

**Lode Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 8 September 2014**

**Present** Cllrs C Rickard (Chairman), P Dean, E Mitchell, F Platten,  
A Tomlinson and S Woolley.  
**Apologies** D/Cllr R Stevens, Mr M Lord (NHW), Mr T Cassidy (Internal Auditor)..  
Cllr P Lane and Ms J Jephcott.

**58/14 Minutes** The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2014 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**Declaration of Interest**

**(a) Prejudicial** There were none.

**(b) Other** There were none.

**59/14 Matters Arising**

The Clerk reported that:-

- C/Cllr M Shuter had been informed that there would be no requirement to change the silver colour of the lamp posts in the Conservation Area.
- the question of clearing allotment boundary weeds would be included in the re-issue of the allotment rules for distribution with the rent invoices in the early spring.
- he had received no communication from the officer responsible for footpath weed spraying. In the light of the deterioration of the Lode/Longmeadow footpath he was instructed to pursue the matter.

Cllr Platten reported that:-

- she had stored the surplus fencing posts. After discussion of this item as Cllr Woolley had replaced the old rotten posts he said he would take over responsibility for their storage.
- Mr Hatley had volunteered to re-paint the village sign. She would check on his progress.
- she would liaise with Cllr Woolley over the question of the purchase of trees for the play area. It was agreed that we should investigate the availability and cost of reasonably mature trees.

Cllr Mitchell reported that the broken BT cover by White Fen Drove had been replaced and maintenance of the High Street phone box included in the BT work programme.

**60/14 C/Council Report** In the absence of C/Cllr Shuter there was nothing to report.

**61/14 D/Council Report** D/Cllr Stevens reported that:-

- the ECDC Planning Committee had agreed that 70 new homes could be built on a brown field site in Burwell. 15% of the Community Infrastructure levy (CIL) raised by the development would accrue to the Burwell budget with the balance going to ECDC.
- the increase in the number of houses being built in the area was impacting upon secondary school places with the result that even Bottisham children might not be accommodated in

the Village College. Lode children could be similarly affected.

- the £1202.05 for community infrastructure projects and 2996.98 for open space provision projects which are still held in the S106 fund will be made available if a suitable use of the funds can be identified. After discussion it was agreed that Councillors will consider the matter and bring any suggestions to the October meeting.
- S106 funding is based upon large scale developments whereas CIL is levied on each individual building project.
- the closure of the Milton Road Waste Collection Site is being considered by the County as a cost-saving measure. Concern was expressed that this could lead to an increase in fly tipping and would make it more difficult for parishioners to dispose of unwanted items. The Clerk was instructed to draft a letter to the responsible authority setting out our concerns.

## 62/14 Parish Council Reports

**Finance** The Clerk reported that:-

- he had received no information from the auditor on the progress of the external audit.
- the County was in the progress of developing the budget for the 2015/2016 financial year and that comments from the public would be appreciated

**Invoices** The Council agreed that the following payments could be made electronically. Last month's payments were checked and signed off.

Clerk	Salary	289.25	Local Govt Act 1972 s112
Clerk	PAYE	72.31	Local Govt Act 1972 s112
R Dean	Cemetery Maintenance	140.85	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 and 10
Green Energy	Fassage Hall Electricity	187.86	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 and 10
Anglian Water	Cemetery Water Rate	30.43	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 and 10
Truelink	Field, Play Area	282.90	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 and 10
Truelink	Verges	184.50	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 and 10

**Planning** The results of following applications were received:-

Mr L LeGgatt Lug Farm Drove	14/00462/FUL Two storey extension	ECDC Approved.
Mr McHutchinson 47 Lode Road	14/00879/TCON Fell 1 x Norway Spruce, 2 x Silver Birch and crown 1 x Silver Birch.	ECDC approved.

### Anglesey Farm 14/00448/FUL

Penny Lane the ECDC Planner responsible for the application reported that the Agricultural consultant still has concerns with the amended business plan and as such the proposal is unlikely to meet the requirements of the Core Strategy policy. She was waiting for amended plans to address some points raised by Highways. However, she is hoping to be issuing a decision in the next few weeks.

**Allotments** Cllr Tomlinson reported that Mr Peter Butcher had taken over responsibility for Plot 3B and as a first stage he had cleared the heavy infestation of weeds.

**Cemetery** Cllr Tomlinson reported that:-

- the grass will be cut towards the end of the week.
- an envelope containing a sum of money had been found in the cemetery. As this may have been lost by a mourner at a recent funeral Cllr Woolley offered to investigate the matter.

#### **Fassage Hall**

Cllr Lane reported that:-

- the latest monthly electricity charge of £187.86 appeared to be excessive for a summer month when the school had been on holiday. He will raise this with the FHMC
- Jackie and John Lince have joined the FHMC and he hoped that this would inject new enthusiasm into the management of the Hall.
- an advertisement for a cleaner had been placed in the Lode Star.
- there has been an increase in the number of private functions booked.

#### **63/14 Parish Reports**

##### **Anglesey Abbey**

Ms Jephcott reported that:-

- as per her previous email this would be the last update she will send through for the next few months. Mr Mark Bradshaw or Ms Laura Booty should be contacted if there are any queries.
- dog bins - Both have been installed with great feedback from people about having this facility available.
- Lode Mill – The painting and repair work is ongoing.
- free access for local residents - There was a good attendance from local people for the free access to the 60's launch fete in July.
- posters are going up in Lode to promote the limited free access to the Winter Lights event. Further information is available from the Community Ambassadors Janet Aves and Don & Shirley McHutchison.
- allotments – The NT is still struggling to maintain them to a suitable standard and apologises for the issues this can cause. The intent is to resolve the matter when the new projects commence in the early spring of 2015 and until then there will be no new plot holders taking on spaces. Anyone who needs to give notice should do so by contacting the regional office.

##### **N'hood Watch**

Mr Lord reported that:-

- he had received no feed back from the police about the two burglaries in the village. From the items taken the culprits are probably drug addicts looking for money or easily disposable items to feed their habit.
- burglar alarms can deter such thefts
- there has been a drastic reduction in the police presence in the area with only one PC together with one PCSO covering an area extending to the north of Ely.

##### **Social Club**

It was noted that:-

- an EGM was to be held to gain approval for the setting up of

a charity which would administer the funds raised from the sale of the building.

**Cycle Way**

- the contracts of sale are being prepared by the solicitors.

Cllr Platten reported that:-

- she was very disappointed as it would appear that the NT had turned its back on the proposed route and is now favouring one along the old railway line.
- she had been told by Marshalls that no funds were available to support the project.

In discussion of this item it was agreed that the co-operation of neighbouring villages is now of paramount importance. Burwell may be in a position to offer some of the CIL funds arising from its building development.

**64/14 Corres'dence**

<b>Mr David Peck</b>	The Clerk reported that Mr Peck was carrying forward his project of grass track cycle racing. Mr Cassidy also reported that he had been working together with Mr Peck on the project. It had been agreed that:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the playing field was not large enough to support adult events but could cope with junior events.</li> <li>• discussions are being held with the Durrant family as the Lodestar Festival site could provide alternative accommodation for any planned event.</li> <li>• it is hoped to hold a big event to coincide with the village fete.</li> </ul>
<b>High Street Parking</b>	Cllr Mitchell reported that she had spoken to the organising secretary of the photographic club about the Council's concerns and had been assured that members would be made aware of these
<b>Wiser Recycling</b>	Councillors received the report prepared by Mr Duggan (a copy is printed below). It was noted that £168.92 will accrue to Parish funds from the collection. After discussion it was agreed it had been such a success that Mr Duggan's offer of a further collection in January should be taken up.
<b>Mr Peter Wells</b>	The Clerk reported that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Wells had reported that the driver of the equipment used for cutting the playing field had damaged his fence on a number of occasions.</li> <li>• acting on the letter he had spoken to both Mr Wells and the owner of Truelink and had resolved the problem to the satisfaction of both.</li> </ul> <p>In discussion of this item Cllr Woolley expressed concern that as the fence is bowing out under pressure from the mature trees behind the fence the fire engine may have difficulty accessing Fassage Hall in the event of a fire.</p>
<b>Independent Living Fund</b>	A letter from Ms A Davies was noted. (A copy is printed below).
<b>Play Audit</b>	A report produced by Mr Lewis Bage was noted a filed.

**65/14** There being no further business the meeting was formally closed by the Chairman at 8.50pm.

**Date of Next Council Meeting** – Monday 13 October 2014

..... **Signed by the Chairman Cllr C Rickard**

**These Minutes consist of 5 Pages**

Attached Wiser Recycling Report  
ILF Letter – Amanda Davies ECDC

Please see the attached report detailing the Electrical Items collected – a whopping 4.921 tonnes!!!!

For the size of your village compared to other collections from larger villages, this is one of the highest yields to date □ 1.4 tonnes was Small Appliances – we know that 60% of this type of WEEE still goes to landfill, indicating success in education to the community, and diversion from landfill, which is exactly our aim.

Please raise an invoice for £168.92, and email to me – *it is paid 60 days after the end of the month the material was collected in; end Sept.*

Have you received any feedback from Parishioners please?

I would very much like to propose another event, for early 2015, I would suggest January – 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>.

I trust I have covered everything, and look forward to your thoughts and replies.

Thank You.

**Paul Duggan** Customer Services Manager

Item	Weight (Tonne)	Payment
Large Appliances	0.852	£34.08
Monitors – LCD	0.048	£1.92
Televisions	1.739	£69.56
Fridges (1 Door – Coolers)	0.494	£0.00
Fridges (Domestic 2 Door)	0.204	£0.00
IT and Telecom	0.180	£7.20
Peripherals	1.404	£50.16
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4.921</b>	<b>£168.92</b>

### **Independent Living Fund (ILF)**

In April last year we sent you a short article about the closure of the Independent Living Fund (ILF) and the transfer of funding responsibility to the County Council. At the time the ILF was due to close in March 2015. You may be aware that following a judgement by the Court of Appeal the Government was forced to review this move but that in March of this year announced that the ILF will be closing on 30th June 2015 when councils will take over the responsibility for meeting the eligible care and support needs of ILF users.

An updated article has been produced outlining the new date when the programme will be closing and the work that the County Council and ILF are doing together to ensure a smooth transition. I have attached the short version of this should it be something that would be of interest to the recipients of your parish/village publications

Please note: there is a longer version (235 words) of the article which goes into more detail about the work taking place to inform ILF recipients of the changes. If you would like this version for your publication please let me know and I will be pleased to send it to you.

The ILF have produced a booklet about the closure of the programme and this is available from their website at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/306278/closure-programme.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/306278/closure-programme.pdf)