

CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council
held remotely on
Monday 14 December 2020 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)

099/20-21 Apologies for Absence

None

100/20-21 Declarations of Interest

None.

101/20-21 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2020 were correctly recorded and signed as being a true record.

102/20-21 Public Time

No members of the public were present. Cllr Hughes mentioned that an unsupervised dog had been observed by several people in the village and it was reported on the village Facebook page that it had attacked another dog. He subsequently advised members that the owner of the dog had come forward and apologised for its actions.

103/20-21 Matters Outstanding

- a) Bus shelter improvement project - still on hold due to lockdown.
- b) Green Lane trees - UK Power Networks have cut the trees away from the power cables. The Clerk will determine whether further works are required by residents and advise them accordingly. **Action: Clerk**
- c) Pavement outside Field Lodge, Upwell Road - No further progress.
- d) Recreation Ground trees - Discussions with potential contractors ongoing.
- e) Grass cutting contract - the Clerk will issue the specification for the contract to local contractors. **Action: Clerk**
- f) Bin outside community centre - The new bin has been ordered.
- g) Neighbourhood Watch - Cllr Hughes will write an article for publication in The Heron seeking a new coordinator for the scheme. **Action: Cllr Hughes**
- h) Street lights - the order for the replacement of 2 columns and 14 brackets has been placed. Work should commence shortly.

104/20-21 Police Report

The Clerk reported on the monthly meeting with Sgt Arnold. The restructuring process has been extended by two weeks. Further details of the impact of this should be available at the next meeting and the new structure will be implemented by the end of March. The only crime reported in November was one theft from a motor vehicle.

A number of drugs warrants were executed in November resulting in arrests and seizures of drugs, weapons and cash. Operation Sceptre, the annual knife crime initiative is taking many weapons off the streets, but schools work has not been possible due to Covid restrictions. Cambridgeshire Police now has two mental health nurses in the force control room to deal with some of the many mental health calls they receive.

105/20-21 County & District Councillors Reports

Cllr Sutton thanked the Community Centre committee and Street Pride group for erecting the new notice board and planters and Cllr Bliss for her regular litter pick on the Recreation Ground.

106/20-21 Clerk's Report

Correspondence received included the following:

- ACRE re Fens Biosphere Conference 13 January
 - re safeguarding policies and procedures
- Cambridgeshire County Council re Highways service stakeholder survey
 - re roadworks and events
 - re Innovate & Cultivate Fund deadline
- Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Road Safety Partnership re Vision Zero Partnership to reduce road casualties
- FDC re Community Hub opening
 - re Local Restrictions Support Grant
 - re garden waste subscription
 - re community safety newsletter
 - re domestic abuse video
 - re customer service centre opening during lockdown
 - re street naming for development behind Syringa House
- Environment Agency re Ouse Washes Bank Works
- Connecting Cambridgeshire re gigabit broadband voucher
- Cllr Steve Count re Covid statistics
- Office for National Statistics re National Census, March 2021

107/20-21 Members and Residents Issues

- a) Street naming - members discussed the proposal from the developer to name the new development behind Syringa House as Smeeth Close. They felt that Brimstone Close would be a more suitable name, reflecting the former name of the village. The Clerk agreed to convey this to the District Council for consideration by the developer. **Action: Clerk**
- b) Damage to road markers on Sixteen Foot Bank - a resident has reported that more of the markers have been damaged by the grass cutting contractor. Highways have been notified.
- c) Vandalism at the Community Centre - damage to the gutters and outside lights at the rear of the building was reported. The cost of repairs was less than £250, which is the insurance excess.

108/20-21 Highways

The Local Highways Improvement bid for 2021/22 will be subject to a revised timetable. The Panel meeting will take place in early March. Discussions with officers will commence shortly after Christmas.

109/20-21 Planning

Members considered the following applications:

F/YR20/1174/F - Erect a single-storey extension to side of existing dwelling - Quail Cottage, Scotts Road, Christchurch

F/YR20/1194/F - Erect a single-storey extension to side of existing dwelling to form garage block - Christchurch Barns, Sixteen Foot Bank, Christchurch

They resolved to offer no objection.

F/YR20/1202/CERTLU - Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing): Siting of a mobile home for residential use - The Static, Country View, Euximoor Drove, Christchurch

Members discussed the history of the site, but were unable to provide any relevant information, due to the remote location.

110/20-21 Income and Expenditure

- a) The financial report as at 30.11.20 showed income of £25,413.38 and expenditure of £11,666.29, resulting in a surplus of £13,747.09 and total funds held of £51,551.12.
- b) Members approved the following accounts for payment:
 - Clerk salary and home office allowance£ 355.33
 - E Mason & Son (Farmers) Ltd (grass cutting)£ 936.00
- c) Members considered the draft budget for the 2021/22 financial year. They resolved to agree the budget and to set a precept for the year of £12,750.

111/20-21 Confidential Item

Members resolved to exclude the press and public from the following item by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, paragraph 1(2).
Community Centre Canopy tender documents.

112/20-21 Matters for Next Meeting

None.

113/20-21 Next Meeting Date

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