

# CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Meeting of Christchurch Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Monday 9 May 2022 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs P Owen (Chairman), S Aldridge, J Bliss, J Hughes, K Miller, Cllr W Sutton (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), A Nason (Parishioner)

**001/22-23 Apologies for Absence**  
Cllr R Gladwin

**002/22-23 Declarations of Interest**  
None

**003/22-23 Chairman's Announcements**  
None

**004/22-23 Public Time**  
No matters were raised.

**005/22-23 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council**

- a) Election of Chair - Cllr Hughes was proposed by Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Miller and duly elected. Members resolved to allow him to sign the declaration of acceptance at the end of the meeting. Cllr Hughes thanked Cllr Owen for his six years as Chairman of the Council and for his contribution as a Councillor, which he hoped would continue.
- b) Election of Vice Chair - Cllr Miller was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Aldridge and duly elected. Members resolved to allow her to sign the declaration of acceptance at the end of the meeting.
- c) Standing Orders and Financial Regulations - The Clerk confirmed that the Council has adopted the latest model documents and members resolved to re-adopt them.
- d) Confirmation of insurance arrangements - The Clerk confirmed that the Council holds adequate insurance against all risks with Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance arranged through Community Action Suffolk with a renewal date of 1 October.
- e) Review of the Council's subscriptions to other bodies - The Council holds subscriptions to the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Association of Local Councils, renewed in April and to Cambridgeshire ACRE, renewed in March. Members resolved to continue both subscriptions.
- f) Confirmation of meeting dates for the municipal year - Members resolved that the Council will meet on the second Monday of every month, with the exception of April's meeting, which will take place on the third Monday to avoid the Easter Monday bank holiday. Meetings will take place on 13 June, 11 July, 8 August, 12 September, 10 October, 14 November, 12 December, 9 January, 13 February, 13 March, 17 April, and 8 May.

**006/22-23 Confirmation of Minutes**  
Minutes of the meeting held on 11 April 2022 were correctly recorded and signed as being a true record.

**007/22-23 Matters Outstanding**

- a) Bus shelter improvement project - No update.
- b) Pavement outside Field Lodge, Upwell Road - No further update. Cllr Aldridge

noted that the anticipated works had not commenced and another deadline had been missed. The Clerk will investigate.

- c) Roadside drains - No update. The Clerk asked members to monitor the drains during heavy rain.
- d) Benches, play equipment, outdoor gym - The Clerk confirmed that the benches had been ordered.
- e) Vehicular access to property in Crown Road - The Clerk reported that no application had been submitted to the County Council.
- f) Installation of a buffer zone in Upwell Road - The Clerk has nominated this location for consideration.

#### **008/22-23 Police Report**

No meetings have taken place this month.

#### **009/22-23 County & District Councillors Reports**

Cllr Sutton congratulated Cllrs Hughes and Miller on their elections as Chairman and Vice Chair respectively. He reported that the District Council is considering an amendment to its proposals for the boundary review which would merge the parish of Christchurch into March East ward, with three elected members. The Council discussed the issue and resolved to oppose the proposed changes. They asked the Clerk to submit an official objection to the Boundary Commission regarding the proposal and the fact that it had not been part of the public consultation. Cllr Sutton also reported that the draft Local Plan was due to be approved by the District Council prior to public consultation.

#### **010/22-23 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received, including the County Council's Transport Strategy consultation, the Police and Crime Commissioner's virtual round table and the Environment Agency's virtual exhibition room to highlight this year's bank works at Welney.

#### **011/22-23 Members and Residents Issues**

No issues were raised.

#### **012/22-23 Recreation Ground Extension**

The Clerk reported that the planning application would require details of the proposed uses of the site and a layout plan, which are yet to be agreed. Members suggested using the Jubilee celebrations as an opportunity to consult residents and seek volunteers for a steering group.

#### **013/22-23 Emergency Plan**

Cllr Miller agreed to lead on the creation of an emergency plan.

#### **014/22-23 Affordable Housing**

The Clerk reported that Cambridgeshire ACRE will contact local housing associations to ascertain interest in working towards a scheme in Christchurch.

#### **015/22-23 Planning**

Members considered the following application:

F/YR22/0406/VOC - Variation of Condition 09 (condition listing approved plans) to allow for amended solar farm layout including new ancillary buildings relating to planning permission F/YR19/0810/F (Installation of a ground mounted solar V array solar farm with substation compound, battery energy storage facility and associated ancillary development) - Coldham Wind Farm, Coldham Estate, March Road, Coldham

They resolved to offer no objection.

**016/22-23 Street Naming**

Members considered a proposal to name the development of the former Memorial Hall site "Nine Tailors." They resolved to support the proposal.

**017/22-23 Finance**

- a) The management accounts as at 30.4.22 showed income of £8,000.00 and expenditure of £1,097.96, resulting in a surplus of £6,902.04 and total funds held of £47,458.31.
- b) Members confirmed the register of assets as at 31 March 2022.
- c) Members approved the Internal Audit Report. No issues were raised requiring their attention.
- d) Members approved the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 to be signed by the Chairman at the end of the meeting.
- e) Members approved the Accounting Statements 2021/22 to be signed by the Chairman at the end of the meeting.
- f) Members confirmed the dates of the period for the exercise of public rights as Monday 13 June to Friday 22 July.
- g) Members resolved to reappoint Ivan Cooper as Internal Auditor for the 2022/23 financial year.
- h) Members noted the following sum received:  
Fenland District Council (precept)..... £8,000.00
- i) Members approved the following accounts for payment:  
Clerk salary and home office allowance ..... £ 360.79  
I Cooper (audit fee)..... £ 140.00  
Citizens Advice Rural Cambs (S137 donation) ..... £ 50.00

**018/22-23 Matters for Next Meeting**

Vacancy for a Councillor.

**019/22-23 Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be Monday 13 June.