

CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council on Monday 14 August 2017 at Christchurch Community Centre, Upwell Road, Christchurch at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs N. Russell, J. Bliss (JB), W. Beswick (WB), P. Owen, W. Sutton, J. Rees (clerk), Cllr S. Count, Cllr S. King

- 043/17-18** **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs R. Gladwin, J. Hughes, G. Harper, Cllr M. Tanfield, S. Clarke (PCSO)
Declarations of Interest: None
- 044/17-18** **Confirmation of Minutes**
Minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2017 were correctly recorded and sign as being a true record.
- 045/17-18** **Public Time**
- Front hedge of Recreation Ground on Upwell Road is overgrown. Next meeting **Clerk**
 - Land between Shrub House and Albert House is overgrown with weeds, even growing into the drain. Next meeting. **Clerk**
- 046/17-18** **Councillor Steve Count**
Expressed thanks for invite.
Advised he usually corresponds by email but is happy to attend to discuss matters.
He is introducing area newsletters to aid CCC communications.
It is his first visit to the community centre since build completed – it is a lovely asset to the village.
CCC has £1m fund for Parish Councils to help make the community more resilient; things that will help CCC or that the Parish Council can do better than CCC. Website has more information. **Clerk**
Consultation on Children’s Centres at present – more information on website.
WB – why did he support the recent rise for councillors? Cllr Count – its not as straight forward as media reports suggest. The overall rise is actually 8% and this was to ensure CCC councillors is in line with the UK average wages for Councillors. The system has been updated and number of people reduced. Cllr Count will send the full amendment over.
- 047/17-18** **Outstanding Matters**
- Bus shelter – thanks to Cllr Harper for the work done on the bus shelter with trellis and plants – looks better already. The Parish Council acknowledges that some parishioners would prefer the bus shelter had been removed, but when the matter was reviewed, the only people that got in touch and attended the meeting were those that wanted to keep the bus shelter. The Parish Council can only represent the views given to them formally. Some repairs to the brick work are still to be done; then the inside will be painted and the bench installed. **Cllrs Harper and Russell**
 - Litter bin at skatepark – cost is £250 + VAT. Clerk to check want it will be made of; graffiti and vandal proof? **Clerk**
 - It was mentioned that a new liner is needed for the bin at the small park. Clerk to look into this. **Clerk**
 - Defibrillator – Cllr Russell still trying to find out costs etc.
 - FACT bus service – information from Jo Philpott reviewed.

The cost for the Parish Council is too much long term – precept would need to be raised by about £10 per house. Cllr Count explained that CCC have limited funds, and the figures we have show how much contribution is needed. Not all services are viable. There is a pilot scheme currently in Ely, so that may open up other options. Cllr Count suggested – using facebook page to offer villagers lifts; encourage people to use dial-a-ride. Clerk to check who runs Welney bus service and see if there is any option to divert that bus route slightly.

- Recreation Ground weedkiller – CGM have quoted £504 + VAT to spray. Masons are unable to offer a quote at the moment due to work pressures. Cllr Russell to speak to CGM further.

Clerk

Cllr Russell

Deferred Outstanding Matters

- Village signs
- Tesco Bags of Change
- Community Highways Volunteering Scheme
- Tipps End LHI funding project

048/17-18

Police Report

Schools out! Managed to get round most of my schools before they close for the holidays.

I wanted to talk about internet safety as there has been a problem in one of the town schools where a girl of 10 years old has been 'speaking to a 32 year old male' this has spiralled into about 6 girls talking to this said male and others! Facebook although interesting can also be a dangerous tool.

I am trying to get out and about in the community as some of you may know I did a talk at Guyhuirn luncheon club Yesterday I was at Tydd St Giles at the Bowls Club and next Tuesday 15th August I am at Murrow Village Hall for a coffee morning at 10.30am so if you are out and about please come and visit me. There are cakes being made too (not by me that would not be good!) but by others and all funds go towards the upkeep of the village hall.

If you are part of a group and would like me to come and talk about crime prevention or similar please let me know

E mail me at sue.clarke@cambs.pnn.police.uk

I have been working with the Community Protection Officer who deals with scams and Rogue traders.

Padgetts Road – Tree fell in the road. 27/07

Vehicle theft has been on the increase in the village of Elm, please be aware of any suspicious activity. Particularly transit vans.

For the crime in your area please visit www.cambs.police.uk

049/17-18

District Councillors Reports

Cllr Sutton expressed thanks to his neighbour for dealing with the fallen tree on Padgetts Road. Clerk to send letter from Parish Council as well.

Devolution is showing an immediate benefit to FDC and seems to have been the right thing to do.

Cllr Sutton reminded everyone that all levels of government are there to help people – that is the main focus and aim.

Clerk

050/17-18

Parish Council Standing Orders

Deferred to next month

051/17-18

Highways

- Village calming scheme – feedback offered on a couple of points. Full discussion at next meeting
- Closure of Green Lane – part of Green Lane is being closed

for electrical works from 27/9/17 to 3/10/17

052/17-18 Street Lighting

Cllr King attended to explain the situation to the Parish Council. The agreement with Balfour Beatty (BB) is finished due to poor service from BB. The new agreement would include a survey of lights, FDC managing the lights and relabelling of all the lights.

(All contact numbers on the streetlights for fault reporting are wrong. Clerk to raise this in village.)

The Parish Council would become responsible for all repairs, maintenance and energy costs going forward. The estimated cost is £47 to £67 per column per annum (this is based on LED lights and will be more for non-LED lights). The cost of this will need to be raised through the precept.

Parish Council raised the possibility of time switch/dimmer switch but Cllr King advised that one would be needed for each column. LED lights save energy and are much more cost effective, although the initial outlay is a bit more.

The previous quote given for Cat 2 lights should be similar. The Cat 1 replacements that have been done are not LEDs, so the village has all non-LEDs.

To be fully discussed at next meeting. Decision is needed by 15 September.

Clerk to arrange for repairs to be carried out to broken lights asap.
Proposed WB, seconded JB

Clerk

053/17-18 Income and Expenditure

a) Received: None

b) Members approved the following accounts for payment:

Clerk salary and home office allowance	£330.73
(paid by bank transfer on 1 st June 2017 as agreed)	
The Heron	£ 80.00
E. Mason & Son	£612.00
E. Mason & Son	£408.00
Upwell Internal Drainage Board	£ 32.20
Middle Level Commissioners	£ 41.86
Cllr Harper (timber – bus shelter)	£ 51.64
SLCC – Regional Training Semiar	£ 41.40
SLCC – Arnold-Barker book	£ 78.40
CAPALC – new clerk's training	£200.00

c) Mr Box – transfer in from CRGC £1644, paid out by Parish Council £1644. Storage box has been installed

054/17-18 Agenda Items/Next Meeting

Next meeting – dyke needs to be cleared by Recreation Ground.

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 11 September 2017. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by 4 September 2017.

Meeting closed 9.05pm