

**MINUTES OF THE CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 17th JUNE 2013 – MEMORIAL HALL CHRISTCHURCH AT 7:30pm**

Present: Councillors – Nigel Russell (Chair), Jill Bliss, Simon Freeland, Hannah Poole, Wes Poole, William Beswick, Mac Cotterell MBE (FDC), Will Sutton (FDC) and Fred Yeulett (CCC).
Stephen Cowell (Clerk) and 5 members of the public were also in attendance.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from PCSO Russ.

2. Signing of Minutes

The minutes of the 13th May meeting were signed, by the Chair, as true record of the meeting.

3. Disclosure and Declarations of Interests

None.

4. Update on action points from previous meeting

The Clerk reported that:

- FDC have finally responded to the Council regarding the missing Clothing Recycling bank and Mr Adam Pratt is looking into the matter.
- Following liaison with Members a large 'No Dogs' sign has been purchased for the Recreation Ground and arrangements need to be made for it to be fitted to the fence at the Crown Drove entrance.
- The Asset list has been amended to reflect the actual number of street lights owned by the Council.
- PCSO Russ has been made aware of the issues with Quad Bike riders.
- A notice regarding the Councillor vacancy, following the resignation of Jacky Wincote, has been posted for the required time and no By-Election has been requested therefore notices will be placed on the notice board and in The Heron to try and fill the vacancy by co-option.

5. Public Adjournment

The following subjects were raised and discussed:

- The lack of a clothing recycling bank and that the bottle banks are again full.
- The poor quality of verge cutting along Crown Avenue – **Cllr. Yeulett was asked to raise this with the appropriate County Council department.**
- Cllr. Yeulett reported that following the recently elections the new County Council was in its infancy and the only subject he reported on was the liaison with the Chair of the Welney Parish Council by him and Cllr. Sutton over flooding of the Welney Wash. It was reported that some Norfolk Councils are to fund 3 interactive signs on the Norfolk border of the Wash to warn motorists of road closure in a more effective way when it is flooded. Councillors Yeulett and Sutton are discussing funding for 3 signs on the Cambridgeshire border with their County and District Council colleagues.
- Cllr. Cotterell reported on the very successful Golden Age Surgery held at Christchurch on the 12th June and thanked Parish Councillors for attending. He went on to report that 30 residents attended the function and around a dozen of those were helped with claiming the correct level of benefits that will benefit them by around £7.8k per annum in total. A total of 12 blood pressure and health checks were completed and emergency resuscitation training was provided. It was agreed by all that it had been a successful event and Cllr. Cotterell was thanked for arranging it to be held at the village hall.

6. Police Update

The Clerk has distributed PCSO Russ' report that had three items listed which were thefts from a barn, a metal storage container and from a horse paddock. Cllr. Russell reported that the metal container has been returned. It was also reported that the next visit of the New Horizon Outreach Vehicle to Christchurch will be on 20th August from 8:30am to 10:30am.



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7. Correspondence Received

The Clerk brought to the attention of Councillors:

- The recently received update on the King's Lynn & West Norfolk Local Plan.
- FDC's letter regarding the lapse of the building regulations for the proposed Sports Pavilion renovation and details of the architect's resubmission.
- Cllr. Russell informed members of correspondence he has had with Morton and Hall and the Drainage Board regarding the drainage of water from the Sports Pavilion once it has been extended and he reported that he has agreement that it can drain into the nearby dyke at no cost.
- Two companies have asked for access to the Sports Pavilion to help them prepare quotes for the renovation and Cllr. Sutton agreed to arrange this.

Cllr. Freeland questioned that now the Council has offers for all three building plots, whether there are now the additional funds available to either adapt the existing plans to create a community building that could be used for more activities, or to re-visit the potential option of a new build.

The pros and cons of this were discussed as were the likely increases in costs and it was agreed to revisit this subject should the quotes for the existing plans indicate a large surplus of funds.

It was also questioned why the Outdoor Bowls Club were to have such a large space within the building to themselves. The Clerk explained that this is a misunderstanding and that it has been agreed that the Bowls Club will have the use of a space similar in size to that which they currently enjoy, and have maintained to a high standard for many years, but that that area would be also available for use by other groups at times when there are no bowls matches or functions and that would be for the majority of the time.

8. Finance

8.1 The Clerk reported bank balances of £52,997.84 with cheques issued to the total of £5,471.02 to be paid from this. It was arranged to transfer an extra £2,000.00 from one of the savings accounts to the current account help cover these cheques.

The Clerk reminded Members that around £32k was earmarked for Play parks.

8.2 The following items, listed on the agenda, were agreed for payment

- 8.2.1 Clerk's Salary £183.78
- 8.2.2 The Heron £70.00
- 8.2.3 Postage £6.90
- 8.2.4 Christchurch PCC £122.50 (Cemetery Maintenance)
- 8.2.5 Hall Hire £42.00 (3 months Apr-June)
- 8.2.6 E Mason & Son £720.00 (Grass Cutting)
- 8.2.7 No Dogs Sign £50.88
- 8.2.8 FDC £291.36 (Resubmission of Building Regs application)
- 8.2.9 Morton & Hall Consulting Ltd £1,440.00 (Building Specification Fee)

There was one additional item for payment this being £2,452.00 to the solicitors regarding expenses related to the sale of building plots. It was pointed out by the Clerk that Cllr. Russell had obtained a discount of £466.00 on the original invoice.

9. Planning Applications

There were no applications to review.

10. Parish Plan – Update

Cllr. Russell suggested that Members should consider moving the Play Park nearest Upwell Road to another location in the recreation ground prior to building commencing on the Sports Pavilion. The Clerk mentioned that in the plans for the renovation that area is earmarked for car parking and that there is circa £32k section 106 money in the Council's accounts for the new play park. Following a discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should find the results of liaison with the Townley School pupils that was undertaken some _____ derstand what sort of play park the children would like

**MINUTES OF THE CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 17th JUNE 2013 – MEMORIAL HALL CHRISTCHURCH AT 7:30pm**

and start to obtain costings. It was agreed that the best location would probably be between the current wooden play park and the basketball hoop. It was also agreed to try and re-use some of the existing fencing.

It was also felt that consideration should be given to providing additional obstacles of the skateboard park with the £6k remaining from that project.

11. Raising of Village Concerns

The following items were reported/discussed:

1. It was agreed that a cleanup of the village specifically the Recreation Ground was required and a date of 6th July was set for it. People to meet in the Recreation Ground Car Park at 9:30am. **The Clerk was asked to get the use of the Street Pride pickers and gloves and put a notice in The Heron.**
2. Cllr. Russell again reported pot holes in Euximoor Drove that in some cases are 4 to 5 inches deep. Cllr. Yeulett was asked to discuss this with County Highways as pot holes elsewhere are being filled in quickly but these in Euximoor Drove were first reported months ago.
3. It was agreed that the vacancy for the Clerk's position should be advertised in The Heron and the Fenland Advertiser.

The Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8:35pm



Christchurch Parish Council Bank Balance update for June 2013 meeting

Community a/c	4299.28	outstanding payments £5,471.02
Business Premium	10183.72	
Business Bonus	27214.63	
New Village Hall	689.21	
BoS Corp Bonus	10611.00	
	<u>52997.84</u>	