

Lode Parish Council
Minutes of the regular meeting of the Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 10
January 2022

These minutes comprise 4 pages

Present: Cllrs R Small (Chair), R Stevens, C Purbrook, F Platten

Items from the public: None

114/21 Chair's Welcome: Cllr Small welcomed those present to the meeting. He advised the meeting that Cllr Crickmar had resigned as her business is taking off and requiring more time. He expressed his gratitude for all she has done as a member of the Council, noting particularly her reaching out to the community through WhatsApp and her support to local people during the pandemic. The Council asked the Clerk to send a formal letter of thanks

ACTION: The Clerk

115/21 Apologies: Cllr M Walsh, C/Cllr A Sharp; D/Cllr J Trapp, D/Cllr C Cane

116/21 Declarations of interest: None

117/21 Minutes of meeting 13 December 2021: These were approved unanimously

118/21 Finance:

- a) **Budget and Precept for 2022-23:** The Clerk reported that he had obtained an indicative figure of £800 (not a quotation) for a tree survey to enable the preparation of 3 year management plan. The Council resolved that this was not a material change and that the resolution made at the December meeting to set a precept of £17,750 for 2022-23 should stand

b) **The following payments were agreed:**

J E Giles	Salary & PAYE	£405.30	Local Govt Act 1972 s111
W Jaggard	Cemetery	£173.39	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 & 10
Freethought	M365 December	£42.17+VAT	Local Govt Act 1972 s111
Freethought	M365 January	£42.17+VAT	Local Govt Act 1972 s111
CW Kirk Lawnmowers	Scythe mower repair	£41.09+VAT	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 & 10
Fassage Hall	Consultation – room hire	£24.00	Local Govt Act 1972 s111
Wickstead	Zip wire	£8067.07+VAT	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 & 10
Cambridgeshire ACRE	Subscription	£57.00	Local Govt Act 1972 s111
CPRE	Subscription	£36.00	Local Govt Act 1972 s111

119/21 Planning:

No new applications had been received and the Council noted that the following applications had been approved by ECDC:

21/01562/FUL – St James Church, High Street, CB25 9EW

New foul drainage from SW church wall with addition of new manhole connecting to existing manhole

21/01625/FUL – 34 High Street, CB25 9EW

Demolition of existing single storey rear extension and replacement with new single storey rear extension

120/21 Council Administration Matters : Cllr Small suggested that it would be helpful for the Council to identify the key project areas to be achieved during the forthcoming year. The aim would be to identify items in the meeting so that a workplan can be developed to achieve them during the year.

The following items were suggested :

- Recruit new Councillors to fill the current vacancies
- Fassage Car Park – resolve outstanding issues
- Fassage Hall – Identify improvement programme to secure more storage and apply for grant funding as appropriate
- Guildhall – maintain liaison with Mr Durrant as he reviews options for renovation to facilitate community use (Cllr Small noted that Mr Durrant is planning to write an article for Lode Star based on responses he has received so far)
- Resurface old section of perimeter path of the Fassage Recreation Ground
- Liaise with Sports Clubs using the Fassage Hall and Recreation Ground facilities to ensure they are sustainable (Cllr Platten confirmed that she is liaising with the Cricket and Football Clubs)

121/21 Environmental & Open Space Matters : Cllr Small outlined how the components of the Swift Tower could be purchased within the budget of £1000 agreed as part of the FCC Grant application for the Fassage Green. These will include solar panels to power the speakers broadcasting Swift calls to attract them to the tower. He will construct it together with Mr Bridgland in the Spring to ensure it is ready to receive the migrating Swifts

122/21 Committee Matters:

- a) **Human Resources Committee:** Cllr Small advised that following the resignation of Cllr Crickmar there was a vacancy on the HR Committee. Cllr Stevens agreed to take up this vacancy and Cllr Purbrook will now pursue the actions which were agreed to start at the beginning of the year
- b) **John Salisbury Charity:** The Clerk reported that Coral Hatley, who is Clerk to the Charity, is seeking a nominee from the Council to replace Teresa Crickmar who has resigned. Cllr Stevens believes that the constitution of the Charity provides for two nominations by the Council from Lode, though these do not necessarily have to be members of the Parish Council
ACTION: The Clerk will check this with Coral Hatley

123/21 Highways Matters: A resident has raised an issue with Cllr Purbrook about a contractor blocking the highway at Lugg Fen Drove

ACTION: Cllr Purbrook will draft a note for the Clerk to send to the landowner

It was noted there is new graffiti this time on the front of the bus shelter at Lode Crossroads which it is believed was done between 7-9 January.

124/21 Items for future meetings:

- a) Consideration of request from resident at 24A Fairhaven Close (February)
- b) Martin Beaver - new Manager of Anglesey Abbey (March)

125/21 Date of next meeting: Monday 14 February, 2022 at 7.30 pm

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Cllrs Charlotte Cane and John Trapp

R E P O R T T O P A R I S H C O U N C I L S - J A N U A R Y 2 0 2 2

Happy New Year!

Mepal Outdoor Centre demolished

The Council demolished Mepal Outdoor Centre just before Christmas, to make way for its proposed crematorium on the site.

The Council's Planning Department requested an extension of time to 17 December for consideration of the crematorium application. This date has come and gone. The application is currently subject to objections from the County Council in its roles as Waste & Minerals Planning Authority and as Local Lead Flood Authority.

Local Plan review

East Cambridgeshire District Council is undertaking a narrowly focused Single Issue Review of its adopted Local Plan.

This review is to partially replace one part of the Local Plan adopted in April 2015, regarding the housing requirement for the district in Policy GROWTH 1.

The vast majority of the Plan should remain unaltered.

The review will not propose any new sites for housing development. The updated policy will have a housing requirement figure of 9,175 dwellings between 2011 and 2031, though this figure is likely to be adjusted slightly again before the Plan is submitted for examination, to reflect new data which will become available in 2022. The figure is calculated on a nationally specified basis, and there are enough dwellings already in the plan to meet the 9,175 requirement.

The review is now at its second round of consultation, and the closing date for comments is 23:59 on Monday 7 February. The consultation document is at

<http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/local-developmentframework/local-plan-review>

Responses can be

- emailed to planningpolicy@eastcambs.gov.uk
- posted to
Strategic Planning Team
East Cambridgeshire District Council
The Grange
Ely CB7 4EE

East Cambridgeshire Community Fund Grant

The East Cambs Community Fund grant application window will be open between Monday 17 January and Monday 21 February.

Grants are intended to support the development of new or existing community services and initiatives that improve the quality of life for residents of East Cambridgeshire. Details including eligibility criteria are at

<https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/finance/east-cambridgeshire-community-fund>

If you have any questions or for more information please contact

stephanie.jones@eastcambs.gov.uk or call Stephanie Jones on 01353 665555.

Green Waste

Green Waste collections are due to start again after 28 January.

Meanwhile on the Combined Authority

The Combined Authority has appointed Eastern Community Homes (hosted by Cambridgeshire ACRE) to support community homes groups everywhere across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, with the exception of East Cambridgeshire which is now ploughing its own furrow.

Three of the four remaining loans across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough on the Combined Authority's housing loans book are proceeding to schedule. The one that is not is the loan to East Cambridgeshire for the MOD housing at Ely, where the projected repayment profile continues to slip. This is due to the continuing delay in sale of the fifteen 'affordable' housing units, and a slower than projected rate of sale of the market price units. The Combined Authority is monitoring East Cambridgeshire Trading Company's performance closely.

The Combined Authority has confirmed that ECTC is not defaulting on the loan. However, it says, "there is an increasing likelihood that in order to repay the loan in March 2023 then the borrower may need to re-finance the remaining market units in the scheme that might be unsold in March 2023.

The Haddenham scheme is continuing to make repayments, and the Laragh scheme at Forehill Ely has seen many housing units reserved off plan.

Meet your councillors

We will be holding our virtual surgery via Zoom **from 6:30 to 7:30PM on Wednesday 19 January 2022**

Please contact Charlotte at charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk to book your timeslot.

Cllr Charlotte Cane

Cllr John Trapp

District Councillors for the Bottisham ward