



## Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

### Attendance

Charlotte Cane	Chair	Present
Michael Aves	Vice Chair	Present
Hannah Baldwin	Councillor	Present
Steve Boreham	Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	Present
David Thomas	Councillor	Present
Diana Ward	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Present

### 1. Forum for members of the public

Several members of the public attended the meeting to discuss two points -

1. The Cricket Pitch – At present Reach Cricket Club use the ground for occasional matches, and Burwell Cricket Club have used it 3 times this year. Burwell 3<sup>rd</sup> team would like to use the ground 8 times in the coming season. In return they propose to maintain the ground to a good standard in line with the lease requirements. It was stated that the pitch would improve with the increase in games. Burwell Cricket Club also agrees to abide by the maximum 10 car rule. **Ross Clark** to contact the National Trust, as owners, to ensure they are happy with this arrangement. PC gave full support pending the NT agreement.
2. Power on the Green – Funding has been raised to provide electricity on the village green and to the centre of the green. A full explanation of the project was given and a full discussion took place. Concern was shown for the ongoing costs, and additional noise nuisance that properties by the green may experience. The Events team will pay the yearly fees in advance and the PC will establish a criteria policy for the use & control of the electricity. The proposal was agreed.

### 2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

### 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

- Matters arising from the last minutes – Councillor Boreham had continued to investigate the potential Ash dieback on the trees on The Hythe. He had collated a plan of the trees owned by the PC. It was agreed that a regular check of the trees in the village was required along with a yearly inspection by a qualified person. **Councillor Boreham** to try to establish which trees around the village are PC owned.

#### **4 (1) Amenity Fund Committee**

A cheque had been received from the Village Centre committee following a successful year for Reach Fair.

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

I attended a meeting of the Staffing and Appeals Committee. Amongst other items the Committee agreed to recommend to Constitution and Ethics Committee that appeals against dismissal should in future be heard by Directors, rather than members as currently happens. The Committee also agreed to recommend to Full Council that we should enter a 12-month trial to share the Chief Executive position with Peterborough City Council.

Owing to a leg injury I was unable to attend a number of other meetings.

Councillor Aves asked that Councillor Brown check and confirm that the diversion route for the closure of Station Road, Swaffham Prior, would not direct cars and particularly lorries through Reach.

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

A buffet tea will no longer be provided at Full Council pre-meeting, as a cost saving measure.

Community Land Trusts in East Cambs. continue to progress. In Swaffham Prior with the allocation of 8 new homes completed and the prospective owners hoping to move in by Christmas. Thrift CLT for Soham is looking for a suitable location, Witchford CLT has a site identified and Fordham PC wishes to move forward with a CLT. Significant changes have been made to council Planning Service The website has been re-vamped. From Oct 1<sup>st</sup> pre-planning advice will be free for charities and small businesses. The scale of charges has also been amended.

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

The second part of the precept has been received and the Parish Council remains in a financially stable situation.

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

Councillor Cane had attended a meeting at ECDC with regard to changing the planning process and also a CPALC meeting which highlighted the need for Assets and Risk registers. **Clerk** to establish an assets list and investigate all files electronic and paper.

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

The movable goal posts are in a poor state of repair. **Councillor Cane** to remove the net from the goal post and report back on the condition of the posts.

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

The hedge by Green Lane has been cut back on both sides. Barston Drove and Straight Drove have been repaired by CCC. Concern has been shown with regard to the longevity of the repair once the bad weather arrives.

Complaints continue to be received about dog mess on Clinch Pit Lane. Residents believe they have repeatedly seen the same dog fouling on the lane. **Clerk** to write to the owner reminding them of their responsibility to clean up after their dog.

#### **4 (8) Village Centre**

No report received.

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

Nick Aklam is in the process of producing a 5 year plan for the 24Acres woodland, to ensure our compliance with the Forestry commission grant conditions.

An access point to the rest of the NT land is being established by an adjoining landowner. This will not be a public footpath, but will allow access across the land.

A list of volunteers for the Apple Day event is required to ensure they are covered by the PC insurance.

#### **4 (10) Friends of Reach Wood**

Mowing of the meadow has taken place and new Woodland trust signs have been put up. **Councillor Boreham** to contact the WT to ask about the dog rules signs, which were agreed, would be put up at the wood entrances.

#### **5. ECDC Local plan and village boundaries**

It was confirmed that the 'village envelopes' are no longer valid. ECDC are now in the process of developing and emerging local plan to assist in the development of a new full local plan. **Councillor Allen** to keep the PC up to date with changes.

#### **6. Annual Audit Outcome**

The annual audit had been returned and displayed, as required. Councillor Cane will be unable to carry out the internal audit next year, as it needs to be an independent audit.

#### **7. Cemetery and Mooring fees**

Cemetery fees will be increased by 5%, mooring fees will remain as they are. The mooring document will have the refund agreement removed.

#### **8. Cemetery Fencing**

Postponed to a later meeting

#### **9. Planning Applications**

There were none.

#### **10. Information Items/AOB**

Councillor Alderson had cut back the hedge around the Ditchfield roadside bus stop and will continue to monitor the area.

#### **11. Payments**

CR Contracting – Mowing contract	£604.00
Susan Bailey – Clerk salary	£607.92
PKF Littlejohn – Audit fees	£120.00
National Trust – 24acres lease fee	£ 10.00
The British legion - Remembrance wreath	£ 17.00

The date of the **next meeting** will be Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 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](http://www.reach-village.co.uk)).

Chairman:

Date: