

Minutes of a meeting of the Tydd St Giles Parish Council held on Thursday 23rd January 2014, in the small room at the Community Centre, Broad Drove East, at 7.00pm.

Present R Mallett (Chairman), C Drewry, M Johnson, M Taylor, R Wright (Clerk), J Simpson, J Simpson, P Thomson, J Ayling,

C Ross, H Howlett H Jarvis. Cllr C Seaton, Cllr M Humphrey.

Apologies for Absence C Livings (Illness), B Francis (work). PcsO D Russ

419/14 Confirmation of minutes –RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 10th October 2013 were correctly recorded and that they be signed as being a true record.

420/14 Matters Arising

a) Dog Bin Kirkgate – Further to minute 407/13(a) The Chairman reported that the bin was in place.

b) Old School House – Further to minute 407/13(b) Cllr Seaton reported that the situation was as before. Cllr Jarvis raised concerns over loose tiles and felt that the site was a safety risk. Cllr Seaton agreed to speak to officers and meet with Cllr Jarvis on site.

c) Tydd St Giles Play area Group – Further to minute 407/13(c) The Chairman reported that the group were actively raising funds for equipment.

d) Bench Foul Anchor – Further to minute 407/13(d) The Clerk confirmed that the insurance company had paid £1,150 in settlement of the claim for a replacement bench. Cllr Mallett and Cllr Taylor agreed to meet with the contractor to arrange for erection of the replacement bench.

e) Telephone fault – Further to minute 407/13(e) The Chairman reported that problems were still being investigated.

f) Notice Boards – Further to minute 407/13(f) The Chairman reported that work was still pending.

g) Golden Age Fair – Further to minute 407/13(g) -

"Over 130 people attended the Golden Age Fair in the Community Centre on Friday afternoon. 35 organisations attended providing a wide range of advice and information. They included Age Uk, Alzheimer's Society and the British Red Cross, as well as the police, NHS and fire service.

The New Horizons bus was there with staff from Fenland District council, the Rural Cambs Citizen Advice Bureau and Rodens offering tips on ways to save money.

There was a model of a tram and carriage of the kind that used to operate on the Wisbech and Upwell tramway.

Many people had health checks and received benefits & financial advice.

The New Age Kurling seemed to gain a lot of interest and most people had a go!

All those attended were given a Golden Age Bag for all their advice leaflets and freebies

The Fair coincided with Councillor Cotterell's funeral whom was the founder of the Golden Age concept but the Golden Age Team thought it would be a fitting tribute to him for the massive contribution he made helping older people having better access to all sorts of services, particularly those who live in rural areas, and these fairs are one of his great legacies.

421/14 Police Matters PcsO D Russ report was circulated to all Councillors.

Cambridgeshire's Police and Crime Commissioner was proposing to put forward a modest increase in the policing part of council tax to protect the front line, after the Cambridgeshire force received £1.2m less than expected in police grant for 2014/15.

The 7 pence per week increase would mean that the frontline continues to be protected. Significant savings had been made to balance the 2014/15 budget, but yesterday's grant settlement announcement revealed that forces, including Cambridgeshire, had been 'top sliced' to fund national initiatives.

The precept will nominally provide a £131.5m budget for policing in 2014/15. It would allow the police to continue to deliver against the pledges as set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

The Police have secured funding of an extra £2m to cover using technology to release police time so that more hours could be

Made available on front line issues

422/14 Cambridgeshire County Councillor Report - No report was submitted by Cllr Alan Lay.

423/14 Fenland District Council Cllr Seaton confirmed that the development at Broad Drove East would not be before FDC planning committee until March 2014. He also confirmed that the wind turbine at Nutwalk Farm had been approved by the inspector.

Cllr Humphrey spoke about the decision to phase out the Concurrent functions Grant.

424/14 Correspondence

a) Volunteer Centre – request for donation. RESOLVED that no donation be made.

b) Golf & Leisure Centre – The Clerk reported that the De-fibrillator sited at the Golf centre had been handed over to the village

but the Golf centre will continue to check the battery on a daily basis.

c) Cambridgeshire Statement of Community Involvement (Sci) – sets out Councils requirement in respect of community involvement for nationally strategic infrastructure projects for major developments in energy, transport, waste water and water sectors.

d) The Connections Bus Project is a charity that has been leading youth work sessions across Cambridgeshire for nearly 20 years. This has been a mixture of building based as well as using our state of the art youth buses.

They could offer a weekly visit of their youth bus lasting 2 hours and staffed by 3 trained and experienced youth workers. Available on the youth bus would be internet access, games consoles, music, crafts, sports, quizzes and tuck shop.

The fee for the above provision would be between £220 and £300 per session (depending on mileage from our base and number of villages taking up our services).

e) Royal Garden Party - Nominations for the Buckingham Palace Royal Garden Party 3rd June 2014. RESOLVED - that Cllr Taylor ne nominated to attend.

f) Fenland DC - Core Strategy or any issues with Resource Use or Design Quality supplementary planning documents. The Council had no further comments.

g) Dogs Trust has just started a huge chipping campaign to run with the new government announcement that from the 6th April 2016 all dogs will have to be micro chipped. Dogs Trust have new roaming chipping teams who will be offering FREE micro chipping across the UK. RESOLVED – that the matter be referred to the Community Centre.

h) Twinning visit to Fenland – The Fenland Twinning Tea Party was held on 22 January at 5.30pm, in the Council Chamber Fenland Hall. The Nettetal visit would be between the 19-23 June 2014

i) Magpas – Request for donation- RESOLVED – That a donation of £100.00 be made.

j) Cllr Livings reported that loads of soil and large chunks of concrete were being dumped in the dyke on the left, just before the bridge, when entering the village from Newton.

The Clerk spoke to North Level drainage board who confirmed that infilling of ditches had been consented. Fenland DC had also been consulted if it amounts to fly tipping.

k) Mrs A Balls – The Clerk reported that a letter of thanks had been received regarding the provision of a footpath in Church Lane as she felt it greatly improved a safe access for the school children.

425/14 Planning

Applications for which observations are requested.

FYR13/0729/F Tydd St Giles Golf – Kirkgate – siting 37 leisure homes – no objections

FYR13/0748/F M Thornton Old Post Office Church lane – replacement dwelling – no objections

FYR13/0795/TRTPO D Strickland Trincomalee Kirkgate works to 2x Ash tress - supported

FYR13/0814/F A Purcell Rosedale Bees lane – mobile home for use as bedroom - supported

FYR13/0900/F D Fannin Barn Owl Lodge Hannath Road – garage conversion and porch - supported

FYR13/0905/F F Coulson Pinchpenny Farm Broad Dr East – 12 dwellings – supported subject to two conditions:- any resident who has lived in the village for 5 years or more should move to the top of the housing list and be given first priority to these affordable housing. None of these houses cannot be sub let.

FYR13/0935/F K Malin Oaktree Farm Middle Broad Dr – extension - pending

The appeal is allowed and planning permission is granted for a 50kW wind turbine (24.6m to hub) at Nutwalk Farm, Bythorne Bank, Tydd St Giles, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire PE13 5NN in accordance with the terms of the application, Ref F/YR12/0678/F, dated 31 August 2012.

Neighbourhood Planning - In short, the only real 'game in town' now for parish councils, should they feel they need for own plan, is a neighbourhood plan. 'Parish plans' or 'village statements' etc, can be still produced, but, for planning purposes, they would carry very little weight in the system. However, the bar has been set very high by government to achieve such a plan. There is considerable legislation and steps a parish must go through...and large amounts of cost and time falls on the parish. Fenland Council would assist.

The matter of the stationing of caravan at Bees lane has been achieved.

Street naming – land east of Potential House, Kirkgate – proposed name The Old Stable Gardens - APPROVED

426/14 Highway Matters/Street Lighting

a) Street lights – consideration for new lights or replacement lights for 2012/2013. Cllr Johnson and the Clerk to action.

Street lighting is currently split between local authorities at all levels. Balfour Beatty currently provides repairs and maintenance for FDC and Parish lights. A structural survey has been undertaken and PC will be notified of the details of the conditions of their lights.

b) Highway matters –

c) JFMHIS – bids for a footpath at Kirkgate from Golf course to village and additional lighting along Kirkgate

After an assessment of the LHI bids, Cambs CC officers noted that Tydd St Giles had submitted two bids when strictly, it should be one. Cambs CC can only allocate £10,000 to any one bidder and therefore any additional costs must be met by the third party. The bid for a footway extension to the golf course was estimated at £75,000 to fully construct in one attempt. The second bid for street lights but at a cost of around £3,000 each your estimate of £8,000 will only get two lamp columns installed.

RESOLVED – that the bid for the lights be put forward.

427/14 Income & Expenditure

a) The Members considered and approved the following account for payment:

Fenland D C 82.87	Empty wheeled bin Community centre		
GM landscapes 75.31	Grass cutting	62.76	12.55
R Wright 770.92	Clerks salary		
Cambs CC 302.74	Clerks pension		
HMR&C 42.40	PAYE		
TStGCC&RG 97.05	Donation - recycling credits		
Magpas 100.00	Donation		

b) The Council considered income of £17,550.57 & expenditure of £7,636.55 for 2013/2014.

Concurrent Functions Grant – Further to a letter from A Melton Leader of Fenland District Council – over the next two years, FDC faces reductions in excess of £2 million, on top of over £6 million pounds of savings achieved in the last four years. The Concurrent Functions Grant for 2014/2015 will be reduced to two-thirds of the current years grant of £2,990 which is £1,993. In 2015/2016 one third and 2016/2017 no grant will be paid.

Council Tax support Grant £750, Concurrent Grant £1,993 and the net tax base 355

RATE SUPPORT GRANT the NALC chairman has already written to all member councils and NALC are in dialogue with ministers on the topic to try and achieve a more balanced outcome for parishes. The pass through of the part of the grant to parish and town councils across the county area is quite mixed with some districts passing through 75% of the parish allocation for

2014 – 15 and indicating reducing percentages over the two following years to other districts passing through Zero to the parish sector.

Benwick Parish Council spoke to FDC Cabinet Committee today regarding the “Concurrent Functions Grant” Regardless of the presentation the Committee passed the reduction of the Grant. RESOLVED – that a precept of £9,000 be levied for 2014/2015.

c) Risk Management & health & Safety – the Clerk reported on Audit Commission National Fraud Initiative, Corporate Procurement Policy, Fraud and Corruption, Whistle Blowing. RESOLVED – that the documents be adopted and approved by the Council.

428/14 Allotments

a) The Clerk reported that Mr Plaw has an issue with the Parish Council regarding the fact that as the land owner they do not ensure that their tenant or they undertake

maintenance of the dyke that adjoins his property. A copy of his letter of 3rd January 2014 and emails from his daughter had been circulated to Councillors.

The Clerk further reported that he had met with Mr K Plaw on 3rd December 2013, regarding the maintenance of ditches at the Cheshires and an inspection of the area was made.

The Clerk noticed that the ditch between Mr Plaw and the allotments had been mowed at the top section both sides and further down only on the allotment side. The mowing was not undertaken by the Drainage Board and Mr Howlett subsequently informed the Clerk that he had undertaken mowing of the allotment side. Mr Plaw was concerned that his side had not been mowed.

The Clerk confirmed that Mr Plaw has experienced no flooding since the works were undertaken in 2009. The Clerk felt that it may be prudent to assist in future with maintenance works on the shred ditch leading from Mr Plaw's boundary. RESOLVED – That all Councillors make an inspection of the allotment in order that they a resolution may be made at the next meeting.

b) The Chairman reported that with the exception of the intake all allotments were in good order. RESOLVED – that a letter be sent to Mr Young regarding the state of the intake allotment.

429/14 Community Centre – no report was available.

430/14 Foul Anchor

The Clerk to report that the North Level & District IDB have been unable to contact the driver of the vehicle or their insurance company and have not scheduled any works on replacing the damaged rails near to the old outfall.

Cllr Taylor reported that he had registered the Foul Anchor War Memorial with the War Memorial Trust.

The notice board was currently being repaired. The bench in the bus shelter was broken.

431/04 Dates for Meetings

Annual Assembly 20th March 2014 at 7pm

Council meeting 20th March at 7.30pm