

**MINUTES of a meeting of Little Downham Parish Council held in the Village Hall,
Main Street, Little Downham, on Thursday, 17 August 2017 commencing at 7.00 pm.**

Councillors present: JL Waters, in the chair, and JW Barker, CE Hall, G Hayter-Smith, RS Martin (7.02pm), MM Oldfield, Cllr G Ord, MAC Seidler, BL Taylor, GH Taylor, and KO Winters. **Clerk:** Mrs J Wardle

Other attendees: Dist. Cllr A Bailey.

63/17 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - County Cllr L Dupre and Dist. Cllr M Bradley.

64/17 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. No declarations made at this time.
2. Late declaration made prior to item 68/17.1.5 - **Cllr JW Barker** declared a personal interest in item 68/17.1.5 (Application 17/01296/FUL) because the applicant is a friend (Declaration 018-2017).

65/17 PUBLIC FORUM – No comments

66/17 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. **Resolved** that the minutes of 27 July 2017 were correct and to be signed by the Chairman as a true record following the amendment of *Ord* to *Hayter-Smith* at item 56/17.1.

67/17 MATTERS TO REPORT - None

68/17 PLANNING MATTERS

1. **Planning correspondence -**
 - 1.1 **17/00961/FUL** Mr L Smith, Isle Small Animal Veterinary Centre, West Fen Road, Ely – Change of use from storage to retail – Re-consultation of public comments at the request of ECDC due to application not being available or visible to the public on ECDC website.
Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.
 - 1.2 **17/00970/OUT** Mr & Mrs NJ & JK Taylor, Heathergay House Straight Furlong Pymoor - Demolish two storey dwelling and construct 2no. two storey detached dwellings **POTENTIAL DEPARTURE - Amendment** – The amendment involves the widening of existing farm access
Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.
 - 1.3 **17/01203/FUL** Mr William Butcher, land parcel south west of 6 Third Drove, Lt Downham – New dwelling
Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.
 - 1.4 **17/01240/FUL** Mr & Mrs Norman Golding, land adjacent Lane Farm, Pymoor Lane, Pymoor – 2 no. three bed dwellings. (re-submission following refusal of 17/00414/FUL) phased application
Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.

7.20pm Prior to the next item being discussed, **Cllr JW Barker** declared a personal interest because the applicant is a friend (Declaration 018-2017).

- 1.5 **17/01296/FUL** Mr & Mrs Nigel Garner, Site To North East Of 20 Third Drove Little Downham - Proposed 2 No dwellings (phased development)
Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.
- 1.6 **17/01360/FUL** G S Developments Site Adjacent To Thistle Croft Pymoor Lane Pymoor - Proposed 4 bed dwelling - Resubmission
Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.

For information only:

- 1.7 ECDC - Applications approved: 17/00867/FUL
- 1.8 ECDC – Applications refused: 17/00968/OUT
- 1.9 ECDC – non consulted applications approved: 17/01052/ARN
- 1.10 ECDC – non consulted applications refused: 16/01021/NNMA

7.25pm Dist. Cllr Bailey left the meeting.

69/17 **FINANCE**

1. **CamSAR - Donation Request** – £300 to qualify a Search Technician.
Resolved unanimously to approve a donation of £300 to Cambridgeshire Search & Rescue.
2. **To approve purchase of a new dog bin at upper Townsend (Min.22/17.5)** - Following a site visit, it was proposed that the new dog bin be installed at the lower point of the middle triangle where the road forks from Townsend to Main Street. The estimated cost of a bin sited in soft ground would be £177.60 + VAT. The handyman would install it and ECDC would empty it.
Resolved unanimously to approve the purchase of a 56 litre red dog bin with lift up lid and sack retention from Wybone Ltd.
3. **To approve purchase of new oak seat at junction of Main Street and Townsend Min.56/17.3** – MJ Elliott, Feltwell, currently had a new 6ft oak bench in stock that had been oiled twice costing £350 + VAT. It could not be engraved, but could have a plaque inset on the top rail. Alternatively, a new bench with engravings would cost £427 + VAT.
Resolved unanimously to approve the purchase of the 6ft bench in stock from MJ Elliott @ £350 + VAT and a brass plaque stating LITTLE DOWNHAM PARISH COUNCIL.
4. **Bank Account updates (Min.36/17.3)** – Council members were issued with a table of transactions informing of the current status of old and new accounts. In conclusion, the Barclays Bank General Reserves Savings Account was closed and the balance transferred to the Lloyds Bank Current Account. Application forms to open the Hampshire Trust Bank 1 Year Business Bond, United Trust Bank 100 Days Notice Account and a Nationwide Building Society Business Instant Saver Account had been sent.
5. **To approve bills and other items for payment** – It was proposed by Cllr MAC Seidler and seconded by Cllr MM Oldfield.
Resolved unanimously to formally approve and minute cheque nos. 001083 and 001084 for £80,000 each to Hampshire Trust Bank and United Trust Bank respectively.
Resolved unanimously to approve cheque no. 001085, BACS payments 615 - 624 and direct debits for the total sum of £5610.28.

70/17 **HIGHWAYS**

1. **B1411 Seven Sisters**
- 1.1 **Accidents** - Following concerns expressed by parishioners regarding the frequent series of accident recently at Seven Sisters, the Clerk emailed CCC Highways Road Safety and Accident Prevention Teams to ask that serious consideration be given to making the road safer. A response was received from Sue Parsons (Team Leader Road Safety Engineering). In brief, she explained that the personal injury collision rate had been improving over recent years with no recorded such incidents since 2015. CCC Highways maintains a database, on behalf of Cambridgeshire Police, of road traffic collisions involving personal injury and to identify appropriate treatments where accidents are occurring. The database is currently up to date to the end of February 2017. As a County they target resources towards identified accident cluster sites, of which there are currently in excess of 80 around the County, but none along the B1411 Downham Road/Ely Road. The location is being considered for potential maintenance surface dressing starting April 2018. She will raise the concerns highlighted and back it up with the injury and non-injury accident record to see if it can be prioritised in any way. However, there are a lot of worthy schemes on the list, so there is no guarantee of priority. She assured that CCC Highways was keeping a close eye on the performance of the carriageway at Seven Sisters.
- 1.2 **Seven Sisters' Trees** – It was reported that parishioners had expressed concerns about the exposure of the tree roots at Seven Sisters following the extreme ditch cleaning to combat unauthorised field access by hare coursers. The trees were now considered a potential hazard in strong winds. ECDC trees officer had given advice to the landowner regarding the condition of the trees, removal and suggested replacements. The Clerk was instructed to contact the landowner and suggest that the new trees be planted away from the road and along the field edge adjacent to Fox's Drove to reduce the risk of fatalities when hit by vehicles.
2. **CCC Local Highway Improvement Bid 2018-19** – The Council discussed submitting a bid for the reduction of the speed limit in Pymoor, that was requested by local residents and is already confirmed to be supported by the police, or the suggestion of a new footpath on Brick Kiln Lane.
Resolved unanimously to submit the 2018-19 bid for the reduced speed limit in Pymoor from 40 mph to 30 mph. The bid must be submitted to CCC by 15/10/17.

71/17 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

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 72/17 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.

72/17 PARISH COUNCIL LAND AND ASSETS

1. **New Cemetery Land – update** – the Clerk confirmed receipt of quotes from two cemetery planners, but required at least a third quote for this major project. It was suggested that the Clerk consults CPALC for advice and guidance. She would also consult with other Council Clerks for recommendations. In order for the Council to fully understand what the project and quotes entail, the Clerk will provide all councillors with a copy of the quotes and information provided by Cemetery Development Services.

2. **Pavilion - update** - Greg Saberton emailed to inform that he would be working on the drawings tomorrow and the Clerk would receive the pack next week.

73/17 REQUEST OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION - None

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.27 pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date

