



Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 1st October 2014.

Attendance

Michael Aves	Councillor	Present
Ross Clark	Vice Chairman	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	Not Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Present

1. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

2. Forum for Members of the Public

None attended.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting were signed as correct.

4 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

4 (2) County Councillor's Report

General Purposes Committee met to consider the usual range of financial reports. It was agreed to move forward with the Mobilising Local Energy Investment scheme, which will utilize EU funding to help improve energy efficiency in public buildings over the next few years. The GPC also agreed to support a bid from Fenland District Council to the Heritage Lottery Fund for moves to re-generate Wisbech High Street.

The Children and Young People's Committee also met in September. Decisions taken included, the extension of contracts to third parties managing 5 of our children's centres for a further year prior to re-tendering, and an agreement to support a new primary school in Wisbech. The Committee also considered proposals for the CYP capital programme to be submitted as part of the business plan to Full Council in February 2015. The Committee agreed to support the allocation of a further £5million for the expansion of Burwell Village College.

I attended meetings of: the Cambridgeshire Improvement Board, the Constitution and Ethics Committee, the Cambridgeshire Coram Adoption Advisory Board and 2 business planning workshops. I also met with Nicky Morgan MP, Secretary of State for Education, and took the opportunity to raise funding for schools and safeguarding issues.

We also received the tremendous news that Eric Pickles MP, will not be calling in the planning permission for the Ely Southern By-Pass, meaning that planning permission is granted and we can now get on with tendering for the construction of it.

4 (3) District Councillor's Report

Eric Pickles, Government minister, has ruled that any decision on the Ely Southern by-pass can be taken by the local authority.

During a speech in Birmingham, Eric Pickles highlighted the good work taken by ECDC with regard to recycling and waste management. Recycling has increased from 34% 2 years ago to a projected rate of 54% this year.

During September I attended, a full Council meeting, a presentation on the proposed leisure village at Ely, the raising of the green flag at Ely Country Park, a licensing hearing, a seminar on the North Ely housing development and a meeting with Emma Grimma and her infrastructure team.

4 (4) Financial Report

The second part of the precept has been received. The annual audit of the accounts had been returned, with no matters arising. The Parish Council remains in a financially stable situation.

4 (5) Parish Council Members Meetings

Councillor Fielding met with the National Trust to discuss weeds on their land which are spreading to private land.

4 (6) Play Spaces

The copy of the report had been obtained. **Clerk** to obtain quotes for the necessary work.

4 (7) Rights of Way

A Swaffham Prior resident had complained to CCC with regard to the state of Barston Drove. CCC have stated that they are aware of the problem and have a potential plan in place.

Councillor Fielding to contact CCC to state that Barston Drove is very important and well used, it is part of the Earth Works Way. And that the Parish Council fully support any scheme to improve this by-way.

Councillor Brown will be given any necessary information, and discuss with the relevant departments at CCC.

4 (8) Village Centre

Councillor Fielding attended the September meeting.

To increase advertising, and therefore bookings, Graham Radford is to take over the booking process.

The village Hall Committee offered to supply a copy of their meeting minutes to the PC. **Clerk** to inform them that this would be appreciated.

The PC should have 2 members on the committee, **Councillors Fielding and Ward** to attend the meetings until a permanent member is appointed. **Councillor Ward** to attend the next meeting.

4 (9) 24Acres Committee Report

A meeting will be held in October.

The access track is becoming eroded by water from the road. **Clerk** to establish what the track is made of. Councillor Thomas is having continuing discussions with the NT regarding this matter. The situation will be monitored.

5. Memorial for Councillor Dunnett

It was decided that the memorial bench will be placed on the 24Acres, as Rita was passionate about this project.

6. Village tree works

It was agreed that work would be undertaken. This will include work on the Horse Chestnut on the Green, the Ash trees in the corner of the playing field by the playground, the hedge at the approach to the play area, and the Lime trees and boundary hedging of the Cemetery. **Clerk** to inform the relevant contractors.

7. Cemetery Fees

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Cemetery fees would be increased by approximately 5%. **Clerk** to update pricing.

8. Planning Applications

There were none.

9. Information Items

There were none.

10. Payments

D. Blocksage	£ 140.00
PKF Littlejohn, audit fees	£ 240.00
Susan Bailey, clerk salary	£ 594.86
NT land Lease	£ 10.00

The date of the **next meeting** will be Wednesday 5th November 2014 at 7.30pm. 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).

Chairman:

Date: