

# CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Christchurch Parish Council on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2014 in the Sports Pavilion, Christchurch

<b>Present</b>	Cllrs: N Russell (Chair); W Beswick; J Bliss; S Freeland; R Gladwin; F Yeulett (CCC); W Sutton (FDC); M Tanfield (FDC); J Richardson (Clerk); and 14 members of the public
<b>Apologies for Absence:</b>	Cllr W Poole; H Poole; PCSO Russ
<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	Councillors to declare any interests under the Local Code of Conduct in respect of any item to be discussed at this meeting:-
	a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interest ) N Russell (Item 069/14)
	b) Non-Pecuniary Interest )
	c) Sensitive Pecuniary Interest )

## 19.33-20.10 Public Time

Member of the public reported that pot holes down Scotts Road are getting worse. The Clerk will report to Highways again.

**Clerk**

Member of the public informed the Council of a wish to place a 30mph sign in own hedge, to discourage speeding. Neighborhood Watch is in the process of being set up and this will also include Speedwatch, which may help.

Comments were received from members of the public with regard to the plans for the New Village Hall. Plans were available for viewing at the end of the meeting.

Concern raised regarding sewage issues, and assurance was given that this is not as a result of The Croft.

The Heron is hosting a concert and tickets are available. The Heron were thanked for putting this on and wished every success.

The issue of Planning Applications was raised with regard to the Parish Council not supporting the Parish Plan. The meeting was informed that Fenland District Council approve planning applications not the Parish Council. The meeting was informed that Fenland have a new Local Plan and training is to be arranged for Parish Councillors. A member of the public asked for a "Dog Park" to be raised. The Clerk will put on next agenda.

**Clerk**

Member of the public asked when the verges on Crown Drove will be cut. This has been cut previously as a good will gesture by the Chairman who feels that he is no longer willing to do this. Cllr Yeulett will make enquiries with County Council.

**Cllr Yeulett**

Comments made with regard to people speeding down Euximoor Drove and through the village.

Discussion took place regarding HGV's travelling through the village, and the alternate route available. The meeting was reminded of an unsuccessful petition, to County Council, a few years ago to get HGV's stopped from going through the village. This issue could be compounded by the use of Sat Nav's. It is hoped that when the chicane is implemented by the Bus Shelter that may help this issue.

Local lorry company has been spoken to on this matter.

Branch of tree hanging over the recycling bins needs to be removed.

The litter by the Skate Park is a disgrace. The Heron is to put a note in to encourage people to dispose of litter correctly, and it is hoped that more volunteers will come forward for a village litter pick.

- The minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2014 were Proposed for approval by Cllr Russell, AGREED and signed **Agreed**
- 059/14 Matters Arising**  
Highways have been informed of 2 kerb problems in Church Road, pot holes in Scotts Road and Green Lane and drain issues on Toll Road/Upwell Road
- 060/14 Police Matters**  
21/7 Crown Avenue, Christchurch, Vehicle Nuisance 2 x Quad bikes riding up road and surrounding areas.  
30/7 Padgetts Road, Christchurch Suspicious Circumstances 2 males selling FREE loft insulation, did not appear convincing, would not hand over leaflet, but gave business card containing numerous spelling errors. Male aged 40's driving black BMW.  
Patrols will be undertaken in the area of Crown Avenue regarding the Quad bikes, whilst it is obviously difficult to stop off road motor cycles / quad bikes we have been successful over the past few months in seizing motor cycles /quad bikes causing anti-social behaviour.  
There have been a number of thefts of ornate metal gates and railings in the rural area over the past few weeks. Whilst items such as these are stolen for their scrap value, currently it would appear that the gates being targeted are more ornate and are possibly being stolen for re-sale. It is a good idea to take photographs of gates and garden ornaments in order that we can circulate details to scrap yards, reclamation yards and for checks on internet sales sites.  
Cllr Yeulett met with Nicola Fenton and Clerk to advise of dates when PCSO last attended Parish Council Meeting, for this to be raised. **Clerk**
- 061/14 County Councillors Report**  
Councillor Yeulett informed the meeting that County Council has decided to write to government re funding for older people to stay in their own homes.  
Electoral reform is to take place and the number of County Councillors will be reduced from 69 to 63.  
Areas of deprivation identified and CC are to consider how resources can be best targeted in these areas, when considering projects etc.  
Townley School has had a good Ofsted report.  
Councillor Tanfield informed the meeting that the Fenland Youth Council are to have a campaign on Cycling Safety. This group will soon have a budget and funding will be able to be applied for by Youth Groups.  
Flooding has been a problem in some of the Leisure Centres.  
Councillor Sutton asked that The Heron checks facts prior to putting in articles.  
Issue raised regarding the cost of Playdale Inspections. It was explained that this is for 3 annual inspections and this was included in the original quote. This will be put on next agenda and Cllr Freeland will discuss with Playdale. **Clerk  
Cllr Freeland**
- 062/14 Recreation Ground**  
a) Cheque rec'd from insurers for £2300 for damage to Pavilion Hall re Break Ins.  
b) Memorial Hall solicitor has heard from Charity Commission and they are happy for the Solicitors to get together and draw up paperwork for submission.  
c) Play Park Inspection says everything is good.  
d) Meeting held with Sharman Fabrications and a quote is to be drawn up for the removal of fence, remove equipment, reuse of climbing frame, other quotes may be required. From there further quotes will be required on an item by item basis for the installation in other play area.

e) Metal bin insert has been taken to Skate Park area. Councillor Russell is to ask if Sharman's can supply a new bin insert for the bin in the Play area.

**Cllr Russell**

People have been seen walking dogs in Recreation Ground.

There may be an element of vandalism on the fort in the toddlers play area and Sharman's to be asked for a quote to repair this, this has been made safe temporary.

**Cllr Russell**

**063/14**

**Village Hall Committee**

a) Highways have been spoken to, regarding the footpath on Upwell Road, but no further information available.

**064/14**

**Highways**

**a) Local Highways Improvement Initiative Bid 2015-2016.**

Discussion took place on the letter received from the Residents Association regarding the Keep Christchurch Safe suggestions for the bid.

There is a £10k maximum for this bid, and it was felt that this umbrella scheme would not be accepted by Highways.

Meetings have already taken place regarding the 50mph speed restriction on Sixteen Foot Road.

Cllr Tanfield left the meeting at 20.50

It was felt that safety issues with the junctions onto the Sixteen Foot Road should be the priority.

Cllr Russell is to discuss the bid with Graham Chappell.

**Cllr Russell**

It was Proposed by Cllr Russell that Graham Chappell be spoken to regarding his bid and then put in a bid regarding safety issues on the Sixteen Foot and this was AGREED

**Agreed**

**Street Lighting**

a) The street light on Green Lane appears to have been replaced, it is a new light on the existing pole. This work has not been authorised by the Parish Council.

**065/14**

**Income & Expenditure**

a) Members considered and **APPROVED** the following accounts for payment, with the Playdale Invoice reduced to £156.60:

**APPROVED**

J Richardson	Clerks Salary	£231.79
Christchurch Village Resource Centre	The Heron	£80.00
Playdale	Quarterly Inspections	£469.80
Upwell Drainage Board	Annual Rates	£194.40
Mid-Level Commissioners	Annual Rates	£252.72
CGM Landscapes	Tree Pruning	£216.00
Morton & Hall	Fees for Planning Application	£1680.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>£3124.71</b>

b) Clerk reported on the current bank balances at end July 2014:-

Community Account	93,872.94
Business Premium	8,187.84
Business Bonus	27,553.25
New Village Hall	689.21
BoS Corp Bonus	10,689.99
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>£140,993.23</b>

Current earmarked reserved funds are:-

New Village Hall £120,422.80

Mrs Spall Request £200.00

c) Bank Accounts are to be amalgamated to one cheque account and one saving account. The online banking is in the process of being set up. The financial regulations will need to be looked at to support the

- new arrangements. This will be an agenda item at the next meeting
- 066/14 Concurrent Functions Grant** Clerk
- Cllr Russell attended a meeting at FDC. Cllr Sutton believes that the Street Lights issue needs to be taken away from the Concurrent Functions Grant.
- 067/14 Planning/Development**
- a) F/YR14/0574/F** Erection of a single storey building for use as a village hall involving demolition of existing Village Hall, Upwell Road, Christchurch. It was Proposed by Cllr Gladwin and AGREED that the application be accepted. Agreed Clerk
- 068/14 Correspondence**
- a) Rural Services Network bulletins (emailed 04/08/14)  
 b) Cambs ACRE News bulletins (emailed 04/08/14)  
 c) Electoral changes (emailed 04/08/14)  
 d) Police & Crime Commissioners Updates (emailed 04/08/14)  
 e) CAPALC Bulletin (emailed 04/08/14)
- Cllr N Russell left the room and Cllr S Freeland took the chair**
- 069/14 Allotments**
- Another letter has been received from the land owners. Informal advice indicates that payment should be sought for vacating the plot. It was Proposed by Cllr Gladwin and AGREED that a reply be sent along the lines of the first reply but also to include a suggestion that the Parish Council may be willing to look at receiving a payment for giving up the tenancy. Agreed
- Cllr N Russell returned and took the chair** Clerk
- Cllr Sutton expressed his sincere thanks to Cllr Beswick for rescuing a young lady, stranded on the Sixteen Foot Bank.
- 070/14 Agenda Items/Next Meeting** ALL COUNCILLORS
- The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 8 September 2014. Items to be included on the agenda should be with the Clerk by Monday 1 September 2014.
- Donations to Church  
 Venue of Parish Council Meetings during Village Hall build  
 Asset Register  
 Financial Regulations  
 Open & Accountable Local Government

Meeting Closed at 9.18 pm