

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CONEY WESTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 5th JULY 2018**

PRESENT: Councillors: B. Hogg (Chair), P. Clarke, C. Flood, M. Gooderson, D. Haycock, J. Ladell, D. Stewardson, R. Jay (Clerk), County Cllr J. Spicer, Borough Cllr A. Smith and two members of public.

1. There were no apologies for absence
2. Declarations of interest: None
3. The draft minutes of the last meeting (31st May) had been pre-circulated; were taken as read, approved and signed.
4. Chair explained the scheme of public speaking: a request to speak on item 7.2 (low bollard in footpath joining Thetford Rd to Coles Path) was made; in addition, a complaint regarding overgrown hedges and unkept footpaths in various locations around the Parish was noted.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION BEGINS.

5.1 County Councillor's report: Plans have been accepted and cash allocated for the scheme to prevent flooding at the American War Memorial crossroads, work should commence during July. Plans to install traffic calming measures for the Rushford Rd junction have stalled because the road verges are too narrow for the safe installation of gates or posts. A road painting scheme together with the provision of additional signage if required, will be organised without undue delay. The latest arrangements for the future provision of free school transport were explained; the County Council have accepted option 2, which provides for free travel only to the nearest school. Chair enquired when repairs to pavement and safety rails on the top bend of Thetford Rd towards 'three ways junction' will be undertaken as the cracks now present a real hazard to pedestrians.

5.2 Borough Councillor's Report: The Old Victorian Post Office in the town centre is now owned by the borough, who will re-develop the site for Flats and some retail arcade style shopping. The Local Government boundary commission have published their findings, which largely met with local approval; it was requested that a letter be sent expressing support for the consultation proposals. Cllr Smith was thanked for his efforts to arrange the Dakota fly-past during the recent visit of 388th Bomb Group veterans to their World War Two airfield at Coney Weston.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CEASES

6 OPEN FORMAL P.C. MEETING: Matters arising for discussion (progress reports/actions)

6.1 Neighbourhood Watch Scheme: It was resolved to re-activate the scheme if possible by advertising on the website and in notice boards. CF

6.2 War Memorial renovation: A working party of three have already commenced activity on posts, chains and plinth; re-gilding of the stonework will follow as the final stage. It was agreed to plan a higher profile event for Remembrance Sunday in this centenary year with the aim of attracting even more participants. All

B. Hogg Chair

R. Jay Clerk

6.3 Bus Shelter repairs: Clerk had progressed this twice since the last meeting and reported that work should commence during week commencing 16th July.

6.4 A workplan of jobs for the proposed 'volunteer group' is to be presented at the next meeting; it was noted that volunteers for the tasks identified need to be insurable under the Parish council's current arrangements. BH, PC.

6.5 Consider a suitable date for 2019 Annual Village Meeting: Local Gov. and Parish Council elections are due on May 2nd 2019, followed on 9th May by the Annual Parish Council meeting; after discussion May 23rd was agreed as the most suitable date.

7.MATTERS FOR DECISION:

7.1 Land fronting Thetford Rd bungalows: Further to the earlier site meeting of County, Borough and Parish Officials where it was categorically stated that the County Highways administration would not contribute to an improvement scheme and identified further costs to survey services in the verge as a pre-requisite to any work being considered. The subsequent debate generated two motions. A: Consider a locally funding a solution to stop the verge mud carry-over on the footpath during winter/spring seasons. Motion B: Residents should be encouraged to complain directly to County Highways and their County Councillor about the dangerous state of the footpath fronting the said bungalows when mud and water cause a hazard.

Voting: Motion A defeated by 5 against and 1 in favour

Motion B carried unanimously.

The Council will also write to the County Council expressing dissatisfaction with the lack of action regarding this ongoing matter. Clerk

7.2 Low bollard in footpath to Paddock Farm: It was resolved unanimously that the bollard will remain but be made more visible; as an interim measure, it is to be painted white; and later either luminous paint or an extension sleeve may be fitted. PC

7.3 Safeguarding policy: Cllr Flood is already fully qualified in this field of responsibility; Cllr flood was appointed by unanimous vote as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

7.4 New Model Standing Orders: These were adopted by unanimous vote as edited at the previous meeting and pre-circulated after proof reading.

7.5 Privacy Notice update service: It was resolved in principle to take up the update service offered by our website host for an extra £10 p.a. A final decision will be made depending on wording of the document. All

7.6 Community funded PCSO's: The scant details provided with this initial consultation did not allow a reasoned decision to be made. Clerk to make enquiries for more clarity of purpose and possible funding required; the consultation closes on 17th August. Clerk

8.FINANCE:

8.1 Year to date finance report: Opening balance plus income since 1st April confirmed as £14,547.77. Payments plus cheques for approval to 5th July total = £1378.87, leaving cash at Bank of £13,168.90. Budgeted and allocated expenditure to year-end totals £6011 leaving a forecast reserve of £7158.

B. Hogg Chair

R. Jay Clerk

8.2 The following cheques were authorised and signed:

- Village Hall Car-park lease £150.00
- Presentations to 388th Bomb Group Veterans £50.85
- Administration expenses for May-July 5th £46.20
- Additional payment to Suffolk Cloud (GDPR privacy statement update service) £10

9. Correspondence and other matters for Council's attention since agenda publication.

The Pond Life project was successful in their bid to share in the monthly cash hand out from Tesco's Thetford store. The next major job is to dredge out all the dead trees, when shoppers visit the store, they are requested to place their checkout tokens in the box nominated for Coney Weston Pond life.

Local Policing volunteers Initiative: This matter is out for consultation to local communities; More information is needed to assess the potential value and benefits that may accrue. PC and Clerk to enquire

10. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:45 hrs. Date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 6th September 2018.

B. Hogg Chair

R. Jay Clerk

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