

**Lode Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 13 January 2014**

- Present** Cllrs P Dean (Chairman), P Lane, E Mitchell, F Platten, C Rickard and A Tomlinson.  
D/Cllr R Stevens.
- Apologies** Cllr S Woolley.
- 01/14 Minutes** The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2 December 2013 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- Declaration of Interest**
- (a) Prejudicial** There were none.
- (b) Other** There were none.
- 02/14 Matters Arising** The Clerk reported that:-
- he had sent the PC's comments to Mark Deas (Cambs ACRE) and Mr Deas had responded by asking when he could attend a meeting of the Council.
  - Cllr Woolley had advised that the footpath signs were ready to be installed.
- Cllr Platten reported that she had been unable to make the courtesy call to explain to Mr Beardsmore that daffodil bulbs had been planted around the village sign. Councillors noted that he had assumed responsibility for cutting the grass in that area.
- 03/14 C/Council Report** In the absence of C/Cllr Shuter there was nothing to report.
- 04/14 D/Council Report** D/Cllr Stevens reported that:-
- the application to construct 150 houses in Bell Road had been withdrawn by the developer following opposition from ECDC who had demanded that only the agreed 50 houses be built.
  - the recycling programme is going well although there had been adverse comment about the need to overfill blue bins over the Christmas period.
  - comment had also been received that during the summer months the green bins had proved to be too small to deal with the shrub trimmings produced. D/Cllr Stevens advised that excess vegetation could be taken to the Milton Road tip and that ECDC was considering, for a payment covering the cost of supplying and emptying it, a second bin.
  - ECDC pays large sums for water drainage to the drainage boards. This has an adverse impact upon the budget.
  - shared ownership housing is creating a problem in that owners can purchase 100% of the freehold and once this happens the house may be lost to the shared ownership scheme. This may be overcome by giving the housing associations the right to buy back such houses at the full market value.
  - a meeting was to be held at the Bottisham Village College to discuss a lack of communication between it and the community. It was noted that this meeting had only been advertised in the Cresset, the Bottisham Parish publication. D/Cllr Stevens volunteered to communicate to the meeting the disquiet felt by Lode residents about the lack of inclusion in the invitation.
- 05/14 Parish Council Reports**
- Finance** The Clerk reported that with the exception of the possible need to contribute towards the cost of the adult exercise equipment and the purchase of a dog waste bin for installation at the end of Harvey's Drove the Precept could remain at £14000. In discussion of this item it was noted that:-
- the case for the exercise equipment had not been completed.

- the waste bin costing up to £303.49 could be purchased from the ring fenced PPP fund.

It was agreed that the Clerk should instruct ECDC that a precept of £14000 would be required to cover the costs of the 2014/2015 financial year.

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

Clerk	Salary	277.17	Local Govt Act 1972 s112
Clerk	PAYE	69.29	Local Govt Act 1972 s112
R Dean	Cemetery Maintenance	137.15	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 and 10
Green Energy	Fassage Hall Electricity	288.89	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 and 10
Anglian Water	Cemetery Rate	43.69	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 and 10
Truelink	Cemetery Hedge	240.00	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 and 10
F Platten	Trees	40.00	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 and 10

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

Drs Mockridge/Blumenfeld 6 Station Road	13/00924/FUL Partial ground and first floor side extension	ECDC Rejected.
Mrs E Taylor 27 Northfields	13/00819/FUL Single storey extension	ECDC Approved.
Mr and Mrs Clover Vicarage Farm	13/00816/FUL Two storey rear and side extension and new front porch	ECDC Approved
Anglesey Abbey Lode Mill	13/01059/FUL Replacement of bypass channel	See PC comments below
Mrs J Peters Anglesey Farm	13/00780/FUL Erection of residential log cabin (retrospective)	PC Rejected Minutes reported separately.

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the PC are printed below. After discussion these were confirmed as a true record and the Clerk was instructed to table a copy at the February meeting for the Chairman's signature.

**Allotments** Cllr Tomlinson reported that it would be sensible for the Clerk to write to allotment holders during January to seek confirmation that the plots would continue to be rented during the 2014/2015 financial year as this would enable fresh tenants to be identified if plots were to be given up.

**Cemetery** Cllr Tomlinson reported that during a visit to the cemetery she had noted that a large number of plastic flowers had been placed on a number of graves. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should ask mourners to take these away before the cutting season commenced.

**Fassage Hall** Cllr Rickard reported that the Fassage Hall AGM had only been attended by existing committee members and these were becoming disenchanted by the lack of support shown by the village at large. It was suggested that the position could arrive when the PC would have to take over the running of the Hall if this dearth of volunteers continued. It was agreed that:-

- this problem should be advertised in the Lode Star in both the Clerk's report and a separate notice.
- consideration should be given to the employment of a cleaner or maintenance person.

**F'paths/L'ting** Cllr Rickard reported that he had received no further response from the County about the clearance of the Harvey's Drove weeds.

The Clerk reported that a request to provide a dog waste bin had been received. After discussion it was agreed that he should investigate and arrange for the purchase of a bin.

**Play Area** Cllr Platten reported that the investigation into the provision of adult sport's equipment was on-going.

**06/14 Parish Reports**

**Anglesey Abbey** Cllr Platten reported that she had been unable to speak to Ms Crack about the Winter Lights ticket distribution. In discussion of this item it was noted that the distribution of free tickets to parishioners did not seem to have been thought through.. This will probably come up for discussion at the Lode/NT Liaison AGM.

**Cycle Way** Cllr Platten reported that a meeting was to be held with Sustrans to identify ways in which the sub-committee could benefit from its experience.

**07/14 Corres'dence**

**Kerbside Collections** Cllr Tomlinson drew attention to an item in the Cresset which identified that a company located in St Ives would collect scrap electrical items for waste and make a contribution to the PC. Following discussion of this item it was agreed that the Clerk should investigate further.

**Neighbourhood Panels** It was noted that the future of the Panels is under consideration by ECDC as these are considered to be a valuable resource.

**Highway's Initiative** The County Highways' Department had reported that it had received 22 applications for funding in 2014-15. The applications will be assessed by a panel of County Councillors in January 2014 and results will be announced in March 2014 following verification and approval of available budget for the LHI initiative.

**08/14** There being no further business the meeting was formally closed by the Chairman at 8.35pm.

**Date of Next Council Meeting** – Monday 10 February 2014

..... **Signed by the Chairman Cllr P Dean**

**Sluice Comment** The Parish Council is satisfied that the works have been designed by a reputable and suitably experienced consulting engineer. We therefore confine our comments to aesthetics and practicality. The use of gabions is acceptable in such an environment provided that an attractive appearance is achieved. The nature of the rock fill and ancillary items such as the coir geotextile are therefore important, and this needs to be made clear to the construction team.

Disruption to the use of the footbridge is an inevitable consequence of the works. However, since this forms part of a popular footpath for local people it is important that alternative arrangements are clearly signed and made safe for the duration of the construction.

The drawings submitted with the planning application give a clear indication of the access routes available for use by the contractor. However, I think that it is worth emphasising the need to keep all but pedestrian traffic off Mill Road. This road already suffers from parking problems making it difficult for vehicles, especially large vehicles, to gain access (e.g. for rubbish collection and emergency response). There is likely to be a very vocal adverse reaction from local residents if the contractor's vehicles use Mill Road.