CAS (Insurance)	£ 833.73
CR Contracting	£ 266.50
D Thomas – 24Acres	£ 6.00
Cambridgeshire County Council	£ 495.20
John Reed	£ 900.00
Spearhead Turf	£3258.00

The date of the **next meeting** will be Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2014 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: