

**MINUTES OF THE CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 8th JULY 2013 – MEMORIAL HALL CHRISTCHURCH AT 7:30pm**

Present: Councillors – Nigel Russell (Chair), Jill Bliss, Simon Freeland, Hannah Poole, Wes Poole, William Beswick, Will Sutton (FDC) and Fred Yeulett (CCC).
Stephen Cowell (Clerk) and 2 members of the public were also in attendance.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Cotterell MBE (FDC) and PCSO Russ.

2. Signing of Minutes

The minutes of the 17th June meeting were signed, by the Chair, as true record of the meeting.

3. Disclosure and Declarations of Interests

None.

4. Update on action points from previous meeting

The Clerk reported that:

- After Cllr, Yeulett's intervention the grass verges in Crown Avenue have been cut although a resident has reported that all the dead long grass has just been left on the verges.
- FDC agreed to the loan of the pickers and gloves for the Street Pride event in the village on the 6th July. Cllr. Russell reported a very good turnout with a lot of residents joining in and residents were thanked for their efforts.
- The British Heart Foundation Book Bank has been emptied as requested.

5. Public Adjournment

The following subjects were raised and discussed:

- It was asked where is the metalled part of Crown Drove is supposed to end as the road surface outside the last property at the village end has large holes in it. **Clerk to raise with Highways.**
- It was asked if residents can prune trees that are in the recreation ground and overhanging their gardens. Members confirmed that they could and place the cut branches on the recreation ground side of the fence if they wished.
- It was asked if both existing play grounds are to be removed and replaced. Members confirmed that current plans are to remove the Play park nearest the car park and replace it with new items in the field near to the wooden play park but that the wooden play park will remain. It is possible that some items will be refurbished and re-sited. The Clerk reported that he and Cllr. Bliss met with a Wicksteed Rep today and discussed the requirements and informed her of the priorities as passed on from the local School Council pupils. Quotes and designs from Wicksteed should be available for the next meeting. The Clerk has also spoken to Fenland Leisure Products who said they will get back to him to discuss the project. Cllr. Russell reported that he has spoken to Sharman's who are also keen to quote.
- The hedge near the Old Shop is encroaching on the pavement.
- A car has been parked in Crown Avenue since Christmas and has not moved and it is believed that it been abandoned.
- Cllr. Yeulett asked if there are still issues in The Croft. Cllr. Beswick reported that there are still major concerns on a number of fronts one of the main ones being what will happen when the sewage system fails.
- In response to a question Cllr. Russell reported that he has discussed the pot hole issue along Euximoor Drove with Mr Marshall of Highways but as yet none have been filled in.
- In response to Cllr. Yeulett's enquiry Members reported that they agreed to the proposed improvement scheme at the Padgett's Road and Upwell Road junctions with the Sixteen Foot Bank Road where new reflective posts are to be placed. **The Clerk is to confirm with Highways that the proposal is acceptable and that the Parish Council will contribute to the costs of the scheme.**

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6. Police Update

The Clerk has distributed PCSO Russ's report that had one item listed which was the break in to the Sports Pavilion. Councillors Russell and Sutton reported that a new bolt and lock system has been attached to the changing room entrance and the Council will receive an invoice from Mr Scott for the work. Cllr. Sutton reported that the break in was partially due to one of the football teams putting the old bolt lock in the damaged side of the door making the break in easier. A discussion was held regarding purchasing CCTV but it was decided that the new arrangement will stop break-ins from that door and that a new CCTV system is included in the renovation project. There was some concern that the new key might not have been handed back into the Shop by the Football Club as agreed after they had got a new key cut. **Cllr. Russell agreed to check if the key has been handed back.**

Concern was expressed regarding the lack of Police representation at Parish Council meetings and the **Clerk was asked to request that one of the PCSOs attends meetings** preferably on a bi-monthly basis but at least every three months to give the public and members the opportunity to raise issues at the meeting.

7. Correspondence Received

The Clerk brought to the attention of Councillors:

- The renewing of the Building Regulations for the Sports Pavilion refurbishment
- Four quotes for the refurbishment. Cllr. Russell produced a fifth quote which also included a quote for a new build and potential savings on the specification if a new build was selected. Following a lengthy discussion the **Clerk was asked to put all the quotes into a matrix** for members to consider and decide on the way forward.

8. Finance

8.1 The Clerk reported bank balances of £54,372.84 with cheques issued to the total of £6,060.60 to be paid from this.

The Clerk reminded Members that around £32k was earmarked for Play parks.

8.2 The following items, listed on the agenda, were agreed for payment

8.2.1 Clerk's Salary £183.78

8.2.2 HM Revenue and Customs £137.40 (3 months PAYE on Clerk's Salary)

8.2.3 The Heron £70.00

8.2.4 Morton & Hall Consulting Ltd £531.36 (Building Regs work and FDC fee)

9. Planning Applications

There were no applications to review.

10. Parish Plan – Update

The Clerk reported that the two updates, Play Park additions and Sports Pavilion renovation have been discussed in earlier items.

11. Raising of Village Concerns

The following items were reported/discussed:

1. Cllr. Freeland proposed that the Council consider a fenced dog walking corridor or area on the Recreation Ground with a Dog Bin provided. **It was agreed that members should consider this and the Clerk place the item on the agenda for the next meeting.**
2. Cllr. Freeland asked what response has been received for the forthcoming Clerk's Job vacancy. The Clerk reported that one application has been received but due to an error at the Fenland Advertiser it has not yet appeared in that paper. **The Clerk was asked to reduce the time for the advert in that paper to one week.**
3. Cllr. Bliss suggested work is required to ensure that the willows at the Recreation Ground do not get overgrown again. It was agreed that they should be flailed at the end of the growing season to start to shape them into a hedge to provide a wind break.

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4. Cllr. Hannah Poole reported that some of the street lights near to the Church Road/Green Lane/Upwell Road junction maybe faulty. The Clerk requested that if any members or residents notice one that is not working that they notify him of the column number and he will report them as faulty to the appropriate agency.
5. In response to a question relating to whether the clothing bank is to return the Clerk reported that he is still awaiting a response from FDC.

The Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9.00pm



Christchurch Parish Council Bank Balance update for July 2013 meeting

Community a/c	7674.28	outstanding payments £6,060.60
Business Premium	8183.72	
Business Bonus	27214.63	
New Village Hall	689.21	
BoS Corp Bonus	10611.00	
	<u>54372.84</u>	

