



Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 1st March 2017

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	Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Not Present

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

2. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Cane declared an interest in the CCC report school funding and Councillor Ward declared an interest in the IDB.

3. **Forum for Members of the Public**

The PC had received a complaint from a resident regarding the de-silting of the drain alongside Blackberry Drove. Unfortunately due to the amount of silt that had accumulated and the appalling weather on the day the silt began to move from the top of the drain across the drove and towards the property. Both the IDB and the PC were on site when this began to happen and worked hard to control the problem. As agreed on site at the time with the resident the situation will be looked at again in 2 weeks' time, when the silt has dried, to see if any further work is required.

4. **Planning**

There were no applications.

5. **Reach Fair**

The Reach Fair document has been agreed and signed, **Clerk** to email a copy to The ET. The ET are aware that risks assessments are urgently needed and will ensure these are completed in the coming week. A copy of the ET insurance cover was supplied. A meeting had been held with the Mayor who will have a hospitality tent on the playing field to allow the dignitaries to meet with the public and for historic artefacts to be on display. This will free up the village centre for other uses. Discussions are ongoing between the ET and the Village Centre regarding the use and possible charges for the 'fair assets' village games, marquee, BBQ etc.

A working budget was supplied along with a request for a loan of £1560 from the PC Grant fund to use as cash flow prior to the fair. This was agreed.

6. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

Matters Arising

Councillor Fielding had met with the Swaffham Prior PC Chair to continue discussions regarding the restricting of access to part of Straight Drove as discussed with the NT at the last meeting. SP PC to discuss at their next meeting. This would be restricted access during the winter months only. Councillor Fielding had contacted CCC to discuss the procedures and costs. **Councillor Fielding** to continue to investigate.

7 (1) Parish Council Grant Fund

Loan agreed for The ET cash flow for Reach Fair, see above. The money from the Village Centre, from the proceeds of Reach Fair 2016, had still not been received. Discussions are ongoing.

7(2) County Councillor's Report

Full Council met on 14th February to debate the Budget and Business Plan. After a 6 hour debate agreement was reached on a proposal to implement a 2% rise in Adult Social Care Precept and to freeze the general Council Tax. Council also agreed reporting arrangements for the Council's representatives on the Shadow Combined Authority for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and also on the Scrutiny Committee for the Shadow Combined Authority.

We held an additional meeting of the Children and Young People Committee to consider the review of Secondary Education provision in Cambridge City. The officers are recommending the expansion of Chesterton Community College to cope with the identified shortfall in places in North Cambridge. The Committee also considered proposals for re-structuring the senior management in Children, Families and Adults.

I attended a meeting of "Voices Matter", the Children in Care Council for Cambridgeshire. This is an opportunity for Children in Care to raise concerns and report on activities to senior managers and members. Schools Forum met with Heidi Allen MP, Lucy Frazer MP and Daniel Ziechner MP to discuss the current consultation on a fair funding formula for schools in England.

Councillor Cane commented that although Cambridgeshire is to receive more money many schools are getting less. In 2018/19 Swaffham Prior school will receive £50,000 less funding.

7(3) District Councillor's Report

Buildings of Local Interest Register

The register dated January 2017 has now been published. It has four categories of buildings: Historical Association, Architectural Interest, Local Characteristics, Townscape Significance.

The Swaffham Ward has two inclusions; Newnham House, 48 Commercial End and the Little Chapel in the Fen, Swaffham Prior Fen.

No Council Tax Increase

157 Local authorities are increasing their council tax, 4 are not. East Cambs District Council are one of the 4. Because of the careful way that we manage our financial affairs we are in budget again this year without the need to raise council tax in order to run our services. Also, we are the only council in East Anglia not to have car parking charges. These two of the ways that we give our residents value for money. The Band D District Council Tax will once again be £142.14p

Temporary Accommodation for Homeless People

Three years ago, East Cambs Council had a yearly bill of £750,000. After much work helping people avoid homelessness, this year our bill is zero.

Councillors asked for information on the ECDC trading scheme LATC, to avoid the need for procurement. No information was available. **Clerk** to write for clarification

7(4) Financial Report

The PC remains in a financially stable situation. The Amenity fund money has now been transfer and will be held in a restricted reserve for the Grant fund, within the PC bank account.

7(5) Parish Council Members Meetings

Councillors Cane and Fielding had visited a resident to discuss the ongoing dog issues, particularly in Reach wood. The meeting went well and the owners assured the councillors that

they would try to stop the dog getting out. Unfortunately since the meeting the dog had again been seen loose in the wood. **Clerk** to contact the dog warden.

Councillors Ward and Boreham had met with the IDB to discuss the de-silting of the catch water drain and will meet with the Environment agency regarding the Lode this coming Friday.

7(6) Play Spaces

Following successful visits to Swaffham Prior School and the village nursery the team are now aware of what play equipment is required and are moving onto fund raising.

7(7) Rights of Way

Nothing additional to the Straight Drove issue, see above.

7(8) 24Acres Committee Report

Minor storm damage had occurred. Damaged stakes in the wood have been replaced. There has also been damage to some cricket equipment, which had a minor impact on trees in the community orchard.

7(9) Friends of Reach Wood

Nothing to report.

7(10) Local Plan

Councillor Cane had submitted the documents as agreed at the previous meeting.

8 May Meeting

It was agreed that the May meeting should be moved due to the election. **Clerk** to do a Doodle poll to arrange a new date. It was also agreed that in future years the May meeting would be held on the **second** Wednesday of the month.

9 Mowing contract

The annual rise in the mowing contract will be 50p per cut. The PC accepted this.

12 Information Items/AOB

The Defibrillator has arrived. The PC awaits a decision from the Village Centre regarding its intended location.

The CAPALC draft agreement was accepted.

A quote had been received for the cemetery fencing, PC asked for an update to include 4" stock fencing at the back. **Clerk** to obtain an update.

13 Payments

Eon – power on the green	£ 9.92
Balfour Beatty – street light maintenance	£ 354.12
Nick Acklam – 24Acres storm damage	£ 37.90
Events Team – Reach Fair cash flow loan	£1560.00

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 5th April 2017 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: