



E mail: leveringtonpc@gmail.com
Web : leveringtonparishcouncil.org



Minutes of The ANNUAL MEETING of the Leverington Parish Council, held in the Leverington Village Hall, Gorefield Road on Tuesday 16th May 2023.

A Public Forum was not required.

It was confirmed that the Leverington Parish election had not been contested.

The duly elected councillors without contest are.....

Bryan Baker, Ms Rachel Collins, James Downes, Mrs Susan Edghill, Mrs. Sheila Ward

PRESENT: Councillors Baker, Ms R Collins, J.Downes, S.Ward.

Clerk B.Boyce.

Co-option candidate R.Cropp.

County Councillor S.King. District Councillor C.Seaton.

1. To elect the Chairman and signing of the Declaration of Office.

J.Downes was proposed as Chairman. There were no other nominations. Councillor Downes accepted the post and signed the Declaration of Office.

2. Signing of the Declarations by all councillors.

The Code of Conduct was sent to Councillors on 10.05.23. Parish Councillors signed the Declaration of Office and submitted their Register of Interests.

3. To accept any Declarations of Interest on agenda items.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

Apologies were received from Councillor S.Edghill (holiday) and District Councillor S.Clark.

4. Co-option to the Council. Richard Cropp.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, former Councillor Richard Cropp was unable to submit the councillor application within the time limit. After a brief discussion, the Council resolved to co-opt Richard Cropp, who duly signed the Declaration of Office and submitted a Register of Interests.

5. To adjust Standing Orders and confirm. Sent 10.05.23

No adjustments were necessary. The Council confirmed the Standing Orders.

6. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 25th April 2023.

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

7. Matters arising not included in agenda items. (For information only)

None.

8. To receive County and District Councillors' reports.

8.1 District.

- It is reported that Clarion are to install high fencing around Roman Court, hopefully this will deter the recent disturbances.

- FDC officers are consulting with the fire service regarding fire risks at the Walsingham Court communal garage site. There is an ongoing investigation into ownership of the site to assist in removal of the rubbish.
- The bus situation remains the same with the removal of certain services by Stagecoach. FACT have been able to provide cover for a few of these deleted services but as a charity is dependent on funding. Some funds have been granted by the CPCA but no guarantee of continued support.

8.2 County.

Report attached to minutes.

- An in depth and prolonged discussion took place regarding the suggested removal of the bollards at the Bank Drive/Walsingham Court grassed area. (*Discussion item 1 in County Councillor's report*). The grass area belongs to Fenland District Council and the pathway to the County Council. The bollards were erected to prevent motorbikes. This grassed area is an open park with no fencing. Decision to be deferred. The CC will arrange to get the hedge cut back.
- The Parish Council was asked to make a decision on the repeater signs that will cover the reduction from 40 mph to 30 mph on the A1101. The Council agreed to the repeater signs and the 10% cost to the Parish. (*see Discussion item 2 in the County Councillor's report*). The Parish Council asked for the 2 lit repeater signs to be retained if possible.

The information regarding Village boundary gateways, sent to Councillors 14.05.23 was not discussed. The County Councillor will support the Council in any action. *See report*. To be discussed at the next meeting.

9. To appoint councillors for Health and Safety Risk Assessment inspections.

Subject	2022-23	Working party or Committee
Allotments(Garden plots)	R.Cropp	Edghill
Benches	R.Collins	
Cemetery	R.Cropp,	B.Baker, S.Ward
Defibrillators/ kiosk	J.Downes	
Family Park	S.Edghill	R.Collins, S.Ward
Memorials/Noticeboard	S.Ward	
Village sign	B.Baker	
Paths	R.Cropp	
Playground	S.Edghill	R.Collins, S.Ward
Street Lights	J.Downes	
Trees		
Website	Clerk/(L.Bennett)	
Finance WP	RFO (clerk)	Baker, Downes, Ward.
Representatives		
Feoffees	J.Downes	report
Village Hall	B.Baker	report
Development	J.Downes	At meeting when possible

Appointments and Working Parties were agreed as shown in the chart. Assessments should be made monthly and reported to the Clerk.

10. To receive a Financial update.

10.1 Accounts year 2022-23.

With the Internal Auditor

10.2 Current Account.

01.04.23		Opening balance		11,892.07
03.04.23		Transferred to reserve		1,892.07
04.04.23		Received half precept		<u>29,375.00</u>

				39,375.00
14.04.23	3	N.Power	Street Lights	298.09
""	1	L.Bennett	Web site	25.00
""	2	Leverington Village Hall	Hire	48.00
17.04.23	4	Playsafety. RoSPA	Playground Insp	255.60
20.04.23	5	North Level IDB	Drainage	65.86
26.04.23	6	Barry Stevens	Plumber	110.00
27.04.23	7	Fen Regis	plaques	82.14
28.04.23	8	B.Boyce	salary	604.73
02.05.23	9	Leverington Village Hall	Hire	48.00
04.05.23	10	KLWD	Ann. Web host	36.00
04.05.23	11	HMRC	PAYE	643.17
09.05.23	12	A1 Engraving	Playground sign	<u>102.00</u>
10.05.23		Closing balance		37,056.41

The invoices and Bank statements were scrutinised by Councillors Baker and Cropp.

10.3 Grant applications held over from the last meeting.

P.Manley has confirmed that the defibrillator at Maysfield Close is regularly checked and reports sent. The Council confirmed the grant of £165.00p.

10.4 Purchase of picnic tables for playground and installation.

The quote for the replacement picnic tables of recycled plastic was sent to Councillors on 11.05.23.

The Council resolved to purchase the picnic tables from the reserve account earmarked for that purpose.

RH Developments will be asked to install them.

10.5 Purchase of plaque to commemorate the Coronation.

The Council resolved to purchase a plaque to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles 111.

10.6 Signs for the playground and cemetery.

The signs are now with Councillor Ward. Mr. Ward has volunteered to erect them.

10.7 Bank mandate.

All signatories for the Bank mandate have been updated.

10.8 Requested grants.

The Village Hall Committee withdrew its request for a grant for the car park renovation.

10.9 Budget for the year

A budget paper showing the precept allowances and payments to date was sent to councillors. Reference should be made at each meeting to the precept for allocations of finance paid out.

ASSETS

To bring forward any items from the assets in the order shown.

11. Allotments.

11.1 Map of tenants

Still current.

11.2 Date for annual inspection.

Councillor Cropp will contact the Chairman with available dates.

12. Benches.

12.1 Confirm the location of highway benches.

Inspection reports received monthly. Bench locations are Dowgate, Gorefield Road, Ringers Lane, Perry Road, Crown Close, Mountbatten Drive.

13. Cemetery & trees.

13.1 Black flag in hand.

Completed and held by Councillor Cropp.

13.2 Wild flower seeds.

Sown in the green burial area.

13.3 Car park sign.

Ready to be erected. M.Ward to contact Councillor Cropp to discuss position of sign.

13.4 Water issue.

Reported that the flow is very weak. Councillor Cropp will investigate.

13.5 New plants in all planters.

The plants had suffered with the weather conditions during the winter. All new plants had been purchased and planted. The bark is to be replenished.

13.6 Cemetery Transfer of EROB form. (*sent to councillors with agenda*)

A new legal document for the Transfer of EROB has been downloaded and used at a recent interment.

For your information.

Date	Interred	Chamber or plot
06.04.23	Beryl Reynolds	Chamber (double)
19.04.23	Keith Dawn	Burial
25.04.23	Geoffrey Long	Chamber
“”	Della Terrington	Burial
pending		
17.05.23	Freda Atkin	Chamber (double)
25.05.23	Michael Haddon	Burial
01.06.23	Raymond Allen	Burial

14. Defibrillators

All defibrillators are inspected monthly. No problems reported but two have been used. F & P. Manley have requested that the location of the defibrillator at 1 Maysfield Drive is included on the availability list.

15. Family Park & trees.

No problems reported. Inspection by RoSPA (*sent to councillors 11.05.23*) suggested that there could be insufficient ground clearance under the seat when fully loaded. The clerk will contact the installer. Some young horse chestnut trees are growing in the hedging. The Chairman will talk to D. England regarding the re-siting or removing of them.

16. Highways.

Discussion on the bollards at item 8.2 on the agenda and noted in the County Council report.

17. Memorials & noticeboards.

No problems reported. The noticeboard in The Chase still needs the top board with ‘Leverington Parish Council’ shown. No decision made.

18. Village sign

Request for the Village sign to have the seating as minutes 22.22.22, item 10. It was reported that there is seating around the sign.

19. Public footpaths (not pavements)

No problems reported although the paths are quite muddy.

20. Playground

- There were no highlighted problems shown in the RoSPA report. Wendy Neale suggests a meeting with S & S Club to see if any solution can be found with reference to the Disability Discrimination. A meeting will be organised when Councillor Edghill is available.
- The Council may have a piece of turf for the playground gateway.
- The new sign is with Councillor Ward and ready for erection. The sign has the Council mobile number, the same as reporting street light faults and not the clerk’s personal number.
- The quote for the recycled plastic picnic tables was sent to councillors 11.05.23. The Council resolved to purchase the picnic tables and ask R H Developments to remove the old ones and install the new.

21. Street Lights

No problems reported.

22. Police meetings

No update on any meeting.

23. Website

Still some updates required.

24. Development planning applications.

Applications since the last meeting.

Development from 1st April 2023

F/YR23/0057/F

Query from the Parish Assembly with reference to high fence.

This is the planning application for Six Ringers. This plan has not yet been passed.

The application does not even show a fence only says site boundary to garden for residents

ref: F/YR23/0254/TRCA 28 March 2023

Works to 1no Beech tree within a Conservation Area at Beechwood 55 Dowgate

Road Leverington Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 5DJ

An application for works to trees within a Conservation Area has been received in respect of the above. *Council comment: No objections*

ref: F/YR23/0330/F 20 April 2023

Erect a dwelling (2-storey 5-bed) at Land East Of Bank House Church End

Leverington Cambridgeshire

An application for planning permission has been received in respect of the above.

Council comment: No documentation on line.

ref: F/YR23/0321/F 21 April 2023

Erect a dwelling (single-storey 2-bed) with integral single garage at Land North 120

Leverington Common Accessed Via Hawthorne Gardens Leverington

Cambridgeshire

An application for planning permission has been received in respect of the above.

Council comment:

1) Private Road as such no right of access to rear of 120 Leverington Common

) Entrance to Hawthorne Gardens not completed

Access road 1.5 metres short

Leverington Common Pavement Damaged and Cannot be repaired until access road completed

3) Will impinge on Resident Privacy

4) All deliveries to site would cause irreparable damage to road surface. Any repairs would cost residents great cost.

5) Would involve removing part of fence which belongs to residents.

Also crossing verges and garden which is common property of all residents

5) Entrance would be within 2 metres of Garage and Drive belonging to number 6

6) To remove Fence or Hedging would contravene deeds as residents are not permitted to remove said items under terms of deeds

7) Residents have a management company that is responsible for general upkeep of Road and bordering shrubbery and fencing. The road remains unadopted.

8) Roadway not wide enough to take heavy construction or delivery traffic. Such traffic would cause noise pollution and generate disturbances to residents.

9) This is infill and totally not suitable for such a small parcel of land.

10) Having looked at 120 Leverington Common it has enough land to use as shared access if plan was to go ahead.

11) It is noted that numbers 3 and 5 Donington Park PE13 5EF have not been consulted even though proposed development overlooks their properties and will block light from their gardens during afternoon and evenings especially Summertime.

PARISH COUNCIL RECOMMENDS REFUSING APPLICATION

ref: F/YR23/0328/F 25 April 2023

Erect a first-floor rear extension and insert 2 windows to first-floor side elevation of

existing dwelling at Jonileen 35 Church Road Leverington Wisbech Cambridgeshire

PE13 5DE

An application for planning permission has been received in respect of the above.

Council comment: No objections

ref: F/YR23/0341/F 26 April 2023

Erect a 2-storey side extension to existing dwelling including demolition of detached garage at Starkholme 36 Gorefield Road Leverington Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 5AS

An application for planning permission has been received in respect of the above.

Council comment: No objections

25. Close of Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Items for the next agenda need to be with the clerk by 19th June.

Next meeting 27th June 2023.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT TO LEVERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

County Council meeting 16/5/23

The Conservative group has submitted two motions for today's Full Council meeting.

Highways

The first is to demand action on highways. In 22/23 the highway maintenance total was £31.928m. The Inflation estimate from highways officers was £1.545m, therefore in 23/24 £33.473m was needed just to keep pace. However the total allocated was only £32.763m which represents a £710k cut in real terms.

Savings proposal

A second Conservative group motion is to compare the Liberal Democrat and Labour proposed bus route with one that which delivers a saving in the region of £180m and which does not destroy an ancient orchard.

Little Dowgate

I have had a complaint that all the drains on Little Dowgate are blocked and I have had this response from the local highway officer:

"Order Raised"

Leverington Rd

As all the signs on Leverington Rd from Harecroft Rd to Dowgate Rd are obscured by bushes and trees growing on the verge, I have had this response from the local highway officer: *"Will get this done"*

Seafeld Rd

I have had a complaint about the footpath on Seafeld Rd. I have had this response from the local highway officer:

"Same condition as Perry Road and will be done at same time as Perry Road. This has gone to the Asset Planning Manager so not sure of time scales"

Hawthorn Grdns

I have had a complaint about the footpath and I am awaiting a response from the Highway Development Manager

Rising Sun, Dowgate pothole

As I had a complaint about the pothole that was filled opposite the Rising Sun pub that had lifted in two days, I have had this response from the local highway officer:

"Yes will get contractor to return"

Dowgate Rd trees

As I have had repeated requests that the owners of the trees overhanging the footpath be invoiced, for the tree work, I have had this response from the local highway officer:

"Not on this occasion as we did not send 3 x letters out as per procedure, as we had footway works in the location already planned the trees were trimmed whilst we were there to utilise the traffic management"

DISCUSSION ITEM ONE Bank Drive/ Walsingham Court bollards

As I have had another request that the bollards on Bank Drive/ Walsingham Court be removed, I have had this response from the local highway officer:

"If these are removed then the barriers the other end will need to be removed and these were installed I assume to stop mopeds etc being driven through"

DISCUSSION ITEM TWO LHI update

I have received this from the Design Engineer

"In regard to whether the extra repeaters are legally required it's a difficult one to answer as technically there is a series of streetlighting within the area, however the stance we took for the Leverington Common LHI was that due to the lack of overall quality in street lighting, it would make sense to utilise repeaters which we did. I would argue that we would need to follow suit for this section, so it matches up with the Leverington Common section to keep it consistent."

In terms of using existing posts out on site, we could, however I have only been able to locate two suitable existing locations and if we were to use these, it would somewhat throw out the set spacing of the repeaters. The savings would also be minimal. I am still awaiting the updated disconnection cost, which I have chased today. We are also still undertaking consultation/advertisement on the speed limit change.

We have been in discussions as to the contribution amount for this scheme and we are happy to up CCC's overall contribution to £10,000 as long as the Parish provides the minimum 10% contribution (£1,000) meaning we would have a budget of £11,000 for this scheme. If the scheme was to come in under the £10,000, we would charge whatever 10% would be on that cost. In the same respect if the scheme came in over £10,000, we would expect the Parish to fund the remainder (very unlikely that this will occur).

Could you please let me know how to proceed with this one? The scheme is currently in consultation which will end on the 31st May."

Leverington Gateway(s)

Please let me know how I can help with this.

S.King