

## CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council on Monday 10 April 2017 at Christchurch Community Centre, Upwell Road, Christchurch at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs N. Russell, J. Bliss, W. Beswick, J. Hughes, P. Owen, G. Harper, M. Tanfield, F. Yeulett, J. Rees (clerk), S. Freeland, V. Haresnape, P. Haresnape

- 154/16-17    **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Sutton, Cllr Gladwin  
**Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Russell, Cllrs are members of Christchurch Recreation Ground Charity Committee
- 155/16-17    **Confirmation of Minutes**  
Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2017 were correctly recorded and sign as being a true record.
- 156/16-17    **Public Time**
- A report was made of dog fouling by free roaming dogs from Syringa House. Clerk has reported previously to FDC. Will report again **Clerk**
  - S. Freeland asked if anyone minded if he planted some bee-friendly wild flowers around the recreation ground. As this is time specific, the Parish Council agreed, and thanked Simon for his offer.
  - The minutes from the last meeting and the agenda for this meeting have not appeared on the website. Clerk to check as both had been added, so appears to be a problem with the website **Clerk**
  - Following the Appeal to the Planning Inspector on the building on Padgetts Road, the appeal decision comments that as there is no bus or shop in the village, a car is needed. So this building work would be contrary to other regulations. Does this mean there will be no further building in the village? This will go on the agenda for next month.
- 157/16-17    **Outstanding Matters**
- Hedges and trees **Clerk**
    - bushes at Church Road; second letter has been sent to the home owner and situation will be reviewed
    - recreation ground – thanks to Mattie for cutting of the trees. Clerk to send a letter of thanks
    - dyke can not be fully cleared until crops on allotment are lifted (september time) as access will be needed from the far side of the dyke. Cllr Russell to check costing for relevant machinery. 22 April at 9.30 – all invited to come and help clear the brush that is on site. Cllr Russell will bring a trailer
    - dumping of rubbish on recreation ground – clerk to send letter to Wayside Estate residents **Clerk**
  - Sign to community centre – clerk waiting for cost from Les Middleton
  - Fenland Dog Warden – there is no FDC dog warden. But they do have arrangements for dealing with stray dogs 24/7. <https://www.fenland.gov.uk/article/10889/Lost-or-stray-dogs>
  - Tipps End LHI – the application has been accepted and we

now wait for contact from CCC to make the arrangements to deal. Clerk has thanked residents and Graham Chappell for their input and help. Graham Chappell thanked the PC for their hard work to get this matter concluded.

- Bus shelter area
  - Gardening Club has been asked for their thoughts. They are going to discuss within their committee and let the Clerk know. Clerk bought a picture of the bus shelter at Chatteris for information.
  - Commemorative bench – the Parish Council will wait to hear thoughts from the Gardening Club before deciding what to do. Cllr Bliss feels it is too nice to be placed somewhere it could be damaged.
- Community highways Volunteering Scheme – report deferred to next month
- Sign into village from Padgetts Road at Church Road - clerk waiting for cost from Les Middleton

#### **Deferred Outstanding Matters**

- Village dog mess
- Tesco Bags of Change
- Streetlighting

**158/16-17**

#### **Police Report:**

Crimewise Christchurch is very quiet at the moment.....just a couple of incidents as to regards neighbourhood disputes

Had the pleasure of a walkabout on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March with Will Sutton and Michelle Tansfield we went to the coffee morning at the community centre which I have to say was really nice and if you haven't been there take time out to go along.

Then we went round all the classrooms in the Primary School and finally to the playgroup.

We walked around the village after.....this is something we intend to do again

I am taking this idea forward and going out with the Chairperson of the Wisbech St Mary group in May and June.

I am trying to get out with Speedwatch to support them but I believe they have to borrow equipment and it hasn't materialised as yet.

The school is very keen to get involved with this too.

I think I mentioned in last month's report that the village of MURROW had been hit by burglaries it seems as though residents had been visited by cold callers offering gardening work so if you get someone knock at your door and ask please call me direct on 07738025220 and if you can get a car registration without putting yourself in danger please do so.

Concern was expressed by Cllr Russell that the theft of a van from Eximoor Drove (later found in Benwick) had not appeared on the report. Clerk to check with PCSO

**Clerk**

159/16-17

## County & District Councillors Reports

### Cllr Tanfield

- She had a fantastic walk around the village with Cllr Sutton and PCSO Clarke. The pupils at the school enjoyed it as well and also asked lots of good questions. It was good to get out and about.
- Brown bins – the system has started is going well. There are computers on board the bin lorries so addresses can be double checked. Peelings and fresh food can only go in the green bin now – the best option is to compost them, and there are deals on FDC website for compost bins. The brown bin is for garden waste only
- Devolution – the last meeting was quite formal. 4 May is the Mayorial elections. This is a major step and learning experience for everyone involved, and it is an excellent opportunity for this area.

### Cllr Yeulett

- Devolution – he is a member of the scrutiny committee that hold the combined authority to account.
- Schools funding – CCC are pressing for fairer funding. The government have made some moves, but the current actions are a consultation only, not a definite decision. Townley School have a balanced budget in 17/18 and 18/19. Pupil numbers relate to funding. No decisions have yet been made so figures mentioned are not factual. CCC are fighting for more money for rural schools.
- Mention has been made of Wisbech becoming a garden town. Cllr Yeulett confirmed that decision on the expansion of Wisbech is part of the designs following devolution. CCC are fighting hard for the railway from Wisbech to Cambridge. There are a number of ideas being discussed within local plans at present.
- This is Cllr Yeulett's last meeting. There will be a new CCC member going forward. The Parish Council thanked Cllr Yeulett for his help and monthly reports.

160/16-17

## Recreation Ground Charity

- Castle play equipment – Cllr Russell to arrange an on-site meeting with Cllrs Owen, Harper and Hughes to review the castle and the costs involved. Since the meeting FLP have confirmed work will proceed between 8 and 19 May, so a decision must be made by then.
- Cllr Owen suggested using the cuttings from the trees for an event on November 5<sup>th</sup>, but it was decided insurance would be too difficult/expensive to arrange.
- Parish Councillors will be at the recreation ground at 9.30am on 22 April to clear the brush wood etc

Cllr Russell

161/16-17

## Highways/Street Lighting Village Calming Scheme

- Clerk provided general information on traffic calming options. The Parish Council agreed that their prime concern is safety through the village and feels this will be achieved by making Upwell Road, Padgetts Road and Church Road traffic slower. Cllrs Hughes

Cllrs Hughes  
and Harper

and Harper will be the working party to put some thoughts together on options and steps that can be taken through the LHI bids.

**162/16-17**

**Parish Meeting**

This is on the 8 May at 6.30pm. All Councillors are asked to spread the word and try and get Parishioners to attend.

Since the meeting, the Residents Association have declined to attend and have declined the offer of 5 minutes to constructively talk about anything they feel is important to the village.

**163/16-17**

**Correspondence**

- Golden Age Fair - Parish Council agreed to ask CGRC if they would waive charge. If not, the PC will cover the cost of the venue hire.

**Clerk**

**164/16-17**

**Income and Expenditure**

a) Received: None

b) Members to consider and approve the following accounts for payment:

Clerk salary and home office allowance (paid by bank transfer on 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2017 as agreed)	£275.35
The Heron	£ 80.00
E. Mason & Son	£204.00

c) Report on income and expenditure. The end of year audit is now due. Russell Wright has agreed to carry out the intern audit. Clerk to liaise.

**165/16/17**

**Matters Arising**

- There's a tree growing out of the dyke down Green Lane near the dog bin. It's touching an overhead cable, believed to be a phone line.
- There's a blue car part parked on the pavement on Church Road. It's been there for a couple of weeks.
- One of the Community Centre shutters is broken. Cllr Russell will arrange to get it fixed. Cllr Hughes to speak to CRGC's caretaker about them helping with PC's jobs as well.

**Clerk**

**Clerk**

**Cllr Russell and  
Cllr Hughes**

**Agenda Items/Next Meeting**

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 8 May 2017. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Monday 1 May 2017.

Include fire risk assessments, health and safety, legionnaires, maintenance book for Community Centre; Heron – continue with grant?; clerk's salary scale and appraisal; defibrillator in the Community Centre.