

CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council held on Monday 10 September 2018 at Christchurch Community Centre, Upwell Road, Christchurch at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs P. Owen (Chairman), J. Bliss, R. Gladwin, J. Hughes, R. Lloyd, N. Russell, W. Sutton (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), M Bower, K Hill, K Miller (Parishioners)

044/18-19 Apologies for Absence:

Cllr G Harper and Cllr M Tanfield

045/18-19 Declarations of Interest:

None

046/18-19 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9 July were correctly recorded and signed as being a true record.

047/18-19 Public Time

Mr Bower asked who was responsible for handling complaints under the Code of Conduct for Parish Councils, whether the Council had amended its procedures following the Planning Inspectorate's rejection of a planning appeal in April 2017 and why the Parish Council's agendas and minutes are not published in The Heron.

The Clerk responded that the District Council's Monitoring Officer is responsible for Code of Conduct matters but that any complaints regarding the Parish Council should be submitted to the Parish Council in the first instance. In the absence of further information regarding the planning matter it was not possible for the Council to respond. The agendas and minutes are not published in The Heron for a number of reasons; predominantly the timing of the publication of information rarely coinciding with the publication deadlines and the length of the documents taking up too much space in the magazine. Agendas and minutes are published on the Parish Council's noticeboard and website.

048/18-19 Outstanding Matters

- a) Public Space Protection Order - PSPO can include all types of anti-social behaviour, but consideration must be given to means of enforcement and age of those responsible. As the site will soon become the responsibility of the Recreation Ground charity, it was agreed that no further action be taken at present.
- b) Website - the development of the new site is in hand with the intention that it be launched before the next meeting.
- c) Street Pride - no further response. It was suggested that a Litter Pick might generate volunteers.
- d) Allotment tenancy - the tenant has confirmed his wish to take advantage of the extension offered to him and the necessary paperwork will be produced for signature.
- e) Speed monitoring device - an application will be submitted to the National Lottery Awards for All for funding to purchase a speed monitoring device.
- f) The Heron - members discussed the ongoing hostile negative tone of the editorial and letters page in The Heron. Whilst the

Clerk

Clerk

Parish Council respects the independent status of The Heron, members expressed concern about the use of public funds to support a divisive publication. It was agreed that a decision on future funding will be made at the October meeting and that The Heron will be notified of this item in advance of the meeting.

- g) Street Lighting - members expressed their dissatisfaction with the 15% professional fee to be charged by the District Council on street light renewals negotiated by them on behalf of the Parish Council. As this element falls outside the new service level agreement, it was agreed that the Council will sign the agreement. Members were reminded that the reporting tools for street lights and other District and County Council services have been added to the website.

049/18-19 Police Report

The new format report was considered, but it does not include any issues in Christchurch. A domestic burglary has been reported.

050/18-19 County & District Councillors' Reports

See 052/18-19 c) below.

Cllr Sutton also reported that a replacement checkerboard sign for Padgetts Road was ordered some time ago, but has not been installed yet.

051/18-19 Christchurch Recreation Ground Charity

A meeting to agree the details of the new administrative arrangements will take place shortly.

052/18-19 Local Highway Improvements

- a) The 2017/18 speed limit reduction scheme for Tipps End has been completed.
- b) Work will commence on the 2018/19 village traffic calming scheme shortly.
- c) Cllr Sutton reported that he and Mr Chappell had visited Manea Parish Council to secure their support for the Sixteen Foot Bank barrier scheme for 2019/20. Wimblington Parish Council has also agreed to support the scheme. Chatteris Town Council will be approached to become the final partner.
- d) It was reported that a resident of Padgetts Road has asked whether the speed limit could be reduced near the junction with Church Road. This will be considered alongside other projects for future years.

053/18-19 Insurance

The Clerk reported that he was seeking competitive quotes for the Council's insurance requirements, but there were a number of anomalies relating to the children's play equipment and other assets that required further investigation, so it had not been possible to bring final quotes to the meeting. This information will be provided for the October meeting and temporary cover will be arranged for the interim period.

054/18-19 Residents' Issues

- a) Recreation Ground trees. An inspection of all trees is required from a suitably qualified person. Cllr Sutton to contact the

District Council to ascertain whether their Tree Officer is able to undertake such work.

Cllr Sutton

- b) Willow tree pruning. The willow trees on the north west side of the Recreation Ground need to be pruned. Cllr Lloyd to contact Robin Ashman.
- c) School parking. Access to and from Townley School at the start and end of the school day is being hindered by inconsiderate parking. The Council has been asked to consider whether additional parking restrictions could be introduced to alleviate the situation. This would be costly and, in the absence of funding from a third party, would require an LHI bid. The forthcoming surface dressing of Crown Road will remove all line markings for a period of several weeks during the autumn term.
- d) Footpath outside Plot 1, Upwell Road. The creation of a footpath was agreed during the planning application process for this dwelling. Cllr Sutton to discuss this with the planning department to ascertain whether enforcement is required.
- e) The football club has requested that the grass be cut shorter on the pitch. It was agreed that the Clerk should instruct the contractor accordingly.
- f) Cllr Russell reported that there were people living in a van in Euximoor Drove. Cllr Sutton agreed to report this to the District Council housing team.

Cllr Lloyd

Cllr Sutton

Clerk

Cllr Sutton

055/18-19

Planning

The following applications have been granted since the July meeting:

- F/YR18/0485/F - Change of use of land to rear of existing dwelling for domestic purposes and erection of a barn (retrospective) - Fincham Lodge, 58 Church Road.
- F/YR18/0503/TRTPO - Felling of 1no Pine and 1no Horse Chestnut covered by TPO 01/1986 (5 day notice) - The Old Rectory, 25 Church Road.
- F/YR18/0591/F - Erection of 6 x single-storey 3-bed dwellings with attached garages - Land South West of Syringa House, Upwell Road.

A new application has been submitted as follows:

- F/YR18/0801/F - Erection of a detached 1-bed Annexe ancillary to existing dwelling - Jacmar Lodge, Upwell Road. As this application was not received in time to be included on the agenda, it will be deferred until the October meeting and the Clerk will request an extension to the consultation period.

Clerk

056/18-19

Income and Expenditure

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Clerk salary and home office allowance	£	661.46
Fenland Leisure Products Ltd.....	£	45.02
The Heron	£	160.00
E Mason & Son	£	1,020.00
Middle Level Commissioners.....	£	41.92
Upwell Internal Drainage Board.....	£	32.20

The Clerk presented a receipts and payments summary as at 31.8.18, showing income of £8,774.21 and expenditure of

£2,913.29, with a net surplus for the year of £5,860.92 and total balances of £49,991.79.

057/18-19 Matters for Next Meeting

Insurance, Heron funding.

058/18-19 Agenda Items/Next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 8 October. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Friday 28 September.

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