



COVENEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Monday 11 December 2023 at 7.30pm in Coveney Village Hall

Present: Cllr J Adams, Cllr R Langston, Cllr N Laredo (Chairman)

Also Present: Cllr L Dupré (CCC) Cllr A Bailey (ECDC), Mrs S Thompson (Clerk)

23/158 Apologies for absence

Apologies were approved from Cllrs Matthews and Senior.

23/159 Members' declaration of interest for items on the agenda

None made

22/160 To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2023 were approved and signed.

23/161 Public Question Time

None present.

23/162 District and County Councillors' Reports

Cllr Dupré (CCC) has sent her written report. She reported that plans for the replacement bridge on footpath 3 are progressing.

Cllr Bailey (ECDC) – Cllr Bailey reported that ECDC have no plans to move to 4 day working week. Warm hubs are continuing. A flytipping incident is being prosecuted. She also reported on the Board of Combined Authority which has signed off local transport plan. A Mayoral precept is under consultation to fund bus services.

23/163 Reports

- a) Allotments – rents all been collected. One plot is still vacant.
- b) Coveney Village Hall – Representatives joined councillors before this meeting to bring each other up to date with activities and to improve communication and co-operation.
- c) Wardy Hill Social Club - no update
- d) Friends of Coveney – waymarking was delayed due to the weather.
- e) Connexions Newsletter – due out in January

23/164 Vacancies for 2 Parish Councillors

No poll has been requested. The co-option process can now be started.

23/165 Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed to set a provisional date of 29 April 2024. The aim is to get a speaker of local interests.

23/166 Working Groups

- a) Allotment and Community Green Space
 - Borehole – it was agreed to authorise £150 for the company to come out and quote. It is unlikely that information will be available in time for the Communities Infrastructure Fund application. Even if the grant application



was successful it would not be received in time for the new season.

Investigations should continue in to a manual pump for a back up .

- Community Orchard - hedging has been ordered. Clerk to order stakes and tree guards.
 - Pond – Pride of Place £7,500 has been received.
 - Bulb and Wild Flower Planting – a resident has written an grant application to be submitted to Pride of Place for £100 for Wardy Hill – Clerk will ask permission of highways for planting round village signs and triangle
- b) Policies and Procedures
- Asset Register/Insurance – insurance covers the revised asset register and the asset register was approved
 - Equalities - approved
 - Privacy Policy – next meeting
 - Delegation Scheme – next time
- c) Website – no issues to report
- d) Council Issue Tracking and Archiving – Cllr Langston has done some initial work and will put together a recommendation for the next meeting.
- e) Assets
- Grasscutting/Maintenance – Cllr Laredo will check if the fallen branch has been dealt with on the Green, Wardy Hill and will contact the groundskeeper accordingly.
 - MUGA – lighting – it was agreed that Cllr Laredo be authorised to get prizes, Clerk has met with an electrician who will be submitting quotes
 - MUGA – basket ball board – nothing to report
 - Play Area, Coveney – Repairs have been carried out for a similar sum to the amount approved in July. Cllr Laredo will ask Friends if they can help spread the bark at any time that is convenient.
 - Play Area Wardy Hill – Climbing frame repair - nothing to report
 - Wardy Hill – Noticeboard – replacement of Perspex – nothing to report

23/167

Projects

- a) Grazing land in School Lane - The Clerk has met with Brown &Co to discuss possibilities. It was agreed to ask them to draw up a proper agreement in due course. The Clerk will get the details of all those interested in the land for the next meeting.
- b) Anglian Observatory – Cllr Adams has drafted a summary of points as a starting position for discussion. As yet nothing has been approved.
- c) Land Adjacent to the Village Hall – no progress to report
- d) Neighbourhood Plan – no progress to report
- e) Climate Action Plan – no progress to report
- f) Tree Planting Strategy – Miles Foster has volunteered to be the Tree Warden and this appointment was approved. Cllr Laredo will liaise with him
- g) HGV traffic – no progress to report

23/168

Local Highways Improvement Scheme

- 2023/24 – Feedback on scheme for traffic calming measures at Gravel End – nothing to report
- 2024/25 – To report application deadlines and initial discussion Cllr Laredo will liaise with Cllr Matthews about the possible installation of posts to position the speed indicators

**23/169 Finance**

- a) Monthly income and expenditure, financial reconciliation and budgetary control reports for the year to date were presented.

Bank Reconciliation – 30 November 2023

Current Account	6,716.45	Brought Forward	35,894.55
Deposit Account	29,100.02	Income – - VAT Refund Allotment rent	1,318.89 120.00
Uncleared payments		(Expenditure)	(1,516.97)
	35,816.47		35,816.47

- b) Payments for approval – the following payments were approved.

Payee	Detail	Ref	Amount
Yu Energy	Streetlighting	219DD	15.52
Yu Energy	Streetlighting	220DD	13.44
Yu Energy	Streetlighting	221DD	119.90
Right Fuelcard	Fuelcard	222DD	2.40
VCAEC	Membership	223	10.00
Red Shoes	Payroll services	224	46.80
ALCC	Subscription	225	50.00
SLCC	Subscription	226	105.00
Truelink	Orchard mowing	227	960.00
Buckingham Nurseries	Hedging	228	156.95
Narked Design	Website hosting	229	225.00
Viking	Office Supplies	230	258.24
Mrs S Thompson	Salary and Expenses	231	538.79
Coveney Village Hall	Christmas Tree Donation	232	100.00
Mr N Fyfe	Per agreement	233	150.00
			2,752.04

23/170**Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Monday 8 January 2024, 7.30pm in Coveney Village Hall

Meeting Closed at 22.10