

**MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF LITLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN
LITLINGTON VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 14th APRIL 2010**

PRESENT: Cllr Murphy (Chairman), Cllr Baker, Cllr Biles, Cllr Claydon, Cllr Pipe, Cllr Sharp, Cllr Brown, Cllr Jones
County Cllr Oliver, District Cllr McCraith, District Cllr Cathcart
Members of the Public: 2

7.30pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Williams

02. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS AND PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations made.

03. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting dated 9th March 2010, copies previously circulated, were agreed a true record and signed by the Chairman.

04. MATTERS ARISING

SECTION 106 AGREEMENT –A letter had been received from the District Council asking the Parish Council to nominate 2 signatories to sign indemnity agreements in relation to the recently adopted supplementary planning document (SPD) which enabled South Cambridgeshire District Council, as a local planning authority, to obtain developer contributions towards the provision of public open space. Money received as a result of a Section 106 agreement would then be transferred to the Parish Council for allocation to an appropriate project. Just over £2,000 had been received for the development of land at the rear of Fairview, Royston Road. Once the indemnity agreement had been signed the money would be transferred. The Clerk advised that she had spoken to the Section 106 Implementation Officer who stated that the money could be used for recreation facilities, changing rooms, play equipment etc. If it was not used within ten years it had to be paid back with interest. It was noted that there were a number of new builds in the village and this policy related to the contribution from Mr & Mrs Berry that was reported at the last meeting. That contribution was not towards affordable housing. The Clerk was asked to find out the date the planning document came into force. It was agreed the Chairman and Vice Chairman be named as signatories for the indemnity agreements. Clerk to advise the District Council. *-Clerk*

GRASS BEHIND CHURCH STREET BUNGALOWS –Cllr Cathcart confirmed that he had registered the interest of the Parish Council in the area but he felt the sale of donation would be difficult to achieve. A three year grass cutting contract was in place which would be a problem to change. It might be better to try again when it came up for renewal. Cllr Pipe suggested the area would make ideal allotments. Cllr Sharp also suggested that additional land may be needed for the cemetery, although the Churchyard should be open by that time. After further discussion it was agreed the Clerk would write to the District Council confirming the Parish Council interest. *-Clerk*

DOG ATTACKS –The Chairman advised that there were wrong numbers printed on the telephone contact list for the police. She had eventually contacted them and they suggested she contact the RSPCA who advised it was not their responsibility and she should contact the local dog warden, which South Cambridgeshire did not have. Cllr Sharp advised that he had also been chased by the dog from Chapel Close. He had contacted the housing department who sent an officer out to look. He stated that evidence was needed to progress action. The Chairman was aware that other people had also been attacked including the paper boy.

COCKHALL LANE VERGE –The Clerk advised that she had contacted the Highway Supervisor following the last meeting to see if he had given agreement for the planting of the hedge. He had advised that a Section 142 Right to Cultivate on Highway should be obtained. The lane should be accessible because it was a highway.

05. CORRESPONDENCE

ANDREW LANSLEY MP –Pot holes in Cambridgeshire. Mr Lansley provided details of the policy for Cambridgeshire County Council regarding potholes. Current policy dictated that they were

repaired on a risk basis. The County Council attempted to repair the most dangerous ones within 24 hours but those not deemed in the highest risk category were aimed to be repaired within 7 to 28 days. It was advised that there were still a number of potholes around the village. The Highway Officer had been advised. Cllr Cathcart stated that many road surfaces may be coming to the end of their lives. He felt this would be a big problem in the future. Cllr Oliver advised that it should be assumed there was a rolling program of resurfacing. 52,000 potholes had been filled in the county since January 2010.

CCC INTRODUCTION OF ELECTRONIC CONSULTATION -The County Council were proposing to enhance their electronic consultation processes for planning applications. In future they were intending on sending all planning related correspondence by e-mail. They asked for confirmation that the Parish Council would be willing to accept delivery of planning application consultations electronically. Councillors agreed that they were happy for electronic consultations but paper copies of plans would still be required as they were too big to view on screen. Clerk to reply.

-Clerk

FOR INFORMATION

CPALC Membership News 2010-11 –distributed to Councillors

NEPTUNE –Advertisement

ANDREW LANSLEY MP –Youth facility survey results

FUTURE JOBS FUND –Poster on notice boards

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE COMMUNITY CHEST –Application form and guidance notes

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ACRE –Community Action Spring 2010

CPRE Fieldwork - April 2010

GLASDON –Advertisement

SCDC –Adoption of Statement of Community Involvement and Supplementary Planning Documents

ENERGY SAVINGS TRUST –Advertisement

06. OPEN FORUM

The meeting was closed between 8.05pm and 8.15pm for public discussion.

SOUTH STREET CORNER –Concerns were expressed over a small fence which had been erected by residents at Three Ways Cottage. South Street was a dangerous road to walk on with traffic coming from three directions at that junction. The Chairman stated that she did not think that the fence was any further out into the road than tubs that were previously there. It was agreed that the Highway Supervisor, Mr Vacher, and Engineer, Mr Lines be contacted about the legality of the fence.

-Clerk

PARISH POST EDITING –Councillors were reminded that the Parish Post was a village magazine but there seemed to be a lot of County Council information included. It was suggested that the Editor, Nick Goldman, should have editing rights.

07. MINUTES AND REPORTS FROM MEETINGS

A report from the latest Recreation Centre committee meeting had been circulated to Councillors.

Cllr Pipe advised that an appeal against the decision to refuse the application for an extension at 1a Anvil Avenue had been made. He also advised, for information, that the owner of a property by Ashwell Stret, was looking to extend towards the Stret and was querying ownership. Mr Pipe had advised him that when he submitted the application to the District Council, all parties would be consulted.

08. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

DISTRICT COUNCIL – Cllr McCraith reported that there hadn't been a District Council meeting since the last Parish Council meeting. Cllr Cathcart reported that Marshalls had decided not to move which could mean houses originally allocated for the site, would have to go elsewhere in the District. It was always possible that the villages would be looked at again. This position might alter with a change to the Government.

COUNTY COUNCIL –Cllr Oliver reported that Cambridge Central Library had now officially open. There were three floors and really worth a visit.

Parishioners were encouraged to report potholes to the County Council. There were currently seven teams out in South Cambridgeshire. She added that the potholes could be reported on line.

It was really important that people registered with EREBUS on the EEDA website which would help in the broadband bid war for an improved infrastructure. Cllr Oliver had been to a number of high level meetings with British Telecom who were not keen on improving.

Cllr Oliver had attended a lengthy meeting with NATS who would not accept that there had been changes to flying patterns. Representatives from Stansted were also at the meeting. NATS were adamant that they had to stick to Government policy. A discussion took place on where the aircraft would go. It was advised that Stansted had reduced their aircraft by 20% but it was feared that once

the economy improved the numbers would increase.
The Chairman thanked the District and County Councillors for their reports.

09. VILLAGE QUESTIONNAIRE UPDATE

Cllr Jones reported that there were still some questionnaires to be returned. A box had been left in the shop. He had prepared a few statistics focusing on the aim of new/improved facilities. The majority of questionnaires returned to date indicated that new facilities would encourage youngsters to use the recreation ground more. An older children's play area was coming through as the most popular. He believed this was influenced by the new play areas at Whaddon and Guilden Morden which were very impressive. Cllr Jones added that he would report back with firm conclusions once all questionnaires had been received. A report would be prepared for the Annual Parish Meeting.

*-Cllr
Jones*

10. PARKING ON BASSINGBOURN ROAD

The Clerk advised that the District Council officer, Geoff Clarke, had e-mailed to say that there was a garage to let at a rent of £7.22 per week for a District Council tenant or £9.97 per week. Councillors agreed that residents should be made aware and also be encouraged to put their name on the District Council garage waiting list. It was agreed that a note advising of the garage vacancy be prepared by the Clerk, and left on the windscreens of the cars parked on Bassingbourn Road.

-Clerk

11. REPAIRS TO CHURCH WALL

As agreed at the last meeting, Cllr Sharp had discussed the wall with the Church committee who agreed that the best solution would be for Mr Stephens to carry out some repair work as discussed for £500. The Church would be willing to contribute 50% of the cost. Cllr Pipe suggested a little bit more be spent to include the repair between the breaks. It was felt that if the work became too complicated, a faculty might be required from the Diocese. The Clerk reminded Councillors that there had always been a problem finding contractors willing to quote for flint walls as it was a specialised area. It was then proposed by Mr Claydon, seconded by Cllr Jones, that Mr Stephens be asked to carry out the work as discussed. All Councillors in agreement. Cllr Sharp agreed to liaise with him.

*-Cllr
Sharp*

12. INCLOSURE MAP

The Chairman reminded Councillors that when the map was put onto a disc, the Parish Council had agreed to have a map printed for display in the village hall. Cllr Baker was asked to get the permission of the committee to go ahead. If agreed, the map would need a frame. Cllr Biles agreed to speak to Mr Compton, who had made the frame for the cast of the village sign, to see if he could help. The Chairman advised that only one person had come forward and asked for a copy. The meeting was reminded that the map was on the village website.

-Cllr Biles

PATH OUTSIDE RECREATION CENTRE

The Recreation Centre committee were concerned over the amount of mud outside the entrance to the Centre. Cllr Sharp advised that the grass has overgrown 15" onto the concrete. He had cut it back and there was now a ledge where water could drain. He added that there needed to be some improvements to the showers and changing rooms in the near future so it would be a bad step to spend money on the path at this time.

15. ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS FOR LOCAL COUNCILS

In hand. The Clerk to prepare a draft based on the latest NALC circulation and existing standing orders.

-Clerk

16. EDITING ARRANGEMENTS FOR PARISH POST

The Chairman advised that there had been a problem with the editing of the last Parish Post due to the amount of content. When it was compiled there were nine pages of print instead of eight, which meant either cutting articles or producing blank pages. This resulted in discussions with the people who had submitted articles and Mr Goldman spending extra time producing an extra A5 sheet to prevent blank pages. She suggested that a note be put in future editions stating that 'the editor will endeavour to publish submitted articles' Discussions took place on articles which could have been cut out as they were published elsewhere. It was also stated that the Parish Council could look at producing a monthly edition so that the information was more up to date. Cllr Oliver suggested that any spare space could show key messages. It was decided that in future each situation would be looked at separately. At present the Chairman, Cllr Biles and Cllr Brown checked the copy before printing. This would be reviewed at the first meeting of the Parish Council following the election.

PRE- SCHOOL REQUEST FOR VILLAGE HALL MAT

No further information had been received.

AUDIT 2009/10

The Clerk advised that the annual return had to be with the Moore Stephens by the 1st June 2010. She had arranged for the internal audit to be carried out by the end of April 2010.

-Clerk

17. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

G D BRADSHAW

Repair to storage heater switch box & adj of frost protection thermostat (inc. £11.33VAT) £76.07

MR J STEPHENS *

Repairs to village cage £651.00

STEVE LOCKE

Two call outs for urgent repairs to Recreation Centre £ 50.00

E-ON

Recreation Centre electricity 6.2.10 -26.3.10 (inc. £320.22VAT) £2,237.04

MRS G BILES

Litter Picking January –March 2010 26hrs £ 132.00

MRS S WALMESLEY

Clerks Salary & Expenses 1/1/10 -31/3/10

3 mths @ £335.91 (SCP 25) £ 1007.73

Postage £ 5.16

Telephone etc. £ 1.20

Printer cartridge (inc. £7.97VAT) £ 53.56 £1067.65

Less PAYE £201.55 £866.10

INLAND REVENUE

PAYE 1/01/10-31/03/10 £201.55

TOTAL £4213.76

*Mr Stephens advised that the village cage should be treated with another coat of tar in order to prevent some frost damage. The Clerk was asked to diary this for discussion at the July 2010 meeting. Agreed. PROPOSED Cllr Brown SECONDED Cllr Claydon

18. WEBSITE –Cllr Pipe suggested that now the new website was up and running, the old information could be removed. Cllr Jones agreed this could happen and would action, archiving the old.

-Cllr Jones

STREET NAMEPLATES–Middle Street and Abington Road were still missing their signs. Clerk to urge with the District Council.

-Clerk

POTHLES –There was still a problem with the pothole and flooding in Malting Lane. The Clerk and Cllr Oliver to urge an update with the Highway Supervisor, Mr Vacher.

-Clerk

RECREATION GROUND BARRIER –Cllr Biles reported that a post had been hit by a vehicle from the grass side. It was the post which the sliding pole went in to. The post needed to be reinstated and suggested a site meeting to decide action. Cllr Pipe and Cllr Biles to meet to see if a repair could be made.

-Cllr Biles & Pipe

MOUND–Cllr Biles advised that litter was becoming a problem in this area of the recreation ground and suggested a litter bin be purchased. This would be an agenda item for the next meeting. The Chairman suggested that, as there had been an improvement in the weather and the youngsters were using the area again, the weed killer boundary line should be stated. It was agreed a site meeting to decide the position would be held on the 14th April.

-Cllrs

UNRULY DOGS –The Chairman reported that she had seen dogs being let to run across fields. It was felt that signs would be a waste of time. It was agreed that a reminder to keep dogs under control would be put in the next Village Voice. The PCSO's would also be asked to become involved.

PARKING AT CHURCH –There was a particular problem on Palm Sunday with a visibility problem turning into Steeple Morden Road. It was suggested that a marker could be put on the road, to stop people parking beyond a specific point. Cllr Sharp advised that the Church did have cones which were used for weddings, funerals etc. The Clerk to contact the Church Secretary.

-Clerk

PARKING ON CHURCH STREET/SILVER STREET –It was advised that vehicles were not always parking in designated areas. It was agreed an item would be include in the next Parish Post.

19. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING –Tuesday 11th May 2010

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.55PM