

STETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 21st July 2015 at 7.30 pm, The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth

- Present:** Cllr Whymer (Chair), Cllrs Bell, Puddick and Taylor. District Councillor Morris and Y Rix (Clerk)
- 210715/001 **To receive and approve apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Breen, France and Saunders
- 210715/002 **To receive declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interests.
- 210715/003 **Open Forum**
No matters were raised during the Open Forum
- 210715/004 **The Ellesmere Centre Report**
Cllr Whymer informed Council that despite the uncertain weather, the Village Show was successful and income looks positive. The Medieval Night went really well. The Annual General Meeting of the Trustees is due to be held on 22nd July 2015.
- 210715/005 **To approve the Minutes of 16th June 2015**
The minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2015 were approved and signed as a true and correct record.
- 210715/006 **Matters arising**
The lights on the new sign in Tea Kettle Lane are still not working. The Clerk has requested quotations from local stone masons to repair the War Memorial. The drains along Ley Road past the Ellesmere Centre have been unblocked. The bin at the entrance of the Ellesmere Centre has been replaced. The bin situated in the car park is often missed by Veolia. The new car park area could benefit from some further grass seed, although the soil has not yet dropped enough to call the contractor back.
- 210715/007 **County and District Councillor Reports**
Chris Morris updated the Council on the recent meetings, functions and training that he had attended. Monthly prize draws are due to be held to help encourage residents to recycle. The District Council has approved £1,000,000 CIL funding towards the Ely Southern Bypass. The County Council is to fund the remaining cost for the project. ECDC is in the process of creating a trading company. Chris Morris was asked by the Chairman to find out the extent of the waiting list for social housing and if many have to reside in Bed and Breakfast accommodation prior to being allocated housing.
District Councillor Morris left at 8.06 pm.
- 210715/008 **Finance**
- 008.1 **Payments**
The following amounts were approved for payment:
Proposed Cllr Whymer, Seconded Cllr Bell.
Y Rix Salary £275.00 DDR
Garden Power (Robin Stokes) Grass Cutting £190.00
The Ellesmere Centre Room Hire £25.00
- 008.2 **Receipts**
There were no receipts.
- 008.3 **Consideration of Quarterly Finance Report**
Council considered the attached Quarterly Finance Report. The funding from the car park from ECDC has not yet been received. Cllr Whymer informed Council that the laminated fabric of the fence panels surrounding the MUGA are separating and may need some attention. It is unlikely that Stetchworth will get much more CIL funding.
- 008.4 **Pensions – Auto-Enrolment Update**
The Clerk updated the Council on Auto-Enrolment of Pensions. At this stage the level of the Clerks salary will mean that there will be no need for the Council to contribute to a pension scheme on her behalf.
- 210715/009 **Planning**
- 009.1 **To receive Planning Application decisions:**
Council noted the following decision:
15/00448/FUL – Egerton House Stables – Creation of Warm Up Ring - Approval
- 009.2 **To consider recent Planning Applications:**
There were no Planning Applications to consider.
- 210715/010 **Correspondence**
- 010.1 **Electoral Review of East Cambridgeshire**
A consultation is currently being conducted to review the possibility of reducing the number of Councillors at East Cambs District Council. The consultation is currently asking for suggestions of ward areas. Those present agreed that they wished the current arrangement of Stetchworth, Woodditton and Dullingham to continue.
- 010.2 **Letter from Lucy Frazer QC MP**
Notification had been received that Lucy Frazer QC MP would be in the area over the summer and that a meeting had been arranged at the Ellesmere Centre on 5th August between 5.30 pm and 6.45 pm for residents of Stetchworth and Dullingham to attend.

210715/011

Other Business

A letter had been received from the County Council confirming that no County Council owned street lights would be affected at night time with the new policy to turn off or dim lights to reduce costs. Council noted that some work has been started to the street lights under the Private Funding Initiative.

Applications are invited for the Local Highways Improvement Initiative 2016/2017. The closing date for applications is 2nd November 2015. Cllr Bell suggested a footpath in to the Ellesmere Centre. This may not be appropriate for the scheme, but should be discussed further at the next meeting.

County Council Highways will be holding an Open Day at Witchford on 14th September 2015.

ECDC is currently reviewing their Gambling Act.

The public footpaths have recently been cut although Footpath No. 3 running from Coopers Close to Strollers Way appears to have been missed. The wall running along the footpath off the High Street belonging to Ivy Farm needs to have the ivy trimmed back as it is beginning to block the footpath.

There is a slat broken on the Play Area gate. The stile along Footpath No. 19 is wobbly and a street light in Tea Kettle Lane is on continuously.

Cllr Puddick explained that a resident in Strollers Way had raised concern about trees near his garage on the boundary of the footpath. Cllr Whymer agreed to investigate to ascertain who is responsible for the trees.

210715/012

Risk Assessments

Council considered the need to carry out a risk assessment for any item discussed during the meeting of 21st July 2015 and agreed that no further assessment was required.

210715/013

Date of the next meeting – 15th September 2015

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on the 15th September 2015.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Signed

Dated