



**Minutes of the meeting of the Leverington  
Parish Council, held in the Leverington Village  
Hall, Gorefield Road on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022.**

*No Public Forum was required.*

**Present:** Councillors B.Baker, B.Beales, Ms.R.Collins, R.Cropp, J.Downes (Chairman), S.Ward.  
County Councillor S.King. District Councillor C.Seaton. Clerk B.Boyce  
Mrs. S.Edghill (Councillor designate)

**Opening remarks.**

- 1.1 To honour and remember our Queen. Elizabeth 11. 1926 - 2022  
The Council stood for one minute's silence. A public memorial ceremony had taken place at the flag on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> September with a condolence book to hand. Donations received toward a memorial bench amounted to £220.70p
- 1.2 To receive apologies.  
Councillor R.Keymer (Holiday). District Councillor S.Clark.
- 1.3 Councillor designate Mrs. Susan Edghill.  
The Register of Interests and GDPR requirement were received and the Signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office took place. The Chairman welcomed S,Edghill has a councillor.
- 1.4 To receive any Declarations of Interest  
None received.  
A 'Levelling Up' paper 2023 was given to all councillors.

**2. Reports from District and County Councillors.**

**District:**

- 2.1 Fenland Draft Local Plan. Sent to Councillors 03.09.22 Draft Local Plan, the second stage in the preparation of a new Local Plan for Fenland. This is an important document as it will determine what the district will look like in the future and how it will become an even better place to live, work and visit. The Draft Local Plan sets out criteria based policies that address the key issues in the district. It also includes specific allocations for new development. Discussed at item 6. Deadline for comments 19.10.22. [fenland.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://fenland.gov.uk/newlocalplan).
- 2.2 Final recommendations for future electoral arrangements for Fenland District Council. Boundaries of all existing wards will change; none will stay the same. Fenland will have 43 councillors.
- 2.3 Finance for toddler swing in the Foal Ground Family Park. The Parish Council will receive notification imminently that the £2000.00 106 money is available and will be asked to send an invoice.

**County:**

- 2.4 All councillors had received the full report. A precis of items includes:

Leverington Common LHI: Start date 26<sup>th</sup> September.

A1101 / B1169 LHI: Consultation period to progress

Ringers Ln potholes: Those that meet the County Council intervention level have been filled.  
Footpaths: The local highway officer has assessed the footpaths on Perry Rd, Roman Bank, Seafield Rd, Walton Rd, Church End, Gorefield Rd, Woodgate Rd, Church Rd for pedestrian use. Only the footpath on Perry Rd and on part of Seafield Rd meet the intervention levels and will be slurry sealed as soon as an appropriate contractor can be identified

Overhanging trees on Dowgate Rd: An order has been raised for these to be cut back to improve pedestrian access and for the encroaching grass to be cut.

Church Rd and Gorefield Rd: (front of St Leonard's Church). Although some patching has improved the surface, the local highways officer has decided to put this forward for resurfacing.

Faded speed limit on Leverington Rd: Both of the 40 signs and one of the 30 signs will be replaced and the other 30 sign straightened

40 mph sign within the 50 mph limit: **A1101** - The 40 mph sign is advisory while the 50 mph signs are mandatory

Fair transition fund Paper sent to councillors.

Community Gritting Scheme: This is a request for winter volunteers for this winter season 2022-2023.

### 3. To agree the minutes of the meeting of 26.07.22

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

There were no matters arising that were not included in the agenda items.

### 4. Finance Report. For detailed receipts and payments, see appendix.

#### 4.3 Finance issues.

4.3.1. Re allocation of funds. (From current account to Reserve plus reserve amounts adjusted).

**The Council resolved** to move £5000 from the Street Lights reserve and ear mark as a Risk Reserve. This will be used in the event of small claims.

4.3.2 Discuss the option of moving banks. **The Council resolved** to firstly contact Barclays Customer Services concerning the problems of online banking.

4.3.3 Proposal to change Risk Assessments. *Sent to Councillors 25.09.22*  
Councillors had received the adjusted Assessments. **The Council resolved** to accept the adjusted risk assessments.

4.3.4 Proposals to change Financial Regulations. *Sent to Councillors 25.09.22*  
Councillors had received the adjusted Financial Regulations. **The Council resolved** to accept the changes to Financial Regulations.

4.3.5 Imminent payments.  
**The Council agreed** that outstanding payments should be made from the Cemetery Account while the Current Account was unavailable

4.3.6 External Audit.  
Certificate of Audit completion received. No issues.

#### 4.4 Website, Leverington Letter and Social media

##### 4.4.1 Support from Upwell computer repairs.

The website administrator had waited for the clerk's mail at the last meeting, to insert the new Complaints Procedure. He had also inserted all information on the website regarding the death of Queen Elizabeth 11. This was all extra to the monthly insertions. **The Council resolved** to pay an extra £25 for the work carried out.

##### 4.4.2 To officially delegate entries on social media

Councillor Collins is forwarding any relevant council news on to the 'Love Leverington' site, checking with the chairman the information when necessary. Care has to be taken with the implications of GDPR. **The council agreed** that Councillor Collins should continue in this role.

##### 4.4.3 To adjust Standing Orders

This refers to articles printed and on the website. **The council confirmed that** no names or dates should be inserted on the website unless requested by the writer of the article.

#### 5. To receive the Cemetery Working Party Report: *Councillor Cropp. Notes attached to agenda.* Recommended to Council for consideration.

##### 5.1 Go ahead with preparations for green burials.

**The Council resolved** to start preparations for green burials. Suitable hedging needs to be planted around the area this autumn,

##### 5.2 Provide wildlife habitats.

This will be part of the criteria needed.

##### 5.3 Increase cemetery maintenance finance.

Maintenance is running at over £10,000 and income is around £8000. The Working Party agreed that the cemetery should be kept in the high level of good order **and the council resolved** to increase the maintenance budget in the precept from £4000 to £10,000 (the previous figure).

##### 5.4 In memoriam bench.

The donations for the bench gave the Council thought to the wording on the bench, therefore beside the crown, **the council resolved to** add 'Queen Elizabeth 11 1926 – 2022. It was **also resolved** to have an unveiling on a Sunday afternoon with an invited guest for the honour. (Name to be announced nearer the time) **and also** to book the village hall for refreshments. The Queen Elizabeth rose, donated by Councillor Collins will be installed at the same time.

#### 6. Fenland Draft Local Plan.

Comments by the Council on the draft Local Plan by Fenland District Council

- Leverington is classed as a medium growth village in the report but has always been a low growth village.
- Two sites have been identified for development, 96 dwellings at land east of Woodgate Road and 100 north of Parson Drove Lane. The 221 dwellings along Sutton Road that are part of Leverington are not taken into consideration as Leverington by the planners. There is no infrastructure to support all this building – Complete lack of public transport, parishioners have to rely on FACT buses or Taxis. Only one village shop/post office. All other shops e.g., butchers etc have closed down. Sewage and Drainage systems are not capable of coping with increased number of dwellings. No doctor's surgery, no school places available

(some Leverington children have to go to Wisbech Peckover now).

- There is no width to the roads for a cycle/mobility route. The village roads are classed as 'lanes; in many cases and the surfaces will not take the extra weight of traffic. The Council is not in favour of over development in this rural village that will spoil the peaceful environment. The sites in question are prone to flooding in the winter months.

## 7. Playground

- Inspections.  
Councillor Keymer is now unable to carry out inspections. The council **resolved to ask for a quote** for monthly maintenance inspections from the installer of the new equipment.
- Painting of fencing and train.  
Due to weather changes, a majority of councillors, ( Baker, Collins, Cropp and Downes) agreed out of meeting, that this should go ahead immediately at a cost of £1300.00p
- Damaged panel in the fencing.  
The driver of a Travis Perkins lorry was seen on CCTV hitting the fence. Travis Perkins have agreed to replace the panel.
- Disability Compliance.  
Not yet completed.
- Equipment installation  
Work had started with the roundabout and should continue in the coming weeks.

## 8. Allotments *Councillor Cropp*

Tenancy on two allotments – 1c and 5, terminated. Both let to a new tenant. Permission granted for a small shed.

## 9. Public Benches. *Councillor Collins*

Reports received. The problem with overgrown vegetation has been reported. Councillor Collins will also take action.

## 10. Defibrillators. *Councillor Downes*

Reports received.

### 10.1 Leverington Primary Academy

Awaiting Installation (Can only be Installed on a Tuesday or Thursday after 4pm when Caretaker is available)

### 10.2 The Malvern Terrace

Defibrillator has to find a new location. The chairman has put the details in the Leverington Letter.

### 10.3 New Defibrillator for Chase.

Site Identified. **The Council resolved** to go ahead with the purchase.

## 11. Foal Ground Family Park

- 11.1 Councillor Keymer is now unable to carry out inspections. Councillor Ward volunteered to litter pick frequently. The council **resolved to ask for a quote** for monthly maintenance inspections

## 12. Highways and Street Lights. *Councillor Downes*

Reports received. All items received have been reported as shown.

2/07/22. 372761 Grass Dowgate  
 25/07/22. 398762 Bushes The Still  
 06/08/22 399510 Ringers Lane Footpath  
 15/08/22 399967 Richmond Way Trees  
 17/08/22 Balfour Beatty Highway's Lighting Sutton Road  
 18/08/22 400204 Blocked Drain  
 25/08/22 400687 Potholes S&S Club  
 28/08/22 400780 Dowgate Road Footpath and Trees  
 28/08/22 400738 Ringers Lane Hedging  
 08/09/22 401571 Missing Drain Cover Lev Road  
 12/09/22. 401732 Footpath Entrance Hawthorne Gardens.  
 26/09/22 22305 - Mays Lane Leverington Street Name Plate Missing.

13. **Memorials and Noticeboards**

No problems reported.

14. **Village Sign.**

The sign is now at the home of Councillor Ward. The Chairman will contact D.England to discuss the installation. The Council resolved to site the old sign inside the Foal Ground near no.107.

15. **Public Footpaths.**

No problems reported.

16. **Development.**

Confirming the Working Party of Councillors Downes, Cropp, Collins and Keymer.

Plans will be sent to Councillor Downes with a deadline for reply.

F/0907/TRCA

Fell 1 x Poplar tree, 1 x Sycamore tree, 1 x Hawthorn, 6 x Ash Trees and 2 x groups of Ash trees within a conservation area at Land Adjacent To St Leonards Cemetery Church Road Leverington Cambridgeshire

Refuse

*This application along with F/YR22/0908/TRTPO will result in over 20 trees being removed in a Conservation Area not only adjacent to Leverington Church Cemetery but also to Chapter Gardens. This will free up space to extend this development. These must be replaced by similar species that are of a mature size to keep the area as a woodland. To many trees are being removed in Leverington Conservation Area and not being replaced this trend must be reversed.*

F/YR22/0908/TRTPO

Fell 3 x Ash trees covered by TPO 2/1993 at Land Adjacent To St Leonards Cemetery Church Road Leverington Cambridgeshire. An application for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order has been received in respect of the above Council comment: Refuse *This application along with F/YR22/0907/TRTA will result in the removal of more than 20 trees in a conservation area not only adjacent to Church Cemetery but also Chapter Gardens Development This will free up space to extend said Development. If permission is granted then these trees must be replaced with same as those removed and must be large examples*

F/YR22/0891/VOC

Removal of condition 1 (agricultural occupancy) of planning permission F/YR09/0597/F (Variation of condition 8 of planning permission F/YR02/0802/O relating to agricultural occupancy) to confirm that Thorn Hall is no longer subject to an agricultural occupancy condition at Thorn Hall Fendyke Lane Gorefield Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 4NF An application to vary or remove a condition has been received in respect of the above. Council comment: *Refuse. This should stay as an agricultural occupancy.*

**F/YR22/0643/F**

Erect a single-storey extension and dormer to rear of existing dwelling. at Cromdale, 23 Bank Drive Leverington Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 1PX

*Council comment:*

- 1)Not in keeping with surrounding area*
- 2)Adverse impact on Leverington House to the rear which is a listed building*
- 3) Numerous trees to rear subject to TPO's*
- 4)Impact on neighbouring properties re outdoor space being over shadowed, especially the proposed dormer across complete roof elevation which would make it even more intrusive on surrounding area*

**F/YR22/0945/VOC**

Variation of condition 3 (list of approved drawings) relating to planning permission F/YR20/0830/VOC (Variation of condition 6 of planning permission F/YR17/0136/F (Erection of a 2-storey 3no bed dwelling including demolition of existing garage) to include pergola, garden store and solar panels at Land North Of 18 Sutton Road Accessed Via Peatlings Lane Leverington Cambridgeshire

*Council comment: No issues*

**17 Close of Meeting.**

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Next meeting 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022