

CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council held on Monday 14 October 2019 at Christchurch Community Centre, Upwell Road, Christchurch at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs P Owen (Chairman), S Aldridge, J Bliss, R Gladwin, G Harper, J Hughes, K Miller, W Sutton (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), N Lansdell, A Nason, C Steenson (Parishioners)

059/19-20 Apologies for Absence

None

060/19-20 Declarations of Interest

None

061/19-20 Confirmation of Minutes

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

062/19-20 Public Time

Ms Nason reported that the Lunch Break initiative remains popular. Sixteen people attended the latest session and the neighbourhood Police officers visited. Representatives of Care Network, the scheme funder, have also visited.

Mr Steenson reported a problem with a hedge overhanging the pavement near the old village shop. The Clerk will contact the

Clerk

Highways authority to ask them to take action.
Mr Lansdell updated members on the Christchurch Eco project. Three recycling stations are now set up and in use. The station at the junction of Padgetts Road and Church Road will be relocated to the grass verge adjacent to the notice board in Green Lane near the junction with Fen View if permission is granted by the Highway authority. More items can now be recycled, including pet food pouches, ink cartridges and inhalers. Manufacturers are offering discounts on eco products. Mr Lansdell is meeting Rebecca Robinett to discuss setting up a Street Pride group. He has signed up to the Cambridgeshire Climate Emergency. Future plans include a car sharing scheme.

063/19-20 Matters Outstanding

- a) LHI schemes 2019/20 and 2020/21 - the speed monitoring device has been ordered and should be delivered before Christmas. The Forgotten Corner application for 2020/21 is being assessed.
- b) Bus shelter improvement project - work will start shortly on preparing the ground for the installation of the painted stones.
- c) Ash trees, Green Lane - several branches are lying on the BT cables through the trees, so the Clerk has asked BT Openreach to attend to resolve this issue. Some of the shrubbery at the edge of the road is on land belonging to the Highway authority, so the Clerk has asked them to remove this vegetation. Following this, the site will be reassessed to ascertain whether further work is required.

- d) Annual report - Cllr Hughes will produce a draft of the text for the report. **Cllr Hughes**
- e) The Croft - ownership of trees behind development. It has now been confirmed that the land behind the development does form part of the land transferred to the Crown Estate. A partial sale is not possible, so this land will remain in its current condition *ad infinitum* unless a buyer can be found for the whole site.
- f) Euximoor Bridge - no further update has been received regarding repairs. Cllr Sutton to chase. **Cllr Sutton**
- g) Christchurch Eco - discussed during Public Time.

064/19-20 Police Report

There was no mention of Christchurch in this month's report.

065/19-20 County & District Councillors Reports

Cllr Sutton explained the review of the Fenland Local Plan and stressed its importance to the parish and the community. He congratulated Mr Lansdell on his success with Christchurch Eco. The District Council's brown bin charge will remain at £40 for the next financial year, with a 10% discount for payment by direct debit. Planning training for parish councillors is being offered again on 21 November. The next Golden Age Fair is at March Library on 15 October. Cllr Sutton has been working with Anglian Water to explore the potential for a purchase of the sewage plant at The Croft, however this would represent a partial sale of the site, which is not possible under current legislation.

066/19-20 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that he had attended a briefing on the review of the Fenland Local Plan and the Cambridgeshire ACRE Annual General Meeting, with the Chairman, as well as a meeting with the solicitor reported below.

Correspondence received included:

Cambridgeshire Climate Emergency re working with communities to share information and contacts. Requested contact details for PC lead on climate change and details of other organisations. Mr Lansdell offered to make contact.

Cambridgeshire Council for Voluntary Service re funding workshop at William Collyn Community Centre, Girton on 23 October 4.00 to 8.00.

Healthwatch Cambridgeshire seeking members for a new Community Values Panel to meet in St Ives from 10.00 to 2.00 on 24 October and 19 November to have a say on local health services. Allowance of £50 plus travel for each meeting.

Pensions Regulator re overdue declaration of compliance. Now resolved.

Cambridgeshire ACRE re Cambridgeshire Local Councils Conference, 9.00 to 3.45 on 8 November in Huntingdon.

Balfour Beatty re street light maintenance and renewal offer of services.

Fenland District Council re Local Plan Consultation launch and drop-in sessions at Wisbech Library on 18 October 10.00 to 4.00 and March Library on 24 October from 2.00 to 6.30 and 1 November from 10.00 to 4.00.

Fenland District Council re Planning Training on 21 November from 1.00 to 4.00 and 4.30 to 8.00.

Cambridgeshire County Council re Highways Depot Open Day at March on 28 October from 10.00 to 3.00.

Playdale Playgrounds re completion of annual inspection of play equipment. No issues identified.

Resident of March reporting potential hazards on Sixteen Foot Bank. Reported to Highways.

067/19-20 Christchurch Recreation Ground Charity

The Clerk reported on a meeting with the solicitor and Cllrs Owen and Bliss on 8 October. It was agreed that the Clerk will undertake the registration of the new CIO and the solicitor will handle the legal agreements between the parties.

Clerk

Cllr Harper reported that the application to the Whitemill Environment Fund for the installation of solar panels on the Community Centre had been successful. The cost of the panels is £12,700 plus VAT with the grant covering 85% or £10,795. Mr Russell has contributed £500 from the Horse Show Committee account, leaving a shortfall of £1,405. Members agreed to contribute the sum of £1,405 to this project.

068/19-20 Planning

- a) It was noted that applications F/YR19/0297/F and F/YR19/0775/F were still under consideration. Application F/YR19/0615/F was granted.
- b) The appeal relating to the condition for an archaeological investigation on application F/YR19/0185/F was considered. Members felt that the condition was not justified in view of the nature of the proposed development and the previous use of the site. They resolved to support the appeal.

069/19-20 Income and Expenditure

- a) The following accounts were approved for payment:

Clerk salary and home office allowance.....£	345.97
Fenland District Council (dog bin).....£	199.68
E Mason & Son (grass cutting)	£ 408.00
Cambridgeshire County Council (LHI)	£ 440.55
Christchurch Recreation Ground Charity (Brownies)£	600.00
- b) The financial report as at 30 September shows income received of £14,769.01 and expenditure incurred of £14,277.36 leaving a surplus of £491.65 and total funds held of £50,823.21.

070/19-20 Footpath Outside Plot 1, Field Lodge, Upwell Road

No further update.

071/19-20 Matters for Next Meeting

The Clerk advised members that he will be circulating revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations for adoption at the next meeting.

072/19-20 Next Meeting Date

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 11 November.