

REEPHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

Methodist Schoolroom on Tuesday 31st January 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr D Perkins, who presided. Cllrs A Brammer, A Clay, P Stuffins, B Tebbs, N Ward and D World with the Clerk, Mr B Wharton.

D/Cllrs A Welburn and C Darcel also attended with D/Cllr M Palmer joining at 7.34 and C/Cllr I Fleetwood at 7.42.

MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Phil Scrafton of Globe Consultants was accompanied by Philip Good and Joe Good to present the latest information to the Parish Council. The latest details were presented and a copy is held on permanent file. Questions still were raised about the traffic flow and density at various times, the figure of 30 extra vehicles per day at the 'rush' hour was questioned. No recommendations regarding 'one way' systems were forthcoming though it was mentioned that the consultants suggested that such 'one way' systems elsewhere had proved to be counter-productive with some evidence of increased speeding at Aubourn.

C/Cllr Fleetwood declared an interest in this because of his County Councillor Planning Committee duties.

1. Apologies.

Cllrs S Crease (unavoidable appointment) and J Oxby (working). D/Cllr M Palmer apologised that she would be late as she would be travelling from an earlier meeting.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 29th November 2016.

At the proposal by Cllr N Ward, seconded by Cllr B Tebbs, it was resolved that the minutes be accepted.

3. Clerk's Report

The carols around the Christmas tree had gone ahead as planned with C/Cllr Fleetwood starring in the major role; noted that the sweets were insufficient and would need increasing next year. The Chairman asked that C/Cllr Fleetwood be thanked and it was confirmed that a repeat performance would be available next year, if required. The Chairman, further wished to thank Cllr Ward and C Stuffins for the erection and disposal of the tree and Mr Baxter for the loan of the costume.

Various potholes had been reported and were being dealt with. There were more to report and the timescales for their repair would depend upon the position and seriousness of each one when viewed by LCC Highways.

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D/Cllr Darcel mentioned that he had received a letter from a resident complaining that there had been no action on Hawthorn Road following complaints regarding potholes at least since 2012.

4. Correspondence

Neighbourhood Planning Statement from the Minister of Housing and Local Government.
Pensions Regulator – confirmation that the requirements for pensions for employees had been met.

WLDC – Minutes and Agendas.

Clerks and Councils Direct.

Police – December Statistics.

Western Power – licence and figures for Christmas tree lighting.

Green Barnes – advert

LALC news.

LCR Magazine.

County News.

CPRE – Best kept Village information.

Citizen's Advice Bureau – request for funding.

WLDC – Various requirements for Local Heroes.

Questions following Police and Crime Commission question submission had been emailed around the Councillors.

5. Financial Matters

Presentation of Accounts:

Glendale Countryside	Hedge Cutting X 1	£ 517.94
W & AC Rose – Fillingham Trees		£ 80.00
B Wharton – Santa's sweets		£ 22.95
		£ 620.89

It is noted that the W & AC Rose cheques for the Christmas tree is taken under the **FREE RESOURCE**: it was resolved that the council, in accordance with its powers under Section 137 & 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the expenditure, which in the opinion of the council was in the interests of the inhabitants of Reepham. Santa's sweets were purchased under Chairman's Expenses.

At the proposal of Cllr A Brammer, seconded by Cllr P Stuffins, it was carried that these cheques be signed.

Methodist Schoolroom rental increase:

An increase of rental to £9.50 per hour is to be requested. Confirmation is sought that the meeting requirement is to be renewed.

At the proposal of Cllr A Brammer, seconded by Cllr A Clay, it was carried that The Methodist Chapel be informed that the meeting requirement will be maintained.

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6. Planning Matters

Cllr A Clay reported applications for the Fox and Hounds refurbishment.

Good's Farm Development:

There was discussion without proposal on various aspects of the earlier presentation, though it was considered that the traffic concerns were not fully answered. The matter still lies in the hands of the developers and their presentations of first stages to the residents will be paramount. Only when the outcome of these are known will it be appropriate for the Parish Council to consider whether there will be a need to become involved.

It was felt that the Church would be a more appropriate venue for the developer's presentation and the Clerk was asked to pass that suggestion along to them.

7. Roads and Footways

Highways Grass Cutting: Highways have amended their decision to withdraw the whole of the grant for grass cutting for the 2017/18 year. An interim 20% grant will be forthcoming this year but not necessarily for the future.

North Lane: an estimate of costs for filling the potholes along North Lane was obtained at @£2000: full metalling would be higher. It was felt that it would be wrong to request that the residents be asked to contribute (via Council Tax) to this lesser used lane when the roads within the village are so pothole riddled. By coincidence, Highways had roughly filled the North Lane potholes during the last month.

Kennel Lane closure: The clerk reported that the junction at the A158 end of Kennel Lane would be closed from 27th Feb for 2 weeks (possibly up to 4 weeks) for the complete restructuring of the junction to allow 2 lanes for egress.

8. Field Footpaths and Bridleways

Nil.

9. Conservation Areas

"Strengthening" of Smooting Lane. Cllr Brammer reported that he had approached National Heritage and English Heritage on this matter with little satisfaction. Meanwhile WLDC had replied but could do little to help.

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10. Amenity Areas

Manor Rise signs. It was noticed that the 'post code' sign had been partially recovered, had been reconstructed and placed on the fence. However, the fact remains that the 'car number plate' solution was not fool proof and the replacement by a metal plate in the ground was still required. A quote had been obtained for this and would be circulated before the next meeting. Meanwhile it was suggested that this might be funded by the WLDC Councillor's Initiative Fund and the Clerk should obtain and fill in forms for such funding by the Feb meeting.

Great Spring Clean. An initiative from WLDC for villages to organise a resident's street clean-up had been emailed to the Councillors. It was accepted that this was a good idea but could not be done at the time suggested. At the proposal of Cllr N Ward, seconded by Cllr A Clay it was carried that this would be followed though. There was one vote against and one abstention. A date of April 9th was suggested as appropriate. The WI and School will be approached to discover whether they would be willing to assist in such a 'Litter Pick': WLDC to be approached for equipment.

Play Park inspection: At the proposal of Cllr P Stuffins, seconded by Cllr A Clay, it was resolved that the Play Inspection Company be instructed to proceed with the annual inspection.

11. Business for the Next Agenda

Nil.

Meeting ends....2052.