

STEEPLE MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Steeple Morden Village Hall on
Monday 8th April 2019 at 7.30pm**

Present: Councillors: J Clayton (Chairman), S Traverse-Healy, K Austin, G Belson, W Jeffs, J Courtney, C Upchurch, A Drew, S Wheatley
District Cllr Williams, County Cllr Kindersley
In attendance: Mrs S Walmesley (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 7.30 PM

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

All Councillors were in attendance.

Cllr Drew declared a non pecuniary interest under Items 11.1.2 and 11.1.3 as a neighbour. Cllr Wheatley declared a non pecuniary interest under Item 11.1.1 as a neighbour.

2. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

2.1 County Council

Cllr Kindersley had prepared a report for circulation. He advised that there were a number of local issues included.

He reported that the footpath past the Diggings had now been set up and works were now progressing. He was aware that some patching of potholes had taken place in the village.

Cllr Kindersley then referred to the parking issue at the station and the proposal to progress a car park discussed at the last meeting. He was aware that a meeting was planned with the landowner. He explained that over the years meetings had taken place with the estate and agreement reached on the way forward. He explained the discussions that had taken place stating that to date there had been little progress. Cllr Kindersley had checked with the County Council to see what could be done, regarding the parking on the verges, but as there were no restrictions on the road, no restrictions could be implemented on the verge.

South Cambridgeshire District Council had now started work on the next Local Development Plan and had put out a call for sites. Cambridgeshire County Council had submitted a series of sites for consideration with two in Steeple Morden. There was also five in Litlington and one in Guilden Morden. Cllr Kindersley added that many would be unsuccessful but this did give residents a cause for concern.

Cambridgeshire County Council was one of three councils leading a national role in supporting the Governments nationwide rollout of Family Safeguarding.

The County Council had also commissioned AWTG to carry out a survey of mobile phone coverage in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Cllr Kindersley added that this was much patchier than everybody first thought.

Cllr Kindersley concluded his report by advising that it had been agreed to move the sewage/water works from the north of Cambridge to Waterbeach. Once this took place the land would be opened up for development.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Kindersley for his report adding that he was also aware of a different party interested in providing land for a car park at the station. Cllr Kindersley asked to be kept updated.

2.2 District Council

Cllr Williams had circulated a report which included details of the District Council Investment Strategy.

She reported that the SCDC Cabinet had decided to discontinue the Elite Athletes Grant Scheme. In the past residents of the ward had benefitted. The District Council felt that this scheme did not fit in with their objectives.

Applications for Community Chest Grants were now invited. Cllr Williams advised that if an application was made for something on Parish Council land then the Parish Council would be expected to fund 50% of the cost. She referred to sports club applications. The Clerk was asked to write to the sports clubs and ask that the Parish Council be notified if any applications were made. -Clerk

Cllr Williams stated that the Planning Officers were working incredibly hard while a transformation program was taking place. She would continue to monitor the planning process.

Cllr Traverse-Healy asked if there was any update on the Orchard site. Cllr Williams advised that the developers were going to change the second application and apply as an exception site.

She offered to ask a Planning Officer out to explain the way this worked which was very different from the usual planning process. Cllr Traverse-Healy stated that he would expect a viability report to be made available to the Parish Council if an application was to come forward.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Williams for her update.

3. COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS FROM PARISHIONERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no issues raised.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF

4.1 The Parish Council Meeting held on 11th March 2019

On a proposition by Cllr Courtney seconded by Cllr Belson the minutes as circulated were taken as read and then approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING AND CARRIED FORWARD

5.1 A505 Junction

The Clerk confirmed that she had sent a letter to Hertfordshire County Council as agreed at the last meeting. A response had not yet been received.

5.2 The Wagon and Horses Public House –re-nomination of ACV

South Cambridgeshire District Council were to make a decision on the application on the 9th April. The Project Officer had asked Councillors for more information on the activities at the pub to enhance the application. The Chairman asked for any further information to be forwarded to the Clerk following the meeting.

-Cllrs

5.3 Agenda for Annual Parish Meeting 9th May 2019

A draft agenda had been circulated with the same format as in previous years. The Parish Council AGM would be held at 7pm on the same evening. Cllr Upchurch asked when the Jubilee Award nominations were to be requested. She reminded Councillors that notices were usually put up asking residents to submit their nomination to the Post Office. The Parish Council then agreed who the recipient should be.

Councillors agreed that the nomination process would be announced at the Annual Parish Meeting with a decision to be made at the September Parish Council meeting.

5.4 Proposal for additional station car park

This had been discussed under the County Council report. The Parish Council working group had circulated an action Plan to Councillors for information.

5.4 Street Lighting Investigation for 2020/21

Cllr Jeffs and the Clerk to investigate.

-WJ &
Clerk

6. FINANCES

6.1 To receive the financial statement and to approve the payment of bills

The invoices were checked by Cllr Drew

E-ON

Reading Room electricity March 2019 DD £ 45.00

IN & OUT

Disabled toilet clean March 2019 £ 11.25

HALES PRINTERS

Newsletters April 2019 £48.00

STEEPLE MORDEN VILLAGE HALL

Hire of meeting room 8 April 2019 £10.00

MR K EVERSDEN

Reinstate dog waste bin £21.00

CPRE

Membership 2019/20 £36.00

FENLAND LEISURE PRODUCTS

Repair to cableway (inc. £79.36VAT) £476.14

MRS S WALMESLEY

Clerks expenses Jan-March 2019 £ 46.29

TOTAL

£693.68

PROPOSED Cllr Traverse-Healy SECONDED Cllr Austin

The Clerk had circulated the draft of the financial annual report for Councillor comment before

finalisation.

6.2 Appointment of Internal Auditor 2018/19

As in previous years LGS Services were appointed Internal Auditors. The Clerk to arrange the audit.

-Clerk

7. RECREATION GROUND/CONSERVATION AREA

7.1 Recreation Ground Maintenance –working group update

Cllr Drew reported that she had replaced the missing fence post. The grass around the front of the goal post had been cut and she now had the matting to install. Planings had been put in the potholes and Cllr Drew thanked the Chairman for organising this. The handyman used by the Parish Council was to retire so another contractor would need to be found.

7.2 Tree Inspection (Recreation Ground)

Compilation of the tree plan was in hand.

7.3 Leylandii Tree Work –Football Club Update

As reported at the last meeting the parties involved had agreed a way forward and the work would take place in the Autumn. An updated quote would be requested during the Summer.

7.4 Request from Tennis Club for use of water to clean courts

The Tennis Club also asked to discuss the investigation of a permanent water supply with the Parish Council. They aimed to clean the courts on the 12th and 13th April.

A member of the public in attendance advised that the Tennis Club had an arrangement with the Bowls Club to use their water for this purpose. In the past the club had investigated a water supply but concluded that as they used very little water it would not be cost effective to spend the £3,000 for a supply.

The Clerk was asked to reply to the Club and advise them of the long standing arrangement with the Bowls Club. They would be invited to work out some costings for a water supply if they wanted to discuss further.

-Clerk

8. MAINTENANCE

8.1 Footpaths/Footways

8.1.1 Craft Way Footway

There was no further update. The Clerk was asked to remind the Local Highway Officer.

-Clerk

8.1.2 Footpath 10 –Minor Highway Improvement Scheme 2017/18 Application

The County Definitive Map Officer, James Stringer, had advised that there was no record of any other diversion following the diversion onto the current alignment in 1994. He stated that this was an unresolved matter.

Cllr Traverse-Healy advised that the diversion was agreed a number of years ago with a view to the diversion being advertised when there were other diversions in the parish. Because the current route went through the children's play area it was considered a safeguarding issue. The Footpath Officers agreed this at the time. The Clerk was asked to relay this information to Mr Stringer.

-Clerk

8.2 Village Litter Pick Update

Cllr Belson reported that the latest litter pick had resulted in 10 bags of rubbish. It had been another good session with new volunteers still coming forward to help.

9. SPEEDING TRAFFIC

9.1 MVAS Update

The Chairman thanked Cllr Austin for his work on getting the MVAS up and running. Cllr Austin reported that he had the brackets for the other posts in the village. He had found no instructions with the equipment but had now successfully been able to download data which he was going to investigate in detail as there was a lot collected over the past three weeks. Cllr Traverse-Healy reported that he had received positive feedback from residents on Station Road. Cllr Austin was going to arrange to move the MVAS to a different location every four weeks to get feedback from the whole village. Cllr Belson reminded him to let other Councillors know when he planned to move the unit so that they could help.

-KA

9.2 Community Speedwatch

The Clerk confirmed that she had not received any volunteers following the appeal in the last newsletter. The appeal would be run again in the next issue. The Chairman advised that he was aware of a volunteer who would help with the speedwatch checks but would not take on the position of co-ordinator.

10 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

- The existing host, Lion Computing Solutions, had advised that they were in the process of closing so would no longer be able to follow up the request for a website redesign. Cllr Jeffs offered to investigate a new website for the Parish Council which was agreed. She welcomed feedback on requirements and would report back to the Parish Council with her findings. -WJ

11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS11.1 To consider Planning Applications11.1.1 Planning Ref S/0719/19/OL

Land adj 120 Hay Street –Outline planning permission for proposed erection of 8 residential dwellings (4 affordable) including demolition of outbuilding with all matters reserved except for access

It was noted that this proposed development would be outside the village envelope.

Recommendation –Object***-Outside the village envelope******-Would have a negative impact on the street scene***11.1.2 Planning Ref S/0900/19/PA

Land south of 76 Station Road –Prior approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to one dwelling (class3) and associated operational development

Cllr Traverse-Healy reminded Councillors that the developer needed to show that the building was structurally suitable for development. Cllr Williams advised that this would be followed up by the Planning Officer. A discussion took place on the application.

Recommendation –Object***-Insufficient evidence that the developer meets the criteria for the development of an agricultural building***11.1.3 Planning Ref S/0899/19/PA

Land rear of 76/74 Station Road - Prior approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to one dwelling (class3) and associated operational development

Recommendation –Object***-Insufficient evidence that the developer meets the criteria for the development of an agricultural building***11.1.4 Planning Ref S/0304/19/FL (amended plans)

1 Ashwell Road –Two storey front, rear and side extension and single storey rear extensions. Raised roof to existing rear single storey utility and bathroom wing
There were no comments made.

12 TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED INCLUDING:

- Correspondence received was discussed under agenda items.

13 COUNCILLORS' ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND REQUIRING THE URGENT ATTENTION OF THE CLERK13.1 Salvation Army Request

Cllr Wheatley had received a request from the Salvation Army for a recycling bank on the Parish Council land. Councillors agreed that as there was already a recycling bank on the recreation ground car park, belonging to Smarties, a second bank was not needed. Clerk to reply to that request. -Clerk

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 9th May 2019 (AGM)

There was no further business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Chairman

Date