

THRILOW AND HEATHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in The Barbara Pointon Room Village Hall on Monday 11th November 2024 at 7.30 pm

Present: Jane Gough, David Easthope, Carly Richman, Fergus Ramsay, Sonya Cooper
County Councillor – Peter MacDonald (part-time)
District Councillor - Richard Williams (part-time)
Parish Clerk – Martyn Corbet
Responsible Financial Officer – Austin Flynn
Members of the Public also present – Tom Harvey, David Heinzelmann

1. Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were received.

2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 9th September 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. Cllr Gough informed the meeting that Cllr Pashley has resigned.

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

The parish clerk will be providing new Health & Safety forms for completion by parish councillors at the next meeting in January.

a) RoSPA reports

Progress is being made upon the implementation of the recommendations of these reports.

a) Damage to the footpath at School Lane

The parish clerk has reported three areas of damage to Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) following recent users' comments. He has reported faults over several years but nothing has been done. He asked Cllr MacDonald to become involved. Cllr McDonald has provide a contact address to the parish clerk and will assist;

a) Report and Discussion of the Meridian Biogas Project

There was a brief discussion but more work needs to be done. Cllr Easthope has contacted various parish councils in the locality of the site which was visited. Some reported small issues which have arisen. Some reported damage to hedges and verges. Further discussion needs to take place. One point Cllr Easthope made is that agricultural land would be utilised to grow fuel when it could be used for growing food. David Heinzelmann is concerned about the reduction of Co2 admissions. The Co2 produced as a by-product by the plant would be shipped to Norway thereby increasing Co2 emissions. It is government policy to encourage plants such as these. It is possible they might not be considered sustainable sometime in the future. Cllr Easthope will be conducting for research and discussions.

5. Parish Recreation Grounds and Maintenance

a) Work required at Thriplow Rec

The Roundabout has been closed off with yellow and black tape as it is unsafe. The scheduled work still needs to be carried out. Cllr Gough has and will continue to chase Ian Wilson; **JG**

b) Replacement of Middle Street and Fowlmere Road Street signs

The parish clerk has heard nothing from SCDC. Applications have been submitted for replacements to South Cambridgeshire DC. These take time.

c) Broken Fences on the Heathfield Open Space

The parish clerk has obtained an estimate from Tom Harvey. It was decided that this item will be included in next year's Precept; **RFO**

d) Replacement of the Broken Panel Heathfield Bus Shelter

This work has been completed;

e) Damage to the Triangle at Gravel Pit Hill and replacement of bollards

The parish clerk has obtained some bollards. They are presently in storage behind the Village Hall. Tom Harvey has been asked to quote for the installation of three of the bollards. The part to go into the ground will be painted. Reflectors will be installed. Tom will also look at the bollards on the triangle outside Anno Domini;

f) Repair and Emptying of Heathfield Open Space Litter Bins

Cllr Richman has been trying to get some feedback from organisations who might empty the bins on a regular basis. This has proved very difficult. The bins will probably need to be re-sited. Tom Harvey

has agreed to empty them again. The parish clerk will retrieve the missing lid and hinges from Messrs Pashley and Schneider respectively;

g) Work required at the Heathfield Open Space

1) ZipWire and Basket Swing – Flights of Fantasy Limited

The parish clerk read out an email he has received from Flights of Fantasy Limited who are the Company which originally installed the equipment. Acceptance of their quote to carry out the work for £380 plus VAT was proposed by Cllr Richman and seconded by Cllr Easthope and agreed;

2) Remainder of the work required on the H.O.S

The parish clerk read out details of the quote provided by Tom Harvey for £2,250.00 . Acceptance of this quote was proposed by Cllr Ramsay and seconded by Cllr Gough and agreed.

6. Updates and progress reports on

a) Wooded area at Hurdles Way

Cllr Richman has not been able to progress this. Cllr Gough said that the cost of work needs to be ascertained. It would appear the work required is to make a pathway and install some benches. The rubbish also needs to be cleared. Cllr Ramsay said that wood chips would be available from Shelford Tree Services Limited. Cllr Richman and Tom Harvey will liaise about what needs to be done;

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

The installation of the matting has been completed. The matting appears to be on top of the surface. Concerns were expressed about possible damage during mowing. The alternative will be for the area of the matting to be strimmed. Cllr Easthope said the matting needs to be sunk. Tom Harvey offered to use his roller. It was agreed that the grass cutting contractor needs to be warned;

c) Suggested Dog Litter Bin on Church Street

The bin has been installed

d) Application re 20 mph Speed Limit

The application has failed. It came even lower down the scoring list than last year. It was suggested the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit might be connected to the forthcoming Grain Store application. Cllr Williams said that confirmation of local support via a survey might help. He will provide a copy of one. **RW**

e) Village Sign

Cllr Easthope has spoken to David Carter the sign will be removed in December for refurbishing.

f) Progress on parking on the Ringstone Open Space

Cllr Richman provided a copy of a quote she has received from Tom Harvey. It was decided to include this amount in the Precept.

7. Tree Works & Tree Protection Orders

a) Tree Works

24/0922/TTCA – tree works – 43 Middle Street – no objections

24/1157/TTCA – tree works - 4 The Green

b) Suggested survey for trees on The Green

Cllr Richman has received a quote from Shelford Tree Services Limited. It was agreed that Cllr Easthope will contact a person in Whittlesford with a view to obtaining a comparison survey **DE**

8. Footpaths

The parish clerk asked Cllr McDonald for his assistance on the problems with the School Lane footpath. He also asked for this in relation to the footpath between Thriplow and Fowlmere which has several potholes in it. **MC**

9. Planning matters

a) Planning Applications received

24/03138/HFUL – single storey side and rear extension 7, Lower Street – no objections

24/03444/HFUL – single storey rear/side infill extension, front porch

and replacement of doors and windows. Single storey extension to carport and store to convert log store to home office – 40 Church Street – no objections

b) Planning Decisions Received

24/03093/LBC – Annex – 26 A Middle Street

c) Planning Appeals

None

d) Neighbourhood Plan

The current Neighbourhood Plan document has been made available for public consideration and an inspector appointed by SCDC. The inspector has a number of queries which the NP group are considering and it has become apparent that several representations mainly from CCC and the

Environment Agency were not received by the NP group or the parish council. The NP group has now obtained copies of these representations and is immediately considering their responses. In the meantime the inspector has extended the deadline for the submission of the NP group comments on these representations.

e) Miscellaneous Items

The parish clerk has received an application for development of the Grain Store and has circulated it. There are over 30 documents attached. He has asked for hard copies and that the developers will hold an Exhibition for residents in the Village Hall before a public meeting. He will pursue this. **MC**

10. Financial Matters

a) Authority was granted to pay the following

	Amount	VAT	Total
Payroll – November	1,300.00		1,300.00
Parish Clerk's expenses	53.38		53.88
PKF Littlejohn – External Audit	210.00	42.00	252.00
Ian's Homeworks	261.96		261.96
Hardy Landscapes	1,029.90	205.98	1,235.88

a) The following payments were ratified having been paid between meetings

	Amount	VAT	Total
Npower	121.96	6.20	128.16
British Gas – The Smithy	22.83	1.14	23.97
Shelford Tree Service – Tree on The Green	300.00	60.00	360.00
Carol Deed – website management	200.00	0.00	200.00
Npower	134.55	6.73	141.28
Payroll – October	1,300.00	0.00	1,300.00
Tom Harvey – Emergency work on Thriplow Rec	60.00	0.00	60.00
SSE	46.29	2.31	49.60
British Gas – The Smithy	21.87	1.09	1.09

c) the following donations were approved for payment

	Amount	VAT	Total
The Royal British Legion	50.00		50.00
Royston & District Community Transport	130.00		130.00

d) Credits Received

Interest from Lloyds Bank of £41.56 has been received.

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 External Audit has been completed. There were no problems and the required notices have been published.

11. Reports (if any)

a) Neighbourhood Forum

No meeting has taken place

b) Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Gough reported that the new hand dryers have been installed. There is presently a problem with the Ember App. She has to set the heating manually. The PAT testing has been completed.

c) Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Gough said she has not heard of anything. Cllr Richman said a suspected drug dealer in Ringstone has been arrested. A man who was arrested in Thriplow some time ago has been sent to prison. There has been reports of Hare Coursing behind Sherald's Croft.

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

12. Incursion of lorries onto Hurdles Way

The Parish Clerk has been unable to agree a site for the sign with owners of one of the premises on Duxford Business Park. It was agreed that he will investigate attaching the sign to the bus shelter.

13. Area on Village Green outside The Green Man

Negotiations are continuing but they are now via solicitors.

14. Problems with flooding in parts of the Village

The Parish Clerk has not received any further information from Anglian Water. He will pursue this.

15. Review of Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Policies

The Parish Clerk has still liaise with Pat Easthope with a view to arranging a review meeting. **MC**

16. Setting a date for the Budget Review Meeting and Assessments

The parish clerk will contact councillors to arrange a date.

17. Correspondence and Information Received

A list of all correspondence received has been circulated to parish councillors.

18. Date of next meeting

Monday 20th January 2025

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 10.00 pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

..... Chairman

..... Date

District Report

Cllr Richard Williams

Mobile Warden Scheme

The District Council has pledged £345,000 over the next three years to support mobile warden schemes across South Cambridgeshire, which help elderly people to carry on living independently in their own homes by providing a range of services and support (for a small charge).

In tandem with the new funding, the District will also be carrying out a review of local schemes to understand how they can be most effectively delivered..

High Street Support Grants.

The District is making a £200,000 grant scheme available to support projects that boost the heart of communities across South Cambridgeshire. Grants of between £5,000 to £20,000 (per project) are available to rural businesses, community groups and Parish Councils to support projects that improve the look of local high streets, promote rejuvenation, encourage residents to shop locally and attract more local businesses to the area. Grants can cover a wide range of projects such as renovating shop fronts, street art, new benches, hanging baskets, interactive family fun trails, street cleaning, local maps or new signs.

Anti-Racism Charter

In collaboration with UNISON, the Council signed an anti-racism charter, reinforcing its commitment to equality and diversity. This initiative is part of a broader commitment to creating inclusive spaces within the district.

Council Tax on Second Homes

The Council has decided to double council tax rates on second and unoccupied homes as part of a policy to address housing shortages in the area and encourage efficient property usage. The extra income could be used to generate additional revenue to support local services while incentivizing property owners to rent out vacant homes

Cambridge Development Company and East West Rail

The new Government has confirmed its commitment to the Cambridge Development Company and has allocated further funding to the group to develop plans to 'unlock' development in the area. What this will mean in practice is still unclear. The District Council reports sporadic contact from the group, which is effectively run by/from the Ministry of Local Government and Housing.

The budget also confirmed the Government's commitment to East West Rail as part of the plan to drive growth in the area. The Government committed to push forward the next stage of the project, with a consultation due to be launched later this month by the Department for Transport.

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Parish Council County Report Nov 2024

Cambridge Biomedical Campus Development

On 23rd October the Cambridge Biomedical Campus Landowners' Collaborative Group offered an update on our long-term development aspirations for the sustainable development and expansion of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

Residents and stakeholders at the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Community Planning Update meeting heard that the outline concepts, which are at their earliest stages, put Addenbrooke's Hospital at the heart of a wider vision to meet health and community needs across the Cambridge Biomedical Campus site.

The Landowners' Collaboration Group is formed of Cambridgeshire County Council; Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Trust; the University of Cambridge; Prologis and the Pemberton Family Trust.

With continued Government interest in this area, these early ideas would continue to develop the Campus, and expand it further to the south. These ideas are being outlined in response to the growth proposals set out in the Greater Cambridge First Proposals documents and in response to Cambridge Biomedical Campus Ltd's Cambridge Biomedical Campus Vision 2050. Our ideas also show how we think development options being explored through the emerging Great Cambridge Local Plan and Cambridge Biomedical Campus Ltd's Vision for 2050 could be taken forward.

Whilst still working through the potential options ahead of any formal planning proposals, the various partners have collectively agreed to refine the various ambitious proposals for this nationally significant site.

The campus is of strategic importance for healthcare globally due to the unique health and research benefits achieved through the co-location of Addenbrooke's Hospital, University research departments, research institutes including the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, the Royal Papworth Hospital, the future Children's and Cancer Hospitals, AstraZeneca and other research companies in the life-science industry.

The Landowners' Collaborative Group intend to comprehensively engage with the local community, initially through a range of theme-based workshops which will take place in 2025. The workshops will align with planning timetables including the Greater Cambridge Local Plan and ensure that future proposals for the site benefit from the input of the wider community.

Workshops are anticipated to include representatives from campus occupiers, councillors, Parish Councils and key interested parties, with this meeting the first step in a substantial engagement process ahead of any decisions being made.

Recently representatives from local authorities met with Housing and Planning Minister, Matthew Pennycook MP at the Biomedical Campus to discuss partnership efforts to ensure responsible and sustainable economic growth around Greater Cambridge – and the Campus.

The recording and slides are here:

<https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/about-us/news/cambridge-biomedical-campus-planning-update/>

Care Leavers Event

A special celebration event was held October 30 for young people from across Cambridgeshire leaving care.

It is one of several events planned for National Care Leavers' Week this week.

Young people themselves have been involved in planning the celebration event, which was held at The Junction in Cambridge.

Activities will include a nail bar and henna tattoo artist, as well as activities from Inspire2Ignite – a locally based organisation which works to reduce the number of young people who are not in education, employment, or training.

Support workers develop and deliver targeted programmes and experiences that engage and empower these young people, providing them with meaningful opportunities and support.

Representatives from the National Youth Advocacy Service will also be on hand with advice and guidance for care leavers.

The weekly drop-in hub for care experienced young people aged 16-25 continues in Huntingdon library on Thursdays between 10am and 1.30pm, with a focus on CV writing and career advice from Personal Advisors, education and employment workers and the Virtual School.

A Tenancy Ready course run by South Cambridgeshire District Council was held at Huntingdon Library. The course helped young people prepare for independent living, and covered topics such as how to maintain a tenancy, how to pay bills, how to manage money on a budget, and tenants' rights.

The Leaving Care Service works with many local and national organisations including Goal 17, who will be holding a mentoring session for care leavers at The Junction tomorrow afternoon (October 30) and Become – a charity for children in care and young care leavers.

Cambridgeshire County Council has recently updated and improved its local offer page for care leavers, which explains what services and support are available for those leaving care.

Half Term Vouchers

The supermarket voucher scheme operated again during October half-term, for all eligible families in Cambridgeshire.

Cambridgeshire County Council is continuing to run the scheme during October half-term, using the Household Support Fund from the Department for Work and Pensions, with additional funding provided by the council.

The council will issue a £15 voucher to the parent or guardian of each eligible child/young person. This will be sent via email and/or text on Saturday 26th October.

Children who become eligible up until Sunday 2nd November will also receive a voucher.

The voucher scheme has been a huge success since its introduction and is widely appreciated by families struggling in the current financial climate.

Details of how to apply for income related Free School Meals can be found here: [Cambridgeshire Holiday Voucher Scheme | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

There is a simple [application form](#) which only requires a few details for an instant eligibility check. Each successful application will also bring up to £1,500 additional funding for your child's school.

All vouchers must be claimed by 3pm on Friday 29 November. The council is unable to reinstate unclaimed vouchers after this date.

In addition to the Holiday Voucher Scheme, there is further support available in response to the cost of living which can be found here: [Support with the cost of living | Cambridgeshire County Council](#) - here you can find our dedicated Household Advice and Support Team, available to support families with information, advice and direct financial support.

Further information about the Holiday Voucher Scheme, including FAQs for parents, can be found here [Cambridgeshire Holiday Voucher Scheme | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)