

THRILOW AND HEATHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in The Barbara Pointon Room Village Hall on Monday 15th July 2024 at 7.30 pm

Present: Jane Gough, David Easthope, Carly Richman, Fergus Ramsay
District Councillor – Richard Williams
Parish Clerk – Martyn Corbet
Responsible Financial Officer – Austin Flynn
Member of the Public also present – Tom Harvey

Congratulations were recorded to Cllr Easthope on his being awarded the British Empire Medal in the recent King's Birthday Honours List.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Cooper and Pashley.

2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 13th May 2024

The minutes having been previously circulated were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

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

There were no matters arising

4. Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th June 2024

The minutes having been previously circulated were agreed and signed by the Chairman

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

There were no matters arising

6. Health & Safety Reports, Health & Safety and Environmental Issues

a) Parish Councillors Reports

The parish clerk went through a list he had prepared following the receipt of completed reports from parish councillors. Some work needs to be carried out. It was agreed that this work will be as soon as possible. Tom Harvey was asked to quote for the work. A list will be provided to him by the parish clerk. Other works are also required around the village. Cllr Easthope is obtaining quotes for work required at The Smithy and painting the Telephone Kiosk. **DE**

Major work is needed on Thriplow Rec. Ian Wilson was asked to quote for this. The parish clerk read out his quote to the meeting. Acceptance of the quote was proposed by Cllr Easthope and seconded by Cllr Ramsay. The parish clerk will ask Mr Wilson to carry out the work needed to repair the equipment as a priority. The total cost of this will be £2,882.72. This work is in accordance with that set out in the RoSPaA report on the Rec. **MC**

It was agreed that bark would be spread on some of the ground areas needing attention which is principally by the access gates. Cllr Ramsay will contact Shelford Trees to obtain this. It will need to be done after the rec has been cut. The parish clerk will contact Tom Hardy of Hardy Landscapes to find out about grass cutting as it is intended the bark will be stored on the Rec pending spreading. Cllr Richman has been through the report prepared by RoSPA on the Heathfield and Ringstone Open Space equipment. Work needs to be done on the equipment. One of the priorities is the Zip Wire. The parish clerk will contact Darren Mullett to obtain details of the manufacturers so that they can be asked to do the repairs. **FR/MC**

It was noted that all the play equipment installed in the parish requires ongoing maintenance. In many cases this requires specialist input. This constitutes a regular substantial expense to the parish council.

b) RoSPA Reports

See above

7. Parish Recreation Grounds and Maintenance

a) Quotes re Roundabout at The Rec

This was dealt with in 6. a) above

b) Replacement of Middle Street sign

The parish clerk has heard nothing from SCDC. Cllr Williams has chased this and will continue to do so. **RW**

c) Broken Fences on the Heathfield Open Space

Cllr Gough declared an interest and left the room. Cllr Easthope temporarily assumed the chair.

The Parish Clerk read out the quote he had previously circulated. It was not acceptable. Tom Harvey was asked to provide a quote. He will visit the site.

d) Replacement of the Broken Panel Heathfield Bus Shelter

The Parish Clerk had two quotes for this work. He read them out. Cllr Richman proposed and Cllr Ramsay seconded that the quote from Ian Wilson of £261.96 be accepted. This was agreed. The Parish Clerk will inform Mr Wilson accordingly.

MC

e) Replacement of Fowlmere Road Sign near The Green

It was decided that SCDC should be asked to replace the sign. The new sign will not be metal but in the interests of economy the provision of a free sign by SCDC is the better option. The Parish Clerk will email Cllr Williams and ask him to pursue this. The Parish Clerk will contact Derek Pinner who has been trying to resolve this issue to inform him of the parish council's decision.

MC

Cllr Easthope referred to the fact that the sign on The Green saying it leads to Foreman's Road is dirty as is the case with many other signs in the village. The signs will be cleaned. The Parish Clerk referred to emails he has received from Geoff Axe about the sign for Farm Lane which is loose and also dirty. Tom Harvey has agreed to fix this as well as clean the signs.

f) Repair and Emptying of Heathfield Open Space Litter Bins

Nothing has happened and the main bin in the centre of the area is full. It also requires repair. Cllr Pashley had previously said he would repair the bin but nothing has happened. Cllr Pashley was going to provide details of a contractor who would be able to empty the bin on a regular basis. Cllr Richman will contact him to get these details. Tom Harvey said he will take a look at the situation and empty the bins. If a contractor is employed the bin might need to be moved. This will also be investigated.

8. Updates and progress reports on

a) Wooded area at Hurdles Way

Cllr Easthope said something positive needs to be done with this area. He suggested that residents be consulted. It was noted that this matter has been on the agenda for some time and needs to be pushed forward. Tom Harvey will look at the area and liaise with Cllr Richman. He will provide a quote for the probable cost of improving the area.

CR

b) Work on the Village Green to prevent damage during Daffodil Weekend

The Parish Clerk confirmed that the matting has been delivered. It arrived on 2 pallets which were not able to be stored in the Village Hall. Subsequently the pallets and matting have been removed from the car park by Ian Wilson and will be kept in safekeeping until he can do the work.

c) Suggested Dog Litter Bin on Church Street

Cllr Gough has spoken with Nigel Smith who cuts the verges in the area. A site for the bin has been agreed. Cllr Gough will inform the Parish Clerk of the details. He will then contact SCDC for approval.

MC

d) Application re 20 mph Speed Limit

The Parish Clerk is still awaiting a determination of the application from CCC.

e) Village Sign

Cllr Easthope has spoken to David Carter who is waiting until the end of term to do work. He is a school teacher. He is aware that the sign must be back in place by next year's Daffodil Weekend.

f) Progress on parking on the Ringstone Open Space

This is still under review.

9. Tree Works & Tree Protection Orders

a) Tree Works

None

b) Quote for tree work on The Green at The Smithy

Cllr Richman has obtained a quote from Shelford Trees Limited for £450.00. Acceptance of this quote was proposed by Cllr Ramsay and seconded by Cllr Easthope. Cllr Richman will ask Shelford Trees Limited to carry out the work.

CR

c) Suggested survey for trees on The Green

Shelford Trees will undertake a survey. The Parish Clerk will send them a map.

10. Planning matters

a) Planning Applications received

24/01917/HFUL – *single storey rear/side extension, new chimney to rear, installation of timber doors to enclose carport and replace thatched roof. Removal of rear dormer windows and fenestration alterations – 4 The Green - no objections*

24/02145/HFUL – *single storey side extension following demolition of existing conservatory – 55 Church Street – no objections*

b) Planning Decisions Received

None

c) Planning Appeals

None

d) Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council is waiting for the Neighbourhood Plan Committee to organize the next stage of the procedure which is arrangements for public viewing of the plan. It was pointed out that the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan maybe attracting some urgency given the proposed overhaul of planning laws by the new Labour Government.

e) Miscellaneous Items

None

12. Financial Matters**a) authority was granted to pay the following**

	Amount	VAT	Total
Payroll – July	1,300.00		1,300.00
Parish Clerk's expenses	10.00		10.00

b) the following payments were ratified having been paid between meetings

	Amount	VAT	Total
CAPALC – Membership	443.52		443.52
RFO - expenses	19.78		19.78
LGS Services – Internal Audit	125.00	25.00	150.00
Hardy Landscapes	1,290.20	258.05	1,548.25
Ian's Homeworks	230.00	230.00	230.00
Grassmats Limited	1,466.00	293.20	1,759.20
Payroll - June	1,300.00		1,300.00
Npower	135.66	6.78	142.44
SSE	47.83	2.39	50.22
British Gas	15.80	0.79	16.59
British Gas	13.67	0.68	14.35
British Gas	14.13	0.70	14.83

c) item received after publication of the agenda and approved for payment

	Amount	VAT	Total
Hardy Landscapes	1,99.04	239.81	1,438.05

d) Credits Received

Interest from Lloyds Bank of £53.33 has been received. Monies from Daffodil Weekend amounting to £1,750.00 have been received to cover the cost of the matting for The Green.

e) S106 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

f) External Audit Update

The Parish Clerk confirmed that everything has been sent to the External Auditor. There has been a slight problem with the Notice of Public Rights in that whilst the notice gave residents 32 working days to ask to inspect the records the time proscribed is 30 working days. This is not to be exceeded. A replacement notice was prepared.

13. Reports (if any)**a) Neighbourhood Forum**

No meeting has taken place

b) Village Hall Management Committee

A grant has been received from The Daffodil Weekend Trust toward the purchase and installation of new hand dryers. Tom Harvey has made a good job of weeding and clearing up around the Village Hall. The fire extinguishers have been tested. PAT testing is to be carried out.

Cllr Easthope mentioned a talk being staged by Thriplow Society – “ Shackleton and the Endurance”.

c) Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Gough said she has not seen the PSO for some time. Nothing has been reported since the spate of crime after Daffodil Weekend.

d) District Council Information

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

e) County Council Information

Cllr McDonald had prepared a report a copy of which is attached

14. Incurion of lorries onto Hurdles Way

The Parish Clerk has received a lot of help from Big Day Signs in relation to the proposal to attach the sign to a lamppost in Hurdles Way. The requirements of CCC in relation to this have proved very onerous. Consequently he has contacted Nishant Gupta of Duxford Business Park for permission to erect the sign on either a post or the fence. Mr Gupta will get back to him as soon as possible.

15. Area on Village Green outside The Green Man

Negotiations are continuing but they are now via solicitors.

16. Problems with flooding in parts of the Village

The Parish Clerk has received an email to say the survey has been completed and some work needs to be done. Cllr Easthope said that the whole main to Fowlmere has to be lined and there approximately 40 leaks. The Parish Clerk will press Anglian Water for a copy of the report into the state of the drains so that it can be circulated. It was agreed that Derek Pinner has done a lot to assist in the situation.

MC

17. Review of Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Policies

The Parish Clerk will liaise with Pat Easthope with a view to arranging a review meeting.

MC

18. Correspondence and Information Received

A list of all correspondence received has been circulated to parish councillors. Several parish councillors will be attending an exhibition at the IWM this Wednesday about proposals for An invitation has been received from Meridian Biogas for parish councillors to visit one of their facilities in Lincolnshire.

19. Date of next meeting

Monday 9th September 2024

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

..... Chairman

..... Date

District Report

Cllr Richard Williams

General Election 2024

The calling of the general election in May meant that the District Council did not make announcements, or launch initiatives, that could be seen as favourable to one part or the other between late May and Polling Day on 4th July. As such, it has been a quiet period in terms of significant new initiatives and announcements.

As I'm sure everyone know, Pippa Heylings (Liberal Democrat), was elected as the MP for South Cambridgeshire. The full result is as follows:

Pippa Heylings (Elected)	Liberal Democrat	25,704
Chris Carter-Chapman	Conservative	15,063
Luke Viner	Labour	6,106
Harrison Edwards	Reform UK	4,897
Miranda Fyfe	Green Party	2,656
James Douglas Strachan Gordon	Independent	459

Four Day Week

A new report on the Four Day week at South Cambs Council has been released today (8th July 2024). I have not yet had time to read the report in full, and notably the Council's press release does not include a link to the report. In any case, the Council's take on the report can be red here:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/independent-report-analyses-council-s-four-day-week-trial/>

'Rail and Ale Trail'(!)

In May the District, along with the Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Community Rail Partnership published an 'A Rail and Ale trail' booklet- which puts a spotlight on using local trains and the walks you can take to the village pubs in South Cambridgeshire

The guide features five stations in South Cambridgeshire including Foxton, Shepreth, Meldreth, Shelford and Whittlesford Parkway. The trail

Further information is available here: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/council-launches-new-rail-and-ale-trail-around-south-cambridgeshire/>

Parish Council County Report July 2024

County Council Report

New operator and timetable for 26 bus route

The 26 bus route, which had been operated for the past 2 years by Centrebus under tender from the Cambridge & Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA), has now been taken on as a commercial route by local bus operator A2B. A2B have expressed their wish to bring gradual improvements to the service. Initially they had decided to remove Fowlmere from the route, but after representation from Cllr Hobro, Cllr van de Ven and myself they agreed not to do this, as the service between Fowlmere and Cambridge is very well used, and there is no rail alternative. There have been some teething problems with the handover, most notably the fact that the 26 service has disappeared from live tracking apps. We are working with A2B to bring the live information back, as many people rely on this to have confidence in the bus service. All single fares cost £2, and £1 concession fares are available for under-25s. Some services now additionally stop at the station and Tesco in Royston. One daytime service also runs via Shepreth and Meldreth.

HAF Programme

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is offering funded holiday scheme places for children in Cambridgeshire this summer who are eligible for free school meals.

This initiative by Cambridgeshire County Council offers primary and secondary school children in the county the chance to enjoy exciting experiences at a wide range of holiday schemes. With a focus on providing healthy meals alongside activities, the programme is ideal for children who want to stay healthy and active during the summer school holidays. Any child receiving benefit-related free school meals is eligible for the programme, which will run between 23 July and 30 August. Approximately 19,000 HAF eligibility vouchers were sent to families on 10 June. Each voucher offers 64 hours of access, for no charge, to a HAF scheme during the summer holidays.

The programme will be delivered by approved providers, co-ordinated by Cambridgeshire County Council. The council is working with schools, childcare providers and voluntary and community organisations to deliver the programme.

As part of the programme, eligible children will be able to access:

- Fun and entertaining opportunities or new experiences that help children to develop their skills and knowledge
- A variety of holiday schemes including sports, playschemes, drama, technology, outdoor adventure and youth schemes
- At least one meal a day
- Guidance on increasing awareness of healthy eating, lifestyles, and positive behaviours
- Parents will be supported with information and signposting to other services and support which might be helpful to families
- Further information can be found at HAF Provider Directory | Cambridgeshire County Council <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/support-with-the-cost-of-living/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/haf-provider-directory>

Coffee Pod Re-Cycling

This week, we've introduced coffee pod recycling at all nine of our Household Recycling Centres. The new coffee pod bins offer residents an environmentally friendly way to separately dispose of both aluminium and plastic coffee pods.

Over 1 billion coffee pods are sold each year in the UK alone. Waste from these 'single-use' pods will lead to a huge environmental impact if not recycled properly, in the UK and globally.

The County Council is partnering with Podback to provide coffee pod recycling services. Podback was initially created by Nespresso, NESCAFE Dolce Gusto and Tassimo to help their customers recycle their coffee pods and is now supported by many more coffee brands. Podback recycles coffee pods in the UK, to reduce waste and saving on new materials. Collected pods are shredded and cleaned of coffee. The shredded pods can be made into new products, while the coffee grounds are used to help create renewable energy and soil improver.

Did you know?

You can recycle a huge variety of items at our Household Recycling Centres from aerosols, batteries, and cooking oil, to mobile phones, soil and vapes.

There are nine Household Recycling Centres across Cambridgeshire, run by Thalia, with locations in Alconbury, Bluntisham, March, Milton, St Neots, Thriplow, Whittlesey, Wisbech and Witchford.

July 6th 2024.