



COVENEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Monday 12 December 2022 at 7.30pm in Coveney Village Hall

Present: Mrs L Gannon, Mr R Langston, Mrs N Laredo, Mr B Matthews (Chairman), Mr C Senior, Dr S Winfield

Also Present: 1 member of public, Mr P Whitton (Groundskeeper), Mrs S Thompson (Clerk)

22/161 Apologies for absence

Apologies were approved from Miss Adams.

22/162 Members' declaration of interest for items on the agenda

None made

22/163 Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2022 were approved and signed.

22/164 Public Question Time

The applicant for the planning application for the Methodist Church gave information on his plans for the property.

22/165 District and County Councillors' Reports

Cllr Bailey has sent her apologies.

Cllr Dupré has sent a report which has been circulated to councillors.

22/166 Allotment Report

The last rent is being received.

22/167 Village Hall Report

It was agreed to donate £100 to the Village Hall to support the community Christmas Tree.

22/168 Planning

a) The following new application has been received for comment:-

22/01300/FUL – Coveney Methodist Church, Main Street, Coveney – Change of Use of redundant Methodist Chapel to commercial use as an office.

It was agreed to recommend approval. The Parish Council is not aware that there is any viable community use and supports the provision of small scale commercial space in the village.

b) It was noted that the following applications have been approved:-

22/00553/RMA – Meadow Croft Lodge, 10A Gravel End, Coveney – Approval of the details of the reserved matters for Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale in respect of Plot 3 of planning application 18/1302/OUT



22/005598/RMA – Meadow Croft Lodge, 10A Gravel End, Coveney – Approval of the details of the reserved matters for Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale in respect of Plot 1 of planning application 18/1302/OUT

22/01065/VAR - Land West Of 1 Jerusalem Drove Wardy Hill - Variation of condition 1 (Approved plans) and 8 (External Materials) of previously approved 17/01153/FUL for construction of 3 bedroom detached dwelling

- c) It was noted that an appeal has been submitted for the following application:-

22/00997/FUL – 24 Main Street, Coveney – Proposed extension to rear of property

22/169

Budget and Precept 2023/2024

Draft figures for discussion have been presented by the Clerk. Options were discussed and the budget figures were agreed. The aim is to maintain level of service currently being provided to the community. In order to do this, it was agreed that the precept for 2023/2024 will be £18,100. It was further agreed to plan in that the September meeting is slimmed down to essentials and then review expenditure and plan projects for the following year.

22/170

Correspondence

- a) Mr K Scott – re: Positioning of the birch trees in the orchard area. The Clerk has received confirmation from Mr Scott that “As long as the trees are 7 meters apart so we can still see the countryside between them either of your propositions are acceptable to us. Thank you.”
- b) Local Highways Improvement scheme 23/24 – The Clerk has had some discussion with Highways as to what can be done to slow traffic at the corner of Gravel End. Cushions and humps are not an option due to the lack of CCC streetlights in that area. The suggestion is that a give way feature may achieve the reduction in speed. The Clerk is due to meet Highways on site later this week.
- c) Fens Reservoir Consultation – Responses to the consultation were agreed.
- d) Greater Cambridge Partnership Consultation on Congestion Charge – A response to the consultation was agreed to cover the cost and unfairness to workers who have to travel in to Cambridge and the problems a congestion charge will cause them. The inclusion of Addenbrookes within the charging zone will also disadvantage people who have no choice but to visit the hospital.

22/171

Internal Audit Report

The Risk Register was discussed and some changes were approved.

22/172

Working Groups

- a) Allotment and Community Green Space
 - Borehole – no change
 - Community Orchard - 3 more sponsorship forms have been received. Signs will be done in time for the opening, but will wait for a while in case more sponsors come forward. The Queen’s Green Canopy sign will be fixed to the fence. A maintenance regime is beginning to be developed.
 - Orchard Opening – in hand
- b) Policies and Procedures – Standing Orders were approved
- c) Website/Communication – staging site for new website is available. It was agreed to aim to change over 16 January 2023.



- d) Council Issue Tracking and Archiving – Gitlab is ongoing. A shared document sharing system needs to be sorted.
- e) Assets
 - Grasscutting/Maintenance – Mr Whitton attended the meeting and was invited to give feedback on the grounds keeping undertaken. The equipment is going to Ernest Doe for service tomorrow, it will likely be there until required for next season. Mr Whitton has again had to work in to November and started the year earlier. There has been nothing but positive feedback on the standard of work completed. Mr Whitton reported to the meeting that the start of the season has been intense and while the grass is growing both villages need to be cut each week leaving little time for any other jobs. There can be time for spraying/cutting back jobs later in the year. It would be useful to have a task list to focus this work. Work in the Orchard has accounted for 15-20% of the time charged each month. Things that need to be sorted are the chemical storage unit and the longer term storage of the equipment. Consideration should be given to purchasing a chain saw and associated safety equipment and training to enable the clearing of more robust vegetation.
 - MUGA – Basketball board and other equipment and lighting are ongoing
 - Play area – play bark has been delivered and needs spreading.
 - Pond area regeneration – ideas are being developed.
- f) Friends of Coveney – Permissions letter has been received from the County Council highways team to allow waymarking.
- g) Broadband – no news yet

22/173

Projects

- a) Grazing land in School Lane – the Clerk gave a verbal update on advice from Brown & Co.
- b) Wardy Hill Social Club – a committee is now in place and will progress the registration of the site. This is likely to be a long process as there are long wait times at the Land Registry
- c) Anglian Observatory – on going
- d) Land adjacent to Village Hall – The Clerk has not yet received anything from the solicitor.

22/174

Finance

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

Bank Reconciliation – 30 November 2022

Current Account	5,192.50	Brought Forward	37,963.35
Deposit Account	30,894.18	Income	
LESS uncleared cheque	36.00	(Expenditure)	(1,883.40)
	36,050.68		36,051.67

- b) The following payments were authorised.



Payee	Description	REF	Amount
Yu Energy	Streetlight energy	DD94	15.36
Yu Energy	Streetlight energy	DD95	13.40
Yu Energy	Streetlight energy	DD96	126.28
Right Fuelcard	Fuelcard	DD97	1.20
Narked Design	New Website	98	349.00
Narked Design	New Website	99	150.00
SLCC	Subscription	100	101.00
Red Shoes	Payroll services	101	46.80
CAPALC	Training	102	35.86
Mrs S Thompson	Clerk's Salary and Expenses	103	729.49
Mr P Whitton	Groundskeeper	104	586.88
			0.00
	TOTAL		2,155.27

22/175 Dates of Meeting for 2023

Meetings will continue on the second Monday of the month, with a couple of adjustments for bank holidays.

9 January
 13 February
 13 March
 3 April
 24 April – Annual Parish Meeting
 15 May
 12 June
 10 July
 14 August (provisional)
 11 September
 9 October
 13 November
 11 December

22/176 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 9 January 2023, 7.30pm in Coveney Village Hall

Meeting closed at 22.50