



## Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 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	Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Not Present

### 1. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

### 2. Forum for Members of the Public

Two members of the village Events Team attended to discuss the idea of placing a Christmas tree on the Green opposite the Village Centre. The Events Team will submit an application to the Amenity Fund to cover the costs of this. The Parish Council approved this event and it will therefore become a Parish Council event, run by the Events Team.

### 3. New Parish Councillor

Charlotte Cane was welcomed as the new member of the Parish Council.

### 4. The Avenue of Limes.

After discussion it was proposed and approved that the Limes would be left until this time next year to see how they develop. The trees will be monitored and those that are dead will be cut back or removed, to give a better appearance, and possibly replaced next year.

### 5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

### 6 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

No Activity this month.

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

Full Council in October debated a number of motions, including 3 about future governance arrangements. Council agreed a motion to instruct the Chief Executive to examine links with other public bodies, including the District Councils and health, and not just consider unitary status. Other motions included support for upgrading the A428 and the Local Assistance Scheme, which offers emergency help to individuals.

General Purposes Committee agreed a number of items including a land swap in Littleport, using County Farms land, to secure the site for the new Secondary School, and the 'in principle' decision to take legal proceedings over defects on the guided Busway. The Committee also received the usual range of financial reports.

The Children and Young People's Committee also met in October, with business planning the main agenda item. We still have £5.9 million of unidentified savings for 2015/16 and officers are preparing further options to present to the November meeting, prior to the Committee recommending a balanced budget in early 2015.

I attended meetings of: the Corporate Parenting Board, group spokes for Children and Young People, a seminar about the City Deal and a cross-departmental meeting with the chairman and vice-chairman of Economy and Environment Committee. I also attended the official opening by Edward Timpson MP, Minister for Children, of Cambridgeshire Coram adoption, the new joint venture voluntary adoption agency we have set up.

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

There have been two instances of fly tipping in the ward. By Swaffham Bulbeck Lode, near Slades Farm. Also Headlake Drove, which included a small amount of asbestos.

Fly tipping of asbestos costs ECDC £285 for its removal.

There has been an unauthorised encampment at Forty Acre Drove since 18<sup>th</sup> October. It is on County council byways land.

I contacted the CCC traveller's liaison officer and the enforcement officer. A court order has been served and they have until 12<sup>th</sup> November to leave the site.

### **6 (4) Financial Report**

Very little activity this month, the Parish Council remains in a financially stable situation.

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

Councillor Fielding attended a meeting with the Local Highways Improvement Programme Committee, to discuss our application. A decision is awaited.

### **6 (6) Play Spaces**

Three quotes have been received for the repair work required. A quote was accepted. **The Clerk** to arrange for the work to be carried out.

### **6(7) Rights of Way**

Councillor Fielding had contacted CCC with regard to the track damage on Barston Drove. The response from CCC was that they will attempt to set the track fair if it is within budget. CCC also stated that it local farmers should keep the byway in a good state and repair if necessary. Parish Council were also concerned about damage to the byway from 4x4 vehicles.

**Councillor Fielding** to contact local landowner's if/when the repairs happen.

Councillor Fielding had also met with the NT on the 24Acres to discuss the potential placing of a culvert from the 24Acres onto the fen. This is a NT project. Permissive access would need to be given by a local landowner and the NT.

### **6 (8) Village Centre**

Councillor Ward was unable to attend the last meeting due to a change of venue. Minutes had not been received. **Clerk** to ask for a copy. **Councillor Clark** to attend the next meeting.

### **6 (9) 24Acres Committee Report**

A meeting was held in October. Updates on the various projects and plans for the future were discussed. A project to plant a hedge along the front boundary was also discussed. The NT are to closely monitor the condition of the access track over the coming winter months.

A car boot sale was successfully held to raise money for the manege/horse users project.

**7. The Cemetery**

The Parish Council had received a complaint with regard to Muntjac deer destroying plants in the cemetery. The PC are very sympathetic to this and understands that it is very upsetting. However, stopping the deer from entering the cemetery maybe very difficult. **The Clerk** to investigate the various options regarding the fencing of the boundary.

**8. The Clerks Annual Review**

The Parish Council were happy with the performance of the Clerk over the previous year and approved the National Salary Pay Award as and when it is agreed.

**9. Precept YE 2016**

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 fifth financial year.

**10. Planning Applications**

There were none.

**11. Information Items/AOB**

Memorial Bench - designs for the bench were discussed and will continue to be looked at prior to **Councillor Thomas** discussing them with the family.

Salt Bin on Great Lane - A resident had complained that the salt bin outside their property had been knocked by a vehicle and was now resting against their wall. **Councillor Aves** to arrange for the salt bin to be repositioned.

Reach Wood Meadow – Residence have shown concern about the lack of mowing of the meadow. Ideally this needs mowing twice yearly however, the Woodland Trust only have the budget for a once yearly cut. It was agreed that in future the meadow will be cut once in September at a 10cm height.

**12. Payments**

CR Contracting – September mowing	£ 329.00
Neil Kennedy – Tree damage repair	£ 85.00
CR Contracting – October mowing	£ 105.00

The date of the **next meeting** will be Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 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](http://www.reach-village.co.uk)).

Chairman:

Date: