

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CONEY WESTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 4th JANUARY 2018**

PRESENT: Councillors: B. Hogg (Chair), P. Clarke, C. Flood, D. Haycock, J. Ladell, C. Pelling, D. Stewardson, Borough Cllr. A. Smith, R. Jay (Clerk). In attendance: Four 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: A request to resolve the repeated flooding of road and pavement in the Street outside 'Jasmine and the Old School House was made. It was stated that Hare Coursing is active again, the Police should be notified immediately if such activity is noted, it was suggested that a reference to this illegal activity should be added to the village website.

3. Declarations of interest: None.

4. The draft minutes of the last meeting (2nd November) were approved as a true record and signed by the chair and Clerk.

5.1 County Cllr's report:

5.2 Borough Cllr's Report: The vacant plot in Rushford road is now included in the regular landscape maintenance schedule of the Borough Council, in fact work to clear the pavement and overhanging growth has commenced. The proposed waste recycling hub to be built at the Hollow Farm site is now approved and is expected to be operational in August 2019. The roll-out of 'paperless' planning consultations is again being pursued by the borough Council. It may be possible to use the section 106 fund money for the Village Hall roof project, but permission must be sought from the Developer as the levy was collected specifically for outdoor leisure facilities.

It was noted that cars are being parked on the grass verges at each end of the layby opposite the bungalows in Thetford road, the spoiled landscape and mud is causing a nuisance and possible hazard to pedestrians where cars traverse the hardened footpath. Cllr Smith will liaise with the County Council and request an interest in the problem from Havebury Housing assn. it is hoped that a site meeting can be arranged.

OPEN FORMAL MEETING: Matters arising for discussion (members reports/actions)

6.1 Highways: No progress to report regarding Rushford Rd traffic calming measures. The decrepit finger post direction sign at the Norwich Ln/ Rushford Rd junction requires a complete replacement, plus a repair to the 'give way' sign; both reports have been acknowledged by the County Council. These issues will be progressed further. BH

6.2 Unkept land on Rushford Rd, see minute 5.2 above.

6.3 Data Protection: A secure area is set up and operating on the Parish Council web page. Final guidance from NALC is awaited. The council will meet on 11th January in closed session to progress further training and policy.

B. Hogg Chair

R. Jay Clerk

6.4 The V.A.S. sign in the Street has been successfully relocated, vehicle detection is now only within the 30mph restricted area. The latest dataset is on the website, results remain fairly consistent with earlier data. The Rushford Rd site readings have been submitted to the police for the inclusion of this site on a schedule for enforcement action in due course. Some problems with battery performance are being experienced; these will be addressed with the supplier without delay. CP, PC

6.5 Agenda items 6.5 and 6.8 were deferred to Matters for Decision below.

6.6 The construction beneath the corrugated iron covering on the Village Hall roof has been inspected, detailed quotations for re-covering can now be invited. BH, DS, CF, JL.

6.7 It was confirmed that mobile phone signal strength for O2 and Vodaphone users is satisfactory now that the new mast in Barningham has become operational, in addition a new mast north of Gasthorpe has been constructed. Outcomes for other users are to be assessed before the next annual village meeting.

MATTERS FOR DECISION:

7.1 Risk assessment and management audit: The revised pages one and two (previously circulated to members) were discussed in detail, approved for use and the audit completed.

7.2 The provisional operating budget for 2018/19 was reviewed; it was resolved to confirm the provisional figure set in Nov. of £6024 as the basis of the precept demand for next year.

7.3 The date for the Annual Village Meeting was confirmed as: - 19th April, the working party planning the event will report at the next Parish Council meeting in March CF, PC, DS.

7.4 Emergency Plan: following discussion, the motion to publish was passed with four in favour, two opposed and one abstention. The debate related to the simplified version recently submitted to the County co-ordinator; a caveat will be added advising that for certain activities, personal insurance cover for volunteers cannot be provided through the Parish Council policy. PC, CP.

Item 6.8 from the agenda was also debated at this time, it was resolved not to proceed further with the provision of either new or refresher- training to qualify First-Aid volunteers from within the community until adequate personal liability insurance cover can be provided. The motion was rejected by four votes to three.

7.5 Revised scheme for determination of Planning Consultations: It was resolved unanimously to continue the circulation of hard-copy plans to Cllrs, provided that all Cllrs indicate support, then the Clerk is empowered to respond; should any Cllr object to the application, a public meeting will be arranged to determine a response to higher authority.

FINANCE

8.1 To receive year to date finance report from RFO: Bank reconciliation confirmed that: -

Cash at bank = £10154

Budgeted expenditure allocated to 31 March 2018 = £3278

Forecast reserve (not allocated) = £6876

The forecast reserve was considered adequate to support activity and provide a contingency for any unforeseen costs resulting from the new General Data Protection Regulation coming into force during May 2018.

B. Hogg Chair

R. Jay Clerk

8.2 Cheques were authorised for signature as detailed below: -

- To St Edmundsbury borough Council – Playing-field landscaping service £741.60
- Administration costs for Sep & Oct to Clerk £11.43
- To SALC – payroll service £21.60
- Cllr C. Flood-Travel cost to website security training - £24.30
- SALC – Web admin (security) training course - £30
- Cllr P. Clarke – VAS sign maintenance & relocation materials - £ 16.49

9. Matters & correspondence for attention since publication of the agenda.

A verbal notification that the War Memorial is shortly to become a Listed structure was noted, this move is unlikely to restrict current refurbishment plans; the listing may well attract some grant aid.

10. Date of the next scheduled public meeting was confirmed as Thursday 6th March 2018.

A closed training meeting on data protection was arranged for 11th January 2018

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21:15hrs.

B. Hogg Chair

R. Jay Clerk