

CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Christchurch Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Monday 14 March 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs P Owen (Chairman), S Aldridge, J Bliss, R Gladwin, G Harper, Cllr W Sutton (FDC) D Gibbs (Clerk)

137/21-22 Apologies for Absence
Cllrs J Hughes, K Miller

138/21-22 Declarations of Interest
None

139/21-22 Chairman's Announcements
The Chairman remarked that the thoughts and sympathies of all members of the Council were with the people of Ukraine at this difficult time.

140/21-22 Public Time
No members of the public were present, but members of the Council raised the following matters which had been brought to their attention:

- a) Street light Crown Road PC2A outside Townley School was damaged in the recent storms and Church Road PC9 by the former Memorial Hall site is missing. The Clerk will report these for repair.
- b) The high ramp in the skatepark needs attention. The Clerk will seek advice from a local steel fabricator.

141/21-22 Confirmation of Minutes
Minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2022 were correctly recorded and signed as being a true record.

142/21-22 Matters Outstanding

- a) Bus shelter improvement project - No update.
- b) Pavement outside Field Lodge, Upwell Road - No further update.
- c) Roadside drains - Members reported that some drains were not cleared and are still blocked. The Clerk will investigate.
- d) Annual report to residents - Members agreed to publish a full colour report in the April edition of The Heron.
- e) Benches, play equipment, outdoor gym - Members resolved to purchase two recycled plastic picnic benches and asked the Clerk to obtain details.
- f) Support for vulnerable residents - members asked the Clerk to invite David Vincent, the District Council's Emergency Planning Officer to the April meeting.
- g) Annual Parish Meeting - The Clerk confirmed the arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting on 22 March. Details have been published in the Heron to encourage residents to attend.

143/21-22 Police Report
No meetings have taken place this month.

144/21-22 County & District Councillors Reports
Cllr Sutton reported that he received a letter from Welney Parish Council seeking support for their campaign to prevent the closure of the A1101 due to flooding and has responded giving his support. He has suggested that our new Local Highways Officer comes to Christchurch for a meeting to discuss a number of highway issues.

145/21-22 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received, including the forthcoming closure of the Sixteen Foot Bank for resurfacing.

146/21-22 Members and Residents Issues

Members discussed the issues raised by residents and resolved as follows:

- a) Welney Causeway flooding - Members discussed a letter received from Welney Parish Council regarding the regular road closures. They agreed to add their support to the campaign to find a solution to the issue.
- b) WI Anniversary - Cllr Aldridge advised members that the WI would like to plant a mountain ash tree in a prominent location around the village to mark the centenary of the Isle of Ely Federation. Members suggested possible locations and asked Cllr Aldridge to liaise with the WI. They would also like to yarn bomb the bus shelter area to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Members gave their support.

147/21-22 Recreation Ground Extension

- a) The planning application for change of use has not been completed. It is hoped that this will be submitted shortly.
- b) The Clerk confirmed the arrangements for the visit to Colne Parish Council on Saturday 19 March to view their community woodland, orchard and open space.

148/21-22 Local Highway Improvement Application 2022/23

The Chairman reported that he met Cllr Nethsingha, the Leader of the County Council with the Chairs of other local councils to voice their concerns over the LHI assessment process. It was a positive meeting and further meetings will take place in the coming months. He thanked the Clerk for arranging the meeting.

149/21-22 Planning

- a) Members considered the following application:
F/YR22/0204/F - Erect an open front storage building - High Green Farm, Euximoor Drove, Christchurch
They resolved to offer no objection.
- b) Members noted the following application:
F/YR22/0221/AG1 - Erect a grain storage building - Land South West of The Limes, Scotts Road, Christchurch

150/21-22 Finance

- a) The financial report as at 28.2.22 showed income of £25,252.82 and expenditure of £26,115.94, resulting in a deficit of £863.12 and total funds held of £42,956.26.
- b) Members approved the following accounts for payment:
Clerk salary and home office allowance (inc back pay) £ 420.89
Clerk expenses..... £ 274.20
T A Blackamore Ltd (grass cutting) £ 1,996.80
Cambridgeshire ACRE (subscription) £ 57.00
- c) Members reviewed and approved the Governance and Management Risk Assessment

151/21-22 Matters for Next Meeting

Sources of funding for adult gym equipment.

152/21-22 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 11 April.