

COVENEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 14 September 2020 at 7.30pm by Zoom

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

Also Present: Cllr Anna Bailey, Sandra Thompson (the Clerk)

20/069 Apologies for absence

Apologies were approved from Mrs Badcock

20/070 Members' declaration of interest for items on the agenda

None

20/071 To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The minutes 10 August 2020 were approved for signature.

20/072 Public Question Time

Nothing raised.

20/073 District and County Councillors' Reports

Cllr Dupré has sent her apologies and her report has been circulated.

Cllr Anna Bailey attended and reported on the white paper on planning changes which is being consulted on currently. Local plans will be easier to prepare and refer to. All land will be allocated to three areas, growth (outline permission deemed to be in place), development (planning permission to be applied for) and protected (no development). Each area will be subject to design rules. Planning process will be speedier and more streamlined. There are changes to CIL and enforcement.

Planning permission is being sought on the land at the old RAF site behind the hospital. Commuter car parks at Littleport and Ely had 5% occupancy during lockdown and have settled down at 20% recently. It is still unknown what the new normal will be.

Natural Cambridgeshire are aiming to double the available space for wildlife habitats. Cllr Bailey will be talking at the event on Wednesday.

20/074 Traffic issues due to roadworks at BP Roundabout (A10/A142 junction)

- Confirmation of order for new vehicle activated sign – this has been ordered and an additional one has been put in place by the CCC. A pedestrian had a near miss in Jerusalem Drive. The individual was shocked but is reassured that there is a speed sign in the area. It is clear that there is no path alongside the road, possibly a mown strip would help. Mr Matthews will investigate.
- To decide on possible upgrade of existing vehicle activated sign - agreed
- Condition of road surface in West Fen Road – it is reported that all roads, but particularly West Fen Road, have deteriorated in the short time since the road works started. It is suggested that Pam Joyce be requested to survey in order to inform the programme for repairs. Cllr Bailey offered to follow up on this, with a view to this happening in November. It was reported that as the road is single track with passing spaces it should be signed as such, but never has been.
- It was acknowledged that Pam Joyce is working hard to improve the passing spaces.

20/075 Local Highways Improvement Scheme 2021/22

It was agreed to submit an application to further manage the speed of traffic in Wardy Hill. Gates on the verge at the entrance should further encourage vehicles to slow down and improve the safety of residents in the part of the village where there is no footway.

20/076 Planning

- a) It was noted that the following application has been refused:-

20/00739/FUL – 26 Main Street, Coveney – Demolition of existing pair of semi-detached cottages, associated farm and outbuildings, and the erection of five dwellings

- b) It was noted that the appeal in respect of following application has been dismissed:-

19/00881/OUT – Land to the East of Witcham Bridge Farm, Witcham Bridge Drove, Wardy Hill – Proposed 1 no 5 bedroom dwelling with associated garage

20/077 Working Groups

- a) Allotments
- Boundary – The Clerk has been following up
 - S106 agreement – Mrs Laredo has completed the form as much as possible until quotes are received.
 - Open day – posters are being produced and distributed for the sign up day on 20 September. Numbers are not expected to be a problem for social distancing. Potential allotment holders will be invited to sign up.
- b) Policies and Procedures – no progress
- c) Website – has been updated to enable others to update the site. Some training will be needed by some to be able to contribute.
- d) Assets
- Pond – Green Wood should be able to move the clearance along shortly.
 - Grasscutting – all going well
 - Noticeboard – The Clerk has some initial prices.
- e) Village Hall update – A meeting has taken place. Issues covered included the garage area between the village hall and the playpark, external lighting, fireworks event (may or may not happen now), internet provision, re-glazing doors and maintenance, newsletter
- f) Neighbourhood Watch – A new volunteer co-ordinator has been found and details passed on to the organizer.

20/078 Finance

- i) Internal Audit – The report has been circulated to all councilors. The recommendations will be implemented. It was further reported that the Annual Return has been submitted to the External Auditor within the deadline.
- ii) Monthly income and expenditure, financial reconciliation and budgetary control reports for the year to date were presented.

Bank Reconciliation – 31 August 2020

Current Account	18,667.93	Brought Forward	40,362.29
Deposit Account	21,147.92	Income	-
Uncleared Cheques	(1,847.39)	(Expenditure)	(2,393.83)
	37,968.46		37,968.46

iii) The following cheques were approved for signature.

PAYEE	DETAIL	CHQ NO	AMOUNT
Green Wood Tree Surgery	Grasscutting pond area	1111	168.00
Fenland Leisure Products	Repairs to swings in Wardy Hill	1112	1,291.20
Red Shoes Accounting	Payroll services	1113	45.00
canalbs ltd	Internal audit	1114	127.50
East Cambs Trading Co	Grasscutting play area	1115	224.64
Mrs S Thompson	Clerk's expenses – August	1116	38.44
Mrs S Thompson	Clerk's salary - August	1116	306.33
Green Wood Tree Surgery	Grasscutting pond area	1117	168.00
	TOTAL		<u>2,369.11</u>

20/079 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 12 October 2020, online (to be confirmed)

Meeting closed at 21.00