



Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on; Wednesday 7th March 2018

Attendance

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

Apologies for absence - received from Councillor Ward, and approved.

Forum for members of the public.

There were none.

1. Declaration of interests

There were none.

2. Reach Fair

Preparations for the Fair are proceeding well. The PC had received risk assessments. No financial advance will be required.

A discussion took place regarding the difficulties of traffic management of vehicles leaving the Fair and joining pedestrians on the Burwell Road. **Clerk** to highlight to the Events Team.

Reach Riders had shown concern regarding charges being made to them for a stall at the Fair. The PC were sympathetic to their concerns however, it was stated that it is the Events Team who are running the Fair not the PC. **Clerk** to discuss with the Events Team to enquire as to whether all village groups are treated the same. The PC would like a principle to this effect to be established.

3. Planning

17/02027/FUL Amendment to proposed garage site SW of 48a Great Lane

The previous planning consent was given, stating that there should be no more building on this site. The landscaping and retaining wall now make the build even larger. Additionally, the retaining wall makes it impossible to park in the garage.

The **Clerk** will also ask for clarification regarding the previous planning consent. Confirmation will be requested that all conditions associated with the previous planning consent have been met, as work has already started, along with details as to where this information can be found.

18/00121/FUL Snakehall Farm

The PC are in full support of this application. It is a good use of the pre-existing building, and all materials to be used are fully in keeping with the site. **Clerk** to write supporting the application.

4. County Councillor's Report

None received.

5. District Councillor's Report

In the recent bad weather, it is important to use the salt bins in our ward to help keep the roads clear. If any bins need refilling, they will do so if the parish council notifies the highways department.

During February I attended a Swaffham Internal Drainage Board Meeting, also a planning committee meeting and a Full Council meeting where we passed our budget for the 2018/19 year.

It was very pleasing that we were able to freeze our element of Council Tax for a further year. What is particularly significant is that this has been achieved despite a reduction in Government grant from £659K in 2017/18 to £354K in 2018/19.

Financial challenges lie ahead, but the indisputable fact is, we are currently outperforming all of our neighbouring authorities.

On March 2nd as part of our policy of working with and understanding the needs of our districts businesses we visited Turners Food Packing Plant at Fordham. They supply all of the major supermarkets in the UK and they process 100 million punnets of citrus fruits such as grape/limes/oranges and pineapple a year.

They employ over 1000 workers, most of whom are local, plus about 500 seasonal Eastern European workers when needed.

They set a very high standard of cleanliness within their plant and are a credit to the food processing industry.

Councillor Cane ask for more details on financial forecasts and budgets. **Councillor Alderson** to make enquires and respond to the PC.

6. Minutes of previous Meeting

Approved as correct.

7 (1) Parish Council Grant Fund

No applications received. Reach Riders have spoken with Councillors regarding the possibility of the Grant fund paying for the menage to be cut along with the 24Acres. This is unlikely to be something the Grant Fund can take on as this will be an ongoing commitment. Other specific areas of the village mowing contract are paid for by each separate group. The PC think that it would be beneficial for there to be a meeting between the group and the PC to establish full details. **Clerk** to write to the group.

7(2) Financial Reports

The streetlight donations have been allocated and the excess of 82% will be returned.

Clerk had contact Barclays bank regarding signatories. All Councillor to be added.

7(3) Parish Council Members Meetings

Councillor Fielding attended the Police Commissioner's meeting in Burwell. The meeting mainly talked about what the new Commissioner would bring to local policing in general.

When asked about the recent traveller problems and lack of police assistance, it was stated that travellers going onto private land is a civil issue of trespass not unlawful. The only time police can get involved is if damage is done. The Police Commissioner is supportive of the Neighbourhood and Countryside Watch scheme.

Steve Boreham has had further discussions with Anglian Water. It seems that the source of the directive to discontinue community development of The Hythe within the Anglian Water Management structure has been almost impossible to trace. In fact, everyone spoken to at AW thinks that it is a good idea and should go ahead. Thus Steve concludes that it is still worth pushing AW to consider allowing some form of community development of The Hythe. Councillor Trump had also spoken with a chap at Anglian Water who agrees that the opportunity is a possibility. **Councillor Trump** to discuss with Steve Boreham.

7(4) Play Spaces

New playground: Due to a missing part and the snowy weather, the opening of the new playground was slightly delayed. The safety inspection has now been completed and the playground is open. **Councillor de Giorgio-Miller** to fence off the area where the grass seed has been put down.

The clerk is still getting quotes for the remainder of the playing field hedge cut.

The Grand opening event is scheduled for 11am 24th March and will include a ribbon cutting followed by a treasure hunt, popcorn, cupcakes, freebies and face painting. Kompan are bringing a photographer and videographer and the local press have also been invited.

Ideas for old playground: Councillor de Giorgio-Miller is looking into associated costs for several of the suggestions for the area where the old playground is: a picnic area, a skate area and additional sports equipment; and for the removal of the old playground to turn it either to grass or concrete. Swaffham Bulbeck PC have been contacted regarding the laws/rules/insurance implications of a public BBQ but a response has not yet been received. There will be a display at the grand opening of the new playground showing ideas for the old playground area. A wider consultation with residents on any proposals will be necessary.

7(5) Rights of Way

Highways had been notified that our salt bins were nearly empty. A resident had also highlighted that the bin on the corner of Great Lane and The Hythe was damaged. **Clerk** to contact CCC.

The PC would like to thank those residents who spread salt in the recent bad weather and ask that if anyone notices the supply getting low or damage to the bins to please contact the Clerk.

The fly tipping on Little Fen Drove had been reported but was still there. **Councillor Alderson** to question why it had not been removed.

7(6) 24Acres Committee Report

Tree growth has been impressive in some areas. The 12th December 2018 will be the woodland's 5th birthday, and certainly something to celebrate. Small random clusters of poor survival, have traced, almost certainly due to poor planting technique. However, overall survivorship is excellent.

7(7) Friends of Reach Wood

Following renewed consultation amongst FoRW on the ragwort weed-wiping plan, it was concluded that for this year only, Reach Wood Meadow should be cut (with a bar cutter) in late May - early June by our contractor (but paid for by The Woodland Trust). The WT would then get it's contractor to weed wipe the emerging ragwort in mid-late June. At the same time, WT would attempt to cut back invasive scrub. Reach Wood Meadow would then be cut (with a bar cutter) as usual in early September (paid for by The Woodland Trust).

The PC is grateful to Steve Boreham for his work on Reach Wood, 24Acres and The Hythe. The PC would be very pleased for Steve to continue to report on these areas of interest.

8. Standing orders, Social Media policy & Emails accounts

This was deferred to next month, due to Councillor Wards absence. The new email accounts are now available. **Clerk** to take advise from CAPALC regarding the continued publication of Councillors private telephone numbers. **Councillor McMillan** to document details of the new IT system.

9. Mowing Contract

The Mowing contract is up for review. It was agreed that the new contract will be a five-year contract due to the difficulty of obtaining quotes. **Clerk** to attempt to obtain 3 quotes for the next meeting. Additional costs for mowing the cricket pitch and the Menage will be added as information for these groups.

10. GOBA agreement and Reach Lode

GOBA are very happy to continue with this arrangement. **Clerk** to meet with GOBA and finalise details.

11. Polling District Review and Community Governance Review

There will be no change for our area. No comment to make.

12. Cambridge Waste Incinerator public meeting

The meeting is to be held on 20th March at Waterbeach. Several Councillors are interested to attend.

13. Information Items/AOB

There had been another accident on the first bend on the Burwell Road. **Clerk** to discuss with Joshua Schumann County Councillor.

14. Payments

E.on – Power on the green £10.06

CCC – Streetlight project £553.57

D McMillan – Domain name registration £28.78

D Parr – Brass band Christmas event – Grant fund £120 – unpaid last month

Streetlight donation percentage return - approved

N Acklam £205

N Bridgeman £205

J Cole £369

T Jordan £82

K Lambert £205

P Lewis £205

H Oliver £82

D Parr £410

D Quilter £ 205

J Reed £164

A Rickard £205

A Russell £82

D Ward £61.50

H Webb £410

N Wenborn £61.50

The date of the **next meeting** will be **Wednesday 4th April 2018 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: