

COVENEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Monday 14 June 2021 at 7.30pm in Coveney Village Hall

Present: Mr A Bensted, Mrs N Laredo, Mr B Matthews (Chairman), Mr C Senior, Mr A Stygal, Dr S Winfield

Also Present: Mrs S Thompson (Clerk)

21/073 Apologies for absence

None, all present.

21/074 Members' declaration of interest for items on the agenda

None.

21/075 To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The minutes of 10 May 2021 were approved for signature

21/076 Public Question Time

Nothing raised.

21/077 District and County Councillors' Reports

Cllr Anna Bailey (ECDC) sends her apologies.

Cllr Dupré has sent her report and responded to questions on the report. It was noted that some of the roads have been marked up and work is anticipated. It was emphasized that the condition of the roads is a high priority for Coveney Parish Council.

21/078 Matters to report

- Opus Energy – The Clerk has submitted a complaint about being overcharged.
- Vacancy for one councillor – co-option can commence from Wednesday 16 June.
- Parish Boundary – Wilbey Hill Farm – any change is required to be made by ECDC and the process is onerous. A governance review took place in 2018 and it would require many more anomalies before they do so again.

21/079 Playgrounds

- Annual Inspection Reports – The reports from Playsafety were considered. Many of the issues identified have been superseded by the installation of the new equipment at Coveney. Other issues will be monitored. Mr Bensted undertook to check over the equipment in both play areas on a monthly basis.
- New equipment – has been installed in Coveney. A report has been received about a child getting a nasty graze from the equipment and the parent is content that the manufacturer is contacted to ensure that the installation is correctly done.

21/080 Internal Audit

The report was noted. It was decided that now would be a good time to get some fresh perspective. CAPALC are offering an internal audit service at £30 an hour and it was agreed to appoint them from now on.

21/081 Full Fibre Broadband Internet for Coveney

Dr Winfield reported on the provision of full fibre internet connection to properties in Coveney. Way Head and Wardy Hill are already fully connected. It was agreed to proceed with Openreach to progress the voucher scheme which would require most properties to sign up.

21/082 Magpas

It was agreed to donate £50.(S137)

21/083 Planning

a) Approval of the following application was noted:

21/00033/FUM – Land at Byall Fen, Old Lynn Drove, Coveney – To divert existing Internal Drainage Board Main drain to create a coherent contiguous block of lowland wet grassland to add to the already created habitat at Coveney Byall Fen under the auspices of the Ouse Washes Habitat Creation Project

b} Land adjacent to 2 Gravel End – Enforcement report - The response from the Enforcement Officer is the development is “broadly in line with the permission”. However, the Parish Council are not happy with this and the Clerk was authorized to pursue with matter further.

21/084 Working Groups

a) Allotments

- Boundary – Solicitor is awaiting a response.
- New allotment holders - two further allotments have been taken. Mr Senior will discuss with the ploholder about planting and bees
- Fencing – has been completed and is very satisfactory. They also kindly installed the noticeboard.
- S106 grant application – Mrs Laredo has prepared the application and it was agreed to submit it to ECDC. Mr Matthews was authorised to sign the application.
- Borehole – a new quote has been a received and it was agreed to give the order to proceed.
- Pond – FWAG are proceeding with the preparation for the pond and will have to submit a planning application in due course
- Close the Gap Hedgerow Planting Project – FWAG have agreed to provide £2,340 for 390m of hedges. The community will be involved in the planting. Mr Matthews has signed and returned the agreement.

b) Policies and Procedures – nothing to report

c) Website -Mr Matthews and Dr Winfield are meeting later this week to make improvements

d) Assets

- Grasscutting/Maintenance– the equipment is has had some mechanical problems. Mr Senior is following up with Ernest Doe to see if the problem can be resolved.
- Purchase of more playbark – completed and has been spread by the groundskeeper and some volunteers
- MUGA cleaning and relining – has been pressure washed. A further visit is due to paint the lines.
- Fence between Play Area and adjacent field – The Clerk is following this up.
- New Noticeboard – has been installed
- Johns Wood – Woodland Trust will be sorting out the overgrowth.

e) Village Hall update – nothing to report. Village Hall committee meeting tomorrow.

f) Friends of Coveney – Took part in the litter picking week as part of the Great British Spring Clean. An article will be in the forthcoming Fenscene magazine. NHS Frontline day is on 5 July 2021 and it is planned. Chris Warner has purchased the official banner and it was proposed to donate £50

21/085 Finance

i) To agree new signatories for cheques and internet banking
It was agreed to add all councillors as bank signatories and for them all to be authorised for internet banking.

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

Bank Reconciliation – 31 May 2021

Current Account	6,712.87	Brought Forward	39,576.66
Deposit Account	21,152.69	Income	1,910.41
Uncleared Payments	(156.35)	(Expenditure)	(13,777.86)
	27,709.21		27,709.21

iii) The following payments were approved.

Payee	Ref	Detail	Total Amount Inc VAT
Information Commissioner (DD)	20	Annual Fee	35.00
CCC (Archives Project)	21	Annual Fee (S137)	100.00
Arbantia Fencing	22	Allotment fencing	11,989.20
Ely & District Training Group	23	Mower Training	420.00
War Memorials Trust	24	Subscription	20.00
Mr P Whitton	25	May groundskeeping	687.32
Red Shoes	26	Payroll	45.00
Ernest Doe	27	Groundskeeping equipment	135.50
Opus Energy (Direct Debit)	28	Streetlighting energy	49.82
National Allotment Society	29	Subscription	66.00
canalbs Ltd (cheque)	30	Internal Audit	136.50
Mrs S Thompson	31	Clerks Salary and Expenses	533.23
		TOTAL	14,217.57

21/086 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 12 July 2021

Mr Stygal resigned from the Parish Council as he is moving away.

Meeting closed at 22.00