

THRIPLow & HEATHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 9th January 2023 at 7.30 pm

Present – Jane Gough, David Schneider, David Easthope, Carly Richman, Rowan Pashley

Parish Clerk – Martyn Corbet

RFO - Austin Flynn

District Councillor- Richard Williams

County Councillors – Peter McDonald – part-time

Neighbourhood Plan Committee – Kit Jackson, Philippa MacGarry

Member of the Public – Fergus Ramsey

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14th November 2022

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman;

3. Matters arising from the above-mentioned minutes not otherwise covered by this agenda

There were no matters arising;

4. Updates

a) Heathfield Defibrillator Training

Cllr Richman is meeting with Kit Jackson next week to go through maintenance of the defibrillators;

b) Heathfield Open Space

Cllr Pashley said the top of one of the bins has broken. He has removed it and will be replace the hinges.

Cllr Gough has contacted the CPSO about riders seen using a motocross bike on the Open Space. He will be paying them a visit. The riders activities are a danger to other users. They are under age and uninsured. It was agreed that appropriate signage will be installed. Cllr Schneider proposed and Cllr Gough seconded that £60 will be spent on this. Cllr Schneider will obtain the signs. The Open Space has sustained damage and may need repair. Cllr Richman said that other children from Heathfield may also be involved. It was agreed that all users of bikes, including Quad Bikes, will be dealt with equally; DS

c) Parking at the Junction of The Green and Fowlmere Road

Cllr Easthope has taken up this matter with Cambridgeshire CC. They are of the opinion that the Give Way sign is sufficient. It was agreed that there is nothing further which can be done on this matter given the opinion of CCC;

d) Co-option of Parish Councillors

The parish clerk has put notices on the notice boards and there is one on the parish website. Mr Ramsey has expressed his interest in becoming a parish councillor and has attended today's meeting. It is hoped that other residents will come forward;

5. Health & Safety Report, Health & Safety and Environmental Issues

Cllr Schneider said that the recent snow and cold had impeded the usual checks. The next ones are due in 2 months time. Sheets will go out to councillors for the reports. It was noted that several large potholes have opened up on the roads following the recent cold weather. One in particular in Middle Street is very bad. Both speed bumps at entrances to the village have become damaged. Cllr Easthope explained that the way CCC is repairing potholes is ineffective and a waste of money. Cllr Williams said that he is happy to lend his support.

a) Electricity supplies and replacement of street light on the triangle near the shop

Responsible Financial Officer said that the latest electricity bill from Opus Energy for December is £350.00. The previous bill was £25.00. The Npower bill for Heathfield has gone down to £71.63 from £131.00/ The parish clerk has obtained a quote from UtilityAid an energy broker for a one year contract with SSE to supply electricity at a cheaper rate.

Post Meeting Note – it has transpired that the quote is for 2 meters. UtilityAid have been asked to obtain a further quote for the third meter.

Acceptance of this quote was proposed by Cllr Schneider and seconded by Cllr Pashley and agreed. The parish clerk will deal with the contract.

b) Update on:

i) MVAS

The parish clerk has submitted and application for a licence in respect of the lamp post at Heathfield to CCC;

ii) yellow lines at Heathfield

Painting of the yellow lines at Heathfield has been completed;

iii) repainting white lines at Heathfield

A job number has been issued in respect of this work. Oz Flynn has taken photos and sent them to CCC. Cllr McDonald explained that the work has to be done during the current financial year. This means within the next twelve weeks. The parish clerk expressed the hope that a "bump" is installed to mark the roundabout as well as repainting it;

Post Meeting Note – CCC have confirmed that the work should be carried out by the end of January.

c) Parking on Church Street

Cllr Richman has contacted the school PTA and asked for something to be put in the school newsletter. It was agreed the parish clerk will write to the new school head that letter will include parking on the yellow Zig Zag Lines outside the school. Cllr Gough will ask the CPSO to have a word with the school about the parking; **MC**

d) Flooding on Farm Lane

The present work is effective but Cllr Easthope pointed out that this will only be the case until it is damaged by a heavy vehicle.

6. Parish Recreation Grounds & Maintenance

a) Goalposts at Ringstone;

Cllr Pashley has been in communication with Dr Alan Hudd of Alchemie Technology who are occupants of part of Duxford Business Park asking for sponsorship. It was agreed that the parish clerk (liaising with Cllr Pashley) will write a letter to Dr Hudd with a view to attempting to clear up any misunderstandings which seem to have occurred between the Company and some residents; **MC**

Cllr Pashley referred to leaves in School Lane which need to be cleared up. Cllr Williams said the street sweeper should visit the area in approximately two months time. The parish clerk said that Pepperslade also needs to be swept.

Cllr Richman referred to people parking on the Ringstone Open Space. They are reversing onto it. Cllr Schneider suggested installing bollards or planters. It was agreed that the problem needs to be addressed as soon as possible because of damage to the grass. Quotes will be obtained for planters, logs and domes. Cllrs Richman Pashley and Schneider will liaise and act together on this;

b) Repair/Replacement of Pepperslade Notice Board

Cllr Pashley said that he has repaired the notice board. It will be re-sited as soon as conditions allow; **RP**

c) Salt Bins

The parish clerk said that after recent weather conditions these need to be checked regularly. Salt bins will be included in the Health & Safety Reports. They need to be checked regularly;

Fowlmere Road Sign

It was agreed to purchase a replacement Fowlmere Road sign from Croft Castings Limited for the sum of £384.00 plus VAT, Croft Castings previous supplied the sign for The Green.

7. Footpaths

Cllr Richman referred to problems on The Greenway. Cllr Easthope will raise these with Robert Smith when he meets him this week; **DE**

8. Tree Works & Tree Protection Orders

a) Tree Works

22/1374/TTCA – Tree works at 36 Middle Street – no objection;

b) Free Tree Scheme

Cllr Schneider has applied for trees. He has been given a list of the trees available. It will be circulated to parish councillors;

9. Planning Matters

a) Planning applications received:

22/04531/FUL – Relocation of existing air conditioning units Heathfield House – no objections – approval recommended;

22/04431/FUL – Reconfigure of a single storey building to accommodate additional office space, relocation of existing server room to convert the room into a new social/kitchen space, addition of new MVHR unit and replacement of windows and external doors Building 5 IWM – no objections – approval recommended;

22/5105/HFUL & 22/05188/LBC – Single storey garden room at rear – 52 Church Street – no objections - approval recommended;

22/04778/HFUL – Two storey side extension, changes to the fenestration and single storey rear extension to replace conservatory 3 Foreman's Road – no objections- approval recommended;

22/04233/FUL - Provision of a new agricultural grain store, access track and relocated access point Gravel Pit Hill – no objections – approval recommended;

22/05059/FUL & 22/05060/LBC – ramp, addition of canopy, removal of existing canopy and

delivery platform, demolition of external wall, replacement of rainwater goods, refurbishment or replacement of windows (to include secondary glazing) and doors, new doors enlargement of two windows to create double door, installation of UV film, installation of air source heat pumps, insulation of loft and walls, removal of internal walls, blocking up of doorways, reinstatement of original openings and revise internal layout to include increased office space – Building 6 IWM – no objections - approval recommended;

22/05368/HFUL & 22/05369/LBC – alterations to existing dwelling and conversion of additional outbuildings for ancillary domestic use in association with 26A Middle Street – no objections – approval recommended;

b) Planning Decisions Received

No Planning Decisions have been received;

c) Planning Appeals

No Planning Appeals have been received;

d) Neighbourhood Plan

Kit Jackson and Philippa MacGarry have provided copies of the draft Neighbourhood Plan to parish councillors. Some comments have been made and these have been taken on board. It was agreed that parish councillors should have until the 15th January to provide any further comments they wish to make. Once These have been processed the plan will be re-submitted to the parish council for approval. Once the plan has been approved it will be submitted to SCDC inspectors. If they approve it then the plan is submitted to residents. Final approval requires a 51% majority of those responding;

e) Any miscellaneous items

There were no miscellaneous items.

10. Approval of draft Neighbourhood Plan

The draft Neighbourhood Plan was discussed please see 9 d) above.

11. Financial Matters

a) Authority was granted to pay the following:

	Amount	VAT	Total
Payroll – January	866.66		866.66
Cambridgeshire ACRE – consultancy support for Neighbourhood Plan	500.00	100.00	600.00
Hardy Landscapes – Invoice 22183 – Hedge/Shrub pruning for 2022 season	442.00	88.40	530.40
Npower – Heathfield Lights			
January 2022	125.09	6.25	131.34
February 2022	107.65	5.38	113.03
March 2022	113.06	5.65	118.71
April 2022	97.61	4.88	102.49
May 2022	93.90	4.70	98.60
June 2022	82.84	4.14	86.98
July 2022	83.69	4.18	87.87
August 2022	83.69	4.18	87.87
September 2022	87.41	4.37	91.78
October 2022	60.15	3.01	63.16
November 2022	67.75	3.39	71.14
Responsible Finance Officer's expenses	10.75		10.75
Parish Clerk's expenses	16.43		16.43

b) The following payments made between meetings were ratified:

	Amount	VAT	Total
Payroll – December	866.66		866.66

Opus Energy – Invoice 42271885 £19.19, Invoice 42271886 £4.57 and Invoice 42271887 £4.89	27.29	1.36	28.65
British Gas – Bill number 103614863 Smithy electricity	14.13	0.70	14.83
British Gas - Bill number 996514443 Smithy electricity	13.67	0.68	14.35

c) Credits received

The RFO said that £1.15 has been received from Npower in respect of rental for the cable under the Village Green. The Lloyds Bank PLC interest rate has risen to 0.60%. He has been contacted by a senior manager at Npower following his complaint about their service. The bills are lower. There is one for £131.21. The payments were proposed by Cllr Easthope and seconded by Cllr Gough and agreed;

d) Section 106 monies

The S106 monies remain invested in accounts with Cambridge Building Society and Saffron Building Society. These monies are utilised for maintenance purposes and appropriate amounts to cover such expenditure are withdrawn on an annual basis. In line with present economic conditions the rate of interest payable on the monies is minimal;

e) setting the Precept for 2023/24

Following discussions it was agreed that the Precept for 2023/24 will be £29,900. This represents an increase of 20% which is 9% above inflation in December 2022. The Precept for 2022/23 is £24,916. A full explanation of the increase will appear in the APM leaflet. The increase is necessary to cover additional costs and work required throughout the parish.

12. Unauthorised use of motorcyces on Open Spaces

This matter was dealt with in paragraph 4 b)

13. Annual Parish Meeting 2023

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday 23rd March at 8.00 pm. The parish clerk will prepare the usual leaflet. After it has been printed parish councillors will distribute the leaflet to all homes in the parish.

Reports to be written are:

Chairman & Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Gough;

Village Hall – Oz Flynn;

Health & Safety – Cllr Schneider;

Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Easthope;

Heathfield – Cllr Pashley;

Trees – Cllr Richman

Precept – Parish Clerk

In addition reports have been requested from the District and County Councillors.

14. Reports (if any):

a) Neighbourhood Forum

Cllr Pashley had nothing to report. There has not been a meeting since before Lockdown;

b) Village Hall Management Committee

There is often a smell in the kitchen area. This may be a question of replacing the U bend. The office is progressing. Cllr Gough is going to investigate the installation of cupboards for the cleaning equipment. Cllr Easthope said that Thriplow Society do not need to former TADS space upstairs. There is still some odds and ends to clear. The Christmas Tree has been stored upstairs. There is plenty of space. Cllr Easthope mentioned work needs to be done on The Smithy. He will obtain an estimate. Some of the items in The Smithy may need to be stored upstairs.

Cllr Gough was re-elected to be the the parish council's representative on the committee. She was proposed by Cllr Easthope and seconded by Cllr Richman;

c) Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Gough has replied to a message she received from Cambs Police. They asked that the public should be educated on how to report to or contact the police. Cllr Gough said that it is already difficult to get police assistance. It appears people are being asked not to contact them officially. Cllr Gough said we are lucky that she is able to contact the CPSO if we could not do so then there would be no information;

d) District Council Report

Cllr Williams had prepared a report a copy of which is attached;

e) County Council Report

Cllr McDonald has prepared a report a copy of which is attached. In addition Cllr McDonald made various comments which are recorded below.

A new scheme will be introduced this year parallel to the LHI grant scheme. There will be no need to prove average speeds. Costs will be awarded to a maximum of £15,000. Applications are expected to “make a pitch”. There is no need to spend £15,000 on a scheme. The budget is £150,000. Each applicant can choose what they want to do. CCC officers will advise on what is suitable. Smaller schemes will be considered. The more money put in by the applicant the better. Not all areas need to come under an application. The probable closing date will be September. It would be a good idea to contact Josh Reynolds of CCC when making an application.

Cllr Easthope raised the problems with potholes. A few years ago a machine was acquired to do this. The machine Has not done well and potholes have re-opened.

Cllr McDonald referred to the dilemma of hot summers and cold snaps. One day recently he recorded -10 in Fowlmere. The equipment is not up to the job. Replacement is under discussion. Where holes are filled properly they are fine. An urgent review is underway. The issue is whether next winter a different machine should be used.

15. Correspondence and information received

The parish clerk had circulated a list of correspondence received.

16. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be on the 13th March 2023. Annual Parish Meeting 23rd March 2023.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Chairman

Dated

Cambridgeshire County Report

The new 20 mph scheme will launch in February as outlined in the Committee paper from December.

https://cambridgeshire.cmis.uk.com/ccc_live/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1923/Committee/62/Default.aspx

Furniture Re Cycling

All nine household waste recycling centres in Cambridgeshire will accept upholstered household seating again from Saturday 7th January, the County Council has confirmed

An interim solution for accepting waste items such as sofas, upholstered chairs, cushions, and beanbags at all the recycling centres, will also allow bulky waste collections offered by all of the county’s City and District Councils to resume. Please check their websites for further details. Staff will be available at each of the recycling centre sites to advise and show residents where they can dispose of upholstered household seating

Residents are also reminded that there are alternatives to taking upholstered household seating to recycling centres.

Please consider asking the retailer to take your old furniture away when new items are delivered, (companies like John Lewis, Marks and Spencer, DFS etc all operate take-back schemes). Or give it a new lease of life by donating it to a charity, sell it or giving it away on social media or online auction sites.

Bus Service Update

Discussions continue of funding of services beyond March 2023 so we have a breathing space at least for now.

Great Chesterford Hardcore Site : ESS/109/22/UTT

The deadline for comments on the new planning application is end January.

[https://publicaccess.uttlesford.gov.uk/online-](https://publicaccess.uttlesford.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RMXOZAQN01O00&activeTab=summary)

[applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RMXOZAQN01O00&activeTab=summary](https://publicaccess.uttlesford.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RMXOZAQN01O00&activeTab=summary)

Planning Appeal:

<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?CaseID=3306988&CoID=0>

Foxton Hub

Im still waiting for an update from GCP and draft papers for the hub.

Peter McDonald

Jan 5th 2023

District Report

Local Plan Update

On January 4th the Greater Cambridge Planning service presented new figures to the Council on the number of houses required for its next Local Plan. The plan resented in 2021 set a requirement of around 49,000 houses. This number was derived from models of employment growth in the District between 2020 and 2041. The planners have run a new exercise to determine jobs growth. This uses a similar methodology to the 2021 exercise but with some important differences in methodology. The result is that the planners have decided the housing need has risen by 8,000 houses to 57,000. It remains unclear if this will be the final number that goes into the plan (as the Councils have acknowledged there is doubt about whether enough water could be found to supply this huge growth in houses across Cambridge and South Cambs). Nonetheless, the new figures are worrying as a significant number of new development sites would be needed for another 8,000 homes. The new report will be scrutinised at the Councils over the coming weeks and I will keep the PC updated.

Council Sets Up 'Go Fund Me' Page

South Cambs is inviting people to donate to a new emergency **Go Fund Me** campaign to help finance the response to the cost of living crisis in South Cambridgeshire.

The money raised will be added to existing Council support for people just about managing and distributed through normal Council process on existing eligibility criteria.

In the first stage of the scheme, the Council will write to people who receive a 75-85% Council Tax discount as they have identified as potentially in greatest need of support.

Further information is available here: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/emergency-go-fund-me-page-will-help-residents-struggling-in-the-cost-of-living-crisis/>

Congestion Charge and Bus Network

The consultation on the £5 Congestion Charge and Bus Network proposals closes on 23rd December. If you have not already done so, you can complete the consultation questionnaire here:

<https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/making-connections-2022>

District Report

Congestion Charge and Bus Proposals

The GCPs congestion charge & bus network consultation is now live and can be accessed here: <https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/making-connections-2022>

An interactive map of potential bus routes was launched on 3rd November to accompany the consultation. According to the map, Thriplow is being offered 1 bus per hour to Shelford – where you'd need to change to get to Cambridge and 1 bus per hour to Barley (both during the daytime). There is no service to or from Heathfield specifically identified on the map.

You can see the interactive map here:

<https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/news/interactive-bus-map-launched-so-people-can-see-how-journeys-would-be-transformed-by-gcp-proposals>

Cost of Living Grants for Residents

The Community Chest grant fund run by SCDC is being expanded to support projects to help residents deal with the cost of living crisis.

Community Chest criteria have been expanded to allow bids that include contributions for any project that has a positive impact for communities related to the cost-of-living crisis. The change also means the fund will support ongoing costs, including staffing, as well as one-off purchases as it had previously.

Further information is available here: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/grants-available-to-support-cost-of-living-crisis/>

Other News in Brief

The Council has advised that birds must be locked down because of a local outbreak of bird flu:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/birds-must-be-locked-down-as-the-country-faces-the-biggest-outbreak-of-avian-flu/>

The by-elections in Longstanton took place on 3rd November. 1 x Liberal Democrat and 1 x Conservative councillors were elected.

The first Warm Hubs have opened at Gamlingay and Caldecote: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/first-warm-hubs-open-their-doors/>

Cambridgeshire County Report

Cost of living Support. This mirrors the South Cambs information and also to be updated regularly.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities-localism/support-with-the-cost-of-living>

Supermarket Vouchers

Over 21,000 families received supermarket vouchers last half term in a bid from Cambridgeshire County Council to help tackle financial pressures during the school half term break.

The cost-of-living crisis, and rising energy bills have put an additional strain on families who were already worrying about how to make ends meet. The County Council distributed over

£320,000 from the Holiday Voucher Scheme to provide support during the October half term. The scheme will also continue in December and February half terms, to give families a helping hand during the winter.

21,427 vouchers were sent to support children who would usually be eligible for other support. Each eligible child's parent was issued a £15 voucher that could be used at a supermarket of their choice. Eligibility automatically included families who met the following criteria:

- Early Years Pupil Premium
- Children eligible for income related funded two-year-old education
- Eligible for income-related Free School Meals
- Students eligible for 16+ bursary.

Further details can be found here: [Cambridgeshire Holiday Voucher Scheme - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

Bus Service Update

After many days of discussion a new tender was found for the previous 915 service in Foxton/Fowlmere. Funding is available until March 2023 so we have a breathing space at least for now.

Great Chesterford Hardcore Site : ESS/20/22/UTT

A combined planning & enforcement appeal has been submitted and a temporary stop notice has been put on this site. However they appear to be flouting this.

<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?CaseID=3306988&CoID=0>

Crash Barrier Work A505 Feb 2023

12 weeks of work are proposed here for barriers replacement. I've warned County on the possible disruption and will have a call with Officers soon.

Foster Carers Unaccompanied Children

An appeal has been launched to find more Foster Carers for unaccompanied children who are seeking asylum in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fostering Service urgently needs carers to meet the needs of children and young people who are often forced to leave their family and country behind to seek protection from violence, persecution, war, detention, climate change, terrorism, or the disappearance of their family. When unaccompanied minors arrive in the UK, they're looked after by the local authority who will safeguard them and promote their welfare. They frequently take long and dangerous journeys alone, or are trafficked in circumstances unknown to them, arriving at their destination feeling confused, alone, and disorientated.

Unaccompanied minors are also likely to have different cultural, religious, family and language experiences. Foster Carers support unaccompanied minors to maintain their cultural

and religious identity while helping them integrate into a community in Cambridgeshire or Peterborough.

By becoming a part of the Local Authority's Fostering Community, you can help us to guide vulnerable children and young people through their early years and play a central role in supporting children and young people to heal, and develop into happy, healthy adults who have a bright future.

If you are interested in Fostering and Adoption for unaccompanied minors and want to find out more, please get in touch: · Visit: cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering · Email: fostering@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
· Call: 0800 052 0078

Foxton Hub

Im still waiting for an update from GCP and draft papers for the hub.

Peter McDonald
Nov 7th 2022