

MINUTES OF ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Held in the Gordon Woolhouse Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall on Wednesday 20th April 2022 starting at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Sian Wombwell, Cllr Terry Sadler, Cllr Tim Pavelin, Cllr Liz Gibson, Cllr Simon Cheney, Cllr Lucy Davidson, Leanne Smith (Clerk)

Edmund Harcourt (Ickleton Cricket Club)

189/21-22 To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies received ahead of the meeting from Cllr Steven Heaney, Cllr Philly Hamilton and District & County Cllr Peter McDonald.

190/21-22 Councillors Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda & Requests for Dispensation

Cllr Pavelin – agenda item 201/21-22.

191/21-22 Open Forum for Public Participation Including Youth Representation

None.

192/21-22 To approve minutes of meeting held on 16th March 2022

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2022 are approved and signed by the Chair.

193/21-22 Matters Arising/Clerk's report

Parish Council Elections 2022:

The following persons were duly elected Parish Councillors for Ickleton without a contest:

Sian Wombwell

Simon Cheney

Terry Sadler

Tim Pavelin

Philippa Hamilton

Steven Heaney

Therefore, three positions are vacant that can be filled by co-option at the next Parish Council meeting on the 18th of May 2022. Interested persons should contact the Clerk for more information.

194/21-22 Defibrillator check

Defibrillator check carried out by the Clerk on 20th April 2022.

195/21-22 Traffic and Highways Issues

i. Speedwatch

Casualty Reduction and Neighbourhood Team Officers from Cambridgeshire Constabulary recently joined the Ickleton Speedwatch Team for a session.

ii. Local Highways Initiative 2022-23 bid

The bid for funding to enable three village gateways to be installed in the Parish was unsuccessful. The Parish Council noted that the bid by Duxford Parish Council for the introduction of a 20mph speed limit was also unsuccessful. ACTION – Cllr Sadler to contact Duxford Parish Council.

196/21-22 Rural Crime Report

Bail stacks were recently set alight in Whittlesford and Duxford.

Parishioners are reminder to be vigilant with regard to the possibility of diesel and oil theft due to the increase in value.

The dog bin set alight on Brookhampton Street has been replaced.

197/21-22 Reports from County and District Councillors

Report received ahead of the meeting from Cllr Peter McDonald and circulated to Parish Councillors. See Appendix A.

198/21-22 Correspondence Received

i. Cereals event - Robert law Farm, Chrishall Grange 8 - 9 June 2022

The 2022 Cereals event near Chrishall Grange, Cambridgeshire will be held on Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th June 07:00 – 18:00 hrs. A routing and parking system will be in place for visitors this

year to reduce the impact of the event traffic on local residents and commuting traffic. Cambridgeshire County Council are issuing Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders authorising one-way systems and speed restrictions on certain roads for the two days of the event and for the build-up and breakdown period of the event which extends from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 12th June. Noted by the Parish Council.

ii. **Cambridgeshire County Council – No mow May**

Plantlife are running the No Mow May campaign and Cambridgeshire Highways are supporting the campaign and will not be cutting any highway verges during the month of May. The Parish Council supports the campaign and were astonished to see verges in the Parish mowed earlier this month. ACTION – contact to be made with County Council Highways, the County and District Councillor and Plantlife.

iii. **Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group East – Funded pond conservation project**

Funding is available for restoring old ponds and digging new ponds in certain parts of Cambridgeshire which fall into strategic areas for great crested newts. Ickleton parish qualifies for this funding as some of the land around the village is deemed to be especially suitable habitat for bolstering and connecting existing populations of this endangered species. The Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group is seeking landowners who are prepared to dig or restore wildlife ponds on their land. More information can be found at www.fwageast.org.uk and landowners interested in the project can obtain contact details from the Clerk.

iv. **Cambridgeshire County Council – Transport strategy stakeholder engagement survey**

The Transport Strategy team at Cambridgeshire County Council has been developing transport strategies that will set the County Council's transport policy approach for the county. A stakeholder engagement survey will be sent to all parish councils across the county, along with other identified key stakeholders, which will be live between 9th May to 19th June 2022.

v. **Parishioner, Birds Close – dog fouling**

Report of animal fouling in a private garden on Birds Close. Noted by the Parish Council. ACTION – Clerk to offer advice about deterring animals from coming in the garden.

199/21-22 **Planning Information**

i. **For consideration**

Reference: **22/00970/FUL**

Proposal: Installation of a modular housing unit to be used for demonstration purposes only at company offices.

Site address: Abbey Barns, The Courtyard, Duxford Road, Ickleton.

This application expired before the Parish Council meeting and the Planning Officer was unable to grant an extension. Therefore, the Parish Council did not comment on the application.

Reference: **22/01388/LBC**

Proposal: Listed building consent for woodworm treatment to timber structure in cellar, making good works for alterations and upgrades to mechanical and electrical services, lifting of floorboards, new bathroom and internal alterations.

Site address: 18 Church Street, Ickleton, CB10 1SL.

The Parish Council unanimously supports this application.

ii. **Planning Decisions**

Reference: **22/00362/FUL**

Proposal: Construction of new boundary wall/fence to enclose garden land and the creation of a pedestrian access point in existing wall to allow the erection of a pedestrian gate.

Site address: Dove Barn, Butchers Hill, Ickleton, Saffron Walden

Granted permission. Noted by the Parish Council.

Reference: **22/00185/HFUL**

Proposal: Single-storey rear infill extension

Site address: 108 Frogge Street, Ickleton, CB10 1SH

Granted permission. Noted by the Parish Council.

Reference: **22/00597/PRIOR**

Proposal: Change of use of agricultural building to dwelling house (use class C3) and associated operational development.

Site address: Rectory Farm, Grange Road, Ickleton, Saffron Walden

Prior approval refused. Noted by the Parish Council.

Reference: **22/0218/TTCA**

Proposal: S211 Tree Works. 5 Day notice. Laburnum damaged during storm- Fell

Site address: 1 Mill Lane, Ickleton, Saffron Walden, Cambridgeshire

Have no objection to. Noted by the Parish Council.

Reference: **22/0251/TTCA**

Proposal: 5 Day notice Ash - reduce to standing monolith to be retained for habitat by removing all the main branches back to stem. To leave trunk standing at 9 metres. Works required to make the tree safe following the intense storms.

Site address: 29 Frogge Street, Ickleton, Saffron Walden, CB10 1SH

Have no objection to. Noted by the Parish Council.

iii. **Planning Appeals**

None.

iv. **Tree Works**

Reference: **22/0437/TTCA**

Proposal: 2 X ASH in rear garden - Shorten lateral spread above garage roof by approx. 3m and shape into remainder of canopy. Shorten over-extended limb in middle crown on house side by approx 3m and shape into remainder of canopy. COLLAPSED WILLOW - Coppice on all sides.

Site address: The River House, Church Street, Ickleton, Saffron Walden.

Noted by the Parish Council.

200/21-22 Reports from Councillors

Cllr Cheney:

Conducted a visit to residents on Abbey Street in relation to the installation of verge posts. ACTION – Clerk to contact Dominic Pallett regarding the installation to allow for vehicles doors to open.

Has made contact with parishioners regarding the planting of commemorative trees on the recreation ground.

Cllr Gibson:

Attended the Duxford Neighbours' Forum at the Imperial War Museum on the 6th of April 2022. Reported that IWM are open to visitors at full capacity after covid restrictions. Planning permission is now in place for the hotel and talks with the hotelier are ongoing over dates. The Executive Director of Operations and Commerce left IWM in February and a new Executive Director is currently being recruited.

Cllr Sadler:

Requested that inclusion of information only planning applications at Parish Council meetings is discussed at the May 2022 Parish Council meeting.

A representative from Urban and Civic will attend the Annual Parish Meeting on the 4th of May 2022 to report on the Wellcome Genome Campus expansion.

Cllr Wombwell:

Around 25 parishioners visited the Cemetery Chapel during the open afternoon on Sunday 17th of April. There is wood worm in need of treating in the Chapel. Action – Clerk to obtain quotes and consider grants for funding. Cllr Wombwell proposed that the Chapel chairs are disposed of due to the wood worm and other Councillors were in agreement.

The Churchyard gates need replacing. For further discussion at the May 2022 Parish Council meeting.

The Parochial Church Council would like to collaborate with the Parish Council to carry out an eco-carbon audit in the parish. The Councillors were supportive of the initiative.

Cam Valley Forum have reported in a recent newsletter that the stretch of river near to the parish is clean with wildlife such as otters, water voles and nesting kingfishers spotted, and they are confident that mink have been eradicated. New housing developments approved by Uttlesford District Council at Great Chesterford are of concern.

201/21-22 Financial Matters

i. **To approve payments of April 2022 accounts**

Clerk's salary (confidential)

Clerk's expenses – £57.50

Tim Pavelin (empty bins) - £100.00

Red Shoes Accounting Services (Payroll) - £45.00

Cambridge Conservation Volunteers (Coploe Pit) - £38.26

The following payments were received after the agenda was published and brought to the meeting for consideration:

Ickleton Village Hall (Room hire) - £66.00

The Parish Council considered making a donation to the Cambridge Conservation Volunteers in addition to the invoice. Cllr Sadler proposed, Cllr Wombwell seconded and it was resolved that a total payment of £55.00 would be made.

It was resolved that all payments listed be made.

ii. Bank reconciliation (bank accounts)

Unity Current Account - £11,797.08

Unity Instant Access Account - £25,103.28

Total - £36,900.36

It was resolved that the bank reconciliation for April 2022 is approved by the Parish Council.

iii. Bank reconciliation (cash card)

Total - £165.04

It was resolved that the bank reconciliation for April 2022 is approved by the Parish Council.

iv. Year end budget review

Noted by the Parish Council. No matters raised. The Clerk noted that income was received in the form of a grant for the outdoor table tennis project but was not spent in the last financial year.

v. Review recreation field pitch hire fees

It was resolved that the fees charged to Whittlesford Warriors FC would remain at £250.00 per season for use by the under 11 and under 16 teams for the purpose of match playing and training next season.

Ickleton Phoenix FC have not responded to the Clerk regarding use of the pitch for the next season. Therefore, the Clerk will approach other teams who made enquires about pitch hire last year. The Parish Council considered fees for the next season. Cllr Wombwell proposed, Cllr Davidson seconded and it was resolved that £150.00 would be charged for match playing only. Cllr Wombwell proposed, Cllr Pavelin seconded and it was resolved that £200.00 would be charged for match playing and training on one occasion per week.

Cllr Sadler proposed, Cllr Wombwell seconded and it was resolved that the current arrangements for pitch hire with the Cricket Team would remain the same next season.

The Cricket Club Chair Edmund Harcourt attended the meeting to raise a few matters with the Parish Council to be discussed at the May 2022 Parish Council meeting.

vi. Quote for repair to play area swing mats

Quote requested but not provided to date. To be carried over to the May 2022 Parish Council meeting.

vii. Blood donation session – Ickleton Village Hall

At the November 2021 meeting the Parish Council resolved to donate £100.00 to Ickleton Village Hall for blood donation sessions for a maximum of four times a year and to be reviewed annually.

A session was held in March 2022. Cllr Pavelin proposed, Cllr Wombwell seconded and it was resolved that a donation of £100.00 would be made for that session.

202/21-22 Recreation Field and Play Area

i. Outdoor table tennis project

A second quote for groundworks was requested but not provided. It was therefore resolved that the table and equipment would be purchased and installed with consideration for groundworks to be made at a later date. The Clerk reported that the cost of the table and accessories has increased. Cllr Cheney proposed, Cllr Wombwell seconded and it was resolved that up to £1,000.00 would be spent on the purchase of the table and accessories. ACTION – Clerk to make purchase.

203/21-22 Cemetery extension

It was resolved that letters would be sent to landowners regarding the cemetery extension.

204/21-22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 18th May 2022

Any business and payments to be considered at the Parish Council Meeting must be delivered to the Clerk for inclusion on the agenda at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.43pm

Appendix A

Report for Parish Councils – April 2022

South Cambs District Council

Supporting people from Ukraine seeking refuge

Both South Cambs District and Cambs County Council are helping to coordinate efforts locally to support people seeking refuge from the war in Ukraine. The SCDC website contains practical information on what you can do:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/support-for-ukraine/>

Cambs County Council's information includes a useful FAQ:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities-localism/support-for-the-people-of-ukraine.>

Zero Carbon Grants

South Cambridgeshire's community groups can now bid for a share of more than £120,000 from the District Council's popular Zero Carbon Communities Grant scheme.

The scheme, now in its fourth year, has so far provided £310,000 to 51 grassroots projects that work to tackle climate change in South Cambridgeshire. The deadline to apply for the latest round of grants is Wednesday 1 June 2022. This year, groups in South Cambridgeshire can apply for between £1,000 and to £15,000 from the District Council's total pot of £120,544. The process has been simplified to aid applicants, with applications invited under two categories.

The first category is for projects which reduce carbon emissions or lock up carbon in a measurable way such as low carbon, energy saving improvements to community buildings, or tree-planting initiatives. The second category is for community engagement projects which support and encourage lower carbon living. Read full eligibility criteria and ideas for projects.

The money for Zero Carbon Communities grants comes from business rates from renewable energy sites, like solar farms, in South Cambridgeshire that the Council retains and earmarks for use in green initiatives like this. Parish councils and non-profit groups or organisations that are based in the district can apply. Other groups, such as social enterprises and community interest companies can apply as part of a partnership led by a parish council or not-for-profit group. Groups can apply to the grant scheme online.

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/zerocarbongrant>

South Cambs Audit of 2018/19 Accounts

The audit of Accounts for 2018/19 is here:

<https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s126682/Full%20SOA%20V1.0.pdf>

This is the audit opinion:

https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s126680/South%20Cambridgeshire%20DC_2018-19_ARR%2029%20Mar22%20final.pdf

Cambridgeshire County Report

Biodiversity Initiative

A scheme which will help increase the county's biodiversity and support the development of new homes, businesses and infrastructure was approved by Cambridgeshire County Council's Strategy and Resources Committee (29 March). Under the Environment Act 2021, the biodiversity of an area resulting from new developments must exceed the pre-development biodiversity value by at least 10 per cent - known as Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). This should be provided onsite, but if that isn't possible it must be provided offsite, close to the development and within the local planning authority area. Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Biodiversity Special Planning Document, adopted in February 2022, says that they expect to require developers to deliver 20 per cent BNG.

Under the new scheme, developers who are unable to meet BNG requirements on sites in the South Cambridgeshire area will be able to secure biodiversity units from the Lower Valley Farm BNG scheme in Fulbourn.

The 358-acre farm, which is part of the council's 33,000-acre rural estate, has been identified as the ideal site for the scheme as it is located within the Cambridge Nature Network and lies adjacent to the Roman Road Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). It will also act as a stepping stone to other surrounding SSSIs, supporting habitat connectivity across the landscape from Trumpington Meadows through to Wilbraham Fen.

Cambridge-based Bidwells have helped establish the scheme and will oversee its implementation. The currently arable land will be converted to biodiverse habitats including botanically diverse grassland, native broadleaved woodland, scrub and species-rich hedgerows. The Lower Valley Farm BNG scheme will go beyond BNG requirements by providing public footpaths and opportunities for education. Developers will secure units through an Option Agreement which will commit the council to delivering the associated habitat creation and management for a 30-year period.

Highways Additional Spending

Highway Maintenance is at the early stage of transformation that given the breadth and scale of the maintenance service delivered is a big change. It could take time to produce results on the roads and outside people's front doors. Investment in two aspects of the Highways Maintenance Service would achieve faster sustainable change with immediate visible benefits to our road users, businesses and residents.

The two aspects are;

1. Getting it right for our Customers today.

On the ground action where our residents want it.

- Removing the potholes – a programme of planned patching carried out this spring and summer to properly fix pothole hotspots in and around village and town centres. This would remove the patchwork quilt of multiple repeat visits having an immediate noticeable impact within our community centres. £400k
 - Listening to our customers – Clean out our Report It tool and get back to our Report It customers. This would show we listen and feedback by providing a resource to monitor and respond to the enquiries ahead of implementation of a new up-to-date system (the current is around 15 years old). £50k
 - Safe and dry – record, quantify, investigate flooding cause and implement an increased programme of highways flood hotspots to remove more of the risks of surface water on our roads. The programme would target those locations that also cause issues within the communities affecting businesses and properties. £400k
 - Clear and Safe – improve the lines and road markings across the rural network. This would make driving our roads at night and in bad weather safer by providing the markings to support our road users. A targeted programme to deal with routes between towns and villages. £250k
- Total investment £1,100,000.

The proposed levels of investment are scalable. The suggested investment would provide visible impactful improvement on the ground across the whole county. Scaling up would increase visibility of impact and down would reduce it.

Deliverability – We can engage with a range of supply chain partners to confidently deliver by Autumn.

Key is keeping it simple and focused. We have supply chain partners other than Milestone accessible via Local Council Roads Innovation Group framework of which we are a member.

Communications – To maximise the impact delivery would include communications through our normal channels to draw residents’ attention to this extra investment.

2. Keeping it right for our customers tomorrow

Transforming at pace to achieve the sustainable change we need for the future

- Upskilling our Highway Safety Inspectors - a programme of training and education to ensure this area of service is achieving the most it can. Benefit to the public are safer roads and better value for money. Council benefit is less risk from third party claims. £30k.
- Local Highways Officer Review – Revamping the role to focus on community and customer needs ahead of the wider Highways Maintenance Restructure. £40k
- Highways workforce and succession – contribution to support the implementation and development of an accelerated apprenticeship/graduate/intern programme to bring forward a new cohort of staff into the Highways workforce during 2022 and 2023. £50k
- New Asset Management System – support to accelerate the commissioning and implementation of the system. Could reduce the implementation time from 18 months to 12 years by providing the one-off set up resources. £100k.
- Intelligent data – implement the latest survey data collection technology and use it to make better decisions on where to do what and achieve better outcomes for the public and for value for money we invest into our highways assets. £60k.
- Baselining our Highways Service – a project to baseline the carbon in the ownership and management of our highways assets to raise Climate awareness and understanding across the service and provide the base from which to start our service journey to net zero. £50k
- Capacity to change at pace – one-off resource to support the transformation of the service. Capacity to get move the change tasks forward at speed. £60k.

Total Investment = £390,000

These are all one-off investments to accelerate the transformation of the highways maintenance service. They all bring forward key parts of the overall service system that will support better delivery into the future and help ensure the highways service is contributing to our climate change objectives.

Rail User Group AGM

The Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group meeting will take place on April 20, 7:30-8:30PM, via Teams – please contact railusergroup@gmail.com for the joining link. The meeting will kick off with a brief AGM and then move to all the business that the Rail User Group is actively pursuing, first and foremost encouraging take up public transport to help boost ridership figures – which is needed in order to bring the full half-hourly service back into play.

Thakeham

New donation of £75k made to the Tory Party autumn 2021 taking total to £716k.

Peter McDonald

April 6th 2022