

# CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at Christchurch Community Centre, Upwell Road, Christchurch at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs W. Beswick, J. Bliss, J. Hughes, P. Owen, G. Harper, F. Yeulett, W. Sutton and J. Rees, R. Wright, V. Haresnape, P. Haresnape, S. Kay, L. Webster

**051/16-17 Apologies for Absence:** M. Tanfield, N. Russell (R. Gladwin and Sue Clark not present)

**Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr Owen – item 057/16-17 b: planning application F/YR16/0501/O

**052/16-17 Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016 were correctly recorded and signed as being a true record

**RESOLVED**

**053/16-17 Police Report:** Noise problem along Crown Road has been reported. No report received

**054/16-17 County & District Councillors Reports**

Cllr Yeulett reminded that the public consultation on devolution ends 23 August 2016.

He has spoken to the Senior Officer for Highways about Sixteen Foot Bank – something like the cameras on Forty Foot Bank. He has been told that the accident record is not sufficient. If anyone sees any signs knocked over, please report them to Cllrs Yeulett or Sutton. Cllr Hughes feels that the problem is not totally speed – most incidents seem to occur at the bends, so cameras might not help. But it was agreed that anything that reduces problems would be useful.

Cllrs Yeulett and Sutton have advised that there are public meetings about Ely, Doddington and Wisbech hospitals. Ely was on the 8<sup>th</sup> August, Doddington is on 23 August at 7pm, Wisbech is on 25 August at 6.30pm. Cllr Yeulett has confirmed that the FDC Scrutiny Committee had the Health and Wellbeing Representative at the last meeting. They have flagged up the committee's concerns if these hospitals change their services. The committee is also watching the Peterborough and Hinchinbrook combination.

Cllr Sutton reported on community transport – Manea is going to consultation to see what is needed; Welney is fine with their current arrangements.

Cllr Sutton mentioned the Golden Age Fair at Walsoken Village Hall on 23 August 2016 12.30 – 4pm. Everyone is welcome.

Highways – he has met with Les Middleton, the new highways officer who has confirmed he has several things in hand:

Crown Avenue is concrete so can not be topped; any topping would not stick. Holes will need to be filled with concrete. The flood problem is being looked in to.

Signage at Toll Road is being looked in to.

Checker boards at Sixteen Foot Bank have been stolen; they are being replaced.

**055/16-17 Recreation Ground Charity**

Path from road to Community Centre – this is with Cllr Russell. A decision needs to be made on how the work will be paid for.

A quote was sent to Cllr Hughes for refurbishing some areas of the play area a while ago. There is no response to be made at present and it was agreed that the matter would be passed to the Recreation Ground Charity. Cllr Hughes will pass to Ruth Ingram

**Cllr Hughes**

**056/16-17 Highways/Street Lighting**

**Highways**

Cllr Own reported that he had an informative visit to the Highways Open Day. He feels Les Middleton will be an asset as Highways Officer. Following the event, some potholes have been filled; Wayside Estate drain have been flushed and Crown Ave is to be done; Crown Road resurfacing is not in the system to be done; Crown Ave redressing is not possible as the road is concrete.

He asked if there is an alternative solution for Cottons Bridge and was advised that the Parish Council can put in a request and make a contribution. It was felt that it is not Christchurch residents who hit the bridge. Cllr Sutton recalls that a safety audit was to be done on the bridge and will follow this up.

**Cllr Sutton**

Cllr Yeulett confirmed that money for the highways is raised via council tax and ring-fenced for use.

Cllr Own advised that potholes need to be more than 2cm deep for Highways to deal with them

**Cllr Sutton**

It was felt that the Parish Council should continue to push for the weight restriction through the village.

**Street Lighting:**

- a) There is a light out on Crown Avenue (middle one on the right hand side). Cllr Sutton will check the number and chase up
- b) The electric to the light opposite 6 Upwell Road has been disconnected. Cllr Owen confirmed the post is to be removed

**057/16-17 Planning/Development**

**Application:**

F/YR16/0399/O – amendment to application. Erection of 6 dwellings at land south west of Syringa house. Amendment details emailed to PC members 29/7/16. Crown Road is already in a poor state of repair and is very well used due to the school being on that road. This increase in traffic was felt to be of concern, both for safety reasons (given the proximity to the school) and adding further use to a road that is already in a state of disrepair. The Parish Council feel that it would be better to have entry from Fen View. If this is not possible, the developers should be asked to make a contribution to the repair costs of Crown Road.

**Clerk**

Cllr Owen left the meeting

F/YR16/0501/O – erection of 2 single storey dwellings on land north of Horseshoe Lodge, Upwell Road. Details of web page emailed to PC members 1/8/16. The Parish Council feel that the proposed development of two house at this site is too many. It would make the area too dense. The Parish Council would be likely to support the development of one similar sized bungalow on the site.

**Clerk**

Cllr Own returned to the meeting

**058/16-17 Correspondence**

- a) Rural Capital Grant – End of Project form notes made for Clerk to complete form. £2,500 of grant has been withheld until this is completed and returned (possibly use this for the path from the road to the Community Centre?) **Clerk**
- b) Trees – Cllr Owen has had a couple of complaints from parishioners that back onto the recreation ground – they feel the overhanging branches cause a health and safety hazard; some branches look as if they may fall into their gardens. Cllr Owen agreed to ask Mattie at the Recycling Centre, if he would cut the trees on the same arrangement as before (Mattie keeps the wood and clears up after). **Cllr Owen**
- c) Transparency Fund – clerk has made an application for funding for a new computer and scanner through the fund. It is unlikely that it will be successful, but worth a try.

**059/16-17 Income and Expenditure**

- a) Received:  
Recycling Credit                      £49.58
- b) Members to considered and approved the following accounts for payment:  
SLCC Membership                      £82.00  
SLCC online training                      £118.80  
The Heron                                  £80.00  
J Rees – pay/expenses                      £299.95  
Russell Wright                              £195.60
- c) Report on income and expenditure – Clerk still trying to gain access to the bank account, Barclays Bank have dragged their feet over changing everything. All paperwork is now in hand so Clerk will gain access to online banking system.
- d) CAPALC are offering a 2 day training course for new clerks. Agreed this is not suitable – more targeted training is needed.

**060/16-17 Social Media**

Facebook page – Clerk has been posting items on the village page. **Clerk**  
These are just general information pieces – the same as the News items on our website. It was agreed that this is adequate at present. Clerk to see if website statistics are available

**061/16-17 Public Time**

- a) Crown Drove grass is getting too long. Can it be cut? Cllr Owen to discuss with Cllr Russell **Cllr Owen**
- b) Some dogs have been noticed being exercised on the playing field. The Heron will include a reminder that dogs are not allowed on there.
- c) It was felt that it would be a good idea to start a voluntary work party to help the needy/old/disabled/sick with their gardens. This would be a one-off assistance so people could then keep on top of their own gardens. Clerk to ask The Heron to include an item with Cllr Harper as contact. **Clerk**
- d) New trees have taken well. They are to be kept at a height of about 1m to avoid a 'secret area' behind. The same number of trees are due to arrive in September.
- e) Cllr Bliss reported terrible smell from the drainage next to the Croft from the sewerage plant, and raw sewerage has been seen in the dyke nearby. She has reported to drainage department and they have reported to Environmental Health. It was felt that the Clerk should also report on behalf of the Parish **Clerk**

- Council
- f) Green Lane – a dog bin has been requested by the public. FDC erect, CPC pay for the work. Clerk to obtain a quote for the work for next meeting. **Clerk**
  - g) Hedges – these are overgrowing onto footpaths. Clerk to ask the Heron to run a small reminder for people to keep them cut back. If someone reports a hedge to Highways, they will charge the property owner for any work done to rectify. **Clerk**
  - h) There seems to have been some unusual activity by a transit van around the skate park. This is not the first time. Clerk to report to PCSO **Clerk**

**062/16/17    Agenda Items/Next Meeting**

For next agenda – trees and rubbish on Upwell Road side of recreation ground.

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016