

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held On Thursday 11 November 2021

Present: - Stephen Roberts, Kate Homan, Polly Fenwick, Robert Foster, Henry Batchelor - County Councillor
Edith Osborn as Clerk

1 Apologies: Giles Dobson, Paul Archer, Geoff Harvey – District Councillor
A quorum was present.

2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 August 2021.
The minutes of the meeting held on 19 August 2021 were reviewed.
Stephen Roberts proposed that the minutes be approved and Polly Fenwick seconded the proposal.

3 Declarations of Interest
No councillor had any new interests to declare.

4 Administration

4.1 Vacancy on the council

It was noted that Mary Maitland had resigned from the council. She had stood as a councillor for five years. A letter of thanks would be sent to her by the Clerk on behalf of the council.

Consideration was given to other people in the village who may be interested in standing as councillor and it was decided that Stephen Roberts would email residents about the vacancy.

4.2 New website update

Polly Fenwick had prepared a risk assessment leading to the conclusion that for the council to create a new website which complied with the WCAG 2.1AA standard would be disproportionately burdensome for the following reasons: the council has limited resources, the council does not provide dedicated information to people with disabilities, the cost of creating a compliant new website would be in the region of 25% of the precept, and the council has no options to raise money to fund this. Stephen Roberts proposed that as a result of completing the risk assessment, it would be a disproportionate burden for the council to comply with the standard. This was seconded by Polly Fenwick. Polly Fenwick will circulate a copy of the risk assessment. It was agreed that the council would continue to look into creating a new website.

Stephen Roberts thanked Polly for the work she had carried out on this issue.

Henry Batchelor joined the meeting.

4.3 Grass cutting contract

The Clerk had obtained a quotation from CGM for the next season. She had written to two other firms but had had no reply and it was discussed whether firms are not interested in the work because it is a small amount of work. It was decided that despite CGM having to be reminded to fulfil their agreed program of cuts that the council would accept their quotation.

Stephen Roberts proposed that the quotation of £105.90 plus VAT be accepted and Polly Fenwick seconded the proposal.

5 Finance

5.1 Payments proposed for authorisation were:

5.1.1 SLCC chq no 377

£ 67.00

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5.1.2 Mrs M Field chq no 378	£ 25.00
5.1.3 CGM chq no 379	£ 119.70
5.1.4 Thurlow Estates chq no 380	£ 1.00
5.1.5 Edith Osborn	£ 18.20

Once the Clerk confirmed that the payment to Thurlow Estates was the usual £1 and not £119.70 as stated on the Agenda, the payments were proposed for authorisation by Stephen Roberts and seconded by Robert Foster.

5.2 Receipts, payments and reconciliation as at 31 October 2021

Stephen Roberts proposed that the accounts as at 31 October 2021 be approved and Robert Foster seconded the proposal.

5.3 Precept 2022/23

The proposed budget was reviewed. The Clerk advised that she had included £200 as a maximum that the parish council could pay for website creation and/or maintenance. After discussion it was decided to increase the training budget by £100 as there would be a new councillor joining the parish council and the council would like to lay another two loads of planings on the green lane, one load to be paid from S106 monies.

Stephen Roberts proposed that the budget suggested by the Clerk of £4,300 be accepted providing there were no other changes and Robert Foster seconded the proposal.

6 Planning.

6.1 Update on Local Plan – Six Mile Bottom

Stephen advised the councillors of Giles Dobson's views on the proposals for Six Mile Bottom's expansion. The overall strategy in the draft Local Plan is that the Greater Cambridge Partnership will concentrate growth within Cambridge itself (Darwin Green, North East Cambridge, Eddington, Marshalls Airfield) together with three large strategic residential allocations being Cambourne/Bourne Airfield, Northstowe, and Waterbeach. There is very little development proposed outside these key new settlements or in the villages.

Henry Batchelor advised that the parish council should make their opinion known about the proposed Local Plan and try and get as many people as possible to respond to the consultation which runs until December. Stephen Roberts agreed to email residents with the link to the consultation.

6.2 Update on Willingham Green Scrapyard

The approved planning application for 4 new dwellings will lapse soon but none of the councillors had any knowledge of what will be proposed next for the site.

7 Environmental

7.1 S106 monies/other uses

S106 monies are still planned to be used to purchase planings for the By-road.

7.2 LHI Willingham Green

No application has been made this year due to the County Council's continuing policy on speed limits.

7.3 Speed limits

Henry Batchelor advised that the Council are looking into creating 20mph zones in towns and villages.

Stephen Roberts agreed to write to the local MP and copy in Henry about the differing speed limits and the Council's policy versus Government's policy.

Henry advised that some of the other villages within the Balsham ward have purchased speed indicator devices so Carlton should check if they can have use of the communal device more often.

7.4 Road surfaces/gulleys

Stephen Roberts confirmed that he had completed an online form to advise Highways that the gulleys need emptying.

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7.5 Flooding on B1050

Henry Batchelor agreed to follow up on the letter sent to the D'Abo Estate about clearing the ditches to avoid further flooding on the B1050.

7.6 Footpaths

There were no reports of footpath issues. It was noted that Andrew Crossley of Thurlow Estate requested that residents did not walk on the headland on Acre Road.

7.7 Trees – The Queen's Green Canopy Project

SCDC are offering parishes six free trees which will be planted on the By-road.

The parish council would be keen to support the Green Canopy Project.

Tim Barling, Thurlow Estate, has advised that he will consider requests for areas of land for planting trees.

It was noted that the trees on the Millenium Walkway are getting larger and a working party of residents will be trimming them back soon. Stephen Roberts had noted that the wooden edging to the path is becoming more broken so he had asked John Mingay to quote to replace the broken edges.

Josephine Roberts continues to litter pick around the village.

7.8 Local Environment Survey

The Clerk advised that 16 responses had been received to the survey and she would provide Robert Foster with the results in tabular form.

7.9 Climate Change issues

Robert Foster advised that there are lots of webinars on climate issues now to watch and also many more resources are available.

It was noted that heavy rainfall can happen anywhere and a good start to cope with this is to clear the ditches.

Some residents have changed their cars for electric ones.

7.10 Bonfires and burning of haystacks

It was noted that there had been bonfires in Willingham Green and Carlton which had polluted the air for some time thereafter. For future issues, contact needs to be made with Environmental Health about large polluting fires.

7.11 Village Emblem

There was no update.

8 District Councillor's report

Items covered by County Councillor's report.

9 County Councillor's report

Henry Batchelor reported as follows:

- Please respond to the Local Plan Consultation by 13 December
- Covid-19 numbers are increasing and Cambridgeshire has therefore been designated as an Enhanced Response Area for 5 weeks. More support is being offered for messaging the public.
- A meeting is scheduled next Friday with Nik Johnston to discuss public transport and A1307
- Parish meetings are re-starting; the first one is 30 November
- The Council are trialling offering a small caddy for food waste
- There is a Household Support Fund for families to access as many Cambridge families earn less than 60% of the national average
- Ten Afghan families have been housed in Cambridgeshire but the Council struggled to find appropriate houses.

10 General observations or matters for consideration at the next meeting

None

The Chairman thanked everyone for their input this evening.

The Meeting closed at 9.52pm.