

**MINUTES of a meeting of Little Downham Parish Council held in the Village Hall,
Main Street, Little Downham, on Thursday, 22 September 2016 commencing at 7.00pm.**

Councillors present: JL Waters, in the chair, and JW Barker, MM Oldfield, G Ord, MAC Seidler, BL Taylor, GH Taylor and KO Winters. **Clerk:** Mrs J Wardle

Other attendees: Dist Cllr A Bailey and County Cllr L Dupre.

77/16 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllrs CE Hall, LEA Joel and RS Martin and Dist Cllr M Bradley.

78/16 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. No declarations were made at this time.
2. Late declarations were made prior to item 83/16.1.7 –
Cllr BL Taylor declared the following interest (Declaration 031-2016).
Cllr GH Taylor declared the following interest (Declaration 032-2016).
2.1 Personal interest in item 83/16.1.7 (Application 16/01181/OUT) because the applicant is a friend.

79/16 PUBLIC FORUM – No comments

80/16 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

1. Dist Cllr Bailey reported on the recent Devolution consultation that showed widespread support from public sector organisations, such as Police, Fire, Health and Education, including Cambridge University. The results have been sent to the Government for the next stage. The Boundary Reviews for County and District have been finalised. Downham Villages will remain in Sutton [County] Division, which will now include Witchford and Wentworth, and be represented by a single member. Downham Villages, consisting of Lt Downham, and Coveney Parishes, will become a single member [District] Ward. Mepal and Witcham will move to Sutton Ward. There were still concerns over the future of the Princess of Wales Hospital in Ely. Anna continues to attend public meetings and has asked the CCG for statistics etc. Cambridgeshire Community Services has given notice to cease running outpatients' services, but Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Trust have just agreed to take over running outpatients services in Ely and Doddington, starting in September 2017. There is a need to ensure that this will not be a reduction in clinics and range of services.
2. County Cllr Dupre skipped through her Devolution update and Minor Injury Units report, as Anna had covered most of it. The County Council is developing a Healthy Weight Strategy, and is seeking residents' views in an online survey. The Total Transport project has been slimmed down. Discussions are ongoing with day centre users travelling to Ely Community Centre and Bedford House. Some school buses have been removed and a small number of pupils from Lt Downham have been issued with passes for the 125 service to go to Ely College. A new return journey, starting inside the college grounds, will take them home. The County Council is challenging some of Network Rail's proposed level crossing closures. Coffue Drove and A Furlong Drove closures have not been revised, but new rights of ways are proposed around the crossings. Crossing closures look to be implemented in 2018. Parish Councils have been issued with packs explaining how they can take on various works on the public highway that are the responsibility of the County Council. The Local Highway Improvement Initiative 2017-18 applications are invited by 30/11/16. The County Council has a new Permit Scheme for road works and street works that will have more control over the utility companies and others working on the road network. A new three-year project, Targeting Road Injury Prevention (TRIP), has been awarded £129,000 to look into details of crashes that cause severe injury and death and to examine the types of drivers that are involved in the crashes. In preparation for winter, the County Council's *Stay Warm and Well* information packs will be distributed through GP practices around the time of flu vaccinations. There will also be a helpline run by the County Council contact centre and a small grants scheme to provide immediate help to those most in need. Lorna concluded with her surgery dates in Lt Downham and Sutton.

7.25pm Dist Cllr Bailey and County Cllr Dupre were thanked for their reports and left the meeting.

81/16 **TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

1. **Resolved** unanimously that the minutes of 28 July 2016 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.
2. **Resolved** unanimously that the minutes of 18 August 2016 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

82/16 **MATTERS TO REPORT**

1. **(Min.58/16.1) Zipwire** – Sovereign re-tensioned the Zipwire on 14/09/16. The clerk informed that she was not satisfied with the work and will ask Sovereign to return to replace a 6mm bolt that should be an 8mm bolt and to ensure that the Zipwire has been tensioned to the correct level.
2. **(Min.61/16.3) Discover Your Mojo** – Due to adverse weather conditions and a lack of advertising, Discover Your Mojo only held two events in the summer holidays.
3. **(Min.65/16.1) Holts Meadow Hay** – Mr Yarrow cut and removed the hay in early August.
4. **Pymoor Recreation Field** - Tony Ure (Pymoor Social Club) informed the Clerk of mower problems and asked that the council cut the grass a couple of times. Pymoor grass was cut on 01/09/16 and 22/09/16. There will be another cut in October.
5. **(Min.180/15.3 & Min.46/16.2) Whole Council Code of Conduct Training** – Seven councillors attended the Code of Conduct session on 15/09/16. Another training session will be arranged for the councillors who did not attend: Cllrs JW Barker, CE Hall, G Ord and BL Taylor.

83/16 **PLANNING MATTERS**

1. **Planning correspondence -**
- 1.1 **16/00815/FUL** Mr Andrew Butcher, Site between 4A and 8 Fourth Drove, Lt Downham – Change of use from agricultural land to build passivhaus residential unit - **Resolved** - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.
- 1.2 **16/01053/FUL** Mrs Behka Neilson, 17 California, Lt Downham – Extension to existing garage to form workshop and garage - **Resolved** - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.
- 1.3 **16/01081/FUL** Mr Adrian Cook, 18b Straight Furlong Pymoor – Erection of a timber garden building - **Resolved** - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.
- 1.4 **16/01110/VAR** Mr C Nye, Hollyoaks, The Hythe, Lt Downham – To remove condition 4 (Agricultural Occupancy) of previously approved E/95/0833/LB for Renovation & Extension (Part Demolition). The Council was split regarding concerns. It was proposed to recommend refusal of the application. **A vote result was as follows: In favour - 3, Against - 2, Abstentions – 3.** **Resolved** - Little Downham Parish Council had concerns regarding this application and recommended outright refusal for the following reason.
 1. **The condition was applied for a reason. The Clause should remain to support housing for the agricultural community. Once lifted will never be a farmhouse again.**
- 1.5 **16/01115/FUL** Arkwrights, Land to south of 25 Pymoor Lane, Pymoor – Erection of 2 no. four bed dwellings. Concerns were expressed that the development was too dense and there was an overdevelopment of the field. Others had no concerns. It was proposed to recommend approval of the application. **A recorded vote result was as follows: In favour (4) Cllrs G Ord, BL Taylor, GH Taylor, KO Winters, Against (3) – Cllrs MM Oldfield, MAC Seidler, JL Waters, Abstention – Cllr JW Barker.** **Resolved** - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.
- 1.6 **16/01157/FUL** Mr & Mrs Mark Belam, 54 Main Street, Pymoor - Single storey front extension - **Resolved** - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.

Prior to the next item being discussed, **Cllrs BL & GH Taylor** declared personal interests because the applicant is a friend (Declarations 031-2016 & 032-2016).

- 1.7 **16/01181/OUT** Mr D Parsons, Land south west of 1 Straight Furlong, Pymoor – **POTENTIAL DEPARTURE** - Outline permission for 3 detached two storey dwellings – **Resolved** - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.

1.8 **16/01139/FUL** Mr Brett Stapleton, 57 Ely Road, Lt Downham - Demolition of existing garage. Single storey side and rear extension to bungalow, with associated internal alterations - **Resolved** - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.

1.9 For information only:

ECDC: Applications approved: 16/00563/FUL, 16/00709/OUT, 16/00908/FUL,

84/16 **FINANCE**

1. **Monthly Internal Audit** was carried out by Cllrs MM Oldfield and JL Waters.

2. **Friends of Downham Feoffees School – Grant request** - It was agreed to pledge funds towards the transport of whole school Hunstanton Theatre trip, which is extra-curricular. **Resolved** unanimously to pledge £550 towards the Friends of Downham Feoffees School whole school trip to Hunstanton Theatre under Section 137, Local Government Act 1972.

3. **Marie Curie – Grant request** – It was suggested to grant £365 for the following: £180 for a full 9 hour Marie Curie nursing shift, £130 for someone to attend Day Therapy at a Marie Curie hospice, £35 for the cost a nurse's uniform and £20 for one hour of nursing care. **Resolved** unanimously to approve a total donation of £365 to Marie Curie, under S137, Local Government Act 1972.

4. **To approve bills and other items for payment** - It was proposed by Cllr JL Waters and seconded by Cllr MM Oldfield. **Resolved** unanimously to approve BACS payments 496 – 505 and Direct Debit for the total sum of £6751.19.

85/16 **PARISH MATTERS**

1. **ECDC Parish Conference on Emergency Planning - Reports by Cllrs MM Oldfield & KO Winters** – Cllr Oldfield read her report and proposed that the Parish Council provides a Level 1 Community Emergency Plan, which is to gather some key community contact numbers and share them with the Emergency Services and ECDC Emergency Planning. Cllr Winters gave his report of the conference. He informed that he already had some contacts of equipment and proposed that he be the Emergency Plan Coordinator to provide information to the Emergency Officer. There was some confusion as to whether the Parish Council was required to appoint an Emergency Plan Coordinator. The Clerk was instructed to obtain confirmation from ECDC. Cllr Winters made derogatory remarks about Cllr Oldfield's and the Clerk's attendance at the Conference.

2. **CAMRA National Campaign to Register Pubs as Assets of Community Value (ACV)** – The Council unanimously agreed not to register the pubs in Little Downham as Assets of Community Value.

3. **Conservation Group – Purple Crocus Plant-In 15/10/16 at 10am** – It was noted that 20,000 Crocus plants will be planted by volunteers on verges and open spaces in Little Downham to highlight the End Polio Now Campaign by the Rotary Clubs of Great Britain and Ireland.

86/16 **HIGHWAYS, PARISH PATHS & BYWAYS**

1. **Replies re matters reported from previous meetings:**

1.1 **Main Street, Lt Downham (Min.63/16.2.1)** – The clerk reported the motorcycle to the police but the registration number was incorrect.

2. **To report current matters of concern:**

2.1 **Dog Fouling** – Local residents have objected to the amount of dog fouling in the village and asked if the Parish Council would pay for printing of new signs from the Dog Trust reminding dog walkers to pick up after their dog. The signs could not go on street lights but could be placed in gardens and house windows with the owner's consent.

2.2 **New Trees on Mill Hill, Lt Downham** – Concern was expressed that approximately five new trees have been planted near

87/16 **REQUEST OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION** - None

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.20 pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date