



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

Attendance

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

Forum for members of the public.

A representative of the cricket club attended the meeting to ask for permission for TAC Cambridge to use the pitch on the 24Acres for 8 Saturday home games. This would mean there would be additional revenue to help run the ground. The 10 vehicle rule would be adhered to. The PC authorised this.

Apologies for absence - received and approved.

1. Declaration of interests

Councillor Cane passed the chair to Councillor Ward during the Gas plant planning discussion as she felt she had previously made her own views public on this.

Councillor Trump declared an interest in the cricket discussion.

2. Co-option of new Councillors

The PC approved the application from David McMillan to join the PC, **Clerk** to complete the required paperwork.

3. Planning

17/01071/FUL & 17/01072/FUL Burwell gas Plant

The PC had previously sent comment to ECDC and contacted the agent to try to arrange a public meeting. No new information had been forthcoming from the applicant or their agent.

The PC noted that there have been considerable correspondence to ECDC regarding these applications the majority of which have been negative. Both Burwell and Swaffham Prior PCs have objected to the plans. Councillor Schumann stated that it had been decided to allow each of the three local parish councils to speak at the planning meeting. The PC confirmed that it would take this opportunity. **Clerk** to inform the planning officer.

With the present available information **Councillor Ward and the Clerk** would submit another comment to the planning department. This will include comments on the lack of accurate information, heritage concerns, the Local plan requirements, noise and visual pollution and the fact that Nitrous oxide would have a detrimental effect on the local Clunch buildings.

17/01633/FUL Hill Farm bungalows

Councillor De Giorgio-Miller stated that she lived directly next to the track intended for access and that she had made a comment on the ECDC planning website. Following discussion she decided that because she wasn't a direct neighbour of the site she did not need to declare an interest.

The main concerns regarding this application were the access to the site and that it is outside of the village envelope in the emerging Local plan. The PC have been informed that any applications outside of the envelopes will be refused.

Additional thoughts were that the site lacks sustainability, there is no water and the access will be impassable during the winter. Resident's vehicles would not be able to gain access nor would Emergency vehicles. Access to the site is on a green byway used mostly for walkers and riders, this facility will be destroyed with the introduction of traffic. Increased farm and residential traffic would mean the byway would have to be surfaced. If the byway was surfaced the runoff, down the hill, would cause problems as there is no drainage. The build would turn the area from rural to residential. There is little evidence that there is a problem with the farm being at the centre of the village. There are several omissions within the application. One of the areas of land is not farm land, but is home to a lot of machinery with the potential for contamination. The plot and build sizes are excessive for retirement properties. The site location is isolated; National Planning Policy Framework states that 'new homes in the countryside should avoid being isolated.' **Clerk** to send comment to ECDC.

4. County Councillor's Report

CCC intends to make changes to Children's Centers across Cambridgeshire. There will be an increase in Soham but no change in Bottisham.

A new care home facility is planned, location unknown, and there will be an increase in adult social care.

A 'Dragon Patcher' will be acquired. This is a very efficient pot hole repair machine.

There are future plans to develop and redevelop County land and derelict buildings in and around Cambridge.

There is a £5m budget deficit and so CCC is looking to make changes and efficiencies.

Fairer Funding Cambridge is leading the campaign for our fair share of school funding.

Councillor Schumann stated that he was finding it hard to make our PC meetings as his other work meetings had been moved to evenings. He stated that he will do a report if there is any information that is relevant to Reach.

A question was asked regarding County Farms. A strategy is being looked at with the possibility of new homes. The capital return from this would then be put into buying new farmland for County Farms.

5. District Councillor's Report

None received.

6. Minutes of previous Meeting

Approved as correct.

7 (1) Parish Council Grant Fund

A request had been received for funding of a Halloween disco for children with the village. The PC agreed to pay up to £150, payable for receipts, for this event. **Clerk** to inform the applicant and ask that all grant fund requests are received prior to the event taking place.

No update from the Prospects Trust had been received, **Clerk** to chase.

Reach Riders had asked for a contribution to their grass cutting costs for the coming year. The PC deferred the decision awaiting further information which includes how many people from Reach would this benefit, whether it would be a recurring cost, whether the group were able to cover their own running costs. The PC would be happier to contribute to one off costs rather than continual maintenance.

Councillor Cane to update the Grant fund procedure document to clarify the situation.

7(2) Financial Reports

The PC remains in a financially stable situation. The second part of the precept has been received. As part of the Transparency code the PC has received a £582 grant for the purchase of a PC laptop and software. The PC will add to this amount, authorising the spend of up to £1,000 on this. **Councillor McMillan** to investigate and buy the best product for the council.

The PC now has planning permission to work on the trees over the swings on the green. **Clerk** to give CR Contracting the go ahead to complete this work as per their quote.

Following complaints, a quote had been received for £55 to supply and fit bird spikes to the swings on the green. **Clerk** to arrange for this work to be completed.

The streetlight payment of £8,144.85 is now due. The PC now needs to get the money pledged from the residents. Following discussion it was decided to collect all the money pledged and refund a percentage of each once all the payments are received. We have a total pledged fund of £11,650. There will be an additional invoice for approximately £1000 for the 20 years energy and maintenance costs and the admin. charge.

The invoice will not be paid until the PC heritage lights have new white lights fitted. **Clerk** to discuss with BB.

7(3) Parish Council Members Meetings

Councillor Boreham has arranged a CPR. training evening.

7(4) Play Spaces

Bryan Pearson has taken on the role of organising the goal posts to be repaired and new nets to be purchased. It is estimated that this will cost less than £150. **Clerk** to arrange for this to happen.

The PC feels that the surface of the playing field is in an adequate condition for "kick about" football games to be played. And feel it is not necessary, at the moment, to treat the field.

Having measured out the field, there is not at present enough space for an official sized pitch, therefore the PC do not feel that the placing of the new playground along the side of the field will affect people's ability to play a game of football. The pitch may, however, need to be moved over a little.

7(5) Rights of Way

Nothing to report.

7(6) 24Acres Committee Report

Reach 24 committee is pleased with the PC's proposal for an increased cutting frequency for the rides. They are asking for £101 to cover ongoing planting costs. The PC decided that this was unnecessary this year and that a 'wait and see' approach should be taken. This should be looked at again next year.

7(7) Friends of Reach Wood

Councillor Boreham had inspected the September cut of the meadow and cut out by hand some of the encroaching scrub. Ian Froggatt of the Woodland Trust has proposed using wipered herbicide in Summer 2018 to attempt to control the ragwort.

7(8) Local Plan

The final draft local plan is now on the ECDC website. Consultation period ends in December and the PC will discuss this at the next meeting.

8. Website and councillor email addresses

Due to the new Transparency code the PC need to produce a strong social media and website policy. Councillor Cane had produced a draft website policy for the PC. A few alterations were requested. **Councillor Cane** to update for discussion at the next meeting.

9. Clerk annual review

The clerk left the meeting while Councillors discussed her annual review. Councillors agreed that the Clerk had provided a good service throughout the year, responding promptly and well to Councillors, members of the public and statutory and other bodies as required; getting notices out in good time and drafting accurate minutes of meetings.

10. Playing Field and New playground

Grant applications are still outstanding. The PC agreed that the project would go ahead with the size of the development subject to which grants are received. The outcome of the applications are imminent.

11. OS maps via Parish Online

Following a month trial of the Parish Online mapping service the PC were pleased with its offering and decided to subscribe to this service at £28 per year.

12. Information Items/AOB

13. Payments –

E.on – power on the green £8.79
CR Contracting – mowing contract September £354.50
CR Contracting – mowing contract October £604.50
David Thomas – Apple day £122.34

The date of the **next meeting** will be **Wednesday 6th December 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: