



**Draft Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on;
Wednesday 6th April 2016.**

Attendance

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

1. Forum for members of the public

Residents attended the meeting to discuss the planning application - 16/00130/FUL.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Aves declared an interest in the planning discussion 16/00130/FUL.

3. Planning Application

Planning Application - 16/00130/FUL.

A discussion took place; the following points will again be made by the PC to the ECDC planning department.

- The site is outside the development envelope.
- The village does not want to lose stabling and paddock land.
- Concern that pre-emptive work is taking place
- It is isolated from the main village which goes against National Planning policy.
- The Parish Council is concerned that this will set a precedent for further, similar building around the village creating village sprawl.
- In July 2015 the previous owner of the land was told by Oliver Cook, Housing development and enabling officer that he could not be positive about the suitability of this site for residential development due to the location and rural character of the site.
- The site is not considered to be well related to the village, it would be viewed as an isolated site from the existing built form of the village. The character and nature of this part of Reach is clearly countryside, and therefore such a build would harm the character, setting and surrounding countryside given the rural nature and appearance of the site.
- The PC would ask that this application is refused. And that if approval is being considered the application goes before the Full Planning Committee.

Councillor Alderson to check with ECDC planning regarding their policy on the installation of cesspits.

Planning Application – 15/01558/OUT – no comment made.

1. Forum for members of the public

George Gibson attended the meeting to discuss the fire at The Dykes End Pub. The fire started in the early hours of the morning at the back of the kitchen. Nobody was hurt. The kitchen suffered extensive smoke damage. The pub will be trading for drinks only for the next couple of months until the repair work can be completed. The kitchen area may be extended whilst the repair work is carried out. Plans to be supplied to the PC prior to this going ahead. **Clerk** to contact the fair committee to highlight a possible toilet problem for Reach Fair.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

5 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

Funding for the beacon for the Queen's birthday celebration had been agreed £225.

5 (2) County Councillor's Report

Full Council met on 22nd March. As has been widely reported, the longest debate surrounded the offer of a devolution deal from Government to Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Norfolk and Suffolk. Following a lengthy debate a motion indicating that CCC found the deal on offer was unacceptable and should be rejected pending further discussions. This was agreed with 64 votes in favour and 1 abstention. Two other motions were also agreed, one highlighting the need for work to tackle deprivation in parts of the County, and the other calling on Government to come up with a system for intervening in failing academies. Council also agreed to change the process for oral questions at Council meetings so that in future they can be directed towards any member of Council holding a position of responsibility.

The Children and Young People Committee met on 8th March. A new strategy for Looked after Children was agreed. Following news that Greenwood Dale Trust was withdrawing from sponsoring the new secondary and special schools in Littleport, the Committee agreed to name Active Learning Trust as our preferred sponsor for these 2 new schools.

General Purposes Committee also met in March. Amongst other issues, the Committee agreed to start a Total Transport Pilot, bringing together the various public-funded transports around Ely. The Committee also agreed to defer a paper regarding IT provision for members and agreed a land transfer with Sawston Village College to enable a community hub to be built.

I also attended a meeting regarding the proposed expansion of Bottisham Village College.

5 (3) District Councillor's Report

£122,000 rural grant. ECDC have been awarded this grant by central government and it will be administered by the Commercial Services Committee which discussed it at the March meeting.

Its details are as follows. It will be divided equally between 42 parishes giving each parish £2904. The grant can be spent on initiatives that benefit the community and each parish will be required to submit an annual report to ECDC to show how the money has been spent. If a group of parishes want to join together to spend the money on a larger project this would be proved by ECDC. The spending of the grant is not time related. ECDC is waiting to hear when it will receive the money.

Swaffham Prior Community Land Trust Houses. The first of these 8 properties are ready for occupation. This is a district council initiative and it is hoped to have many more sites within the district, creating housing that is affordable for people on modest income. It is a fact that ever more young people can only afford to rent, so it is our duty to provide for them. According to the Halifax house price survey in 2001 the average house cost 3.2 times the average wage, today it is 5.5 times. In Cambridge during the last 20 years the average house price has increased 414%. The cost and availability of houses is fast becoming our greatest social issue.

5 (4) Financial Report

At year end the Parish Council remains in a financially stable situation. With a potential result figure nearly £2,000 better than forecast.

5 (5) Parish Council Members Meetings

There were none.

5 (6) Play Spaces

All look fine and were being well used over the Easter hols, although there may be a problem with one of the goalposts on the playing field.

Still waiting to hear back on the playground improvement ideas.

5 (7) Rights of Way

A resident has arranged a delivery of hard-core to byway 11, by the 24Acres, in conjunction with CCC. No response had yet been received from CCC regarding the hard-core at the Chapel Lane end of the same byway.

5 (8) Village Centre

Montessori nursery will be starting Monday 11th April. And we have arranged to re-tarmac the surrounds of the Hall. The new dishwasher has been installed.

5 (9) 24Acres Committee Report

An updated management plan had been received. This will be discussed at the next meeting. Following the resignation of Councillor Thomas from the PC he has offered to continue as liaison between the PC and 24Acres committee. The PC would very much appreciate this and accepted the offer. **Councillor Cane** to inform David Thomas.

A Reach Riders event had raised £265. Insurance is in place for a riding club. A gate is required to lock the area, as it will be for members only.

5 (10) Friends of Reach Wood

Nothing to report.

5(11) Local Plan

Report below/attached.

6 Streetlights

A document had been received regarding the transfer of the heritage lights from CCC to PC ownership. The PC are not willing to go ahead with this until the lamps had been changed. The PC would also like the document to name the parties involved correctly.

7 Computer Grant

The PC had received a small grant, as part of the Transparency code, to allow the PC to purchase a laptop and printer which will be PC owned. **Clerk** to go ahead and make the purchase.

8 24Acres water pipe

A water pipe and 2 taps are to be installed on the 24Acres for the cricket club and for village functions. A grant will be applied for, with the cricket club paying the match funding. The PC was in agreement.

9. Mowing contract

The PC are happy with the service of the present contractor. Prices for the next financial year show an increase of 50p per cut. The 24Acres orchard will only be cut on request and that the paths through the wood should be cut as requested/instructed by Nick Acklam. The PC agreed this increase. **Clerk** to ensure the contractor liaises with the 24Acres committee and will issue the contact.

10 The Queen's birthday beacon

A risk assessment had been received from the Events Team. The PC requires more information before giving this event the final go ahead. This document is required by Sunday 10th April, to allow for it to be reviewed and agreed.

A full method statement and Risk assessment is required for the entire event from the installation to the dismantling after the event. The document is required to show details of exactly what will be happening, it should include but not exclusively the following. A event plan or time line and who has ownership of the event, names and full details of fire marshals and 1st aiders and all volunteers, details of water supply and fire extinguishers, full details of who will be managing the event and who will be in charge of each area, who are the key people.

11 War memorial Insurance

To insure the war memorial for the full replacement value will cost the PC an additional £100. The PC decided that the extra cost would be paid as it was felt that residents would want the memorial to be protected. **Clerk** confirm with the insurance company.

12 Annual Parish Meeting

The APM usually take place after the May PC meeting. However it was felt that because the PC meeting was on the 4th May two days after the Fair, it would be better attended later in the month. **Clerk** to establish another date with required attendees.

13 Response to the Local Plan consultation

Thanks as given to Councillors Cane and Ward for completing this document. See attached document.

14 Transport Consultation

The Quay roundabout and the difficulties of getting into Cambridge City centre were highlighted. There was also concern that reviews of rural bus services may result in further cuts. **Councillor Cane** to respond.

15 Neighbourhood Plan

To be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting. More information is required.

16 Position of Dog Bins

A complaint had been received regarding the dog poo bin positioned at the end of Clunch Pit Lane. A request was made for this to be moved to a more discreet position. **Clerk** to discuss with ECDC regarding where it can be positioned as it must be road side for collection. **Councillor Cane** to reply to the resident.

17 Information Items/AOB

An invitation had been received for Councillor Cane to attend Reach Fair as a guest of the Mayor. **Clerk** to arrange acceptance of this offer on behalf of Councillor Cane.

18. Payments

Came and Company – Insurance	£636.14
CR Contractors – shrub removal and mowing	£163.00
David Parr – repayment	£ 15.00
David Thomas – Orchard expenses	£ 29.97
Susan Bailey - clerks salary	£929.92
Susan Bailey – postage	£ 6.48
Balfour Beatty – streetlight maintenance	£349.28
E.on – streetlight electricity	£438.25

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