



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

Attendance

Charlotte Cane	Chair	Present
Hilary Fielding	Vice Chair	Present
Steve Boreham	Councillor	Present
Alex de Giorgio-Miller	Councillor	Present
Diana Ward	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Present
Joshua Schumann	County Councillor	Not Present

1 Forum for members of the public.

There were none.

2. Apologies for absence – received and approved.

Councillor Michael Aves had resigned from the Parish Council. The Chair thanked Michael for his many years on the Parish Council and his work for the village community. The Chair stated that it is regretful that the PC has lost a voice for a group of people that the PC no longer represents.

A question was asked as to whether a person from outside of the parish could become a member of the PC, it is believed this is allowed. *The Clerk* will check and confirm.

3. Declaration of interests

There were none.

4 County Councillor's Report

None received.

5 District Councillor's Report

I am currently dealing with 3 controversial planning applications.

- 1) Abbey lane, Swaffham Bulbeck – two houses. In my councillors response I objected strongly to this. The application has now been refused.
- 2) 10 bungalows at Mill Hill, Swaffham Prior. I have called it in to the planning committee. I am concerned with its proximity to the nearby working windmill & any effect on unfettered wind to the mill. There is also a strong body of opinion within Swaffham Prior against the development.
- 3) 20 Houses at Hillside Mill, Quarry Lane, Swaffham Bulbeck. I have called this in to the planning committee. I have several issues – too many houses, I feel there should be no more than 12. Not in keeping with the existing street scene. The development does not consider the appearance, character and setting of the clunch listed building on the northern boundary. It therefore conflicts with planning policy ENV1. The parking bays on properties 1 & 2 open onto a bend and could be a traffic hazard. And no parking appears to have been allowed for visitors another traffic hazard.

Councillor Alderson was asked about the local plan, which will be discussed at the next full council meeting in October to ratify the draft version which will then go out for consultation for a final time. This should be completed by mid-2018.

4. Planning Applications

There had been several planning applications over the summer break which the PC had read and discussed.

17/01336/OUT - 48 Great Lane. The proposed build would be 'tucked away' from both the road and the lode. Given that much more visible builds have been given the go-ahead in Great Lane, it would be hard to object on these grounds. All the arguments against development in this general area have been tried and found not to be airtight. Therefore the PC cannot see a reason for comment or objection

17/01292/FUL- 2a Burwell Road. No objection or comment to be made.

17/01185/FUL - stables at North View House. No objection or comment to be made

17/01162/LBC - 21 Great Lane. No objection or comment to be made.

Gas fired power station – Reach Road, Burwell. As this is outside of the parish the PC had not been informed of this development. A public meeting has been called in Burwell to discuss this, **Councillor Fielding** to attend on behalf of the PC. Burwell PC had raised no objections.

Following discussion the PC object on the grounds of noise and visual pollution, traffic affecting the village and the potential nitrogen emissions on the parish of Reach. Also the fact that there is insufficient environmental information. The potential effects of nitrogen deposition on the Devils Dyke SSSI or the SAC component which may or may not require an Appropriate Assessment. **Clerk** to write to the planning department.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

The streetlight installation was discussed; a letter had been received from a resident. The Clerk had responded and will do again following the meeting giving details of the continuing work and time scale.

6 (1) Parish Council Grant Fund

The Grant fund stands at £1,574.

£6,940.61 will be transferred from the Events Team for Reach Fair 2017. They have agreed to transfer £1,360 to the Village centre. This being the £1000 for the tents and the 6 months storage. The PC will be asked for the next 6 months storage of £360 soon.

The Village centre have agreed to pass over the money from the 2016 fair. This being £1,497.

A grant of up to £160 has been requested for Apple Day. Agreed.

6(2) Financial Reports

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

6(3) Parish Council Members Meetings

Councillor Ward had ~~spoken met~~ with the IDB [about the regeneration of the banks of the lode following the ~~to~~ look at the frontage of Mr & Mrs Aldersons property that was damaged during dredging and storm Doris.](#) This area is now in good order.

Councillor Boreham has had a sign made for the defibrillator **Clerk** to contact the village centre to arrange for it to be put up.

Councillor Cane had been contacted by Air broadband regarding the possible idea of supplying fibre broadband right into people homes, at an extra cost. This would improve reliability and speeds. The PC agreed that the community would be interested.

Councillor de Giorgio-Miller took over the responsibility of Play spaces officer.

6(4) Play Spaces

It had been reported that the goal posts were damaged. **Councillor de Giorgio-Miller** to

investigate.

6(5) Rights of Way

Nothing to report

6(6) 24Acres Committee Report

The new pathway cut at Reach 24 looks good; the PC would like to extend this up to the culvert. The paths will be cut more often to improve access. **Councillor Boreham** to discuss with Nick Acklam.

6(7) Friends of Reach Wood

There have been two attempts to pull ragwort from Reach Wood meadow by the probation service via the Woodland Trust over the summer (July and August). These have not been very successful. The WT should include this in their future management plan. **Councillor Boreham** to continue his efforts with the WT. Concern has been expressed at the establishment of low-level scrub on the meadow, which is not being taken out by the bar-cutter. Councillor Boreham has strongly resisted the suggestion that we should instead use a flail-cutter on the meadow, for all the reasons that we previously rehearsed. Management may require cutting out individual bushes by volunteers. **Clerk** to find out when the meadow will be cut.

6(8) Local Plan

Nothing to report.

8 Playground update

Residents had heard rumours and were concerned that by moving the playground travellers would easily gain access to the playing field and were very likely to move in. This is something that had not been considered. It may be possible to restrict the entrance and still move the play area or it may be best to keep the playground at the field entrance. **Clerk** to seek advice.

9 Drones flying around the village

A large number of complaints had been received regarding Drones flying around the village and hovering over properties and gardens. An email had been circulated around the village detailing people's concerns and asking for Drone owners to show due consideration of other residents and to follow the "Drone code" which was also circulated. The police had also been contacted but with little helpful response. **Clerk** to ask for the Drone code to be put in the village magazine.

10 Strange smell on Great Lane

Over the summer an unpleasant smell had been reported on many occasions, on the edge of the village along Great Lane. This is not a normal farming smell and has been described as the smell of death. The smell comes and goes and does not seem to be connected to any activity or weather pattern **Clerk** to report to the Environment health department.

11 LHI Scheme

Discussion postponed until October meeting.

12 CCC Gritting scheme

For the same reasons as last year this scheme is unworkable for Reach and was rejected.

13 Parish Council Website

Councillor Boreham had looked into the many companies offering to provide and maintain websites for parish councils. Following discussion **Clerk** to talk with other local parish councils to find out who they use and whether they are happy with the service.

14 Information Items/AOB

No councillor is available to attend the forthcoming NT Liaison meeting.

A resident had complained about the dangerous way tractors have been driven through the village during harvest, particularly their speed and lack of due care. The resident had contacted

the farmer and the PC; who also contacted the farmer concerned. The season has now finished so the problem should cease for this year. **Clerk** to note that this issue should be brought before council in May to allow for discussion prior to harvest time.

15 Payments

Moore & Co – Audit fees	£348.00
N Acklam – 24Acres expenses	£ 36.25
CR Contracting – mowing & tree work	£931.00
E.on – Power on the green	£ 17.30
N Bridgeman – Grant Fund Sports day expenses	£ 51.00
C Tayleur – Grant Fund Sports day expenses	£ 30.95
D Quilter – Grant Fund Sports day expenses	£ 10.01

The date of the **next meeting** will be **Wednesday 4th October 2017 at 7.30pm** unless otherwise required. 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: