

**Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council Meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at  
8.00pm in the Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, Cambridgeshire,  
SG8 5RY.**

Present:	Chairman	L Ginger
	Councillors	R Scott, A Birch, N Strudwick, A Milton & J Hart
	Parish Clerk	A Bridges
	District Councillor	P Hart
	Members of the Public	One

**1.0 Apologies for Absence** –, Parish Councillor Will Elbourn, District Councillor J Hales (attending another meeting) and County Councillor S van de Ven.

**2.0 Approval of minutes – to resolve that the minutes from the Parish Council meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were a correct record – Resolved:** the minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

**3.0 Receiving Declarations of Interest from Councillors on items on the agenda** – none.

**4.0 Reports from Clerk and Councillors – to receive verbal updates about progress on resolutions and actions from previous Parish Council meetings:**

- The meeting started by reporting that online banking for the Parish Council would be explored again when new signatories are confirmed.
- The Village Plan will commence in 2021.
- The telephone box on Meldreth Road is now owned by the Parish Council and residents are invited to offer suggestions for its new use.
- The village litter pick had been agreed to take place on the morning of Easter Saturday which is the 11<sup>th</sup> April.
- It was confirmed that a second MVAS unit would be purchased after the Parish Council is informed of the result of the LHI bid.
- The new dog waste bin request, situated by St Mary's Close, has been acknowledged by SCDC and the Clerk is awaiting a response. Action: Clerk to contact SCDC once again.
- County Broadband had requested to come to the Parish Council meeting to discuss their plans. The Chair reported that as the agenda had already been set, it would be more appropriate to come to the next PC meeting in April or the Annual Parish Meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**5.0 Reports from District and County Councillors:**

### **5.1 District Councillor**

- Cllr P Hart was asked about the large numbers of potholes on local roads and she confirmed that the budget remained as restricted as before.
- Cllr Strudwick spoke of the public footpath that runs through Bassingbourn Barracks, which is likely to be closed in the future. He reported that this would be discussed further with Cllr van de Ven.

**6.0 Public Participation** – the member of the public had asked Cllr Hart before the meeting began about the overdue decision on the planning application for the church roof.

### **7.0 Correspondence & Complaints –**

- Hyperfast fibre network information – County Broadband (11/2/2020).
- Planning delegations update after Planning Committee information – SCDC (12/2/2020). Cllr P Hart spoke of the large numbers of referrals requested by some Parish Councils and that the changes to planning would hope reduce these and speed up the service.
- Highway project application information – CCC (12/2/2020).
- Bedford to Cambridge Community events information – East West Railway (13/2/2020).
- Telephone kiosk completion of Parish Council adoption – BT (18/2/2020).
- Cambridge ACRE membership renewal request – ACRE (25/2/2020). It was agreed that this should be continued.
- Planning delegation update – CCC (27/2/2020).
- Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail Partnership AGM invite – S Van de Ven (28/2/2020).
- Email from resident in Dyers Green concerning internet speed and tree damaged cables (2/3/2020). The Cllrs discussed whose responsibility it was to reduce the height of the trees which could affect BT lines and it was agreed that BT would prune trees if the need occurred. This was partly because there are power cables alongside, which could render it dangerous to work in their near vicinity.
- There had been correspondence from two residents of Ridgeway Close in the last week concerning the lack of parking for the Close. It was agreed that the garages were in a poor state and should be surveyed and possibly demolished to create more parking space. However, this is the responsibility of SCDC and the comments had been forwarded by The chair to Cllr Hales.

**8.0 Planning meetings and updates:** none

### **9.0 Finance:**

#### **9.1 Approval of payments to be signed today:**

- Staff wages – £457.94 (including back dated pay scale adjustment from April 2019).

- Cllr Joanne Hart – plants for Meldreth Railway station sponsored flower tub - £28.73 (reissued cheque as previous cheque written in different name).

Payments approved to avoid late payment:

- CAPALC membership and data protection membership scheme - £316.05
- 9.2** Bank reconciliation approval
- 9.3** Charitable donation – this was agreed to be £100 to the Royston and District Community Transport Scheme.
- 9.4** Appointment of internal auditor – for the Annual Return for financial year 2019/20 – approved.

**10.0 Annual review of risk assessment for the Parish Council** – the document was read and reviewed and was agreed by all to be up to date and appropriate. Cllr Strudwick offered to amend the date on the document to clarify that it had been reviewed (a pdf file).

Cllr Scott described the large amount of broken glass that was in some hedgerows and it was agreed that volunteers on the litter pick would have litter picks and suitable gloves and would be reminded to be cautious.

**11.0 Re-election of Trustee to the Palmer Trust** – It was agreed by all that Helen Strudwick could continue her role in the Trust and she was thanked for her work.

**12.0 Whaddon Village Hall & Recreation Ground Trust – verbal update:**

- Cllr Birch told the meeting that the WIFI equipment had been supplied to the hall and the handyman would make a small box to keep the equipment out of harm's way. The WIFI is not live yet.
- Rose Fire and Security completed their checks on the village hall and some fire extinguishers and lights had been replaced.
- Cllr Birch then discussed the garage behind the village hall and said that there was some confusion as to who would lead on the proposed improvements. It was suggested that as the Trust own the garage, they should pay for that work and that the cricket club's store should be paid for by the cricket club. The work should be undertaken together as one project but the costs apportioned appropriately. The notional estimate for all of the work was approximately £21,000.
- Cllr Birch confirmed that she was now a signatory on the Trusts accounts.
- There will be another Race Night on June 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Cllr Birch lastly spoke of the idea that new residents should have a welcome pack when they move to the village. Cllr Strudwick agreed that this was a good idea, but this should be the responsibility of the PC. It was agreed that this needed to be on the April PC meeting agenda.

**13.0 Annual Parish Meeting** – the Chair spoke of the speakers that would be invited to the Annual Meeting which included, County Broadband, The Palmer

Trust, the Church and the District and County Councillors. This is on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 8pm.

**14.0 'Three Free Trees' voucher from SCDC** – The Chair spoke of the suggestions offered by the Tree Officer and it was agreed that native Silver Birches would be chosen. The member of the public asked if there would be any more tree planting alongside the recreation ground, but it was felt that any tree would struggle to survive due to the honey fungus which was present.

**15.0 Village Upkeep and Maintenance - reporting of upkeep or maintenance issues and agreement of actions:** none.

**16.0 Items for next meeting** – welcome pack for new residents.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.**

**Date of next meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm in the back room of the village hall.**