Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 7th May 2008

Present

Chairman Cllr Aves, Cllr Harrison, Cllr Lang, Cllr Platt, Cllr Dunnett, Cllr King and D/Cllr Alderson, C/Cllr Williams. Apologies were received from Cllr Clark

Declaration of new Parish Councillor

Mrs Angela King signed the declaration of Parish Councillor.

Election of Officers

Chairman

Cllr Lang proposed that Michael Aves continues as Chairman for a further year despite having already held the position for 3 years (the time limited previously agreed by the Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr Dunnett. All were in favour.

Vice-Chairman

Cllr Dunnett proposed that Ross Clark takes on the role as Vice-Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Platt. All were in favour. Cllr Clark had sent an email to the clerk confirming that he would be willing to take on the position of Vice-chair should he be proposed.

Police-Liaison contact: Cllr Clark

Village Hall Committee: Cllr Harrison and Cllr Lang

Honorary Tree Officer John Reed Swaffham Prior PCC John Robinson

Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th April 2008 were confirmed and signed.

Reports

District Council Report

Dave White joined the District Council on 1st April as the Council's Waste Strategy Office, replacing Martin Stacey. His responsibilities include recycling, refuse collection and fly tipping. His email address is dave.white@eastcambs.gov.uk.

The Council's waste contractors have been experiencing some teething problems with the new waste contract. Due to the increase in dry recycling being put out for collection at the kerbside, the recycling vehicles are sometimes having to make additional trips to Donarbon. This is having knock-on effect with the dry recycling rounds sometimes not being completed on the allocated collection day. Any recycling not collected that day will be picked up the next day, including a Saturday.

Later this month Allen Alderson will be attending a meeting at County Hall, together with Liz Knox (Heath of Environmental Services), Brian Hicks (Traveller –Liaison Officer) and Hazel Williams. At this meeting we will be meeting with various County Council officers to try to resolve various traveller problems within the Ward. This meeting has been arranged following concerns raised at last month's neighbourhood panel meeting.

Reports

Village Hall

The Committee had been very pleased with the success of the Fair this year.

Items Discussed:

Cemetery

Concerns were still being raised as to the state of the fence on the right hand side of the cemetery. Ron Greenhill will look at how the fence can be improved as a temporary measure to tidy things up and quote on the job.

Playground Inspection

The chicken 'spring toy' needs to be cut off and removed. Ron Greenhill will look into this.

Insurance

The clerk had telephoned Ben Burgess for an up to date value of the village mower. This would be about £2000, so this would bring the premium down. Also, as the 'spring' animal is broken and it is going to be removed it means that the insurance premium has been cut to £786.40, instead of £853.17.

Resignation

Claire Denniss, resigned from her position has Parish Clerk for Reach owing to other work and family commitments. She gave 2 months notice and during this period will advertise and seek to recruit a replacement clerk.

Cheques:

D Blocksage (cemetery grass)	£130.00
Allianz Cornhill Insurance	£786.40
Village Hall hire	£ 24.00
Browns of Burwell	£ 36.70

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 4th June. This will be the AGM. <u>The general Parish Council meeting will begin at 7.00pm</u>, followed by AGM at 7.30pm, then Jonathan Plowe from the Woodland Trust will talk about Reach Wood, to which members of the public are invited.

Chairman:	Date: