

FEN DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

15 NOVEMBER 2021



Present

Roger Davies (chair), Chris Gray, Sue Gyles, Peter Kiss, Mandy Smith
County councillor: Mandy Smith
District councillor: Sue Ellington
Parish clerk: Gill Parrish.
Members of public: 0

PARISH COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

Opened at 19.36

21/117 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from: J Isden, J Weeden.

Absent: M Newman, S Newport.

21/118 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

21/119 OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

The October meeting minutes were proposed, seconded and unanimously approved as correct with no amendments and signed by the chair.

21/120 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM *opened and closed at 19.7, as there were no participants.*

21/136 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE

121/1 *County councillor's report:* Cllr Smith has set up a flood defence meeting on 25 November at midday – meet at the pavilion. An officer from CCC and Lee Hillam from SCDC will attend. The focus will be on management of water coming down from Elsworth/Conington area and what impact the A14 upgrade has had on the situation.

121/2 *District councillor's report:* Cllr Ellington has provided the clerk with a hard copy of the Local Plan. It is also available online. Cllr Ellington made the PC aware of plans in it to develop the large site behind Boxworth services as a 'logistics area', which will basically be the first truck stop for HGVs after leaving Felixstowe. Similarly, though not in the Local Plan, a proposal exists for another logistics and business site where the A14 offices were on the other side of the Boxworth road. The consultation, which only opened on 1 November, ends on 3 December! Council members will look at the Local Plan and the PC will respond accordingly.

121/3 *Police matters/crime reports:* a couple of outbuilding break-ins occurred in the first week of November. They were reported to the police and warnings put on social media and mailed to the PC contact list.

21/137 UPDATES/ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS *(or see agenda item).*

(21/029) Flood plan update (see 121/1)

(21/061) Community warden update: Rachel helped out at the community cafe on 13 November and found it useful to meet villagers.

(21/123.3) EAAA clothing bank – council members agreed unanimously to continue the clothing bank with EAAA after it splits from joint ownership with the Salvation Army.

(21/127) Petanque; the St Ives petanque group has found a more suitable (gravel) site for its winter sessions.

(21/128) Village Christmas tree: **RESOLVED:** a quotation for £406.20 by Kane's Projects Ltd for a permanent secure fixing for a tree was accepted by the PC (by email) and the work will be carried out by the end of November for the tree to be in place in time for lighting up on 5 December.

21/138 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

19/10/21 Email from SCDC: notice/timescale for 2022-23 precept request (see 144/1).

02/11/21 Email from Sue Ellington re a RSPB presentation on 18 November. S Gyles and the clerk will attend.

06/11/21 Email from a resident about fly tipping (see 139/4)

08/11/21 Email re registering the defibrillator on The Circuit – it was agreed that the clerk should register the village defibrillator on this scheme. **ACTION**

09/11/21 Email from CCC with poster advertising a free school meal scheme over the Christmas holidays. This was put on social media.

10/11/21 Email from Lets Run Girls running group requesting a donation to fund the training of a new coordinator for its Fen Drayton group. **RESOLVED:** council members voted unanimously (with one abstention) to donate £170 (the cost of training a new leader for a village group).

10/11/21 Email re proposed events from the Queen's Platinum Jubilee group. **RESOLVED:** council members unanimously voted in favour of allowing the jubilee celebrations to take place on the village hall field, subject to any Covid regulations and the organisers arranging public liability insurance for the event. The PC also approved the proposed events and thanked the group for initiating and coordinating the jubilee celebrations.

21/139 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

139/1 The Keep Britain Tidy 'We're Watching You' campaign (dog poo) posters have been put up in strategic places by the handyman.

139/2 Zipwire – Caloo has agreed to return to repair the fixing so the seat can be raised.

139/3 Hedges overgrowing footpaths – the hedge in a Cootes Lane garden is overgrowing the footpath along a busy stretch of road, making it dangerous for pedestrians especially at school start and finish times. The clerk will write to the occupants. **ACTION**

139/4 RHL has done an extra cut of the village fields.

139/4 Fly tipping in Covell's Drain, Cambridge Road (60 bags and a fridge freezer) was reported to SCDC on 8/11/21.

21/140 RESPONSES TO CONCERNS HIGHLIGHTED BY CLLR ELLINGTON'S SURVEY

140/1 *Flooding* – Cllr Smith has organised a flood defence meeting with CCC and SCDC for 25 November. Council members decided that a shed for storing Floodsax and signs was not necessary as an outdoor storage box should suffice. This will be revisited following the results of the flood questionnaire, which will be distributed to at-risk households in the near future.

140/2 *State of village roads and pavements* – Cllr Smith advised the PC to ask Denis Vacher (Highways) to carry out a survey. **ACTION**

21/141 GOOGLE DOCUMENTS Moved to January's agenda.

21/142 NEW BENCH FOR RECREATION GROUND

P Larter will install the concrete base in January/February next year, subject to approval of his quotation. **RESOLVED:** council members unanimously approved the three-seater Captain's Bench from NBB. A Community Chest grant may be available. The clerk will investigate this.

ACTION

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21/143 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

21/03543/HFUL & 21/03544/LBC The Merchants House, 15 High Street
Annexe refurbishment

21/03546/HFUL & 21/03547/LBC The Merchants House, 15 High Street
Cart lodge extension

21/03810/HFUL & 21/03811/LBC, (amends) The Merchants House, 15 High Street
Replacement of north boundary wall.

21/144 FINANCE

144/1 2022-23 precept will be decided at the January meeting when the nine-month figures are available. R Davies asked council members to consider any capital expenditure they think may arise in the next financial year. **ACTION**

144/2 Receipts and payments: see appendix 1. There has been a large rise in pavilion electricity charges, which will send it approximately £100 over budget for the year. **RESOLVED** Council members voted unanimously in favour of asking the football club to chip in. R Davies to discuss with the football club. **ACTION**

144/3 **RESOLVED** Council members unanimously approved the October receipts and payments.

Account balances (as at 08/11/2021)

Business account = £ 27,711.81

- S106 account = £409.35
- Town Lands account = £28,400.48
- Cambridge B/S = £13,600.00

21/145 MEETINGS

145/1 **RESOLVED** Council member unanimously approved the proposed 2022 meeting dates. Meetings will continue to take place on the third Monday of the month (with no meetings in August and December). The village meeting date will be decided at the January meeting.

145/2 Next full council meeting: Monday, 17 January 2022.

Meeting closed at 21.20.

