



Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 2nd November 2016

Attendance

Charlotte Cane	Chair	Present
Hilary Fielding	Vice Chair	Present
Michael Aves	Councillor	Present
Hannah Baldwin	Councillor	Present
Steve Boreham	Councillor	Present
Diana Ward	Councillor	Present
Nathan Bridgeman	Councillor	Not Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Not Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Not Present

1. **Apologies for absence** – received and approved.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Baldwin declared an interest in Reach Fair.

Forum for Members of the Public

There were none.

3. **Planning**

It was reported that the Barston Drove planning application had been approved by the Planning committee at ECDC.

Applications 16/01327/FUL & 16/01392/FUL were discussed. The PC had no comments to make on either application.

4. **Reach Fair**

There are strict rules regarding the PC and the structure of working groups and sub committees. Following discussion it was agreed by all parties that the Events Team would set up an organisation separate to the PC to run Reach Fair. This organisation would take full responsibility for the Fair; all profits would be donated to the PC for use within the village.

The Events Team will produce a document detailing this agreement, to be signed by all parties.

5. **Christmas Tree and calendar**

Documentation regarding the Christmas tree events had been supplied and was accepted. The PC will buy the Christmas tree and a grant will be received from Within Reach.

A discussion took place regarding the safety of the braziers. It was agreed that they will only be used in good weather and will not be lit in windy conditions. First aid equipment and personnel will be on site. Similarly concern was discussed regarding the scaffolding and snow machines. The Events team will ensure that no members of the public are able to climb the scaffolding.

Due to complications regarding VAT the calendars will not be supplied via the PC. These will still be produced via The Events Team.

6. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

7 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

The structure of the Amenity fund was discussed. With The Events team taking over Reach Fair, the PC would like the responsibilities of the Amenity fund to come under the control of the PC, and a grant/funding structure arranged for the benefit of the village. **Councillor Cane** to discuss with the Chair of the Amenity fund.

7(2) County Councillor's Report

Full Council met on 18th October. A number of motions were debated and agreed. These included: support for keeping Minor Injury Units (including in Ely) open; calls on Government for more equitable funding for health; the need to ensure appropriate archaeological surveys associated with development.

General Purposes Committee met with initial consideration of the Business Plan for 2017-18 high on the agenda. Consideration was also given to a number of invest to save bids surrounding: enhanced intervention services for children with disabilities; Link workers within adult mental health services; and improving commercial governance in procurement. A bid for a Community Led Local Development fund for Wisbech to match fund European Social Funding was also considered.

Children and Young People Committee met to consider emerging savings proposals. With unforeseen pressure on the Looked after Children budget it was agreed to request the General Purposes Committee to consider increasing the base budget. Further work was also requested on the future service delivery model for Children's Centres.

I attended workshops for Children and Young People Committee regarding business planning and the strategic role of the County Council in education. I also attended 2 meetings of political spokespeople for Children and Young People.

7(3) District Councillor's Report

No report supplied.

7(4) Financial Report

Nothing to report. The PC remains in a financially stable situation.

7(5) Parish Council Members Meetings

Councillor Boreham continues his discussions with Anglian Water regarding The Hythe and things are moving forward. He also continues discussions with IDB & EA regarding the silting up of the Lode. **Councillor Ward** to draft a formal letter, from the PC, requesting that this matter is urgently attended to.

7(6) Play Spaces

The PC is very keen to update the playground this financial year and **Clerk** will contact Councillor Bridgeman to ask whether he is able to take the lead on this task. The immediate need is for a full consultation to establish what equipment people would like, within the village, followed by the obtaining of grants.

Repairs to the gate will go ahead along with some maintenance to the bridge. **Clerk** to arrange.

7(7) Rights of Way

Councillor Boreham had obtained the 'No Horse Riding' signs. These had been put up at the entrances to Reach Wood. **Councillor Boreham** to put up the additional ones by the small footpath leading from Reach Wood across towards the allotments.

7(8) 24Acres Committee Report

A request had been received for spending of approx. £160 on maintenance and replanting at the 24Acres. This was approved. **Clerk** to inform Nick Aklam.

7(9) Friends of Reach Wood

The Woodland trust have agreed that the Ragwort cannot be controlled by pulling alone. A new plan will be established.

7(10) Local Plan

The February PC meeting will start earlier to allow for a public Local Plan consultation.

8 Clerk Annual Review

Councillors agreed that the Clerk's performance throughout the year had been very good. The Chair reported that the Clerk was happy with her role.

The Chair noted that it was best practice to have a Personnel Committee to provide management to the Clerk and recommended that the Council set up such a committee. Members supported this proposal unanimously and elected Nathan Bridgeman, Diane Ward and Charlotte Cane to be members of the Committee.

9 Community gritting scheme

Following discussion it was agreed that the new gritting route is not acceptable. There will be no gritting in Reach, and community gritting cannot cover for this. At least bus routes in and out of the village should be included in CCCs gritting route. **Clerk** to write a letter of complaint with the PCs views.

10 Information Items/AOB

The idea of fitting the phone box with a defibrillator, as in Swaffham Prior, was again discussed. Councillor Boreham had been unable to obtain any information from Swaffham Prior. **Councillor Cane** will continue to investigate.

Concern had been shown from a resident regarding the increasing number of door step sellers in the village. **Clerk** to investigate with trading standards.

11. Payments

CR Contractors – mowing	£282.00
Eon – power on the green	£ 10.09
National Trust-24Acres lease	£ 10.00

The date of the **next meeting** will be Wednesday 7th December 2016 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: