



Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 6th June 2017

Attendance

Charlotte Cane	Chair	Present
Hilary Fielding	Vice Chair	Present
Michael Aves	Councillor	Not Present
Steve Boreham	Councillor	Present
Diana Ward	Councillor	Not Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Not Present
Joshua Schumann	County Councillor	Present

The meeting was opened with a minutes silence to pay respect to the people killed and injured in the two recent terrorist attacks.

1. County Councillor's Report

Councillor Schumann introduced himself. Stating "I am the only elected member now representing 7 parish councils in the Burwell County Council division. I assure you I will do all I can to attend your monthly/bi-monthly meetings but this will not always be possible however, in my absence I will endeavour to send a report to the PC when I am not able to attend.

Please contact me via this email address with any questions, agendas or for any other reasons."

The PC then spoke to Councillor Schumann with regard to the main CCC issues which have been effecting Reach, this being the streetlights and highways and byways. Details of the ongoing streetlight efforts were discussed and **Clerk** to keep Councillor Schumann included in any further correspondence should there be need **Clerk** to also pass the back ground info. on to Councillor Schumann.

The problems Reach experiences with the maintenance of highways and byways were discussed. **Councillor Schumann** will contact the relevant people at CCC to see what the position is and also to arrange for one of the Highways team to make a site visit and attend the next PC meeting.

2. District Councillor's Report

No report received.

3. Apologies for absence – received and approved.

4. Declaration of interests

Councillor Cane declared an interest in the CAPALC payment.

5. New playground update

The Montessori Nursery and Swaffham Prior school children & parents had been consulted regarding the equipment they would like for the new playground. 3 quotations have been obtained for both a new site and for the playground to remain on its present site. The PC would like to widen the consultation to include all residents regardless of age and use of the playground. An exhibition event is to be arranged, on the playing field, on the afternoon of Reach Sports day, 2nd July. It is hoped many residents will come along and give their opinion on both the position and nature of equipment and age range required. **Clerk** to email village informing people of this event and asking for feedback. The team involved are to start the funding application process.

6. Planning Applications

There were none.

7. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

8. Election of additional officers

Play spaces officer – Councillor Cane

Rights of way officer – Councillor Fielding

Tree officer – Councillor Boreham

9 (1) Parish Council Grant Fund

An application for £130 had been received for Reach Sports day to be held Sunday 2nd July. This was approved.

9(2) Financial Reports

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

9(3) Parish Council Members Meetings

Some residents have been experiencing problems with their BT broadband which has not been improved by the recent work that has taken place and they have suggested that the cable between the boxes, poles and houses is old and not fit for purpose. Councillor Boreham would like to meet Open reach on site to try and understand the nature of this problem. **Clerk** to contact and arrange a meeting.

9(4) Play Spaces

Everything is reported to be in good order.

9(5) Rights of Way

Councillor Fielding has been having trouble contacting CCC. She will continue to call and email and Councillor Schumann will assist with this.

A complaint had been received regarding the work taking place on the top field next to Reach wood. The Clerk has contacted the residents involved and they are fully aware of their responsibilities regarding the work they are carrying out on the land and its legalities. The Clerk has been told all correct procedures will be followed.

9(6) 24Acres Committee Report

Another Apple day is to be organised.

Tree stakes have been needed to help with several trees which had been blown over in the woodland.

9(7) Friends of Reach Wood

Councillor Boreham has recently been in contact with Ian Froggatt from the Woodland Trust about the problem of ragwort spreading across the meadow. There is also a problem with scrub development on the meadow. Ian Froggatt stated that the budget has been cut this year and that he has no immediate source of funding for anything other than the grass cutting. He was reluctant to use herbicide and instead suggested using the flail cutter as before. Councillor Boreham told him that this was out of the question, pointing out that taking action about the ragwort was a necessity and he agreed that some form of funding from the Woodland Trust might become available to address this once we know how big the problem is. Councillor Boreham will continue to monitor the situation

9(8) Local Plan

The PC response had been submitted following last month's meeting.

10 Approve Annual Governance Statement

Reviewed and agreed.

11. Approve the Accountancy statement

Reviewed and agreed.

12. Defibrillator sign

It had been suggested that a small sign was needed on the front of the village centre to indicate where the defibrillator was for people not familiar with its location. Following discussion **Councillor Boreham** will contact the Village Centre committee to discuss.

13. Parish Council vacancies

The PC will be able to advertise for new members after the 15th June should an election not be required **Clerk** to arrange.

14 Information Items/AOB

A resident had complained about music noise from people hanging out on the tennis court and in the playing field. This is a difficult thing for the PC to deal with but notices can be put up and placed in the village magazine should the nuisance continue. PC to monitor the situation.

15 Payments

CR Contracting – mowing	£344.50
Nick Acklam – 24Acres tree stakes	£18.95
CAPALC membership	£170.29

The date of the **next meeting** will be **Tuesday 5th July 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: