

**MINUTES of a meeting of Little Downham Parish Council held in the Village Hall,
Main Street, Little Downham, on Thursday, 14 August 2014 commencing at 7.00pm.**

Councillors present: MM Oldfield, in the chair, and CM Frankland, GF Frankland, CE Hall, LEA Joel, RS Martin, BGF Smith, BL Taylor and GH Taylor. **Clerk:** Mrs J Wardle

Other attendees: None

58/14 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr DA Adams-Payne, Dist. Cllrs A Bailey, T Goodge and County Cllr P Read.

No Apologies – Cllr KO Winters.

59/14 **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

1. **Cllr BGF Smith** declared a personal interest in item 61/14.1.4 (Application 14/00792/FUL) because he lives next-door to the farmyard (No. 52) (Declaration 014-2014).
2. **Cllr BL Taylor** declared an interest in item 61/14.1.2 (Application 14/00773/FUL) because he owns the property next-door (No. 52) (Declaration 015-2014).
3. **Cllr GH Taylor** declared an interest in item 61/14.1.2 (Application 14/00773/FUL) because she owns the property next-door (No. 52) (Declaration 016-2014).

60/14 **PUBLIC FORUM** - None

61/14 **PLANNING MATTERS**

1. Planning correspondence -
 - 1.1 **14/00762/FUL** Mr D Narotam, 62 Ely Road, Little Downham – Single storey rear extension – **Resolved** - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns.
 - 1.2 **14/00773/FUL** Mr Jonathan Flude, 54 Main Street, Lt Downham – Subdivision of existing dwelling to create 2 dwellings, including demolition of side gable to form wider driveway – **Resolved** - Little Downham Parish Council had concerns regarding this application and recommended outright refusal for the following reasons:
 1. **Volume of traffic at the narrowest point of Main Street** – This location has frequent on-street parking and congestion problems. The proposed off-street parking for vehicles from the proposed two dwellings will exacerbate the problems because more vehicles will be waiting to turn in and come out of the driveway in this narrow location.
 2. **Poor visibility** – Main Street is the busiest road in Little Downham. Parents and children pass this location to walk to the village primary school and Pre-School. There is restricted visibility at the entrance of this property.
 3. **Alteration to the street scene in a Conservation Area** - It is considered that drastic action is being taken by the applicant to demolish the side gable to form a wider driveway. Firstly, this proposal will affect the street scene. Secondly, if building work should go wrong, it could have a severe detrimental impact on the structure of the building too. It is considered that this proposal will still not achieve adequate visibility splayed either side.
 - 1.3 **14/00781/FUL** Mr Matt Dunham, 2 Cannon Street, Lt Downham – Extension to provide garage, store, entrance hall, study, office and first floor bedroom - **Resolved** - Little Downham Parish Council had concerns regarding this application and recommended outright refusal for the following reasons:
 1. **Affect on the street scene** – The proposed development will have a detrimental visual effect on the line of dwellings in this location. The proposal is considered to be an over development of the site.
 2. **Poor visibility** – The proposed development will cause visibility issues for the residents of No. 4 Cannon Street exiting their property.
 3. **Highways issues** – A beauty business is run from this property and therefore development on part of the front parking area will reduce the amount of off-street parking currently available, which as a result will cause more on-street parking in an area that is not too far from the Church Way/Ely Road junction. On-street parking causes problems for the large farm vehicles that often use Cannon Street because Main Street has restricted access due to consistent on-street parking.

- 1.4 **14/00792/FUL** Mr & Mrs Runciman, The Yard, High Road, Lt Downham – Erection of farm building (163.8 sqm) - **Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns.**
- 1.5 **14/00863/FUL** Mr S McGowan, 21 Cannon Street, Lt Downham – Remove single storey room at the side of the house and construct a two storey side extension and a single storey rear extension - - **Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns.**

For information only:

- 1.6 ECDC - Applications approved: 14/00419/FUL, 14/00558/FUL, 14/00551/FUL, 14/00553/LBC
- 1.7 ECDC – Applications refused: 14/00785/AGN (application was received between meetings)

62/14 FINANCE

- 1.1 **To approve bills and other items for payment** – The Clerk reported receiving two invoices after the 17/07/14 meeting from Little Downham Youth Group. Both were for items previously approved by the Council (end of term senior youth workers and the pledged grant of £500 for the skate part activity to be held on 27/08/14). As the payments were requested as soon as possible, the Clerk confirmed the invoice BACS payments of 209 and 210 to Cllr MM Oldfield and Cllr DA Adams-Payne for authorisation and payments were made on 31/07/14. The Clerk was asked if she had received a copy of the Youth Group's latest year-end accounts and session attendance statistics yet (Min.49/14.7). The Council requested copies for the September meeting.
- 1.2 Items presented for payment were proposed by Cllr GF Frankland and seconded by Cllr CE Hall. **Resolved unanimously to approve list of payments for direct debit and BACS payments 209 to 220 for the total sum of £8157.65.**

A summary of the Council's payments and receipts to date were handed to members for information.

63/14 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

- 7.50pm It is hereby resolved in accordance with Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted at Agenda Item 64/14, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded from this meeting and they are herewith instructed to withdraw.

64/14 PARISH COUNCIL LAND AND ASSETS

1. **To consider a new memorial seat in Lt Downham Recreation Area (Frank 'Dempsey' Lythell) and other seats in the parish (Min.56/14.2)** – Cllr Smith recommended Oak seats from MJ Elliott, Feltwell Norfolk. It was agreed to replace the memorial seat in Lt Downham Recreation Area and consider replacing the seat on Church Green and outside the school. Cllr CE Hall offered to sponsor a new seat on Church Green. It was suggested that the Clerk contact Mr & Mrs Summersgill at ALS Lock to ask about replacing the seat they sponsored outside the school. The Clerk will enquire about the cost of memorial plaques and carving. **Resolved unanimously for the Clerk to arrange the purchase of new memorial seats from MJ Elliott, Feltwell, Norfolk, for Lt Downham Recreation Area and on Church Green and following agreement with Mr & Mrs Summersgill to approve the purchase of an Oak seat outside the school.**

65/14 REQUEST OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION - none

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.20 pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date