

FENSTANTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

held on Thursday 10 October 2019 at 19.00 at Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School, School Lane, Fenstanton

Present : Cllr Ferrier – chair of this meeting
Cllr Collison
Cllr Hayes
Cllr McGee
Cllr Mitchell
Cllr Pryke
Cllr Turner
Cllr White

Cllr Davison – HDC
Cllr Dickinson – HDC

Clerk – in attendance

19.270 Apologies for Absence
Cllrs Kent, Bates, Caswell, Saunderson

Cllr Ferrier – Vice Chairman – chaired this meeting as Cllr Kent sent apologies. He recorded the fact that the Clerk had resigned and thanked her for work done. He also asked that Cllrs address each other by their first names.

19.271 Public Consultation – not required

19.272 Declarations of interest - none

19.273 To approve the minutes -12 September 2019

19.264 - Office move – Cllr Mitchell felt this had been a straightforward vote with two abstentions, not three. Cllr White felt the result of the vote did not reflect a true record. The Clerk pointed out the minutes could not be retrospectively amended. However, this was approved subject to these comments and should not be treated as advisory. Cllr Ferrier added that although the vote had not been seconded it had in fact been taken.

19.29.263 – Cllr Pryke confirmed benches had been purchased but there had been a problem with getting the bases sorted because of the weather. The manufacturer had confirmed there was no need for concrete bases and fixings could be used that had been supplied. Costs would be £60 per bench – plus a £5 device for use on them all. It was requested these now been put in place. **ACTION: Cllr Pryke**

Proposed : Cllr Pryke

Seconded : Cllr Mitchell

Vote : all in favour

19.274 Matters arising from the minutes – as above

19.275 Representatives Reports – depending on attendance

19.275.1 District Councillors - Cllr Davies reported that there was nothing outstanding of importance to report.

19.275.2 County Councillor - not present

19.275.3 Councillors – if not covered by agenda

Cllr White pointed out that when the A14 is closed Hilton residents get notified by post. PC to try and find out via Cllr Bates more information on this. **ACTION : contact Cllr Bates**

19.276 Meeting with HDC Planning including Allotments– update including with the Allotments Steering Group – Chairman's briefing paper and to note Asset of Community Value application begun at HDC. Cllr Ferrier had been present at this meeting and felt that whilst this had been amicable and positive nothing had changed or moved forward since the meeting. The transfer of Kier land to the community

has stalled and it was preferable that this was unlocked for transfer to the scouts who would have no 'home' at the end of the year. Cllr White felt Kier was happy to transfer; Cllr Davies pointed out that there had been changes at the top of Kier which may be complicating things.

Cllr Mead confirmed he would talk to Morris Homes about the problems behind The Duchess with the height of building. They would look to mitigate but could not fundamentally alter. Cllr Mead felt HDC had let drainage company design and the land sloped away causing additional problems.

Morris Homes – drainage and tree problems – Morris Homes were talking to the tree officer and homeowners about TPO

The village allotments were discussed (Cllr Mead had met with the steering group before meeting) who were worried about the allocation for more houses in the allotment area. He explained the policy in the plan was a policy, not a rule. He had clarified this to the group. The Diocese needed more reasons than just a sale to generate money. They had to help and encourage a move. The Clerk had begun the process of registering the allotments as an Asset of Community Value. Cllr White reminded members that the timescale on the Local Plan was to 2036. Cllr Ferrier felt the PC was on top of the allotments situation as much as it could be and a close eye needed to be kept on what the Diocese next move may be.

19.277 Village Warden – joint with Fen Drayton – to discuss and note financial implications (Chairman's briefing paper)

Fen Drayton had asked FPC to get involved with the scheme which was funded jointly and by grants. Cllr White felt this was not as straightforward as it may seem and with a 50/50 split FPC may be footing a bigger bill.

Clients receive this service free of charge or on a charge based on needs. Cllr McGee pointed out that some clients have a visit; some have a phone call. Cllr Mitchell felt this linked into Timebank which hopefully would be live in November and that a warden could be pivotal to this. Cllr Ferrier felt this was a great opportunity to finance through the F&C Committee and hoped the PC could take this forward with an increased precept in the future. Cllr Pryke urged caution and suggested some research on the possible take up on this. Cllr Mitchell pointed out the parish demographics were getting significantly older. Cllr Collison felt this scheme really could work well. Cllr Mead queried the commitment; Cllr Mitchell confirmed a trial would be two years with £3K spend. Cllr Ferrier pointed out that Fen Drayton had agreed to this and he was keen to join in. Cllr Turner felt it had to be communicated in the right way. There was some question over the split of money and it was proposed this should be clarified and taken to F&C to support in principles. **ACTION : Take to F&C**

Proposed : Cllr Ferrier Seconded : Cllr Pryke Vote : All in favour

19.278 LHI – joint bid with Hemingford Grey - to note consider future applications
No discussion. Cllr Ferrier reported that an initial bid had failed and in future this had to be handed with full council support

19.279 Village clean-up day – Saturday 21 September
Cllr McGee thanked Cllrs Collison, Saunderson and Turner for their help on the day. 22 volunteers had turned up on the day and collected 48 bags of rubbish. A list of volunteers was being compiled now for future. Particular issues had been the Cambridge Road and the Fen Drayton end, rubbish from takeaways (near the service area) and bins were almost always completely full. Plastic gloves had been available from the garage. Four businesses were to be contacted by FPC. Cllr Ferrier suggested reversing this and visiting them first before writing. Cllr White pointed out that the Shell garage situation was complex as it was not in Fenstanton. Cllr Dickinson offered to write to HDC regarding the general matters. The next village clean up would be May 2nd prior to the VE day celebrations.

Cllr McGee reported that the litter picker chosen felt the job did not suit him and the job had now gone to the second applicant.

- 19.280 To note a request from W1 to present a hand-crafted wreath on Remembrance Sunday. To discuss W1 request to place a few handcrafted poppies on the village sign**
It was agreed there was no problem with hand crafted poppies on the entrance to the village or a wreath

Proposed : Cllr White Seconded : Cllr Ferrier Vote : All in favour

- 19.281 VE Day 75 celebrations – update**
Cllr Turner confirmed the working group had met earlier this week and individual tasks had been allocated for certain areas. A website was being constructed along with a detailed programme. Cllr Mitchell confirmed that the choir option had been expanded to a band, singers, readings and stories and a children's film may be included one afternoon.

The Sunday programme would be considered after discussions with the Church and URC as this was the beginning of Christian Aid week and it was hoped for a combined event. Cllr Ferrier confirmed the word was being spread that the PC was not running this but involve many village groups

19.282 Finance

- 19.282.1 To approve payment list - approved**

Proposed : Cllr Pryke Seconded : Cllr Mitchell Vote : all in favour

- 19.282.2 To note external audit passed – noted.**

- 19.282.3 To receive update from Cllr Mitchell on finances and the budget and any cost implications of discussions at this meeting or pending.**

Cllr Mitchell confirmed the figures and budget for the first six months were looking good and the PC was currently coming in under budget. The Clerk apologies for recent delays in Scribe work.

Cllr Mitchell suggested moving the next F&C meeting a week as there was a lot to cover. This was agreed although not voted on.

- 19.282.4 To confirm wreath from November 11 Remembrance ceremony on order and decide on an appropriate donation. The chairman will lay the wreath.**

Cllr White suggested a budget of £100 for wreath and contribution

Proposed : Cllr Ferrier Seconded : Cllr Hayes Vote : All in favour

19.283 Suggested office move

Cllr Ferrier reported he had been asked by the Chairman to get facts and figures together. He confirmed the lease on the current office ran out at the end of this year and there was no clause to get out earlier than this. He felt moving costs could be kept to a minimum with volunteers and a borrowed van. The lease on the new premises was £199 a month compared to £262 and would last 5 years. Notice period was 3 months so savings over a 5-year period would be £1,500. Cllr Ferrier circulated a floor plan for the new office (slightly smaller than current) and confirmed there was a deadline issue – the PC needed to commit to this in the next month subject to giving all the figures to F&C for authority to move on this. Cllr White pointed the decision had already been made. Cllr Pryke was concerned the new premises would not be big enough. Cllr Ferrier disagreed and confirmed it would be refurbished throughout. Cllr White reiterated the decision was made last month and the PC could not go back on this under the 6-month rule. This would have to come back to the November Full Council on the recommendation of F&C. Cllr Ferrier suggested an emergency meeting as he felt the November meeting did not give enough time. Cllr White again reiterated that it would have to wait – this needed to go to F&C with full details and figures to be studied and then go to Full Council

19.284 Mayflower 400 Celebrations – 16.9.2020

There will be varied activities around this. To be discussed on future agenda.

Cllr White stressed it was not within remit of PC to have so many celebrations. Cllr McGee disagreed and felt all community activities were important. More information was needed and Cllr Mitchell volunteered to look into this. **ACTION : Cllr Mitchell**

19.285 Timebank – update

Cllr Mitchell confirmed approval had been given to merge with St Ives funded in part by St Ives TC. The launch was scheduled for 16 November and it was hoped to draw potential volunteers and those that need support

19.286 Speedwatch – update

Cllr McGee confirmed the group was still busy and had had another session today. It would be expanded to monitor HGVs through village and equipment approved at last meeting had been ordered. 10 % of everything passed was speeding

19.287 Communications – no update

19.288 Children’s Christmas Party

Cllr Turner confirmed the plan was for a disco for 4 – 11-year olds and the headmistress at the school was happy for the hall to be used. Parents would have to stay with children and cost of ticket TBC. A two hours disco would cost £150 and it was hoped to provide an xmas gift in ticket price (£5 per child) and have a table selling sweets and drinks. This is not a PTA idea. Suggested date was Sunday 15 December between 3 and 5. Cllr Turner asked for a budget and thought £500 would cover everything. She would need help on the day and invited input. Advertising would have to take place if this was to go ahead.

Cllrs McGee, Ferrier and Mitchell felt this was a good idea. Cllr White did not agree. He did not think this should be a PC matter and the PC should check its remit. There followed a discussion on this point.

However, the proposal for £500 for the party was voted upon

Proposed : Cllr Ferrier Seconded : Cllr Collison Vote : all in favour apart from Cllr White (against) and abstention from Cllr Pryke

ACTION : Cllr Turner would pull a proposal together with Cllr Mitchell

19.289 Graffiti

Cllr McGee confirmed this continued to appear in lots of places in the parish. Some parishioners were removing themselves. Some areas could be painted with anti-graffiti varnish and he proposed looking into the cost of this. Cllr Mitchell suggested decided areas for graffiti such as the underpass however this it was felt was in CCC ownership.

19.290 Literary institute – update

Cllr McGee confirmed this as being sold and the PC would be losing the last building that might be used for other activities. The upkeep of the building as too expensive. He suggested consideration should be given to who was on the trustee board. He also suggested writing to them formally about the loss of village asset. All agreed a good idea. **ACTION : PC / Cllr McGee**

19.291 Chequer Close / Bell Lane footpath – state of repair

It was agreed this area needed to be made safe. Luminus who claimed no responsibility could not just close the problem down. Cllr Mead suggested getting a price to get the area resurfaced. Concreting would be cheaper than tarmacking. Sid Barnett (present) confirmed he could look at this for the PC.

**19.292 To accept notices and matters for the next agenda
F&C matters**

Cllr Mitchell confirmed there would be the possibility of earning much more interest by moving funds.

19.293 Parish matters to note

19.292.1 Footpath go the outdoor gym

Cllr Pryke called for volunteers and it was agreed that a weekend would be preferable. The matting is still at the home of the Clerk.

19.292.2 One-way sign – Cambridge end of village
This needed addressing – CCC matter – to be contacted

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING ENDED AT 21.45