

**STEEPLE MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Cricket Pavilion on  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 8.00pm**

Present: Councillors: J Clayton (Chairman), A Drew, S Traverse-Healy, C Upchurch, S Wheatley, K Austin, G Belson, W Jeffs  
District Cllr Williams  
In attendance: Mrs S Walmesley (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 8.00 PM**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

Apologies were received from Cllr Courtney and County Cllr Kindersley.

**2. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

2.1 County Council

Cllr Kindersley had circulated a report.

2.2 District Council

Cllr Williams had also forwarded a report which would be circulated to Councillors.

She reported that District Councillors had been given the opportunity to speak to representatives of East West Rail, about the five proposed options, but there was a lot of unanswered questions. Cllr Williams had seconded a motion to allow smaller villages the opportunity to access Community Chest grants.

The initial findings into the IT problems, at the District Council, were not good and the Scrutiny committee members report was alarming.

There was to be some tree work carried out on a property in Cheyney Street and this would result in the Russell End car park being closed on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February.

Cllr Traverse-Healy reported that planning consent had been granted for the Horse and Groom site. He queried why the application had not been referred to the Planning Committee as a recommendation of objection had been made by the Parish Council. Cllr Williams reminded Councillors that the Parish Council needed to ask for the application to go to committee as part of the consultation. It was then up to the officers and Committee Chairman whether there was a valid planning concern. Cllr Williams stated that in this case the Parish Council had not indicated that they wanted the application referred. She added that as part of the consent the number of operational hours had been reduced and there was also a requirement for a litter management plan.

Cllr Traverse Healy referred to the Hertfordshire County Council response to the consultation which had not been shown on the South Cambs website. He had checked regularly as he was interested in their view of the A505. He asked Cllr Williams to obtain a copy of the full Hertfordshire County Council report from the South Cambridgeshire District Council Planners which she agreed to do.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Williams for her report.

-HW

**3. COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS FROM PARISHIONERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no issues raised.

**4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF**

4.1 The Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019

On a proposition by Cllr Drew seconded by Cllr Wheatley the minutes as circulated were taken as read and then approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**5. MATTERS ARISING AND CARRIED FORWARD**

5.1 A505 Junction

There was no further update.

5.2 The Wagon and Horses Public House –re-nomination of ACV

Cllr Upchurch had contributed to the completion of the form which the Clerk would finalise and forward to South Cambridgeshire District Council.

-Clerk

5.3 Quotation for new Parish Council website

A quotation had not yet been received. The Clerk to follow up.

-Clerk

5.4 School Bus –Turning at Craft Way

The bus company had advised the Primary School that they had turned at Craft Way for approximately 40 years safely. To turn at the crossroads would be more dangerous.

Cllr Belson advised that whenever she had seen the bus turn it was at Bogs Gap Lane. It was suggested that maybe the older drivers used Craft Way. It was agreed that the Clerk contact the bus company and ask for a copy of their risk assessment relating to the turning of the bus. This would then be kept on file for future responses.

-Clerk

5.5 Street Lighting Energy –reply from Cambridgeshire County Council

A reply had been received from the County Council officer Michael Richards. He advised a breakdown of how the costs were calculated. The original terms and conditions of the service were not available as it had been at least 20 years since the arrangement commenced. Mr Richards suggested that if the Parish Council was interested in arranging its own energy provision he would assist. It was agreed that the Clerk ask Mr Richards for details.

-Clerk

**6. FINANCES**6.1 To receive the financial statement and to approve the payment of bills

The invoices were checked by Cllr Drew

E-ON

Reading Room electricity February 2019 DD £ 45.00

IN & OUT

Disabled toilet clean January 2019 £ 15.00

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Street lighting energy 2017-2018 £1905.32

MORELOCK

Mounting kits for MVAS (inc. £78.00VAT) £468.00

ST PETER & PAUL

Donation towards burial ground maintenance 2018/19 £1000.00

TOTAL

£3433.32

PROPOSED Cllr Traverse-Healy SECONDED Cllr Belson

6.2 Village Hall –Request for assistance with boiler purchase

Cllr Austin had circulated the village hall accounts as requested at the last meeting. A discussion took place on the healthy reserves which was because the hall was currently run well. There was also nothing at the present time, apart from the boiler, that money needed to be spent on as a lot of improvements had taken place. Cllr Austin advised that it would be around two years before the boiler change. Councillors agreed not to commit to a contribution at this time but if the village hall was in need of help in the future a contribution would be reconsidered. The Clerk reminded Councillors of the Section 106 money which they agreed could be allocated to the boiler replacement.

**7. RECREATION GROUND/CONSERVATION AREA**7.1 Recreation Ground Maintenance –working group update

Cllr Drew proposed that a contractor be paid to clear away the fallen tree and branches from the recreation ground before the birds started to nest. She added that another tree had fallen behind the eurobin. It was agreed that the Clerk ask the Parish Council contractor, MD Landscapes, to clear.

-Clerk

7.2 Tree Inspection (Recreation Ground)

An A3 map of the Recreation Ground had been provided by the Clerk as requested.

7.3 Leylandii Tree Work –Football Club Update

The Football Club were still investigating the repositioning of the floodlights which they were to discuss at their next meeting.

Councillors acknowledged that it would be too late for the work to be carried out this Spring. The Clerk was asked to write to the Football Club and point out that the work could not now be carried out until the Autumn and urge that they resolve the floodlight issue soon so that the neighbour could be satisfied with the positioning before arranging with the contractors. The Clerk would also write to the neighbouring landowner and update the contractor.

-Clerk

**8. MAINTENANCE**8.1 Footpaths/Footways8.1.1 Craft Way Footway

No further cutting back of the trees had taken place.

8.1.2 Footpath 10 –Minor Highway Improvement Scheme 2017/18 Application

The Clerk advised that she was to meet with the County Rights of Way officer in early March so would ask him about this then.

-Clerk

8.1.3 Footpath 2 –Cambridgeshire County Council Legal Order to divert part of Footpath

The advertisement had appeared in the local press.

8.1.4 Black Lane Footpath

Cllr Upchurch reported that two trees had blown down on the path and a local resident had chopped them up and cleared the path. She queried the ownership of the trees. It was believed that this was a County Council footpath. Clerk to confirm.

-Clerk

8.2 Village Litter Pick Update

Cllr Belson had nothing to report.

**9. SPEEDING TRAFFIC**9.1 MVAS Update

The Clerk had placed the order for the sign brackets as agreed at the last meeting. Once the invoice was paid they would be sent out to the village. The Chairman reminded Councillors that it was agreed at the last meeting to mount the MVAS on a telegraph post until the poles had been installed by the County Council. This had not happened. The Clerk would advise the coordinator that the brackets were soon to be delivered and offer help if he was having difficulty in arranging the mounting of the MVAS.

-Clerk

The equipment had been included on the insurance schedule. There would be an additional premium of £11.77 due on renewal of the cover in October 2019.

**10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**10.1 To consider Planning Applications10.1.1 Planning Ref S/0143/18/FL

71 Hay Street –Garage conversion, new front porch and associated external alterations

***Recommendation –Support***10.1.2 Planning Ref S/0304/19/FL

1 Ashwell Road –Two storey front, rear and side extension and single storey rear extensions. Raised roof to existing rear single storey utility and bathroom wing

A discussion took place on the extensions which although appeared substantial on the planning application were not as the cottage was so small. Concern was expressed over the change to the character of the corner of Ashwell Road and Station Road.

***Recommendation –No Recommendation***

***The Parish Council would like the extension materials to retain the character and nature of the existing cottage as this is one of the last remaining in the village.***

10.2 To consider Tree Work Applications10.2.1 Planning Ref S/0395/19/TP

47 Cheyney Street –Removal of three Silver Birch trees

No comments to make

10.2.2 Planning Ref S/0414/19/TC

25 The Green –Fell Apple and Plum trees

No comments to make

10.3 Horse and Groom Planning Application (S/4139/18/FM)

This was discussed under the District Councillor report Item 2.2

**11. EAST WEST RAIL CONSULTATION 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY -11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019**

A village meeting had been held before the Parish Council meeting to gauge the opinions of residents to the proposals. There was an overwhelming view from those in attendance that they did not support the southern route proposals. The Chairman stated that the Parish Council must go with the view of the parishioners. It was acknowledged that the three southern routes would have an effect on the local area.

A discussion took place on the requested consultation feedback. There was a need for retrospective structure further north in the county around Cambourne and the new developments. A rail link here would relieve pressure on the road access into Cambridge. It was also in the best interest of Cambridgeshire as a rail link would assist with the growth of the north of the county. Councillors agreed that the representation should include a request that serious consideration be given to the currently unsustainable road network should the decision be made for a southern route.

-GB &  
Clerk

The Clerk and Cllr Belson to complete the East West rail response form on behalf of the Parish Council.

**12 TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED INCLUDING:**

- 12.1 Steeple Morden Primary School –Contact details on Car Park Sign

Cllr Drew agreed to confirm the contact details for the sign which the Clerk would then update and laminate.

-AD &  
Clerk

**13 COUNCILLORS' ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND REQUIRING THE URGENT ATTENTION OF THE CLERK**

- 13.1 Highway Enforcement

It was noted that there had not been any movement in relation to enforcement action, advised by Cambridgeshire County Council for encroachment, onto to the grass verge by a resident on Litlington Road.

**14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019

There was no further business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45 pm

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Chairman

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Date