

# CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council on Monday 8 May 2017 at Christchurch Community Centre, Upwell Road, Christchurch at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs N. Russell, J. Bliss, W. Beswick, R. Gladwin, P. Owen, G. Harper, W. Sutton, J. Rees (clerk), V. Haresnape, P. Haresnape, R. Guildford, M. Hawthorn

- 001/17-18      Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs J. Hughes, M. Tansfield  
**Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs are members of Christchurch Recreation Ground Charity
- 002/17-18      Confirmation of Minutes**  
Minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2017 were correctly recorded and sign as being a true record.
- 003/17-18      Public Time**  
See Parish Meeting Minutes for additional Public Time comments.
- Disappointment was expressed at the lack of public transport in the village. Cllr Beswick tried to find a solution but lacked support from the village. Too few people would use it, so it wasn't cost effective to run. Cllr Sutton expressed disappointment that villagers do not support things – citing the shop. If the village doesn't grow, it will die. Everyone agreed that young people need to be more involved in the Parish Council etc – but uncertain how to achieve.
- 004/17-18      Outstanding Matters**
- Hedges and Trees – Church Road has been cleared. Thanks to the Parish Councillors and Mattie who helped clear the dyke on the recreation ground. Further dredging will need to be done in the autumn when the adjacent field is clear of crops.
  - Signs – Costings as follows: £1157.19 to move the viillage sign on Upwell Road; supply and erect Christchurch sign on Padgetts Road and Community Centre sign £1479.54. Parish Council feels this is very expensive. Review again in 3 months when we have more of an idea how the budget is going.
  - Bus Shelter – gardening club do not wish to be involved at present. Cllr Harper will erect some trellis and plant some plants. Cllrs Harper and Russell will concrete the memorial bench into the bus shelter
  - Village dog mess – Street Scene Officer has been to visit the school and Syringa House. Follow up letter will be issued.
  - Planning information following the Appeal Decision for Padgett Road property – Parish Council reviewed the appeal decision points, along with some explanatory notes from Nick Harding, Head of Planning. The Parish Council were interested to note the comments on limiting the building of houses in the village, and the need for villager/Parish Council support for planning permissions to be granted. Public consultation support is needed for all developments as the village growth is now over 10%. Local Plan Policies can be found at [www.fenland.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=12064&p=0](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=12064&p=0)

**Cllrs Harper  
and Russell**

- Tipps End LHI Funding – CCC Project Manager has confirmed that the job has been allocated, but they have a delay. Therefore best to report the damaged chevron in the usual way.

#### **Deferred Outstanding Matters**

- Tesco Bags of Change

**005/17-18**

#### **Police Report:**

Made during Parish Meeting. Vehicle break-ins seem to be of concern at the moment.

**006/17-18**

#### **County & District Councillors Reports**

Cllr Sutton – Cllr Yeulett has been replaced by Cllrs Steve Count and Jan French. The brown bins have been very successful with over 17,500 houses signed up.

**007/17-18**

#### **Recreation Ground Charity**

- Castle Play item – Mattie has offered to remove and make good for £500. Cllr Russell to arrange site meeting with FLP to see if old equipment is viable and review costs of dealing with castle. It was agreed that a decision could be made on site at that meeting, subject to it being one of the following: removal by Mattie at £500 or repair by FLP at the quoted price. If the old equipment is viable, it could be used; FLP quote needed to install
- All other items on the agenda are deferred to the next meeting for more information to be gathered.

**008/17-18**

#### **Highways**

- Village Calming Scheme – Cllr Harper confirmed they have maps and local information. Cllrs Harper and Hughes are arranging to meet and discuss further.
- Wayside Estate – consideration to be given to making Wayside Estate and Crown Road one way. It was agreed that this would fall within the Village Calming Scheme.

**Cllrs Hughes  
and Harper**

**009/17-18**

#### **Streetlighting**

- Balfour Beatty have pulled out of the street lighting contract. Repairs and maintenance have been re-negotiated, but the replacement programme is out to tender. Not certain when the situation will be sorted.
- Fen View street lights – there are 2 in Fen View that the Parish Council has responsibility for. Clerk has added them to insurance etc.

**010/17-18**

#### **Employment Matters**

- Clerk salary adjustment agreed
- Clerk appraisal due. Clerk to email councillors to arrange a date etc

#### **Income and Expenditure**

- Parish Council agreed to continue the monthly donation to The Heron at £80 per month, and to continue the cemetery maintenance grant at the same level.

- b) CAPALC membership – leave as is, no renewal required.
- c) Received:  
Precept £6,835.00
- d) Members to consider and approve the following accounts for payment:
- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| Clerk salary and home office allowance<br>(paid by bank transfer on 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2017 as agreed) | £275.35 |
| The Heron   | £ 80.00 |
| Zurich  | £482.51 |
- e) End of year audit to be carried out by Ivan Cooper

**012/17-18**

**Matters Arising**

Time for Councillors to raise any matters that they have been unable to add to the agenda. No decisions will be made during this time.

- Cllr Gladwin – flytipping is all clear from Green Drove
- Cllr Russell – He is concerned about road maintenance; the roads are dropping and becoming dangerous. Clerk advised that CCC Les Middleton has advised that the road situation is across Fenland and is outside his budget. But it is part of an ongoing project he has to bid on at a higher level.
- Cllr Bliss – would like consideration to be given to a rubbish bin being installed at the skate park. Clerk to find out cost from FDC

**Agenda Items/Next Meeting**

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 12 June 2017. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Tuesday 6 June 2017