

FENSTANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the full Parish Council

Fenstanton & Hilton Primary School, Fenstanton

Thursday 10 January 2019 @ 19.30 pm

Present:

Cllr Kent (Chairman)
Cllr Caswell
Cllr Ferrier
Cllr Hayes
Cllr Henderson
Cllr McGee
Cllr Mitchell
Cllr Morris
Cllr Pask
Cllr Pryke
Cllr White

In Attendance:

Annette Eggett – clerk
District Cllr Dickinson (Fenstanton North)
District Cllr Mead (Fenstanton South)
County Cllr Bates
Three members of the public

Abbreviations : CCC – Cambridge Country Council; CC- County Council; HDC – Huntingdon District Council; DC – District Council; Cllr - Councillor

19.100 Apologies for absence

Received from Cllr Henderson and Cllr Saunderson; DC Davies

19.101 Public Consultation

The Chairman closed the meeting at 19.31.

19.101.1 A parishioner thanked the Parish Council and the Clerk for support and help on a **planning issue** at Rookery Way. The Clerk will check for any updates on the HDC planning portal

19.101.2 A parishioner queried the **cutback of the vegetation on Hilton Road**. It was confirmed that the Highways order was in place. This can take three months to action.

19.101.3 A parishioner who had emailed the Clerk raised concerns about **increasing incidents of anti-social behavior** (ASB) in the village. The Chairman confirmed this was taken very seriously by Councillors and contact had been made with the new Police Sergeant; a letter will be sent also to the Chief Constable signed by Cllrs Kent, Bates and Mead. Additional patrols will be made around the village and the police will be building up intelligence.

The Chairman added that the cricket pavilion had burnt down; Cllr Ferrier added that poisoned food was being put down and several dogs had been ill.

The Chairman reopened the meeting at 19.38.

19.102 Declarations of Interest - none

19.103 To Approve the Minutes of 6 December 2019

These were approved.

Proposed: Cllr. White

Seconded: Cllr. Mitchell

Vote: All in favour.

19.104 Matters arising from the Minutes – for information only

18.109 Cllr Saunderson was to contact Andrew Chabbot re speed limits – **Clerk to chase**

18.110.5 Multi use sports area; Cllr Caswell will follow up. **ACTION: Cllr Caswell**

19.105 Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Ferrier volunteered to take up the role of Vice Chairman following the resignation of Cllr Buchanan.

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

19.106 Membership of Committees

F&C – Cllrs Hayes and McGee to be added.

Planning – Cllrs McGee and Pask to be added.

Burial Board – Cllr Morris to be added.

19.107 New Councillors intros – Cllrs McGee and Morris spoke a few words those present.

19.108 Four Year Business Plan – for discussion

All present felt this was a good idea but should be called the Strategic Plan. Cllr Mitchell volunteered to lead on this and Cllr Caswell offered his support. Cllr Ferrier suggested holding some focus groups with Parishioners. All felt this would be worthwhile.

19.109 Village Meeting – facilitated by the Parish Council

Following a discussion the following points were agreed:

- The date to be end of March and a Saturday morning to be considered;
- Posters, flyers, promotional material to be prepared for the village, noticeboards, Facebook, Spectrum and the website. Cllr Bates suggested using the school to help publicise. Cllr McGee urged Councillors not to exclude the idea of a letterbox drop as these were very effective;
- The Parish Council is to facilitate but not manage every aspect;
- It was noted Cllr Caswell had already secured one interested speaker;
- The Parish Council could present its strategy;
- Invited groups to be asked to help get the word out;
- Cllr Ferrier suggested some focus groups prior to the meeting. Cllr White agreed this should be a 'two-way' conversation;
- Date and venue to be booked as soon as possible.

19.110 Bus survey

Cllr Mitchell updated Councillors based on his analysis of survey results now received back. Of all of the surveys completed 20% came from Fenstanton. The following points were noted:

- Fenstanton had slightly more regular users of buses than elsewhere;
- There was a much greater need for buses between 7.30 and 9 in the morning;
- The peak demand is for when the village has no buses at all;
- Bar Hill is not a destination as such; is a stop on the way to Cambridge;
- The two major destinations are Cambridge and St Ives so the guided bus route is critical as are links to the guided bus.

The last three points were the major ones to get across to the mayor. A strong message emerged that if the bus service is lost people will suffer from social

exclusion and lose any ability to connect with other people. Also people are very heavily reliant on the service to get to work.

Cllr Mitchell suggest the Parish Council respond as both part of the survey process and on behalf of just Fenstanton. Cllr Bates suggested approaching Stagecoach with findings and he would direct Cllr Mitchell to the right contact.

ACTION : Cllrs Mitchell and Bates

19.111 Project updates (CIL/Mick George Fund)

19.111.1 Pond

Cllrs Caswell and Mitchell had met with the contractor the morning of this meeting. There were a few points to be worked on including access to Grove House land and the road closure. An environmental study would take place when weed, plants and the water would all be tested. Cllr Pryke warned of the sycamore tree present. Weeds by the wall would not be removed for fear of the bricks falling out. Fish would not be reintroduced for a year.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.19

Cllr Mitchell asked a member of the public for advice on removal of silt. There were health and safety issues; the contractor to clarify.

The Chairman reopened the meeting at 20.21

19.111.2 Kerb repairs

Clerk to ask for a starting date.

ACTION : Clerk

19.111.3 Adult outdoor gym

The Chairman thanked Cllr Pask for delivering this project. Cllr Pask felt the reaction to the gym had been positive however he had noticed some broken glass in the area (this is not the only place in the village where broken glass is being found) and the Clerk to check on spare bins; if one is available this is to be placed in the area. Cllr Caswell reported that one of the items of kit on the app is incorrect. He has reported. Clerk to follow up. Any ideas for a 'celebrity' opening to be sent to Cllr Pask please.

ACTION : Clerk/Others

19.111.4 Chequer Street play area

The Chairman thanked Cllr Pryke for delivering this project. There was one play item to come (February).

B/F

19.117.2 County Councillor report

Cllr Bates confirmed the CCC budget was still being prepared; its precept is set in February. However his committee (Economy and Environment) budget had been set. The majority of funds used come from income as opposed to the tax payer. Cllr Bates had chaired his committee the morning of this meeting and was able to confirm that the Parish Council bid for funding towards the cycle way had been approved comprising £195K from CCC and £5K from the Parish Council. There is no design for approval as yet. Cllr Bates confirmed the A14 project was on time with the last junction soon to be constructed.

19.112 Adult Gym – gravel pathway

A suggestion/request had been received via Facebook from users for a gravel pathway to access the outdoor gym. Councillors were generally not keen on this suggestion. Cllr McGee added that mud is a particular problem at the moment. Cllr Pask suggested a honeycomb path or grass matting; he would look into these options.

ACTION : Cllr Pask

Cllr Caswell added that if that area was to be further developed then the condition of football pitch needed to be addressed. He suggested getting a groundsman in (working with the football club) at the end of the season and to consider CIL money for this. Councillors felt this would be worth doing.

ACTION : Cllr Caswell

19.113 Electrical charging points

Cllr Mitchell updated the meeting regarding a CCC initiative on electrical charging points for residents to use overnight. 75% of funding (£700 a unit) was available. Councillors were interested in this proposal and agreed Cllr Mitchell could do the groundwork for a bid in May. There is no income stream to the Parish Council from these charging points but it should be seen as providing a service to residents and investment in infrastructure. Maintenance would be covered.

Cllr Mitchell

ACTION :

Proposed: Cllr. Mitchell

Seconded: Cllr. Caswell

Vote: All in favour with one abstention (Cllr Pryke)

19.114 Clock Tower

It was noted that the Clerk will get quotes for repair of the lamp, electrics check and update and general decoration at the request of Cllr Caswell to tie in with the refurbishment of the Clock Tower area. The Pitfield Fund to be used.

Proposed: Cllr. Pryke Seconded: Cllr. Ferrier

Vote: All in favour.

19.115 FINANCE

General Monthly Finance

19.115.1 Finance updates were noted.

19.115.2 The payments list was approved.

Proposed: Cllr. Kent Seconded: Cllr. White

Vote: All in favour.

19.115.3 The transfer of funds was approved.

Proposed: Cllr. White Seconded: Cllr. Caswell

Vote: All in favour.

19.115.4 It was noted that Clerk will be changing pension provider to one more suitable. The previous pension scheme with AVIVA has been cancelled. This had the support of Councillors.

19.115.5 The addition of Cllr Mitchell to signatory list and bank account access (should this be required) was approved.

Proposed: Cllr. Kent Seconded: Cllr. Hayes

Vote: All in favour.

19.116 Committee reports - Planning (no other meetings) – noted as below.

18/02553/FUL – proposed new residential development on land at 35 Rookery Place – meeting has taken place with concerned residents

18/02364/HHFUL – proposed garage and first floor annex accommodation at 30 Honey Hill

18/-26-3/FUL – erection of four affordable houses land south of 10 Greenfields

18/02657/LBC – replacement of three sliding slash windows and one rear door at 25 Chequer Street

18/02615/S73 – variation of condition 2 approved plans 15.01981/FUL – land between Dene End and Greenfields

19.117 Reports – depending on attendance

19.117.1 District Councillors

Cllr Mead confirmed that the Local Plan Inspector had suggested 15 or 16 main modifications (which was not many) and the plan had now gone to consultation which finishes on 29 January. Cllr Mead had been through the document and there

was nothing affecting Fenstanton. The Vindis site was taken out last time and had not been brought back. He asked that Councillors have a look and let him or the Clerk have any comments. The plan was due for adoption in May but with anticipated delays this would probably be June or July. The Government has stated that the housing figure for Huntingdon in this plan was too low and must rise from 1,000 to 1,200; Fenstanton would have to provide some of this increase. Cllr Mead felt there should then be a period of stability after this. Government housing figures do not take into consideration empty houses; they look at the whole long term picture.

19.117.2 County Councillor - moved up

19.117.3 Parish Councillors

The Chairman reported that he and Cllr Henderson had met with some of The Fen Residents' Association to talk about the proposed cycle way. The meeting had been amicable and positive with the residents present a map of residents and a list of concerns. The Chairman had reassured them that they would be consulted all the way through the project. The Chairman went briefly through the concerns with Councillors. The funds as confirmed by Cllr Bates had been approved and the next step would be a feasibility study. This would be progressed on Monday after this meeting when the Chairman, the Clerk and Cllr Henderson would meet with Cllr Bates, Cllr Mead and two representatives from CCC Highways.

19.117.4 Clerk

The Clerk read very quickly through her report previously circulated. It would appear the vans that used to be parked near Pitfield have been moved to Pear Tree Close. This would be checked at some point.

19.118 Police Report – deferred

19.119 To accept notices and matters for the next agenda

No decisions can lawfully be made under this item. LGA 1972 s12 10(2) (b) states that business must be specified. To note any items for the next agenda. None.

19.120 Parish matters to note

19.120.1 Chequers Court and Bell Lane

Cllr Morris reported that there is a tree here which has roots that are raising the concrete which could be a trip hazard especially as the bungalows here house the elderly. Clerk to check if this is Luminus responsibility.

ACTION: Clerk

19.120.2 Second Hand shop on High Street

Cllr Hayes felt the outside of this was untidy. It was suggested he could pop in and ask for this to be tidied up when passing.

19.120.3 Parking on Headlands

Cllr Hayes reported that cars were parking here with two wheels on the pavement causing an obstruction. The Clerk would provide some leaflets for Councillors to use if they wished in the village on vehicles parking in awkward places. Cllr White provided an update draft of one previously used.

ACTION: Clerk

19.120.4 Anti-scamming leaflets

Cllr Caswell confirmed he now had 40 leaflets for distribution to the three main village shops. There are no more available as the police will not be reprinting but there is a link should the PC wish to print any more. His contact was happy to come and speak at the village meeting about this problem and bring a stand along.

19.120.5 Dip in High Street

Cllr Pask reported a large dip on the north side of high street at the Tudor's west side hedge which turns into a large puddle when it rains; pedestrians are being forced into the road. Highways report to be made.

19.120.6 Lamp Post – High Street

Cllr Morris noted that the lamp post outside the new houses on the High Street was right in the middle of the path. This had previously been reported. Attempts would be made to get this moved.

19.120.7 Chequer Street parking

Cllr Ferrier suggested putting parking bays down where cars are parked on the left hand side of the green (opposite the terraced houses). Cllr White stated he had a personal interest in that area but could confirm that it had already been established that permission for parking bays would not be given and Highways would not give permission to drop any kerbs.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 21.50