

COVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held Friday, 30th July 2021 at 7:00pm in St Mary's Church, Covenham St Mary

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

Report from Outside Bodies.

- a) **ELDC Ward Member Cllr Edward Mossop. Haith Farm** planning application has been extended again until 20th August 2021 with the main issue being the drainage. The owner of **The Plough** has resubmitted another planning application to convert to a dwelling and is under consideration. Since the **Poulton Drain** was cleared, there have been no flooding issues. However, the watercourse at St Barts behind The Plough is overgrown and requires clearing. Cllr Mossop will try and find out the actual name of the watercourse/drain and who is responsible for maintenance. If it is Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board, he will find out a schedule of works and will forward this as he sits on the Board.
- b) **LCC Ward Member Cllr Alex Hall** sent his apologies and will look into the Highways issues and hoped to attend the next meeting in September.
- c) **There was no representation from the local police neighbourhood team.**

07/21-1 Record of Members Present and Apologies

Present: Cllr Gareth Smith (GS) (Chairman), Cllr Emma Cooling (EC), Cllr Don Wiltshire (DW), Cllr John Firth (JF) and Cllr Anne McCready

Also present: Cllr Edward Mossop (ELDC) and Mrs Nadine Must (Parish Clerk/RFO)

Apologies accepted: Cllr Alyson Wiltshire (AW), Cllr Alex Hall (LCC Ward Member)

07/21-2 To receive any Declarations of Interest on any item on the agenda – None

07/21-3 Minutes from 7th May 2021 – amendments made

- a) **Minute reference 05/21-9a** The cleaner mentioned has no association with St Mary's Church.
- b) **Minute reference 05/21-10a** £200 grant to St Barts is a one-off grant and not an annual grant.

The Chairman duly signed the minutes with amendments.

P: EC; S: AM, All in favour

07/21-4 Council Matters

- a) **Chairman's Remarks** – The Chairman extended the Council's thanks to Cllr EC for her chairmanship during the last four years. The Council is also grateful to Cllr AM for offering St Mary's Church as venue for parish council meetings until the works in the Parish Rooms are completed.
- b) **Actions from previous meeting** –Clerk's Report noted
- c) **Neighbourhood Plan** – It was reported that residents were surveyed in 2013 to consider a neighbourhood plan which was then rejected. The Council reviewed the merits of revisiting this option and after much discussion, it was resolved that a neighbourhood plan would not bring any positive outcomes and was again rejected. The Council noted that the ELDC Local Plan had stated a number of commercial properties located in the two parishes that had been closed for many years. Cllrs GS and AM to send to Cllr Mossop to review with ELDC.

P: DW; S: JF, All in favour

- d) **Flood Warden** – The Clerk is still waiting for ELDC to provide any training or materials.
- e) **Communications** – noted

Initial/Signature

Date

Notes P: Proposed; S: Seconded, Vote

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07/21-5 Parish Rooms

- a) **Damp proofing** – Cllr JF reported that this has now been satisfactorily completed and a lifetime guarantee had been received.
- b) **Electricity supply** – E.ON Next has taken over the supply and provided a number of options for Council to consider. The Council resolved to accept a Standing Charge of 56p/day and the two rates option of day rate at 16.5p/kWh and a night rate at 13 p/kWh. The Council wants a smart meter installed as soon as possible. Cllr DW wanted it noted that he abstained from voting.
- c) **Painting** – The Council considered three quotations. A proposal was rejected due to the motion not being seconded. Another proposal was supported and put to the vote. It was **resolved** to accept the Devlin proposal. The Clerk to find out when the works will start which will allow time for Councillors to decide on the preferred colour scheme. It was **agreed** to get paint samples of the shortlisted colour options before making a final decision. It was also **resolved** that the parish rooms need to be professionally cleaned before the painting work commences. The Parish Clerk to action. The Chairman **agreed** to manage this project.

P: AM; S: DW, Passed

Cllr John Firth declared his resignation and left the meeting at 8:40pm.

- d) **Kitchen Refurbishment** – Three quotes were considered and it was resolved to accept the B&Q design which cost £771. Cllr AM will send contact details of the plumbers/joiners they have contacted for works to the church which the Parish Clerk will contact to quote for labour.

P: EC; S: GS, All in favour

- e) **Lavatories** – It was resolved to defer purchase of toilet seats until a plumber had been secured to do the kitchen refurbishment.
- f) **Parking area** – It was agreed that the proposal to secure the parking area with heavy duty chain agreed at the April 2021 meeting was no longer necessary. The flower troughs placed in front of the area have deterred further unauthorised parking.
- g) **Professional Cleaning**- The Clerk to action and get the Parish Rooms cleaned prior to the painting works.

07/21-6 Finance and Budgets

- a) **AGAR 2020/21** – External Auditors have accepted Exempt Status noted.
- b) **Receipts and Payments 2021/22** – The Council resolved to accept the following receipts and payments for July 2021

Receipts – to note monies received **since May 2021**

Date	Item	Amount (£)
11/05/21	HMRC VAT Reclaim	144.63
05/07/21	ELDC Elections payment	545.00

Payments - to receive and resolve to accept payments for **July 2021**

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	Cheque Number	To	Amount
1	101153	Parish Clerk – salary and expenses	£ 884.21
2	101154	Mrs N Must – reimbursement for postage and office supplies	£102.45
3	101155	D Wiltshire – reimbursement for plants	£27.99
4	101156	RJC Gardening April to July 2021	£285.00
5	101157	St Barts Heritage Trust - grant	£200.00
		Total	£1,499.65

P: EC; S: AM, All in favour

To note invoices paid since last meeting under delegated powers in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations 5.5

	Cheque Number	To	Amount
1	101151	Easy Cleans Marshchapel	£330.00
2	101152	J Boyer & Son	£14,688.00
3	Direct Debit	Anglian Water	38.56
4	Direct Debit	E.ON Next	34.78
5	Direct Debit	E.ON Next	72.11
		Total	£15,163.45

- c) **Community Account** – The Clerk forwarded to the councillors the email from The Coop bank rejecting the Community Directplus account application. The Clerk will query the rejection as they have previously confirmed that the parish council was eligible and a number of parish councils already have access to the account.
- d) **Latest Receipts and Payments and End of Year Monitoring** – noted

07/21-7 Community Amenities and Groups

- a) **St Barts Church** – The Chairman reported that
- i. the bench refurbishment has not been done.
 - ii. The untimely flailing of the hedge and trees with tree preservation orders had been reported to the ELDC Arboricultural Officer who agreed not to take further action but required remedial work to minimise any harm to tree health and visual amenity and to reduce risks of pests and diseases.
 - iii. The St Barts Heritage Trust submitted the application for tree works to ELDC and contacted four contractors to do the pruning. Only one firm responded and quoted for the works costing £100 + VAT. The contractor will send the invoice to the Parish Council once the application has been approved and the works completed.

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ELDC Cllr Edward Mossop left the meeting at 8:45pm.

- b) **St Mary's Church** - Cllr AM reported two maintenance issues that needed attention.
 - i. **Entrance area** – overgrown shrubbery that need some pruning. Garden contractor to action at next visit.
 - ii. **Sycamore Tree** – overhanging branches over the road is a hazard for tall vehicles and may require crown lifting. The Tree Surgeon who will do the St Barts tree will be asked for advice.
- c) **Covenham Plough Community Hub (CPCH)**– The Chairman reported that they received 120 completed surveys from residents supporting their intention to make The Plough as an Asset of Community Value (ACV). They have done a media campaign to highlight their cause. The complaint against ELDC regarding the ACV issue is ongoing.

07/21-11 ELDC/LCC Services/Police

- a) **ELDC** – Emergency Planning. The Clerk is still waiting for ELDC to respond
- b) **LCC Highways**
 - i. **Cold Harbour Lane/Newbridge Lane** – road markings – Cllr AM had taken photos of the junction which the Clerk will send to the LCC Ward Member for action. A Give Way sign also needs to be re-instated.
 - ii. **S-Bend on Main Road from Ings Lane** – The Council noted that there have been marked increases of walkers in the village and there being an open deep ditch and no footpaths, there have been incidents of vehicles falling into the ditch. The Chairman will take photos for Clerk to forward to LCC Ward Member.
 - iii. **Speeding on Main Road** – Marked increase of speeding including farm vehicles. It was suggested to get the mobile speed check camera from Lincolnshire Safety Partnership to monitor the area. Clerk to action. It was noted that the mobile speed sign co-owned by the parish council is not scheduled to be back until November.

07/21-9 Planning Matters. There were no new applications to consider.

- a) **N/037/01403/21 The New Plough, Main Road, Covenham St Bartholomew** - Council comments submitted 19 July reiterating their objection and maintains their support for CPCH to use the facility as a community hub.
- b) **N/038/00801/21 Kimber, Newbridge Lane, Covenham St Mary** Outline erection of 2no. dwellings - planning application **refused**
- c) **N/038/00727/21 Kimber, Newbridge Lane, Covenham St Mary** Outline erection of 1no. dwelling including partial demolition of existing dwelling - planning application **Approved**
N/037/00328/21 Moat Farm, Grange Lane, Covenham St Bartholomew Planning Permission - Extension and alterations to existing dwelling to provide an enlarged kitchen and bedroom at first floor - application **Approved**
- d) **Update on N/037/01064/20 Haiths Farm, Main Road, Covenham St Bartholomew** – Further extension until 20 August 2021 relating to surface water drainage

07/21-10 Date of Next meeting – Friday, 24th September 2021, 7pm, St Mary's Church

The meeting closed at 9:05pm.