

# COVENEY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 11 October 2021 at 7.30pm in Coveney Village Hall**

**Present:** Mr A Bensted, Mrs N Laredo, Mr B Matthews (Chairman), Mr C Senior

**Also Present:** Cllr A Bailey (ECDC), 2 members of the public, Mrs S Thompson (The Clerk)

## **21/122 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were approved from Dr Winfield

## **21/123 Members' declaration of interest for items on the agenda**

None

## **21/124 To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of 16 September 2021 were approved

## **21/125 Public Question Time**

- Remembrance Sunday is 14 November, service at the church will be from 10.45
- The Church is starting to work with the Wildlife Trust to make changes in the churchyard.
- Litter picking needs to be done round the village, it is showing up as the greenery is dying back.

## **21/126 District and County Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Bailey reported on ECDC matters.

- There has been a by-election in Soham.
  - The Combined Authority has decided not to continue support for the £100K homes scheme. A number of sites were in this district and ECDC has taken over the allocation of the homes. The government First Home schemes will be delivering affordable homes going forward and places a requirement on developers.
  - ECDC has bought a bus to provide a travelling help and advice hub. Little Downham will be a regular stop. Timetable is on the website.
  - The updated 5 year land supply will be announced this week.
  - Full Council will meet on 21 October 2021.
  - Network Rail will be launching a consultation about the North Ely junction.
- Cllr Dupré sent her apologies. Her report has been circulated.

## **21/127 Allotment report**

Mrs Wenn reported that the allotment holders are keen to get the water supply up and running. She has supplied a tank for the borehole that will be replaced and costs reclaimed when she has been able to source a similar tank.

## **21/128 School Lane – land proposal**

A enquiry has been received from a resident. Councillors agreed to obtain more information.

## **21/129 Roads report**

- Short Causeway has been improved.
- The Wayhead road is due to be improved in the coming weeks.
- Problems with traffic taking the corner at Gravel End too fast has been reported to Highways who will be visiting to ensure that signage is appropriate. This area could be the focus for the next Minor Improvement Scheme.

## **21/130 Application to add a bridleway to the Definitive Map and Statement for Cambridgeshire**

The proposal is to record a public bridleway along Byall Fen Drove. It was agreed that there are no objections.

**21/131 Remembrance Day**

It was agreed to purchase a wreath.

**21/132 Request from Witcham Parish Council on Complaints Procedure**

It was agreed to co-operate with Witcham Parish Council by providing independent councillors to serve on any appeals panel, if required.

**21/133 Working Groups**

- a) Allotments and Community Green Space
  - Boundary – nothing to report
  - S106 grant application – it is still not clear how the funds will be received from ECDC. The Clerk is to write to Emma Grima to obtain clarification.
  - Borehole – most of the equipment is ready to go, just one part is proving difficult to source
  - Pond – has been dug and is looking good. FWAG have completed the basin and now need to install the fencing around the pond. FWAG advise that there is no need to promote planting, it will become populated naturally over the first few years.
  - Close the Gap Hedgerow Planting Project – quotes have been received for the plants and guards. It was agreed to order the following:-
    - Biodegradable guards and canes from Greentech - £1,642.75 + VAT
    - Plants from Buckingham Nurseries - £2,744.60 (inc VAT)
 It was agreed to authorize payment with order because it is urgent to get the planting done this autumn.
  - Community Orchard – it was agreed to order 4 trees for £82 from East of England Apple and Orchards Project – it was agreed to authorize payment with order.
- b) Policies and Procedures - nothing to report
- c) Website - ongoing
- d) Assets
  - Grasscutting/Maintenance– going well
  - MUGA – new equipment – defer for the timebeing
  - MUGA – lighting – needs attention, the Clerk is getting advice and quotes
  - MUGA – basketball board - ongoing
  - Provision of defibrillators – nothing to report
- e) Village Hall update
  - The Clerk will investigate how to establish ownership of the Wardy Hill Social Club. Cambridgeshire ACRE will be asked for advice.
  - Fireworks is happening on 5 November. The Parish Council agrees to provide the fireworks to make it a joint event with the Village Hall.
  - Coveney Village Hall are looking into how to obtain funding for improvements.
- f) Friends of Coveney —
  - Rights of Way Survey Report – still awaiting response from CCC
  - Footpath No 1 – the definitive route passes through gardens and a garage in Park Close so walkers use the adjacent private drive. There have been attempts in the past to amend the definitive map but they have come to nothing. Reply to Steve Nix and refer again
- g) Full Fibre Broadband for Coveney – Dr Winfield has completed the process.

**21/134 Finance**

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

**Bank Reconciliation – 30 September 2021**

|                    |           |                   |                   |
|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Current Account    | 6,893.23  | Brought Forward   | 22,254.51         |
| Deposit Account    | 13,153.21 | Precept Allotment | 6,047.00<br>20.00 |
| Uncleared Payments |           | (Expenditure)     | (8,275.07)        |
|                    | 20,046.44 |                   | 20,046.44         |

- ii) The following payments were authorised for payment.

| Payee          | Ref | Detail                      | Total Amount Inc VAT |
|----------------|-----|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Dr S Winfield  | 50  | Orchard Course              | 30.00                |
| Mr P Whitton   | 51  | Groundskeeping              | 619.74               |
| Ernest Doe     | 52  | Parts/Equipment             | 88.86                |
| Mrs S Thompson | 53  | Clerk's Salary and Expenses | 519.45               |
|                |     |                             |                      |
|                |     |                             |                      |
|                |     | <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>1,258.05</b>      |

**21/135 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Monday 8 November 2021

Meeting closed at 22.35

**Dates of Meetings 2021**

13 December