

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council, Yaxley Parish Council
held in the Council Chamber, the Amenity Centre, Main Street, Yaxley
on 14th November 2017.**

Present:- Councillor K Gulson – Chairman

Councillors A Bartle, G Bellamy, C Bolton, R Butcher, J Lusted, M Oliver, J Orchard, D Porteous, P Richardson, C Thorne, S White, J Willis and A Wood.

In attendance – Mrs H Taylor, County Councillor M McGuire (up to and including item FC103) Ms S McMullon (resident) and Mrs A Joyce (a former Councillor).

FC100. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence from the meeting was received and accepted on behalf of Councillor P Russell (personal).

FC101. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

FC102. MINUTES

Councillor J Willis proposed approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held 10th October 2017. This was seconded by Councillor P Richardson and **RESOLVED**.

FC103. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

County Councillor M McGuire advised the Council that Fourfields Community Primary School had been awarded national silver level for their safer routes to school campaign. Mention also was made of the Local Highway Improvement Initiative (LHI) and Councillor McGuire reported that he had been approached by a local resident to look at changing the extent of the 30mph speed limit on the Holme Road. The resident would like the limit to be extended to reflect a change in the areas development particularly with the creation of new businesses on this road. Councillor McGuire suggested that the Parish Council may want to progress this change via a LHI bid next year.

Councillor R Butcher drew Councillor McGuire's attention to the slow progress being made on installing the new street lights on the A15 Yaxley to Hampton, as part of the Hampton Gardens School improvements, and the delay in the zebra crossing for Broadway. Councillor McGuire asked to be copied into any emails on these matters.

FC104. COMMITTEE REPORTS – PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members received and noted the draft Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10th October 2017.

FC105. CO-OPTION TO THE TWO VACANT POSITIONS OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

Members received details of two residents wishing to be considered for co-option to the Parish Council. The applicants had been asked a series of questions to determine their suitability as Parish Councillors and had confirmed their eligibility as detailed in S79 of the Local Government Act 1972. Whereupon, it was proposed by Councillor M Oliver and seconded by Councillor R Bucher that Mrs Sadie McMullon and Ms Marion Southgate be co-opted to the Parish Council and this was unanimously **RESOLVED**.



FC106. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Members were advised that there was one vacancy on both the Property and Personnel Committees and two vacancies on the Community Facilities Committee. Councillor S White had previously been a member of the Personnel Committee and confirmed that he would stand down from the Planning Committee to go back onto Personnel. At the same time, Mrs McMullon confirmed that she would be interested in the Planning Committee. With this in mind, Councillor A Bartle proposed that Mrs McMullon be appointed to the Planning and Community Facilities Committees, Ms Southgate to the Property and Community Facilities Committees and Councillor S White to the Personnel Committee. This was seconded by Councillor J Lusted and **RESOLVED** unanimously.

FC107. OPENING AND CLOSING YAXLEY YOUTH CLUB

Having discussed opening and closing arrangements for the Youth Club it was proposed by Councillor A Bartle that the current arrangement whereby Councillors volunteer to go on a rota be continued, but that the keys be dropped off to the volunteers each week and a review of the arrangements be made by the Personnel Committee. This was seconded by Councillor A Wood and **RESOLVED**.

FC108. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY AND S106

By way of a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) Members were advised that £14,403 in CIL money had been paid to the Parish Council for the period April to September 2017. Members would need to consider at some point how the money would be spent in accordance with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations. Appended to the report was a Community Infrastructure Levy Statement for 2016/17 which showed receipts of £11,440.7, which had funded the outdoor gym equipment.

FC109. GROWING A RURAL COMMUNITY SURVEY FOR HUNTINGDONSHIRE

Consideration was given to a survey from the Rural Services Network. Although Members felt that size of Yaxley was perhaps bigger than the average village being surveyed they requested the Clerk to respond to the survey using the information they had provided.

FC110. BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

Councillors received and noted the contents of the Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 31st October 2017 (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book).

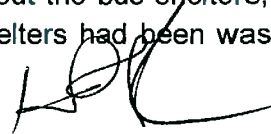
FC111. ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

The schedule of payments made since the previous meeting, which included details of the purchase ledger cheques requiring payment, (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) was proposed by Councillor J Lusted, seconded by Councillor D Porteous and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to be paid.

FC112. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor J Willis reported that she had been the victim of kids throwing eggs at properties at Halloween, the incident had been reported to the Police, but she felt that they had not been interested. She also referred to the Community Shop which had closed in October, the Clerk confirmed that it would be reopening one day a week in the library from Tuesday 21st November.

Mention was made of a request at a previous meeting to clean out the bus shelters, the Clerk responded by confirming that the Parish Council's bus shelters had been washed



out. The Clerk asked that any concerns regarding the bus shelters should be reported to the office which would speed up response times.

Councillor J Willis referred to a discussion she had been involved in on social media regarding the number of bins in the village. The Clerk explained that the Grounds Team currently empty nearly 70 bins in the village and that all the bins are multi use. In the discussions that ensued, Members felt that residents should be made aware of the amount of litter collected by the team and they asked that this be included in a future article for the Yaxley Gazette.

In discussing the work of the Grounds Team, Councillor R Bellamy reported that in his opinion a number of tasks were not being completed by the team. He added that this had been the case for several years. In order to address this Councillor A Bartle proposed that Councillors R Bellamy and D Porteous go around the village and make a list for the Clerk of things that need doing. This was seconded by Councillor J Lusted and **RESOLVED.**

Councillor P Richardson reported that he and the Chairman had met with Michelle Lay, Paul Underwood and representatives from the youth group on 24th October to discuss the proposed tribute for the Recreation Ground. A final drawing for the tribute was still awaited and funding streams/costs were still unknown.

It was reported that at a meeting of the Young Persons Working Group it had been suggested by a representative of the Yaxley Partnership that they would not be requiring any funding from the Parish Council for next year's festival. The Clerk reported that the Partnership had been previously reminded of the need to submit a funding application to this meeting in time for the December budget setting.

Mention was made of the sessions being offered to the Over 55s on the outdoor gym equipment. The Clerk explained that with funding from the Parish Council the HDC's Lifestyle Team had ran two sessions, these had proved so popular that the District Council, through the Let's Get Cambridgeshire Moving initiative, had secured funding for 5 more sessions which will run up to Christmas.

Finally, the Chairman reminded Members that following the dismissal of the previous Clerk in 2014 he had received a mandate from the Council to report the matter of theft by fraud to the police. This had resulted in a police investigation and sufficient evidence had been found for the CPS to proceed with court action. Members were advised that the case had been heard at Cambridge Crown Court on 7th November 2017 and the Chairman and Councillor A Bartle had attended as witnesses for the Crown prosecution. It was reported that on 10th November 2017, the former Clerk had been found, by a unanimous verdict, guilty of fraud by abuse of position. She will be sentenced on 8th December 2017. In summing up, the Chairman referred to the new practices, processes and procedures that have been introduced, by the current Clerk and her team, to avoid a repetition of this. However, he stressed that there was still a requirement by all Members to check on the detail of information put before them and to ask timely questions as they were all corporately responsible for the Council's processes, finances and people.

FC113. EXCLUSION THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

That in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting.



It was proposed by Councillor R Butcher and seconded by Councillor J Lusted that the meeting should be closed to the press and public at 8.40pm.

FC114. TREE WORK

Consideration was given to a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Annex to the Minute Book) which highlighted the need to coppice 69 poplar trees next to the Foxglove Play area. Members were reminded that the trees and adjacent play area had been transferred from the District Council to the Parish Council in June 2014. Having been advised of the cost of the work, Councillor R Butcher proposed that the trees be coppiced to 6 feet and the work be awarded to Charlie Vince, Tree Surgeon. This was seconded by Councillor S White and **RESOLVED.**

At the same time, Members' attention was drawn to a possible insurance claim relating to these trees. It was explained that the matter had been referred to the Parish Council's insurers who were dealing with the claim.

FC115. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

That in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business being concluded, the Press and Public be re-admitted to the meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor J Lusted and seconded by Councillor R Butcher that the press and public should be readmitted to the meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed


Chairman.