

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 7th February 2024 at 7.30pm

Attendees: Cllr Charlotte Mitchell, Cllr Tracey Durham, Cllr Ian Driver and Cllr Olibhe Collins-Neat.
Cllr Bill Hunt
Clerk: Amy Jacklin
Members of the public- One
Start Time 7.30pm

24/13 Welcome

Cllr Michell welcomed everyone to the meeting.

24/14 To receive and accept apologies for absence.

Cllr Kirby

24/15 Councillor's Declarations of Interest

None

24/16 Public and Press Participation Session

None

24/17 The Village Hall

1. A Village Hall representative shared some updates of the village shop plans.
Thankyou to the Parish Council for grant of £700 which has enabled the Village Hall to explore the feasibility of establishing a shop and cafe for the village. Two community surveys have been well advised by the Plunkett Foundation, a national charity who advise on the rural economy and how social enterprises can flourish. In May 2023, the Little Thetford Community Enterprises Ltd was formed as a community Benefit Society regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. This establishes the project as a no profit existing solely for the benefit of the village and accountable to its members. Membership will be opened at a public meeting. The plan is to become a long-term tenant of the village hall. The VH trust will build an extension to the hall on the old, concreted car park side of the hall with help from an architect. Trustees have invited comments on our plans at a village meeting. The village hall would like to further enhance facilities for villagers by installing two electric car charging points.
Would like to know if the PC support this initiative and whether you would be willing to allow part of the car park to be used for villagers to charge their EVs?
2. Unfortunately, there are no councillors that could committee to becoming Parish Council representatives to the Village Hall Committee.

24/18 Approval of minutes

1. It was **proposed** by Cllr Driver and **seconded** by Cllr Durham and **agreed** unanimously to accept the minutes from Wednesday 10th January 2024.
2. None
3. No questions regarding the clerk's report.

24/19 Finance Matters

1. It was **proposed** by Cllr Durham and **seconded** by Cllr Collins-Neat, with a unanimous vote to **accept** the council's financial position.
2. It was **proposed** by Cllr Mitchell and **seconded** by Cllr Collins-Neat, with a unanimous vote to pay the invoices for February.
3. It was agreed to postpone this agenda item until February's meeting.
4. It was **proposed** by Cllr Driver and **seconded** by Cllr Collins-Neat to invest the councils' reserves (£22500) with CCLA investments. This money would be taken from Cambridge Building Society currently earning 1%.

24/20 To receive County Councillor & District Councillor Reports

Cllr Bill Hunt gave his report, some of the key points as follows:

- Stretham CLT have been awarded £1.2m from East Cambs District Council (ECDC) to build a hub in Stretham which will include a doctor's surgery, village hall, work units and a bar. Construction will start imminently.
- St Mary Doctors in Ely is now open after ECDC awarded £800,000 to the project and is working well.
- The plans for a crematorium at Mepal and very likely to go forward- statistics show 80% of people now wish to be cremated, meaning there is a real need for the facility.
- There is a fleet of ten new bin lorries in ECDC. They will be run on Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) as well as diesel, which is more beneficial for the environment. There will be a competition running for school children to name these lorries-the clerk to speak with the school to share details.
- A new mayoral precept to support public transport.
- Combined authority has spent £1.1 million on compensation of poor working conditions for senior staff.
- Some Stagecoach journeys are being reduced across East Cambs but the zipper is staying.
- For the 11th year running ECDC has frozen the district council's share of council tax bills. Whilst the County Council have increased to the maximum of 4.99%. Free carparking is staying in Ely.
- Cllr hunt shares his support for the proposal for a new dual carriageway between BT Ely and Milton. This proposal is at the very early planning stages.
- County Council are installing 20 mph limit signage in Haddenham. Soham is in the pipeline for some 20mph limits, consultations are in progress.
- Housing at the old paradise site in Ely will go ahead. There will be four £100k homes in this location.
- Weed chemicals for footpaths has been brought back.
- ECDC are taking fly tipping very seriously now with a recent successful conviction.

24/21 Planning Matters

24/00066/FUL- Council wish for the clerk to seek clarification regarding this application. Currently this application is listed as a replacement dwelling although currently at the location there is no existing dwelling. The council have concerns regarding safety of the current site and therefore would be against the application.

24/22 Progress on Planning Applications (For Information)

24/23 Council Administration Matters

1. Council have received updated plans for the new carpark designs. The Parish Council have decided to revisit these designs once the shop developments have taken place. With the temporary repairs works nearly completed the carpark is fit for use. It was **proposed** by Cllr Durham and **seconded** by Cllr Collins-Neat, with a unanimous vote to order an additional ten tons of gravel to finish the carpark surface.
2. It was **proposed** by Cllr Durham and **seconded** by Cllr Mitchell, with a unanimous vote to accept the Balfour Beatty quotation for the LED lighting for the Multi Use games Area (MUGA)- Little Thetford CIL monies will be used for the purchase.
3. It was **proposed** by Cllr Driver and **seconded** by Cllr Durham, with a unanimous vote to accept the J&J Drake quotation to disconnect the electric from the telephone box.

4. The paperwork was signed by Cllr Mitchell and Cllr Durham to complete the lease break between the Sport and Social Club and the Parish Council. The clerk will now return the paperwork to the solicitor.
5. It was **proposed** by Cllr Michell and **seconded** by Cllr Collins-Neat, with a unanimous vote to allow a local parent to hold a children's party on the sports field.
6. It was **proposed** by Cllr Michell and **seconded** by Cllr Collins-Neat, with a unanimous vote to pay the cleaner of the changing rooms £12 per hour. This involves cleaning the changing after a football match. It was **agreed** for the clerk to find out if the cleaner could send a monthly invoice to the Parish Council or weather she needs to be employed.
7. It was agreed for Cllr Driver and John Skipper to review the damage and see what materials are needed to fix the roof on the changing rooms.
8. It was **agreed** for the April meeting to be changed to 4th April. The clerk will change the calendar of dates on the website and change the booking with the Village Hall.
9. It was **agreed** for the clerk to write to the property on Watsons Lane to ask them, to tell their builders to refrain from parking on the grass area outside the children's playpark. The grass area has been damaged by vans continually parking on it and is struggling to recover.

24/24 Open Spaces

1. It was **proposed** by Cllr Michell and **seconded** by Cllr Collins-Neat, with a unanimous vote for the groundsman to order one ton of topsoil for the sunken graves in the cemetery.
2. The clerk notes that a decision mid-month was made with councillors to accept Shane Whites quotation for plant hire to complete works to dig out the ditch for the MUGA drainage system to work. The quote was £280- A comparison quote was £325.

24/25 Field Accounts

It was **proposed** by Cllr Durham and **seconded** by Cllr Collins-Neat, with a unanimous vote to accept the quotation for line paint from Net World Sports. This expense will come from the field account.

24/26 Date of next meeting

13th March 2024

Please note this meeting has been moved forward by one week.

End Meeting: 9.10pm

Signed.....

Dated.....

Wave			Cemetery Water	£	5.00		£	5.00	
Three	AAP1176277684		Mobile Phone Charges	£	8.33	£	1.67	£	10.00
NEST			Clerk Pension	£	119.86			£	119.86
Amy Jacklin	1223	01/01/2024	February Salary		Confidential			Confidential	
John Skipper	2404	31/01/2024	Village Maintenance	£	160.50			£	160.50
ACS Tree Care	231	01/02/2024	Tree Works	£	1,360.00			£	1,360.00
AP Shaw	224	07/01/2024	Newsletter subscription	£	15.00			£	15.00
Net World Sports	57686	01/02/2024	Marking paint for field	£	73.99	£	14.80	£	88.79

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