

CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council
held remotely on
Monday 12 April 2021 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)

156/20-21 Apologies for Absence

None

157/20-21 Declarations of Interest

None

158/20-21 Chairman's Announcements

None

159/20-21 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2021 were correctly recorded and signed as being a true record.

160/20-21 Public Time

No members of the public were present.

161/20-21 Matters Outstanding

- a) Bus shelter improvement project - Still on hold due to lockdown.
- b) Green Lane trees - The Clerk will write to the current and former owners of the property to clarify ownership of the trees. The Council will cover the cost of the works. **Action: Clerk**
- c) Pavement outside Field Lodge, Upwell Road - The developer is negotiating the specification for the works with the County Council. The Clerk will continue to monitor the situation. **Action: Clerk**
- d) Recreation Ground trees - No progress yet. Could be added to contract for Green Lane tree works. Willows could be cut back by Community Payback team.
- e) Bin outside community centre - The bin has now been installed.
- f) Street lights - Eight of the sixteen lights have been replaced.
- g) Roadside drains - Drains in Upwell Road and Wayside Estate have been cleaned. Further drains will be cleaned in the coming weeks.
- h) Local Highway Improvement application - Cllr Hughes reported that the application had been rejected. Members noted that the highest scoring applications were connected with members of the assessment panel. Members asked the Clerk to investigate the results from previous years and report to the next meeting.
- i) Community Centre canopy - The canopy has been completed and will be an important addition to the Community Centre.
- j) Grass cutting contract - The new contractor has started and the Chairman reported that he has received favourable comments from several residents.

162/20-21 Police Report

The Clerk reported that the monthly meeting with Sgt Arnold has not taken place.

163/20-21 County & District Councillors Reports

Cllr Sutton reported that the court case to challenge the decision to discontinue virtual meetings will be heard on 21 April. The Government will support the case. With an election taking place shortly, non-essential council business is not taking place.

The Clerk presented a report from Cllr Count detailing the budget process, precept calculations, school attendances since they re-opened and recent Covid and vaccination statistics.

164/20-21 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received as follows:

Meetings

Cambridgeshire ACRE Cambs Home Energy Support Service (CHESS) briefing

Correspondence

- Cambridgeshire County Council re roadworks and events
 - re Fifty Road resurfacing
- FDC re Community safety survey
 - re Independent Remuneration Panel review
 - re Fly-tipping deep clean
 - re Notice of election and voter registration
 - re funding to make social homes greener
 - re Sport England grant for leisure centres
- Cllr Steve Count re Covid statistics
- Keep Britain Tidy re Great British Spring Clean
- CAPALC re code of conduct training
 - re Parish borrowing update
- Galliford Try re Guyhirn roundabout
- Environment Agency re Ouse Washes update
- PKF Littlejohn re annual audit 2020/21
- Hunts Forum re Support Fenland project
- Royal British Legion re VE Day 2021

165/20-21 Members and Residents Issues

- a) Financial support for the Heron - members discussed the possibility of providing financial support to the Heron. They resolved to ask the committee to submit a full grant application.
- b) Annual report to residents - Cllr Hughes agreed to collate an annual report containing information about the work of the Council.
- c) Bowls Club grant application - An application form has been submitted showing a substantial loss in 2020, but a healthy bank balance. Other sources of funding are available for small sports organisations and help is available from Bowls England. Members agreed to encourage and support the Bowls Club in applying for funding from other sources.
- d) Safety barrier on Upwell Road - The Clerk reported that the cost of a barrier provided by Cambridgeshire Highways would be prohibitive. Members discussed alternative solutions and resolved to obtain quotations from other contractors.

166/20-21 Income and Expenditure

- a) The financial report as at 31.3.21 showed income of £40,414.38 and expenditure of £34,399.03, resulting in a surplus of £6,015.35 and total funds held of £43,819.38.
- b) Members considered and approved the draft accounts for 2020-21.
- c) Members reviewed and approved the Governance and Management Risk Assessment.
- d) Members confirmed the Council's register of assets as at 31st March 2021.
- e) Members approved the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21.

f) Members approved the Accounting Statements 2020/21.

g) Members approved the following accounts for payment:

Clerk salary and home office allowance	£	355.33
CAPALC Ltd (membership fee).....	£	404.43
Fenland District Council (litter bin)	£	365.69
Artistic Metalica (completion of canopy).....	£	8,970.00

167/20-21 Matters for Next Meeting

None.

168/20-21 Dates of Future Meetings

a) The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 17 May.

b) Members resolved not to hold an Annual Parish Meeting this year.