



## Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016

### Attendance

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

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

2. **Approval of appointment of Councillor by co-option**

The appointment of Nathan Bridgeman as Councillor was unanimously approved.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Cane declared an interest in the planning discussion 16/00590/FUL.

4. **ECDC Planning officer presentation and discussion**

Barbara Greengrass attended the meeting to discuss the planning procedure at ECDC.

Planning at ECDC consists of 3 teams of 3 people and a large support team. The local plans are being rewritten as the previous one did not give enough land for the council to fulfil its housing requirements for the next 5 years.

The major points considered when an application is outside the planning envelope is visual impact and the location, how isolated it is.

The appeal process once an application has been rejected gives the applicant 6 months from the date of refusal.

ECDC is not keen on 'back land' development but it is not prohibited. The demolition of the property and redevelopment of the entire plot is preferred.

The PC asked for applications to be sent out quicker to give the PC enough time to respond within the deadline. There is often a long period between the validation of an application and the PC receiving it.

The PC also asked about the validation process as a problem had been encountered with a previous application where the information was not complete on validation and additional information was drip feed during the process making it very difficult for the PC and the public to make comment. Barbara Greengrass to look into these 2 points and respond to the PC.

5. **Planning**

16/00470/FUL– the council had no comment to make.

## **6. Reach Festival**

Plans are progressing well; this is an event being run by The Events Team. The PC requested details of all expenditure that will go through the PC. A timeline of set up, the event and tidy up is also required, along with details of volunteers for insurance purposes. The Events team also need to establish which exhibitors will be covered by PC insurance and provide risk assessments and full details. A note will be given to residents living along Swaffham Road regarding parking during the event. Safety fencing will be set up along the Swaffham Road side of the green, however not directly on the curb to allow people to step out of the road.

## **7. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

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

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

Nothing report

## **8(2) County Councillor's Report**

Full Council met on 10th May for the Annual Meeting. I have been appointed to the Children and Young People Committee, the General Purposes Committee, the Constitution and Ethics Committee and as a substitute member on the Staffing and Appeals Committee.

Cllr S Count (Conservative) was elected Chairman of the General Purposes Committee with Cllr Roger Hickford (Conservative) as vice-Chairman. This also means that they are Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council respectively.

I had the honour of being elected vice-Chairman of the Children and Young People Committee, with Cllr Joan Whitehead (Labour) elected as Chairwoman.

Cllr S Kindersley (Lib Dem) was elected Chairman of the Council for the coming year.

The ongoing discussions regarding devolution have seen a number of meetings during May. The latest position is that Government has now offered a deal for a Cambridgeshire/Peterborough deal, combined with a separate deal for Norfolk and Suffolk. At the time of writing the full details of how such a deal might work are still being discussed and seem to change on a daily basis.

During May I chaired a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board; attended the inaugural meeting of a new Board to consider how the educational improvement, particularly of disadvantaged groups can be improved across Cambridgeshire: Children and Young People Committee met and considered the process for setting up new Free Schools, linkages between Children's Centres and health workers and financial performance amongst other issues. I also attended a meeting of the General Purposes Committee and a workshop with Senior Management Team to consider transformation work and business planning for the coming year.

On the less formal side I joined the Mayor of Cambridge to distribute pennies at Reach Fair.

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

No report

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

The Parish Council remains in a financially stable situation.

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

There were none.

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

A questionnaire to establish what is required for the updating of the play areas is in process. **Councillor Bridgeman** and some volunteers are to tidy up the playground and remove weeds etc.

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

The rubble on byway 11 had now become overgrown and could no longer be seen. Councillor Fielding had contacted CCC but had not received a reply, **Clerk** to check we have the correct contact details.

### **8 (8) 24Acres Committee Report**

The grant for the water supply had been agreed. A Meadow Day is being arranged over 2/3<sup>rd</sup> July.

### **8 (9) Friends of Reach Wood**

The Woodland Trust has agreed to pay for the yearly pulling of Ragwort from the meadow. Ash dieback has been sighted within the wood. **Councillor Boreham** to inform the WT. There is also a Hemlock and nettle problem in the dip of the path running crossways in the wood, again **Councillor Boreham** will contact the WT to see how they would like to proceed.

### **8 (10) Local Plan**

No suggested building sites within Reach had been put forward for the new Local Plan. Although there were sites in the local area which could supply 1089 homes should they all be taken up. Any house building in the local area will increase demand on schools, traffic, doctors and all infrastructure. **Councillor Ward** to find out final response date.

### **9 Risk Assessment**

A standard risk assessment form is being produced, final changes will be sent to Councillor Boreham in the coming week and a final draft will be approved at the next meeting.

### **10 Reach Port**

Following further investigation it would seem that the Hythe area could be part of the Devils Dyke and not a natural formation, and that there is evidence of 2 medieval docks in the area. Anglian Water seem very keen to leave the site which is now only a pumping station, and therefore most of the machinery could be removed. In the new local plan, the PC has asked that the area be listed as Green Space to give it some protection. The area may also be able to be listed as an asset of value to the community, even though it is not owned by the community. The PC would then have first refusal over it should any changes take place. PC were in full support of this. **Councillor Boreham** to continue with discussions.

### **11 Annual Audit Review and consideration for 2017**

The audit was signed and approved by the Chair. It was agreed that although it is not compulsory for an internal audit next year that the PC would like to continue as good practise.

### **12 Local Government County Boundary Review**

The new draft does not include a single representative for our area. **The Clerk** to put forward, again, the comment that this would be the best and most desired situation.

### **13 Information Items/AOB**

The neighbourhood plan questionnaire is being produced and will be discussed at the next meeting. **Councillor Boreham** to make changes if requested in the coming week.

Again complaints had been received regarding bikes parking within the cemetery during Reach Fair. **Clerk** to inform the Fair committee.

The grass needs cutting on the verge outside the cemetery, **clerk** to ask for this to be included in the cemetery cut.

A spending allowance was agreed of £25 per month, without prior consent, for individuals to spend on general maintenance and management of village infrastructure, for example the 24Acres.

Connecting Cambridgeshire public consultation. Reach is not included in the provision of super fast broadband. **Clerk** to respond to the consultation stating that Reach should be included as Burwell and Swaffham Prior are, that we are only 9 miles from the centre of Cambridge and that the businesses in the area and the many people who work from home need this service.

**14. Payments**

Susan Bailey – postage	£ 7.35
CR Contractors – mowing	£332.50
JA Neale – audit	£100.00
CAPALC membership	£174.55

The date of the **next meeting** will be Wednesday 6th July 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](http://www.reach-village.co.uk)).

Chairman:

Date: