

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CONEY WESTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2017**

PRESENT: Councillors: B. Hogg (chair), P. Clarke, C. Flood, D. Haycock, J. Ladell, C. Pelling, D. Stewardson, County Cllr. J. Spicer Borough Cllr. A. Smith, R. Jay (Clerk). In attendance: Revd. D Messer and three members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence - none

2. Cllr Hogg welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed that the scheme of public speaking was operative; no requests to speak were made.

3. Declarations of interest: none

4. The draft minutes of the last meeting (21st June 2017) were approved as issued.

5.1 Revd D. Messer addressed the meeting to discuss the protocols to be observed in the event of the death of a senior member of the Royal Family.

5.2 County Cllr. Spicer regretted the lack of progress regarding traffic calming measures for Rushford road, the highways engineering post remains unfilled for this area north of the A14 trunk road. Several local flood relief schemes are currently in progress; expect significant disruption when the Street is finally tackled. The County Council are considering changes to the school bus services for 2019; a public consultation will be announced soon as Coney Weston pupils are currently entitled to free transport to schools in Ixworth and Thurston. It was suggested that this could feature on the November meeting agenda.

5.3 Borough Cllr. Smith confirmed that the consultation for the unification of St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath councils is complete. This may go ahead from May 2019 if ratified. A decision to site the new waste hub has been deferred until December. The scheme to create additional car-parking spaces near the playing-field has revealed that ownership of the 'green square' is held by the County Council, some dwellings are in private hands and others are managed by the Havebury Housing Assn. At this point item 7.1 was brought forward. Following further discussion, it was resolved by unanimous vote to cease work on this project, the S106 fund is secure and without any time limit for uptake on other schemes.

OPEN FORMAL PC MEETING: Matters arising for discussion (members progress reports)

6.1 Vehicle activated speed sign: The latest presentation of data was approved; the results will be posted on the website. One location near Hall Farm appears to collect data from outside the controlled area, this position will not be re-activated until a solution is found. Battery charging problems are resolved. It was agreed to trim seasonal foliage growth back in front of some affected limit signs; A volunteer is assisting Cllrs. Clarke & Pelling. PC & CP

6.2 Highways: The faults remaining after recent surface dressing are now marked for repairs, which are expected to begin within 3-4 weeks.

B. Hogg Chair

R. Jay Clerk

- 6.3** Renovation of fence & footway: The leaning fence and pavement cracks have been inspected and categorised by the County Council; the path will be regularly monitored for further deterioration, progress action with the County Council will be taken as required. BH
- 6.4** Hedges & Footways policy: Recent follow up action has generally been acted upon by landowners, three recent written requests to cut overgrown hedges await action. Clerk
An unresolved issue of unkept and unoccupied land owned by the Borough Council between Nos. 2 and 3 Rushford road was noted; a request to get the site cleared will be taken up with our Borough Cllr.
- 6.5** Street lighting improvements: A complete survey of the luminaires has revealed five that require attention. BH
- 6.6** Grass cutting & strimming contract: Quotes will be obtained to enable a decision to award the contract at the November meeting. Clerk

MATTERS FOR DECISION:

- 7.1** S106- Car-parking for playing field: See minute 5.3 above.
- 7.2** S106- Provision of exercise/activity equipment: The provision of youth/adult activity items was considered at length, with so many options available and the specific need unidentified, it was resolved to generate a questionnaire for delivery to every household. The project is likely to need grant and/or Lottery funding support to make it viable. A working group of four councillors was activated. The prospect of using the S106 funding for repair or replacement of the Village Hall roof received mention, it will feature on the next agenda. BH, CF, DS and JL
- 7.3** Emergency Plan: After a very detailed review, questions remain regarding insurance cover for certain activities plus the nomination of volunteers and their resources. It was resolved that Cllrs. Clarke & Pelling will work further on a simplified version; meanwhile only contact details for Clerk and Councillors will be published.
- 7.4** WiFi in the Village Hall: Costs established at £51.48 per month (£617p.a) It was considered that additional lettings would not provide enough extra income for the Hall management committee to accept the cost for a two - year contract.
- 7.5** Refresher training on Defibrillator use: It was resolved to fund one session of continuation training subject to availability of a trainer. PC
- 7.6** Standing orders amendment: It was resolved to accept the addition of paragraph 4e, which formalises the use of Working Groups to progress projects between formal Parish Council meetings.

FINANCE:

- 8.1** Year To date finance report confirmed a balance at bank of £11902. Remaining budgeted expenditure allocated is £5064 leaving a forecast reserve fund of: - £6838.
- 8.2** Payments were authorised for: (1) Admin expenses for July and August £36.96. (2) £40 plus vat for SALC briefings on changes to data protection legislation. (3) Council's annual insurance premium for a new five - years fixed price undertaking at £463.50 p.a.

B. Hogg Chair

R. Jay Clerk

9. Matters for the attention of council since publication of agenda: Suffolk Cloud have introduced a new template for the Council's website, which is brighter and more user friendly for Tablets and mobile phone use.

10. Date of the next meeting was agreed as Thursday 2nd November at 19:00hrs.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21:30hrs.

Chair B. Hogg

Clerk R. Jay

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