



**Minutes of the meeting of the Leverington  
Parish Council, held in the Village Hall Gorefield Road on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023.**  
*No Public Forum was required.*

**Present:** Councillors B.Baker, Ms. R.Collins, J.Downes (Chairman), R.Keymer, Mrs. S.Ward.  
Clerk B.Boyce.

**1. Welcome by the Chairman.**

**1.1. To receive apologies.**

Apologies received from Parish Councillors R.Cropp (vacation), B.Beales,(health), S.Edghill (vacation), District Councillors S.Clark, C.Seaton. County Councillor S.King.

**1.2 To receive any Declarations of Interest on agenda items.**

None received.

**1.3 Information from Mr. Proctor.**

For information to the Council. *"We have been given permission from English Heritage to flail back some of the brambles that are hiding rabbit holes. We also plan to put up a fence and gate between the Roman bank and our field Newlands which is between Roman Bank and the Sports club".*

**1.4 Fenland Community Safety Partnership.**

Newsletter sent 17.03.23 to all councillors.

**1.5 Information request.**

The request regarding cemetery expenses by a Parishioner was sent on 10.03.23.

As the searches for requested items took a considerable time, in future, the council resolved that any request for information that entails a search over some years will carry a charge of £25.00. *Freedom of Information Act 2000 ss 1 and 12 .*

**2. To agree the minutes.**

**2.1 Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023.** *Sent to councillors 11.03.23.*

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

**2.2 Matters arising not included as agenda items.**

Councillors Downes and Baker attended the Candidates' briefing on 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

**3. Highways and related items.**

**3.1 Report details:**

*Reference: 00419556. Date reported: 04/03/2023. Fault type: Pothole*

*Address: CHURCH ROAD, Location: From Sports Field to Perry Road*

*Description of fault: Numerous potholes on Church Road and Church End  
Leverington.*

3.2 Trees in the vicinity of Peatlings Lane and Glendon Gardens.

A parishioner asked the Council why trees had been cut down. This item has been investigated. Unfortunately, the Local Highways Officer has confirmed that these trees were on private land therefore the only option is for the Clerk to write to the owner asking that they be replaced. (see County Councillor's report).

3.3 Bollards.

Footpath, near Bank Drive/ Walsingham Court. Correspondence sent to all councillors by Councillor Collins. The Local Highways Officer has investigated and the grass area belongs to Fenland District Council. He is reluctant to remove the bollards as they were installed to discourage motorbikes. He has written to the owner of the hedge for it be cut back. (see County Councillor's report).

3.4 30 mph signage.

Post erected after accident but no sign! Outside Town Cottage, Leverington Common. This has now been replaced.

3.5 Footpath at Hawthorn Gardens, Leverington Common.

The footpath is flooded and a trip hazard. Work should be completed this week.

3.6 The left-hand side 30 mph sign when approaching the Rabbit Hill, is at an angle.

**Date reported:** 21/03/2023. **Fault type:** Damaged street furniture.

**Location:** B1169 Dowgate Road Leverington. As this is an illuminated sign it is electrified and the County Street Lighting team have been notified as it is their responsibility.

3.7 Wheelie bin stickers.

Information sent to all councillors on March 1<sup>st</sup> 2023. No action required.

3.8 Sites for Gateways. Sent to Councillors 26.03.23.

After a lengthy debate, the Council resolved to continue lobbying the County Council for the Gateways to be installed at the road entrances to Leverington Parish and NOT as County Council Highways suggestions, inside the Parish. The parish electors will be informed and it will be a subject for consideration at the Parish Assembly. The clerk will pursue this item with Cambridgeshire County Council and also contact other parishes for their comments regarding Correspondence with the County Council and decisions taken.

3.9 Request for more lighting along Dowgate.

With regards to the request for extra lights in Dowgate Road there are traffic lights to Rising Sun - a total of 9 lights in 4/10ths of a mile or 1 on average of 72 yards. Considering the regulations re 30 mph areas, they need a distance of 183 yards between streetlights. Calculating the number of 30 mph signs, it is not devoid of streetlight numbers in Dowgate Road.

#### 4. County and District reports.

4.1 District.

No report.

4.2 County.

Printed at the end of the minutes.

#### 5. Foal Ground Family Park.

5.1 RoSPA.

Notification received of inspection during April.

5.2 Work completed by T.Moore.

New slabs laid in gateway.

Fence panel inserted at the bottom left corner (one intended for Church Road playground).

The ground has been levelled near the zip wire and goal mouth.

5.3 Barrier.

CCC Highways has inspected damaged Barrier at entrance and in their opinion it does not warrant any action re repair or replacement, as it does not meet criteria.

The Council does not agree with this statement and will continue to request a new barrier.

**5.4 Disability Discrimination.** *Sent to all councillors 25.03.23.*

Deferred from the last meeting. Councillor S.Edghill prepared the report and a working party will be held to put forward recommendations. The insertion of a pathway to the roundabout was mooted.

The wooden bench in the park is showing signs of rotting. This will be monitored at each inspection.

**6. Playground.**

**6.1 RoSPA.**

Notification received of inspection during April.

**6.2 Fence panel.**

Needs attention. *Minutes 28.02.23 item 7.1.* G.White to be contacted again.

**6.3 New gate way entrance ground.**

Needs attention. S. Fisher of the Sports and Social Club to be contacted.

*Minutes 28.02.23, item 7.3*

**6.4 Disability discrimination.**

Deferred from the last meeting. *Sent to all councillors 25.03.23.* Councillor S.Edghill prepared the report and a working party will be held to put forward recommendations.

**7. Defibrillators.**

Council owned defibrillators are now in working order. The website has been updated, noticeboard poster was sent to Councillor Ward on 26.03.23. Leverington Letter will be updated in the next issue. Reported school requirements for defibrillators are a Department of Education matter and not applicable to this council.

**8. Cemetery.**

Report of Working Party meeting 22.03.23. *Sent to councillors on 25.03.23.*

For consideration by the Council were a. Working party b. Plan of the proposed green burial site. c. The Fees for 2023. d. Reservation Rules updates. The Council agreed to the changes.

All papers on the website will be changed as soon as possible with 2023 shown.

The Council confirmed that ceramic urns could be used as long as they were of a suitable size for the chamber.

**9. Parish Assembly.**

To be held in the Village Hall on 4<sup>th</sup> April 7.00 to 8.00pm. The Format to be informal with tea, coffee and biscuits provided. Name badges and Council T shirts may be worn.

**10. FINANCE.**

**10.1 Forward Planning.**

Items to be purchased after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. Illustrations will be sent with the next agenda. a. Playground sign. b. Picnic tables for playground. c. Cherry tree(s) for green burial ground. d. Meadow grass mixture for green burial ground.

e. Mourning flag. f. Gateways (?). g. Minutes bound h. EROB grants ledger.

It was thought best not to purchase the cherry trees until September/October.

**10.2 Balances at 20/03/23.**

A printout of all transactions during the year to 4<sup>th</sup> March was sent to Councillors on 25<sup>th</sup> March. This will be attached to the minutes. The Council resolved to transfer any monies over £10,000 left in the account at 31<sup>st</sup> March, into the Reserve Account. (*Financial Regulations*)

**10.3 The Coronation of His Majesty the King.**

The Jubilee of the Queen was marked by a plaque in the Foal Ground Family Park. The Council resolved to purchase a commemorative plaque for the Coronation after it had taken place.

**10.4 Allotment rents.**

This item deferred to the May meeting. A – not to scale- map will be sent out before the meeting.

**10.5 Annual agenda items**

March is the usual month for the Council to consider all aspects of Finance. However, the Council has looked at the following items during the year:

- Insurance. Agreed by the Council 26.07.22
- Financial Regulations. Agreed by the Council 27.09.22
- Financial Risk Assessments 27.09.22
- Asset Register 28.02.23
- 137 grants noted in 28.02.23
- Clerk's salary. 24.01.23. No change.
- Cemetery fees decided at item 8 on the agenda.
- Other expenditure and items for the 23-24 year. i.e. searches cost to the Council.

**11. Planning applications to note:**

F/YR23/0182/TRTPO

Works to 2no Ash trees, 1no Corsican Pine tree, 1no Scots Pine tree and 1no Lime tree covered by TPO WR/12/2/465/2 at Leverington House Peatlings Lane Leverington Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 1PS. *Council: No comments.*

F/YR23/0198/F

single-storey rear extension and door canopies to front and side elevations to existing dwelling, involving demolition of existing conservatory at Orchard View 3 Church Road Leverington Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 5DE. *Council: No objections.*

**12. Close of Meeting.**

The meeting closed at 8.48pm. Dates to note:

Parish Assembly 4<sup>th</sup> April

Council meeting 25<sup>th</sup> April

Election date 4<sup>th</sup> May

Council meeting 16<sup>th</sup> May.

**County Councillor. Report.****Items from the parish council agenda:**

*"Reference: 00419556. Date reported: 04/03/2023. Fault type: Pothole*

*Address: CHURCH ROAD, Location: From Sports Field to Perry Road*

*Description of fault: Numerous potholes on Church Road and Church End, Leverington.*

**The Local Highways Officer has ordered repairs and the some of the additional pothole money received from the government will hopefully be used to enable the roads to be resurfaced earlier than originally scheduled.**

### 3.2 Trees at Roman Bank.

See correspondence from a parishioner: "We come from generations of rural locals and have lived on Sutton Rd for 47 years. There was no housing estates when we moved here. The trees hiding the Peatling Lane estate was kept there for a reason. A few years ago trees were cut down opposite Glendon Gardens. We guessed they were diseased and would be replaced but still haven't? Its not an urban road but the country. They should be replaced ? We know the rentings and housing estates have taken the road down and it is an A road."

**Unfortunately the Local Highways Officer has confirmed that these trees were on private land so the only option is for the Clerk to write to the owner asking that they be replaced**

### 3.3 Bollards.

Footpath, near Bank Drive/ Walsingham Court. Correspondence sent to all councillors by Councillor Collins.

**The Local Highways Officer has investigated and the grass area belongs to Fenland District Council. He is reluctant to remove the bollards as they were installed to discourage motorbikes. He has written to the owner of the hedge for it be cut back.**

### 3.4 30 mph signage.

Post erected after accident but no sign! Outside Town Cottage, Leverington Common.

**The Local Highways Officer apologises that the sign was not reinstated when the pole was replaced and it will be done asap.**

### 3.5 Footpath at Hawthorn Gardens, Leverington Common.

The footpath is flooded and a trip hazard.

**This is the responsibility of the developer and they have been chased.**

### 3.6 The left-hand side 30 mph sign when approaching the Rabbit Hill, Is at an angle

Date reported: 21/03/2023. Fault type: Damaged street furniture"

**As this is an illuminated sign it is electrified and the County Street Lighting team have been notified as it is their responsibility**

**Necessity of replacing existing 30mph posts**

I am awaiting a response from the Design Engineer

**Diversion signs**

I have received this from the Street Works Inspector:

*"I can't see any Road Closure signs left anywhere. I'm assuming the report relates to recent Anglian water closures along Harolds Bank/Marshalls Bank (with that long loop of a diversion route Leverington to Parson Drove) which finished, in terms of a closure(s) at the beginning of March, but there is an ongoing Section 74*

*overstay situation on Marshalls Bank where AW have overrun their permit end date and reverted to use of temporary traffic lights. That should all be cleared very soon anyway.*

*I thought there were special signs in place at the time (at trigger points at least), but I haven't got any evidence either way. I for one have been requesting such special signs on the applications where appropriate for a long while now (and "Businesses Open As Usual" signs) and my impression is that the message overall is finally getting home in that traffic management companies on behalf of their clients (Utilities etc) are setting out more of these type of signs as a result, and almost as a routine"*

#### **Dowgate Rd trees**

**The Local Highway Officer has confirmed that the trees are privately owned and the partner of the owner of the damaged car is aware. The owners of the trees have been written to.**

#### **Hedge at Hallcroft, Ringers Ln**

The County Council has instigated the legal process and the problem has now gone to the Enforcement Officer. Unfortunately at the moment there is only one enforcement officer for entire county so the Local Highway Officer will write to the owner again and I suggest the Clerk does so as well

#### **Church Rd, Leverington, give way sign on the left hand side near the Rising Sun**

As soon as the local highways officer receives the quotation, he will order the replacement

#### **Obscured Peatlings Ln Parish Council street light 13**

The Local Highways Officer has written to the owner of the tree

#### **Perry Rd footpath**

The slurry sealing has been definitely scheduled for the financial year 2024/2025, although there is a possibility the work might be done in the financial year 2023/2024

#### **20mph Limits**

Following this earlier request:

*"A resident of Church End requested 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"*

**There is the possibility of Leverington Parish Council being offered funding for a 20mph zone as there may be funding available. It would be helpful to know if the Parish Council supports this.**

This is what I have received this from the Team Leader, Highway Projects Team:

*"We are going to go back through Chairs and Vice Chairs first to discuss the outcome of the engagement with Towns etc. then will go from there with reaching out to Parish Councils in Fenland, if this is the route decided upon. We have included this in the briefing note for the Highways & Transport Chair and Vice chair to consider"*

**Councillor King.**