

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
The joint PARISH COUNCIL of COVENHAM  
St. BARTHOLOMEW & COVENHAM St. MARY**

Held on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at Covenham St. Bartholomew Parish Rooms

**Present:** - Councillors: E. Cooling (Chair) C. Denny  
J. Firth D. Wiltshire S. Booth (Clerk)

**Public:** - 6 + County Cllr Bridges

**17/19. Chair's welcome**

- The Chair welcomed both Councillors and members of the public to the meeting. The Chair explained the building was non- smoking building and where the fire exits were in an emergency.

**18/19. Apologies for absence**

- Apologies were received from Cllr A. Wiltshire due to work commitments. Proposed to accept by Cllr Denny, seconded by Cllr Cooling, all in favour. Cllr Buckley (Dist. Cllr) also sent apologies due to work commitments.

**19/19. Declaration of Interest under Code of Conduct 2012**

- To record declarations of interest by any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared. *None*
- To note dispensations given to any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed below. *None*

**20/19. Minutes of the previous meeting**

- Had been previously circulated. It was proposed by Cllr Wiltshire and seconded by Cllr Denny to accept the Minutes. All in favour. Resolved to accept minutes. These be adopted as a true record'.

**21/19. Chair's update on matters outstanding**

Mobile speed sign arrived on 25<sup>th</sup> Jan, thanks offered to Cllr Wiltshire and Cllr Firth for installing it. Work on the new fence has been completed.

First newsletter and survey has been created and delivered, thanks offered to Cllr Denny.

2 successful open mornings have been held and a residents meeting has been organised for 16<sup>th</sup> March.

Cllr Cooling and Cllr Denny attended meeting with Chris Panton, Senior Planning Officer at ELDC on 19<sup>th</sup> Feb. See item 25/19f.

A security surgery was held on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb by Jason Kwee from Lincolnshire Police. See item 25/19 h.

**22/19. Open Forum (max 3 mins/person)**

Resident raised condition of footpath from the Plough to Newbridge Lane. It is not safe to walk on due to dead leaves which are now very slippery, grass has encroached onto the path making it very narrow and mud from farm vehicles driving on the path to get round the corners has also created a hazard. Cllr Bridges to contact Steve Ross at ELDC to ask for him to contact the farmers. Cllr Wiltshire reported problem several times.

Request for footpath to be extended from Newbridge Lane to Ings Lane.

Request for dog bin to be installed on Grange Lane. Clerk advised that ELDC have been refusing requests for new dog bin emptying. Clerk to make request.

Resident informed the council of a pipe coming from a property on Grange Lane and draining near the dyke which is emitting foul domestic water waste and has created sewerage pond.

Cllr Wiltshire and Cllr Denny to look into whether the pond is on private land or highway land. Cllr Bridges to be informed who will then take it further if necessary.

Residents from Ambleside and Lynwood enquired why their properties were mentioned on the agenda. It was explained that other residents had queried whether their boundary fences were in the wrong place so the parish council had asked ELDC planning, the result was “no enforcement needed” and was on the agenda to show this.

St Bart’s Heritage Trust member informed the council they have started fundraising and a book exchange is to launch at Easter.

### **23/19. To receive reports from**

a) **LCC - LCC** are seeking £150m from government to equalise their funding with other counties. Letter has been sent to LGA who in turn will address government on behalf of the “shire” counties with a view to getting equal funding.

Cllr Bridges attended a meeting with Chris Panton, Senior Planning Officer at ELDC, at Utterby.

Cllr Bridges toured the village with Andy Ratcliffe, LCC Highways East Division Manager, on 25<sup>th</sup> Feb, no potholes were found.

Potholes and repair work have taken place on Cold Harbour Lane.

Cllr Bridges will follow up on issues raised in Open forum by residents.

Letter to be sent to Mr Ratcliffe about 30mph and beware horse signs.

b) **ELDC** – Julie Wetton, prospective candidate for the Fulstow ward introduced herself to the Council and the residents and gave a brief overview of her working life.

c) **Outside representatives** – No report.

### **24/19. Planning matters**

*\*All application comments are available to view at [www.e-lindsey.gov.uk](http://www.e-lindsey.gov.uk)*

*\*\*Applications may not be discussed at meetings due to deadlines and lack of internet connection to allow plans to be viewed*

a) Planning applications received

b) Planning decisions received

037/00082/19/N

Ambleside

No planning enforcement needed

037/00083/19/N

Lynwood

No planning enforcement needed

### **25/19. Parish Council matters**

a) **Parish Rooms** –i) Fire door- Planning permission is needed. Cllr Firth and Cllr Denny to follow up. Further quote needed, Cllr Denny to arrange.

ii) Fence payment approval – to be approved under item 26/19b.

iii) Heating – Cllr Wiltshire has sourced an electric fan heater, PAT tested, which can be trialled for free as a temporary alternative heat source.

iv) Internet access – not a necessity at this time.

v) Installation of letter box – Cllr Wiltshire has sourced a free letter box for the outside wall.

vi) Donation box for de-fib maintenance – Cllr Firth to make a box.

vii) Concreting near fence – small area near fence needs attention, Cllr Firth advised that ramp and hand rail outside rear fire door should be done at same time to adhere to legislation. Quotes to be sought. Proposed by Cllr Denny, seconded by Cllr Wiltshire.

### **b) Roads** –

i) Update on mobile speed sign – Sign was in village from 25<sup>th</sup> Jan – 5<sup>th</sup> March. On rota system with 3 other villages, next in Covenham in June.

ii) Archer survey request – Survey carried out 24<sup>th</sup> Feb – 5<sup>th</sup> March. Survey counts number and speed of vehicles. Report to be sent to Clerk. Survey will show if there is a speeding problem which will facilitate getting permanent speed signs.

iii) Community speed watch scheme – not much interest from parishioners at open morning. Decision made not to proceed.

iv) Speed and horse sign request – request made by Clerk for signage (ref 4117978)

v) White lines on bends - request made by Clerk to add lines to bends, (ref 4117979) a low priority for LCC Highways.

vi) Highway issues – mud on road, uneven pavement, blocked drains (see item 22/19). Ref 346600.

**c) Purchase of defibrillator** – Electrician checked power supply was suitable for de-fib however it was discovered the building hadn't had electrical test since 1986. De-fib purchase put on hold until electricians are sorted out as a priority also damp course possibly needs to be installed before de-fib fitted. Cllr Denny proposed getting the safety check done immediately, seconded by Cllr Wiltshire all in favour.

**d) St Mary's Church**

i) To discuss adding St. Mary's church web address to the PC website, Cllr Wiltshire proposed, seconded by Cllr Denny, all in favour.

ii) To discuss maintenance work at St Mary's church – Cllr Cooling to contact church secretary to confirm that kissing gate hinges have already been repaired and to clarify exactly where the overhanging branches are. Cllr Denny and Cllr Wiltshire to remove the ivy from gate posts.

iii) To discuss offer of Parish Council attending monthly coffee mornings at St Mary's – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month, 10am – 4pm, April – Sept. To be discussed in the future after electrical checks have taken place.

2 quotes received for grass cutting at St Mary's, advert placed in newsletter and on notice board.

Decision to be made after the newsletter delivered. Cllr Denny proposed giving Cllr Wiltshire the authority to decide so necessary work could commence before the meeting, seconded by Cllr Firth, all in favour, Cllr Wiltshire did not vote.

**e) To discuss hiring Parish Rooms to Community Lincs for a cluster meeting, Spring 2019** – Due to the electrical issues it was decided that the building could not be hired out at this time. Clerk to inform Community Lincs.

**f) To update on meeting with Chris Panton, Senior Planning Officer at ELDC** – Local Plan adopted in May 2018. New plan affects small and medium villages. Covenham classed as medium village due to 2 pubs and large employer. Plan will stop "in back fill" or tandem properties and will only allow new buildings on the road frontage. This will stop the village from increasing in depth but may cause it to become more linear. Brown field sites can be built on.

More weight is given to resident objections than parish council objections. ELDC only contact residents on each side of proposed planning application site and put up a yellow notice so residents will potentially not be aware of applications. Only way to stop building within the villages is to split them into 2 separate hamlets. This to be put the residents at the public meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> March.

**g) To update on Saturday open mornings** – Events have been well attended and very informative. Several surveys have been received back and results are being collated.

**h) To update on security meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb.** – Jason Kwee attended the meeting and spoke about various ways to keep properties secure, he promoted the use of "Ring" which is a video door bell system linked to smart phones. He has secured a deal with a supplier until 31<sup>st</sup> March for £50 off the cost of the system. Top tips to be put on website.

**i) To update on Countryside Dept visit.** – Matter has been resolved, Access along the path meets all requirements that LCC would expect for users to exercise their rights on the Public Footpath. Another footpath is now blocked by the same farmer, it has been reported, Countryside dept have said it is a secondary path so not a priority and the problem will be addressed by 8th August. Countryside Access volunteer invited to next meeting.

**j) To discuss Cllr Buckley attendance and District Cllr grants.** – Cllr Buckley to stand down at elections in May, he has not attended any meetings in last 18 months at least. Parish Council have missed out on grant opportunities due to his lack of attendance. Parish Council to make Leader of East Lindsey, Cllr Craig Leyland, aware of the situation.

**k) To discuss purchase of dog waste bin.** See item 22/19.

**26/19 Financial matters**

a) Financial update – Circulated previously electronically.

b) Bills for payment on 7/03/19 over £100

- Clerk's salary and expenses	£ 185.70p
- Finch Arboriculture	£ 600.00p
- Grass cut (July- Sept)	£ 302.00p
- Fence contractor	£ 585.00p
- LALC annual subscription	£ 134.67p

c) Bank balance – As per latest bank statement 24/01/19

Current account £ 4226.53

Saving account £ 5346.64

Proposed by Cllr Denny and seconded by Cllr Firth, all in favour. 'These sums be paid'.

*Carried unanimously*

**27/19. Extraordinary items (for information purposes only)**

Parish insurance to be taken over by Zurich from Community Lines.

**28/19. Next agenda**

St. Bart's donation towards liability insurance, Vice Chair.

**29/19. Dates for next meeting**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April,

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May, in the Parish Rooms at 7pm.

**30/19. COUNCIL'S OPTION OF CLOSED SESSION**

- Council decided not to go into closed session. Meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Election nomination packs were handed to Parish Councillors after the meeting.