



**Minutes of the meeting of the Leverington
Parish Council, held in the Village Hall Gorefield
Road on Tuesday, 22nd November 2022.**

Present: Councillors B.Baker, B.Beales, Ms. R.Collins, R.Cropp, J.Downes (Chairman),
R.Keymer, S.Ward, Mrs. S.Edghill. Clerk B.Boyce
County Councillor S.King.
Representative of UPP, Mr. James Ingham.

1. Welcome by the Chairman.

The Chairman asked for all mobile phones to be switched off or to silent mode.

The fire exits were pointed out.

1.1. To receive apologies.

Apologies received from District Councillors S.Clark, C.Seaton.

1.2 To receive any Declarations of Interest on agenda items.

None received.

1.3 To review the events held on Remembrance Sunday.

Ceremonies held in the Parish Ceremony on Sunday 13th November. The Chairman laid the wreath at the Church Memorial service.

At the Parish cemetery, Councillors Cropp and Baker distributed the event leaflet and the crosses to the members of the Public to insert into the planters.

The young guest, Sebastian cut the ribbon and unveiled the Queen Elizabeth bench seat. The Chairman laid the wreath and members of the public laid flowers on the bench. Everyone enjoyed the chat over refreshments in the village hall. A successful event. The M.P. Steve Barclay had viewed the bench the previous Friday with Councillors Downes, Cropp, Baker and the clerk and congratulated the Councillors on a lasting memorial to the Queen. Photographs were posted on his web site.

1.4 Police Crime Commissioner, Darryl Preston.

Invitation to join the Community Safety Team for a virtual meeting on Monday 21st November between 18.00 and 19.30. No councillor attended the meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting for a Public Forum.

Mr. Ingham explained that his Company 'UPP' is delivering fast, reliable broadband to the area across the East of England and East Midlands that need it the most.

More information from his business card :

About Upp – <https://upp.com/portal/about-us>

- Upp's Residential Services – <https://upp.com/portal/>
- Upp's Business Services – <https://upp.com/portal/business>

The Chairman reopened the meeting.

2. To agree the minutes.

2.1 Meeting held on 25th October 2022. Sent to Councillors 05.11.22.

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

2.2 Matters arising not included as agenda items.

None.

3. County and District reports.

3.1 District.

No report.

3.2 County.

The County Councillor was thanked for the full report that he had sent to all councillors and they are copied as an appendix to these minutes. It was confirmed that the Pope's Lane sign had been reinstated.

The Chairman had organised a meeting with the Highways Supervisor for the week beginning 28th November. As no other councillor was available, the Council delegated the meeting to the chairman.

4. Finance report.

4.1 Allotment rents.

All paid.

4.2 Update on the banking situation and action required.

Access to online banking now available by the Chairman and Clerk. Councillors Baker and Keymer still not able to access accounts. The Chairman will make an appointment at Kings Lynn branch.

4.3 Grant money.

Received and in the Bank account. A letter of thanks has been sent.

4.4 Precept.

Finance Working Party: Monday 9th January 2.15pm

4.5 Account balances.

4.5.1 The playground reserve is still in the Reserve Account for the time being.

4.5.2 The Internal Auditor has advised the RFO on the accounting procedures for the Finance used from the Cemetery Account.

4.5.3 Appendix of current payments and receipts sent to councillors 19.11.22

4.6 Street Pride request

Street Pride Group has asked if the Council will take over their banking. The I.A. has advised that the Council would have to open a separate account and FDC must agree as the money is a grant to Street Pride. The council is not in favour of this suggestion.

4.7 Purchase of toddler swing.

The clerk will order.

4.8 Playground sign.

Councillors Ward, Collins and Edghill will look at the old sign and advise the Council on the wording required.

5. To receive a Foal Ground Family Park report.

5.1 Maintenance.

Hedge spaces require infilling, all trees require a hard prune, holly needs to be trimmed from the tree near Gadds Lane, Zip wire -safety matting parts missing, seesaw has 4 plastic foothold end caps missing, cross country skier needs attention to bearing. FLP will be asked to repair all play and fitness equipment and D.England the maintenance issues.

5.2 Old village sign in place.

The sign is in view from the road and has been cleaned.

5.3 Toddler swing.

Shown at 4.7. To be ordered.

6. To receive a Playground report.

6.1 Maintenance.

Toddler swing support bracket missing needs replacement. New roundabout has excessive play in centre bearing. There are weeds growing through the wet pour under swings.

Area to gate needs levelling. The new panel needs fixing. Bolts missing and loose.

Picnic tables need replacing in very poor state.

FLP to be asked to repair equipment. Weeds will be sprayed after the winter by D.England, GLW Engineering will be contacted to straighten and fix the bent pane, then to be painted.

M.Warren to be asked if a small piece of turf is available for the gate area.

7. To receive a Cemetery report.

7.1 Report and Maintenance.

The cemetery is looking tidy although there have been a lot of fallen leaves this year but most have blown away in the winds. The laurel hedges are being trimmed for the winter.

Two ashes interments this month, one carried out by the Clerk and the other by a major funeral company.

On Friday, November 11th MP Stephen Barclay visited the cemetery to view the Queen Elizabeth memorial bench prior to its reveal on Sunday.

The Parish Council Remembrance Sunday event was carried out on Sunday afternoon, attended by quite a large number of parishioners.

The Queen Elizabeth rose and the memorial bench was installed during the week and there was an unveiling of the bench on Sunday afternoon, with a wreath and flowers laid.

7.2 Ashes interment and problem encountered.

There were issues with the ashes interment carried out by the major funeral company in so far as the chamber top slab was replaced with a different one with a hole cut into it to allow the flower vase to be inserted into the memorial stone, thus leaving a potential hole into the chamber where water or animals could gain access should the vase be removed.

The slabs were changed round prior to the memorial stone glue drying.

8. Highways.

8.1 Any outstanding issues.

The Chairman has reported potholes in Parson Drove Lane.

8.2 LHI Applications.

The Council will not be applying for any LHI until the Leverington Common and Sutton Road projects are completed.

9. Defibrillators. *Report received.*

9.1 Leverington Common.

In good order.

9.2 Parson Drove Lane.

In good order.

9.3 Malvern Terrace.

A place to provide this has not been found. The council thought that a number of businesses along the Sutton Road could be approached.

9.4 Leverington school.

Defibrillator not yet in place. An electrician accredited for commercial use must be found to install the defibrillator.

9.5 The Chase.

Now ordered.

10. Village Sign.

Mr. Proctor has provided the forklift and should be in place on Friday 2nd December. It was agreed by 7 votes to 1 abstention that the surround should be as similar as the previous sign as possible but with a view to making it as seating.

11. Development.

Applications since the last meeting:

F/YR21/1196/F

Erect 2 x single-storey buildings (storage B8 and office E.g(i)) including the erection of 2.2m high brick wall and gates for building contractor compound at Land East Of Park House Gorefield Road Leverington Cambridgeshire

Revised proposals have been received in respect of the above.

Council comment: No issues sent 12.11.22

F/YR22/0526/F

Erect 1 x dwelling (3-storey 6-bed) at Land South Of 4 Lancewood Gardens Leverington Cambridgeshire

Revised proposals have been received in respect of the above.

The revision is: Minor amendments to the footprint and elevations

Any additional comments you may wish to make in respect of this revision must be received on or before 4 November 2022. *Council comment: 1) Not in keeping with area.*

2) Too large for plot.

3) Damage to trees and there roots any trees removed must be replaced by mature trees of similar varieties. Too many trees being removed within Conservation area.

4) Damage to ecology requires provision of bird and bat boxes. It should be remembered that this was a rookery (depicted on tapestry in Village Church.)

5) Style of dwelling is not in keeping with others on site. sent 12.11.22

F/YR22/1249/F 16 November 2022

Erect a single-storey rear extension and door canopies to front and side elevations, including demolition of existing conservatory at Orchard View 3 Church Road Leverington Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 5DE

Council comment: No objections. Sent 03.12.22

12. Close of Meeting.

Next full meeting 24th January 2023.

Finance WP Mon. 9th January 2.15

Finance appendix November 2022**Finance Appendix.****Current Account**

Date	Ch/IB	File	Item	Amount
			Opening balance	78519.73
			Receipts	
			Allgar (plot rent)	<u>35.00</u>
				78554.73
			Payments	
31.10.22	IB	57	Fenland Leisure Products	<u>51152.40</u>
			Closing balance	27402.33

Cemetery Account

Date	Ch/IB	File	Item		Amount
			Opening balance		76247.67
			Receipts		
			Goose (plot rent)	13.00	
			Knight (plot rent)	13.00	
			R.King (Brooks tablet)	75.00	
			Coop (Garford ashes interment)	280.00	
			Coop (Garford EROB)	280.00	<u>661.00</u>
					76908.67
			Payments		
28.09.22	80	41	Signs of the Times (Village Sign)	11702.40	11702.40
'''	81	42	N Power (street light power)	1873.65	1873.65
'''	82		M.Ward (cemetery maintenance)	260.00	260.00
'''	83	43	Littlejohn (external audit)	360.00	360.00
'''	84	44	HMRC (PAYE)	646.02	646.02
'''	85	45	B.Boyce (July, August, September)	1887.79	1887.79
	86		Cheque ccl	0.00	0.00
01.10.22	87	46	L.Bennett (web site Aug., Sep)	75.00	75.00
06.10.22	88	47	K.L.W.D. (web annual host)	172.80	172.80
13.10.22	89	48	Lake (electricity.disconnect -defib)	80.00	80.00
'''	90	49	N.Power	190.58	190.58
17.10.22	91	50	Leverington Village Hall	48.00	n/p
'''	92	51	L.Bennett	25.00	25.00
	93	52	Stephenson Smart.Payroll mnths 2	72.00	n/p
	94	53	B.Boyce (October)		<u>629.33</u>
			Closing balance		59006.10

All cheques (other than 82) are general payments). 91 and 93 not yet presented.

For information:

- 1 toddler swing to be ordered £2307.60
- Playground sign to be ordered
- 3 public benches ordered.
- QE Bench cash donations: £220.70 (not banked).
- Precept setting on Mon. 9th January 2.15pm. Finance WP

County Councillor's Report. November 2022.**Leverington Common LHI remedial work.**

These responses (in blue) have been received from the Acting Project Engineer:

1. **Have any additional repeater 30MPH signs from when you enter Rabbit Hill (Dowgate Road) till the first one appears in Leverington Common (Almshouse Corner, outside 54) been installed?**

Unfortunately this was not part of the initial LHI scope, when I took over the project from Victoria Bailey the main focus appeared to be on the new 30mph section itself. I was led to believe the designs had been approved by the Parish Council. Travelling east from where the old 30mph terminal use to be sited, it would appear the Engineer that installed the 30mph (in the past) from this point all the way to Dowgate Road went under the assumption it was a lit stretch of road, hence not needing repeater signage.

2. **Have the 30mph signs in Dowgate Road been cleared as the left hand side is dirty or has graffiti on it and the right hand side is partially covered by the tree branches/leaves?**

Again, this was not part of the LHI's scope and something I was not made aware about. I can instruct the maintenance team to rectify this location, however taking into consideration the LHI for this year's 30mph limit, these terminal signs are going to be replaced with new 30mph repeater signs.

3. **Does this signage meet highways' standards as coming from Wisbech there are only two small 30 mph discs between Waverley and Mays Lane and one is hidden in Williams' hedge and the other is only 40 yards before the end of the 30 limit?**

I recently instructed the contractor to amend the on site repeaters to make them more consistent than they were in the previous design. Please find attached a very crude overview (**Leverington Common – New Signs.jpg**) showing you where the new repeaters should be situated.

4. **Has the 30mph sign coming from Wisbech St Mary at the start of the 30 limit been cleared of tree branches?**

I believe the crew on site did cut back the tree partially however was very careful in doing so as it belongs to the adjacent homeowner. It did appear visible when I visited site. If this is still an issue I will get letter drop undertaken to said resident and ask that their tree is cut back further.

5. **Has the signage been replaced in the area around Foal Ground Family Park?**

As mentioned in point 3. New repeater signage has been spread out over an equal distance and may not be in the exact same place as was previously.

6. **Have the signs at the Almshouses removed?**

If this is referring to the incorrect terminal signs that were situated on Pope Lanes? These have now been corrected and replaced with 30mph signs.

7. **Is the sign on the gateway at Mays Lane still obscured by trees?**

Please see point 4.

8. **Does the signage at Mays Lane still read 40mph?**

I do not believe this location was an issue as the 40mph signs were replaced with 30mph at the outset. I believe it was only Popes Lane that was an issue.

9. **Does the total number of signs on the stretch of Leverington Common between Mays Lane and Almshouses meet highways' standards?**

Yes, they meet the requirements set out in the Traffic Signs Manual – C3 Regulatory Signs

Distance from Terminal Sign (Wisbech St Mary end) to first repeater = 178m (200m maximum required as per Table 8-4)

Distance from first repeater to second = 205m (250m maximum required as per Table 8-4)

Distance from second repeater to third = 185m (250m maximum required as per Table 8-4)

Distance from third repeater to fourth = 160m (250m maximum required as per Table 8-4)

As you can see all of the repeater signage that has been installed is under the maximum allowable spacing.

10. **Has the new "Speed Restrictions in Force" sign near Ringers Lane been made more visible?**

I believe you are referring to the temporary signage "NEW 30MPH SPEED LIMIT IN FORCE". I was unaware that there was visibility issues to the sign and appeared to be placed in a visible place when I visited site.

11. Do the the road markings that have been written on road - slow and 30mph - meet highways' standards?

Yes the lining meets the requirements set out for this speed of road in Traffic Signs Manual C5 – Road Markings.

12. Why were the posts that held the 40mph signs removed rather than changing one to a large 30mph sign?

A majority of the posts down this length of road have heavily rusted, hence why we have removed a lot of them. Hopefully the new repeater placement should address the lack of repeaters that we first encountered.

13. Why was a small 30 mph sign has been erected on a lamp post near number 89 instead of a large 30 mph sign as it is hidden in a hedge?

Repeaters signs are smaller as a standard/requirement set out in the Traffic Signs Manual, meaning we cannot use 600mm / 750mm 30mph signs for the purpose of repeaters. The repeaters have now been removed from the street light and have been placed on their own post as per the attached (**Leverington Common – New Signs.jpg**)

14. Can the dead end sign for Popes Lane be reinstated?

I was unaware these were removed but do remember stating directly to the Scheme Delivery Manager on site that they were to remain, I am sorry this has happened. I have just emailed them and will get them to re-hang ASAP.

15. As there are no repeater signs until the new one installed at the Cottages, can an additional one or two be installed?

Are you referring to the eastern part of the B1169, if so please see my below email to Jim and yourself on the 11th November:

"I did notice the lack of signage to the west when the initial issues were raised. As I mentioned previously I took over the management of this scheme at the point of delivery when we had a target cost so had no input into the proposed design.

It would appear the existing 30mph limit from the old terminal sign location, which we have removed as part of this scheme, to the terminal signage located on Dowgate Road was designed with only terminal signage and no repeaters as there is a series of street lighting (Parish owned lamps on either BT poles or stand-alone street lamps). Looking that the spacing it does meet the spacing requirement for a "series of street lighting" (around 180m) but I would argue that the lighting isn't up to spec for illuminating the road in its entirety. I don't see an issue with installing repeaters along this stretch as this is essentially what we have just done for Leverington Common, which also meets the criteria for a "series of street lighting". If we do go ahead with the additional repeaters I will see if we have the budget to include the works within this year's LHI scheme for the 30mph limit on the A1101. As it hasn't been factored in there may be a slight cost/contribution increase for Leverington Parish Council."

20 mph schemes

"A resident of Church End requesting we get the speed limit from the Sports and Social Club past the School into Church End and the length of Roman Bank also Gorefield Road to Ringers Lane reduced to 20mph. The Council decided not to pursue the request at this time"

If the parish council wants to bid for a 20mph scheme, that would be funded separately so would not affect any other application. The report of the the 20mph member working party will be submitted to the Highways & Transport Committee shortly.

Questions from Cllr Collins

I have received these responses (in italics) from the local highways officer:

"Approaching Sutton Road traffic lights (A1101) from Wisbech heading into Leverington there are 4 road signs, hidden by trees/shrubs. Could the vegetation be trimmed back?"

"I am in the process of obtaining land owner details as some of the vegetation is private."

Continuing into Leverington on Dowgate Road, on the left hand side (numbers on the right are 16 to 26) will these trees/shrubs be receiving a trim? (Cllr Downes has reported this - 404469)

"I will look into this and obtain land owner details as these are private, 404469 relates to same location as above."

The footpath is covered by an overgrown hedge belonging to Hallcroft on Ringers Lane. This property edges up to Leverington Common on the Almshouse Corner and the hedge has now encroached the footpath by over 3 quarters - adjacent to number 54 (opposite 65). (Cllr Downes has reported this - 404527 & 400738)

"I have sent 2 letters and had a site visit with land owner, I will check to see if this location has been trimmed back if not I will get a letter sent from our enforcement officer."

The giveway signs on Church Road, near Rising Sun are in very poor condition

"Will look at next time I am in Leverington"

Does the 30mph signage on Church Road meet the legal requirements?

"Will look at next time I am in Leverington"

Possible faulty MVAS unit

"I believe that Speed display unit near the Foal Ground has stopped working"

The parish council needs to authorise any repair as it is their property

Footpath sign

"The Still, on the left hand side, there is a sign completely covered by ivy. This brick pillar has a sign on it, which should be clearly visible for all as I believe, it says, public footpath - chatting with other walkers, whether local or not, they are now afraid to walk down there, due to the other sign, saying private driveway (on the right). I believe that walkers are permitted to walk here - reported by Cllr Downes 398672"

I have received this from the rights of way officer:

"I will check this out next time I am up that way"

Additional yellow lines

"What is the process for extending the yellow lines along Church Road to Milton Drive?"

I have received this from the local highways officer:

"This will need a change to the current Traffic Regulation Order and will have to be advertised, to see if anybody objects, may be better adding to an LHI if there is any further works required."

Ringers Ln

"Have the potholes in Ringers Lane been repaired?"

I have received this from the local highways officer:

"These have been done"

Overhanging trees and footpath on Dowgate Rd

An order has been raised for these to be cut back and for the footpath to be improved within the next three weeks depending on the weather conditions.

S.King