

Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council held on Monday 13th June 2016 at Christchurch Community Centre, Upwell Road, Christchurch PE14 9 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs W Beswick, J Bliss, R Gladwin, J Hughes, G Harper, P Owen, N Russell, F Yeulett, M Tanfield, W Sutton. R Wright (Acting Clerk), R Guildford, B Gladwin, P Haresnape, V Haresnape. Also present was Mr Richardson who did not sign attendance sheet, he also recorded meeting without the permission of the Chairman. Cllrs Hughes and Harper did not attend until the meeting was underway. The Chairman welcomed Russell Wright who was acting as Clerk due to the resignation of Mrs J Richardson.

023/16-17 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Hughes and Harper apologised for their late attendance.

Declarations of Interest:

No Councillor declared any interests in respect of any item to be discussed at this meeting

024/16-17 Public Time: This item was moved to 035/16-17

025/16-17 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th May 2016 were correctly recorded and that they be signed as being a true record.

026/16-17 Police Report: No report was available

027/16-17 County & District Councillors Reports

Cllr Yeulett reported that the Transport Consultation has ended on 31st May 2016 but if the Parish had any issues they should address them to Paul Nelson as the matter was not being discussed until July. He also referred to Devolution and the effects upon the local economy in Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. He spoke of the problems due to lack of housing, transport, skills shortage and the ageing population. Cambs and Fenland had yet to reach a decision and the anticipated date for mayor election would be in May 2017.

Cllr Tanfield expressed concern over Devolution. She referred to the Brown bin collections which were to be costed at £40 per year per household. She also referred to the Youth grant and how to apply. Cllr Russell informed the meeting that a village football team could be started next year and were looking for new goal posts. The question of a container was also raised. Cllr Tanfield agreed to look into funding for the goal posts but the container would not be eligible.

Cllr Sutton spoke upon the skill shortage in Agriculture. He spoke about transport and that Judd's would be undertaking a three month trail covering Christchurch, Manea and Welney area. The question of whether the Parish council would assist with funding was mentioned. Cllr Beswick had also been involved and his efforts were appreciated. It was agreed that the matter be discussed at the July Meeting

028/16-17 Recreation Ground Charity

a) Cllr Bliss reported that the Management Committee would welcome any village support.

b) Discussion on Annual Playgrounds Inspection and approval of Invoice for £156.60. RESOLVED – that payment of the invoice be approved.

029/16-17 Rural Capital Grant Funding

Retained element of £2500 would not be released until the end of project form was completed. As the works were completed and the architect had signed the final certificate Cllr Sutton agreed to chase the payment.

030/16-17 Woodland Trees Trust

Cllr Hughes reported that the trees planted had taken and a further 105 were being applied for.

**031/16-17 Highways/Street Lighting
Highways**

a) Cllr Sutton agreed to chase the outstanding highway issue regarding the new Chicane To update on and raise any Highways issues in the village. The condition of Crown Avenue still remained to be resolved.

Cllr Hughes raised concerns over heavy vehicles through the village. It was agreed that the matter of imposing a 7.5t limit be discussed at the July meeting

b) Cllr Russell would be attending the Highways Open Day in July.

Street Lighting

a) All the village lights appear to be in good working order.

b) The Councillors discussed the quote to replace FPC6 Church Road but were not sure where the request originated. It was agreed that the matter be discussed at the July meeting so that Councillors could check out the position.

The Chairman reported that no further correspondence had been received regarding CAT 2 lights.

032/16-17 Tourism

Councillors discussed an application for a Tourism "Brown Sign" for Christchurch. RESOLVED – that the issue be deferred.

033/16-17 Planning/Development Application

F/YR16/0310/F Erection of 1 x 2-storey 4-bed dwelling with attached garage. Plot 1 Land South East of The Paddocks, Green Lane, Christchurch Cambs – no objections

F/YR16/0399/O Erection of 6no dwellings (Outline with all matters reserved). Land South West of Syringa House, Upwell Road, Christchurch No objections were raised as the concerns regarding access had been addressed.

034/16-17 The Chairman reported that £35,922.50 Rural Capital Grant Contribution had been received.

The Councillors considered and approved the following accounts for payment:-

J Richardson	Clerks Salary (May 2016)	£336.33
J Richardson	Expenses (reimbursement)	£12.00
Christchurch Village Resource Centre	The Heron	£80.00
E Mason & Sons	Grass Cutting	£420.00
I Cooper	Internal Audit	£120.00
Playground Inspection		£156.60

TOTALS

£1,124.93

b) Mr Wright reported on the May Bank Balances & reconciliation which was approved and adopted Cllr Gladwin questioned the Village Hall Reserve funds of £9,803.30. Mr Wright informed the Council that once all matters had been finalised a set of accounts showing income and expenditure would be produced. Some issues with coolers and fans needed to be addressed.

c) Mr Wright read out the Internal Audit report. RESOLVED – that the report contents be noted

035/16-17 Community Shop

The Chairman opened the meeting to the public. Mr Haresnape spoke about the provision of a Community shop following the closure of the hop ran by Mr Russell. He had spoken to Acre but required the endorsement that the parish council supported the intent. County and District Councillors were asked if assistance could be given but they felt it was outside the scope of the Authorities. Cllr Russell spoke that when running such a venture many factors had to be considered and he would be prepared to give advice. RESOLVED – That the parish Council support the intent to investigate the possibility of the provision of a Community shop.

Public Time

Mr Haresnape asked whether a maps showing the position of street lights could be made available at meetings. It was agreed that any maps would be brought to the meeting.

Mr Guilford thought that the provision of brown or other signs would be good for the village as there was an apparent lack of signs. The issue of signage would relate to the cost benefit. Cllr Yeulett agreed to speak to officers at Cambs CC

Mr Guildford also raised concerns about Crown Avenue which Cllr Sutton agreed to investigate.

036/16-17 Staff Matters

The Chairman thanked the public for their attendance but asked them to leave whilst the Council discussed Staff matters. A motion to exclude the public was made. The Council thanked Mr Wright for agreeing to act as Clerk for the June meeting at such short notice.

The Council discussed the position of Clerk/RFO. The position had been duly advertised and only one application had been received. RESOLVED that Jane Rees ACII be asked to attend an interview. The interview panel to consist of The Chairman, J Bliss, N Russell and Mr Wright.

Mr Wright was asked whether he would be prepared to attend the July meeting. Mr Wright confirmed his willingness to attend.

037/16-17

Agenda Items/Next Meeting

The matter of a footpath from the road to the paved area on Health & Safety grounds was approved and would be discussed in July.

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 11th July 2016.

Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Monday 4th July 2016