

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

Held on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at Covenham St. Bartholomew Parish Rooms

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

**Public: -** 0 + Cllr Bridges (County Cllr)

**1. Apologies for Absence**

- Apologies were received in advance from Cllr Gully-Brown due to other commitments. Proposed to accept apologies by Cllr Beasley, seconded by Cllr Wilshire. All in favour. Resolved to accept.

**2. Declaration of Interest**

- a) 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*
- b) To note dispensations given to any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed below. *None*

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting**

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

**4. Chair's update**

- The Chair formally welcomed and introduced the new Clerk to the meeting.
- Bank mandates have been sent off and are being processed, by next meeting the new signatories should be in place.
- 1 planning application in system for Mr Ramsden.
- LALC account overdue for non-attendance at a booked training event, Clerk to ask LALC for member name to clarify correct Council being charged before payment is made as no-one recalls booking the session.

**5. Co-option of Councillor**

- Mr Paul Burd was interviewed by Councillors before the meeting. Cllr Wiltshire proposed and Cllr Tall seconded accepting Mr Burd onto the Parish Council. Acceptance of office and pecuniary interest forms were completed and **Cllr Burd joined the Council.**

## **6. Open forum**

- **LCC update** – As part of the Economic and Ecology scrutiny committee, Cllr Bridges has visited and spoken with tenants at a LCC owned centre designed to help embryonic businesses get started in Market Deeping. The scrutiny committee is there to protect the environment and develop the economy of Lincolnshire. The Executive Board have been very accepting of recommendations made by the panel. Cllr Bridges to give a presentation on each of the areas covered by the Scrutiny Committee. LCC Councillors are meeting with local MP's to try to increase funding for the county, the local MP's will then lobby parliament for fairer funding. Cllr Cooling asked if the Portfolio holder for Highways would be attending a meeting however he was unavailable so Cllr Bridges will bring a senior Highways officer on a tour of the village early next month. He requested that detailed maps and locations were given to him prior to the meeting. The sharing of flashing speed signs with other Parishes had previously been discussed but the timescale was too short for it to be possible. Cllr Bridges suggested increasing the Precept to cover the cost of purchasing one solely for Covenham.
- **ELDC** – no report.
- **Members of the public** – no report.

## **8. Transparency fund and website**

- Cllr Gully-Brown still looking into the transparency fund. Purchasing laptop/printer for Clerk and broadband for Parish rooms suggested, deadline for funding ends Feb 2018.
- Cllr Burd interested in administering the website. Proposed by Cllr Beasley and seconded by Cllr Wiltshire, all in favour. Resolved Cllr Burd to administer website.

## **9/10 Financial update/bills for payment**

- Circulated previously for review and updated to current figures. Proposed to accept by Cllr Burd and seconded by Cllr Field. 'These sums be paid'.  
*Carried unanimously.*
- Cllr Denny to look into Information Commission Office registration.

## **11. Speeding signs for village.**

- As previously discussed in item 6. Clerk to contact LRSP to find out cost and how to purchase a flashing speed sign.

## **12. The Plough building**

- Unanimously agreed that Clerk to write to planning dept. (ELDC) to ask them to put pressure on the owner of the building to tidy, secure and renovate it. Is the onus on the owner to keep it in a good state of repair? Have any planning conditions/regulations been breached? Advice on what the Parish Council can do to keep the building safe.
- Letter to be sent to Plough Community hub group asking where they are with the purchase of the building and what they have done so far to establish the current owner's plans and responsibilities.

## **13. Building works on the Parish Rooms**

- Cllr Gully-Brown researching funding grants and asking tradesmen for definitive quotes not estimates.

#### **14. Hiring of Parish Rooms**

- *Cllr Burd declared an interest in the Plough Community hub group and did not vote on proposals.*
- Debate of usage of rooms and what sectors should be charged for using the room. Cllr Denny proposed **all** use/hiring of the room is charged for with no exceptions, seconded by Cllr Beasley. All in favour, resolved to charge all groups with hiring the rooms.
- Cllr Beasley proposed to increase the room hire fee to £5 per hour from January 2018, seconded by Cllr Field, unanimous vote, resolved to increase fee from January 2018.

#### **15. Use of Parish Rooms.**

- A mobile fish and chip van coming into village fortnightly, it had been previously suggested that the Parish rooms be opened to allow residents to eat their fish and chips there. However after much discussion it was decided not to open the rooms due to practicality and financial reasons.
- Clerk to find template hall hire agreement.

#### **16. Any other correspondence**

- None

#### **17. Other matters**

- Clerk informed the Council that the style of the agenda and minutes will alter to remove any possibility of fraudulent activity.
- Cllr Denny attending meeting about defibrillator on 8<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **18. Date and time of next meeting**

- Discussion on frequency of meetings. Cllr Beasley proposed 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month at 7pm, seconded by Cllr Denny. All in favour.
- *Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017*

#### **COUNCIL'S OPTION OF CLOSED SESSION**

- Council decided not to go into closed session. Meeting finished at 9pm.