**Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Christie Hall**

**Held on Thursday 18th May 2023 for the purpose of transacting the business detailed below.**

**Present:**

Cllr M Beuttell (Chair) Cllr I Turner Cllr M Riddington

Cllr M Bradshaw Cllr D Price Parish Clerk Charlie Newman

8 members of the public were present.

**Business Discussed**

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| **1** | **Opening of meeting.** Cllr Beuttell welcomed everyone to the meeting. |
| **2** | **Apologies for Absence.** To receive and accept apologies for absence – Cllr J Wright & Cllr E Engel |
| **3** | **Declaration of Interest in Business to be Transacted.** To receive declarations of interest – person and/or prejudicial and the nature of those interests relating to items on the agenda. None. |
| **4** | **Public Forum.** To allow any member of the public to address the council. Time limited to 10 minutes: |
| **4.1** | Private company has cleaned the drains on Great North Road near residents houses but safety concerns have been raised. Likely commissioned by HDC / Highways.  **Action:** Cllr Beuttell to liaise with Local Highways Officer |
| **4.2** | **Pending line painting & lorry parking.** Recent correspondence stated that the contractors are monitoring the long range weather forecast for prolonged dry spell as work quality can’t be guaranteed in poor conditions. It was queried whether the truck stop is operating within its remit and what is the remit? e.g. not required to host refrigerated lorries which then leads them to be parked up street which in turn disturbs residents. There used to be a HGV sign stating it was unsuitable for HGV.  **Action:** Cllr Beutell to liaise with Local Highways Officer |
| **4.3** | **Cycle Path.** Parish council maintain their objection to the development due to concerns for flooding. |
| **4.4** | **Sewage Farm path.** Observation of increased dog foul. Stickers were previously present.  **Action:** Cllr Beuttell to provide replacements |
| **4.5** | **Potholes.** Observation from residents that potholes are an increasing concern. Cllr Turner shared a website where problems can be reported. <https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/> This will be shared with residents. |
| **4.6** | **Biofuel factory.** Residents brought to our attention that we’re awaiting the outcome of the appeal |
| **4.7** | **Dangerous Junction.** Great North Road // A1 // Church Lane. Residents have observed that a number of near misses have been observed at this site and there are safety concerns for this section of road. 1 resident distributed a survey to other residents in the area where there was various feedback including improved signage, a split of opinion about exploring the option of closing the junction.  **Action.** Cllr Beuttell will further investigate potential safety measures signage e.g. local traffic // weight limit, temporary orange blocks etc. |
| **4.8** | **Play area.** A resident asked whether the parish could explore the option for a play area. An email will be sent to Cllr Beutell to explore this as an option and what funding may be available |
| **4.9** | **Overgrown hedges.** A resident has observed that some front gardens have become increasingly overgrown which is limiting pedestrian access. Residents are requested to submit their concerns to the Parish Council so this can be communicated to the residents through the correct channels. |
| **5** | **Minutes of Previous Meeting.** Minutes of 2nd March 2023 meeting were approved and signed. |
| **5.1** | **Matters arising from above minutes.**  A village noticeboard is pending |
| **6** | **To authorise the Following Orders for Payment:** |
| **6.1** | Charlie Newman – Clerks time and expenses - £198.58 - payment authorised |
| **6.2** | Community Heartbeat - £396 - payment authorised |
| **6.3** | K&M Lighting Services - £342.44 - payment authorised |
| **6.4** | Living Villages Contribution - £150 - payment authorised |
| **7** | **Planning Applications (New):** |
| **7.1** | Waters Edge Elton Road Wansford (ref 23/00040/FUL) & Land east of Stoneacre, Elton Road Wansford (ref 22/02099/FUL). There were two planning applications at Waters Edge discussed, and our comments and observations will be posted on HDC website. |
| **7.2** | Local Plan Consultation. Huntingdonshire District Council are reviewing their local plan. It was strongly  suggested that residents view the progress of this on the website. [www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/localplanupdate](http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/localplanupdate) Comments can be made on the [council’s planning portal](http://consult.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/kse). |
| **8** | **Correspondence from residents:**  None |
| **9** | **General Correspondence:** |
| **9.1** | **Grass Cutting.** Question raised on who is responsible for maintaining the footpath down the side of the Christie Hall? This is unknown at present, further investigation to find more information will take place. Grass cutting within the village continues but there are re-wilding efforts in various areas. Which will likely mean that the grass is longer or left uncut at times. |
| **10** | **Questions from Councillors:** |
| **10.1** | Cllr Turner - A1 closure is leading to high volume of traffic at high speed through the village. Further information will be requested from Council about whether other areas are experiencing this and what is and can be done about it? There is also increased litter when the traffic is diverted too.  Queried whether residents would be willing to respond to requests to manage traffic on an ad-hoc basis. But thought needs to be given to residents' safety in this type of situation. |
| **10.2** | Cllr Turner - foul sewage smell reported on 30th March which was responded to with a standard acknowledgement stating responses to this can take up to 3 months. |
| **11** | **Coronation Street Party**  An all round success |
| **12** | **Date of Next Meeting:**  Cllr Beuttell thanked everyone for attending – next meeting scheduled for Thursday 6th July in the Christie Hall commencing at 7 p.m. The meeting closed at 20:45. |