

# Little Thetford Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr C Mitchell

Clerk: Mrs Amy Jacklin, c/o Little Thetford Village Hall, The Wyches, Little Thetford CB6 3HG

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## Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.30pm

**Attendees:** Cllr C Mitchell, Cllr Olibhe Collins- Neat, Cllr Phil Hadley, Cllr Tracey Durham and Cllr Ian Driver

**Clerk:** Amy Jacklin

Members of the public- 3

Start Time 7.30pm

### 23/01 Chairman Welcome

The chair welcomes everybody to the meeting.

### 23/02 To receive and accept apologies for absence.

Cllr Dan Peacock

### 23/03 Councillor's Declarations of Interest

Cllr Collins- Neat will not comment on 23/09-1 due to being on the Village Hall committee.

### 23/04 Public and Press Participation Session

A member of the public talks about the ongoing issues with dog fouling on the sports field. He suggests getting the schools Art club to design some posters to try to prevent dog fouling in the village, he mentioned children designing posters has made a positive impact in other villages with ongoing issues. Another member of the public adds that the conservation area also has a problem with dog fouling.

The chair said that dog fouling is a finable offence, and any evidence must be reported to the dog warden. She also goes to suggest that she could speak to Fen Scene about the issues in Little Thetford to see if they are prepared to write a story/feature about it.

It was agreed for the clerk to approach the school to see if they are willing to design some posters for the village, it was also agreed for Cllr Mitchell to approach Fen Scene.

### 23/05 East Cambs District Council- *Community Safety and Projects Support Officer- Jo Johnson Andow*

Jo works for East Cambridgeshire District Council, but her role is funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner. Her role is to help fund community projects up to the value of £5000 that could be completed within a 12 week period. Her post is in situ for a three-year period. Some examples of projects would be supporting community safety forums and speed campaigns.

A Councillor shared concerns of the continuous drug dealing within the village, it was agreed for the clerk to send Jo all the information that has been collated. Another councillor shared on-going vehicle issues at the New Close road carpark, it was agreed for the clerk to send this information also.

A member of the public also asked if additional lighting could be funded for at the Village Hall and also whether self-defence classes could be considered?

Jo mentioned that lighting could potentially be funded from a different fund, the clerk will email Jo regarding potential self-defence classes.

### 23/06 Approval of minutes

1. It was **proposed** by Cllr Hadley and **seconded** by Cllr Collins- Neat and **agreed** unanimously to accept the minutes from Wednesday 7th December 2022.
2. The clerk shared that she has arranged a meeting with an architect to discuss the carpark development on the 19<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30am, the clerk welcomes councillors to attend. The work cannot be completed at NIL rate.
3. No comments.

### 23/07 To receive County Councillor & District Councillor Reports- Cllr Bill Hunt

None

### 23/08 Finance Matters

1. It was **proposed** by Cllr Hadley and **seconded** by Cllr Durham and **agreed** by unanimous vote to agree the financial situation for December.
2. It was **proposed** by Cllr Hadley and **seconded** by Cllr Durham and **agreed** by unanimous vote for the January's invoices to be paid shown at the bottom of the agenda.  
Cllr Collins-Neat asks weather Fen Farm supplies quote includes fitting, the clerk advised it doesn't and that she would get a quote for the fitting.

The clerk advises she has another invoice from Wave for the leak finders bill of £1198 (Little Acorns). The clerk advised she would find out more information from Little Acorns about the leak and where it was located. Both insurers (Parish Council and Little Acorns) will then be approached to see if a claim can be made.

### 23/09 Council Administration Matters

1. It was **proposed** by Cllr Hadley and **seconded** by Cllr Durham and **agreed** unanimously (1x abstention) to accept the Village Hall grant application in principle for £7000 for the energy upgrade to the Village Hall. The Village Hall will provide full costings for the project as soon as they have them.
2. Cllr Hadley shared his findings for the most recent risk assessments carried out on the village. Some of the key points to mention are the bus shelter has been re-measured and hasn't moved- Cllr Hadley will continue to monitor this. The new dog waste bin is now in position on Main Street at the entrance of New Close Road. The illumination from the lamp post is now better since the tree has been cut back and the pot hole in the same alley way has been filled. A resident raised concerns with Cllr Hadley about drug paraphernalia and untaxed vehicles on the carpark at New Close Road, this has been inspected and the finds sent to the clerk. The basketball net and back board are missing from the pole at Holt Fen, it was agreed for the clerk to get quotes for replacement. The pond risk assessment has been completed; it was agreed for the clerk to liaise with Howard Jones about the environmental impact and actions. Cllr Hadley shared his recommendation that the Parish Council should have signage on the gate of the conservation area stating 'deep water, supervise children'- the clerk will look into getting signage for this.
3. After a long discussion about the continued dog fouling issues on the sports field and inside the conservation area it was agreed for the clerk to post the issues on Facebook and in the newsletter. It was also agreed for the clerk to approach the school to see if the school children could design some preventative posters for the village. It was also agreed for the clerk to get quotes for some larger traditional dog fouling signs. Cllr Mitchell will contact Fen Scene to see if they are prepared to write an article on these issues as they are not isolated to Little Thetford.
4. It was agreed for the clerk to pay the leak finders invoice as displayed at the end of the minutes, after finding out more information regarding the leak. The clerk will liaise with Little Acorns about potentially claiming back this money from either the council's insurers or the pre-schools.
5. The date was set for the Annual Parish Meeting- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. The clerk will book the village hall and start preparations.
6. After ECDC had visited the site, they advised that there is significant erosion around the mound. It was **proposed** by Cllr Durham and **seconded** by Cllr Hadley and **agreed** by unanimous vote for the clerk to contact Sovereign to find out if the council meshed, topsoiled and re-turfed the mound weather the warranty would still stand. If the warranty still stands it was agreed for the work to go ahead.

### 22/71 Date of next Meeting

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Wave			Cemetery Water	£ 5.00		£ 5.00
Three	\P1176277684		Mobile Phone Charges	£ 8.33	£ 1.67	£ 10.00
Cartridge Discount	2225746	15.12.22	Ink Cartridges	£ 38.58	£ 7.72	£ 46.29
Fen Farm Supplies	LTPC	15.12.22	Gate and posts (Red Fen Road)	£ 237.50	47.5	£ 285.00
JD Signs	31-May	16.12.22	Playpark signage	£ 60.00		£ 60.00
Red Shoes	9898	13.12.22	Quarterly Payroll	£ 48.00	£ 9.60	£ 57.60
Mrs Amy Jacklin	11/12/2022	04-Jan-23	Clerks expenses	£ 68.80		£ 68.80
John Skipper	2294	31.12.22	Village Maintenance	£ 334.00		£ 334.00
WAVE	11465979	04-Jan-23	Leak finders	£ 999.00	£ 199.80	£ 1,198.80
Amy Jacklin	Jan-23	19/01/2023	Clerks Salary/backdated PIncrease	£ 1,293.60		£ 1,293.60
HM Revenue and Customs	Jan-23	19/01/2023	Clerk National Insurance	£ 121.94		£ 121.94

End meeting 8.43pm

Signed.....

Dated.....