



Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 4th February 2015.

Attendance

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

Councillor Aves was appointed to Chair the meeting.

1. Forum for Members of the Public

Members of the Public were present to discuss the street lights

2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3. Reach Street lighting.

Pledges have been received of over £6,000 for the Heritage street lights on the Green. PC are still awaiting confirmation from Balfour Beatty (BB) and CCC as to the exact cost and full details of the project. **Clerk** to contact both BB and CCC for full written confirmation. The project cannot go forward without this. Councillors congratulated David Parr on raising the fund in such a short time.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

5 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

The Amenity fund had agreed to give £850 to the street light funding.

5 (2) County Councillor's Report

General Purposes Committee met twice in January. The first meeting included the usual range of financial monitoring reports. The meeting also agreed the process for procuring security services for county council buildings, jointly with Northamptonshire County Council, and agreed to declare surplus to requirements some land at the Soham Northern Gateway. The second meeting concentrated on the budget and business plan to be recommended to full Council in February.

The Children and Young People's Committee also met in January with a full agenda. Items for consideration included agreeing a policy for personal budgets for those with special educational needs, the future of learning bases in Cambridge and Wisbech, the future management of Oasis day nursery in Wisbech and educational performance across the County. I also had a number of briefings with relevant directors as vice-Chairman of the committee.

I chaired a meeting of: the Corporate Parenting Board and also attended a Constitution and Ethics Committee workshop reviewing progress with the Committee System adopted last year.

5 (3) District Councillor's Report

During the last year the controlling Conservative group have overhauled all the councils departments, resulting in -

£800,000 of additional savings 2014/15

A balanced budget for 2015/16 & 2016/17

NO COUNCIL TAX INCREASE for the next two years

A leaner, more can do council

Asbestos disposal – contact Helen at the council's customer services department. Nine disposal bags can be supplied at 48 hours' notice. This is a free service.

Swaffham Prior School – The school needs funding, firstly for a new roof, this funding must come from CC. Secondly for a new permanent classroom. I have asked for this to be included in the District Councils Community Infrastructure Levy.

5 (4) Financial Report

The Parish Council remains in a financially stable situation.

5 (5) Parish Council Members Meetings

There were no meetings this month.

5 (6) Play Spaces

No Activity to report

5 (7) Rights of Way

Complaints had been received about horse riders on the Lode bank and Devils Dyke. Councillor Fielding has spoken to a rider, seen on the Lode bank, with regard to this.

5 (8) Village Centre

Minutes had not been received. Apologies were sent.

5 (9) 24Acres Committee Report

No report available.

6. The Cemetery Fencing

Three quotes had now been received. **Clerk** to instruct the successful contractor to carry out the deer proof fencing of the back boundary.

7. Village Green Utilities

The residents who had replied to the PC, with regard to this project were all positive. The PC are therefore in favour of the project going ahead subject to the correct permissions and following of the correct regulations. Plans now need to be confirmed and clarified.

8. Planning Applications

A revised application had been received. The PC had no comment to make.

9. Information Items/AOB

Traffic Calming – It was felt that an email should be sent around the village to tell residents that the PC had been successful in gaining the Local Highway Improvement Initiative funding for this project. **Clerk** to arrange.

Four residents had come forward to join the 'friend of Reach Wood' group to assist and advise the Woodland Trust in the care and planning of Reach wood.

It was note that a pole carrying cables had been knock down on the Burwell Road. **Clerk** to investigate who will be repairing this.

10. Payments

Acacia Tree Surgery	£ 822.00
David Thomas – 24Acres hedge	£ 129.79
David Parr – Repayment for calendar purchase	£ 25.00
David Parr – Christmas tree event	£ 614.68

The date of the **next meeting** will be Wednesday 4th March 2015 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: