

**Draft Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, Cambridgeshire, SG8 5RY.**

Present: Chair L Ginger  
Councillors A Milton, W Elbourn, R Scott, N Strudwick, A Birch and J Hart  
Parish Clerk A Bridges  
District Councillor S van de Ven & P Hart  
Members of the Public 3 and M Hallett from Bassingbourn Parish Council

**1.0 Apologies for Absence** – District Councillor J Hales.

**2.0 Receiving Declarations of Interest from Councillors on items on the agenda** - None

**3.0 Approval of minutes – to resolve that the minutes from the Parish Council meeting of June 10<sup>th</sup> 2019 were a correct record** – Cllr Strudwick asked if the word ‘donated’ could be changed to ‘grant’ on page 689 of the June minutes. Resolved the minutes were approved, subject to this change and signed by the Chair.

**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 the Chair asking if all agreed that items 10 (update on the A1198 speed mitigation meeting) and 11 (theft of lead from the church roof) could be moved earlier in the meeting, giving the members of the public a chance to discuss these sooner. This was agreed.
- Cllr Strudwick confirmed he had given the remote control for the light above the defibrillator light to the clerk.
- The Chair informed the meeting that the replacement telephone box is on order and it is hoped that the right door configuration would soon be available after discussions with the company.
- The Chair reported that the footpaths had recently been cut and will be cut again before autumn.
- County Cllr van de Ven informed Cllr Hart that her offer to plant an autumn flower pot at Meldreth railway station, would be greatly received.

- The Chair discussed moving to online banking for the Parish Council. Cllr Scott asked to look at the Parish Councils Standing Orders regarding finance before this could be discussed further. Action: Clerk to organise a meeting.
- The Chair reported that the recreation ground fence appeared to be further damaged in the last month and sections may need to be removed for safety.

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

### **5.1 County Councillor**

- The Parish Council thanked Cllr Hart and Cllr van de Ven for their report and it was agreed that the monthly report should be sent to residents on the village email. Cllr van de Ven highlighted the public consultations with Stagecoach and Melbourn Greenway's and Cllr van de Ven encouraged Whaddon Parish Council to respond to these local issues.

**7.0 Public Participation** – one member of the public asked who was responsible for ensuring the hedges were cut back on the turning into Whaddon Gap. The Chair reported that this was the responsibility of the farmer.

### **10.0 Update on the A1198 speed reduction meeting -**

- The Chair and Parish Council thanked Cllr van de Ven for taking the initial lead on this issue and reminded the meeting that safety of the A1198 junction was the major concern of Whaddon residents in the last Village Plan. Cllr van de Ven described the joint meeting with herself, the Commanding Officer at Bassingbourn Barracks, Whaddon and Bassingbourn Parish Councils and the Police and stated that all supported the need to lower the speed limit. It was suggested at the joint meeting, that Whaddon could put in a bid for a Local Highway Initiative to help make these changes and this was more likely to be successful if the Barracks also financially supported the bid. If successful, the scheme would also involve making the stretch of road feel more residential, for example by putting a gate either side of the road such as in Wimpole and Flint Cross, to encourage motorists to stick to the speed limit. Cllr Hallett also agreed that Bassingbourn Parish Council supported the proposal and he discussed the increasing numbers of residents living off this stretch of road. He spoke of the many other traffic issues affecting Bassingbourn and told the Parish Meeting that they would decide which priority they would support at the next meeting of their Travel and Transport Committee. Cllr Hallett talked about the scoring mechanism on the application form and all agreed this would be looked at in detail when applying.

The Chair asked if all the Cllr's wished to support the bid from Whaddon and **all agreed.**

### **11.0 Theft of Lead from Church roof**

The Chair firstly expressed the Parish Council's deep sorrow over the theft of the lead roof. A member of the public (David Grech, one of the Church Wardens) offered to speak in more detail about the theft, which was very likely to have been stolen over two or three nights. A temporary replacement roof was installed very quickly and although the church suffered some water damage, it is now watertight again. He concluded that the majority of people did not want to replace the roof with lead and various options are being considered, the favoured being turn coated stainless steel (which has been treated and looks similar to lead). The Church had contacted South Cambs District Council to ascertain if they required planning permission to change the roof material. DG told the meeting that £15,000 had been received from the insurance company and they were researching grant applications to add to this amount, as the estimated replacement roof is £65,000. The Parish Council thanked DG.

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

- 17<sup>th</sup> June - Draft Bourn Airfield New Village Supplementary Planning Document (Cambridgeshire County Council)
- 20<sup>th</sup> June – Information for the Cabinet and Parish Councils Liaison Meeting on 26th June (SCDC)
- 21<sup>st</sup> June – email complaining of the condition of the bus shelter from a resident.
- 1<sup>st</sup> July - South Cambridgeshire parishes workshop (Greater Cambridge Local Plan) at Great Shelford on 17<sup>th</sup> July at 7-9.30pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Local Highways information that Parishes will have to buy their own energy for lighting from October 2019 (Cambridgeshire County Council).
- 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Information concerning support offered by the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund community project. (Poster to be displayed on noticeboard).

Cllr Hart left the meeting at this point.

### **8.0 Planning meetings and updates –**

The Chair reported that there had been correspondence concerning a possible new building construction behind a house in Meldreth Road. Cllr Milton agreed that there are no approved developments in the specific area and this needed to be discussed with the Planning Department.

Cllr van de Ven left the meeting at this point.

### **9.0 Finance:**

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

- Staff wages and expenses: £380.20
  - Cartridges – gift to S Coningsby for work on village sign) - £109.50 (cheque paid to C Coningsby who purchased the cartridges for the PC)
  - MD Landscaping (grass cutting) - £750.00
- Added to the agenda to avoid late payment:

- LHI Scheme (speed sensor delivered last Spring) -  
Cambridgeshire County Council - £1,658.50

**9.2 Bank reconciliation – outstanding to be completed by Cllr Scott**

**12.0 Meldreth Road bus shelter**

The Chair reported that the Parish Council had received a complaint about the condition of the bus shelter, which was cleaned shortly after by the handyman. The Chair reminded the meeting that one of the options discussed by the PC many years ago, was to demolish the shelter, although school children do use it now there was insufficient numbers to justify build a new one. It was however agreed that it would benefit from being painted inside.

**13.0 Village Handyperson update**

The Chair reported that there had been no responses to the handyperson job advert. The Parish Council all agreed that they would ideally like to recruit someone from Whaddon, they may have to look further afield.

**14.0 Whaddon Village Hall & Recreation Ground Trust:**

**11.1 Receipt of oral report from a member of WVH&RGT:**

- Cllr Strudwick informed the meeting that the WVH&RGT committee will be meeting in the following week. The playground repairs had now been completed ready for the summer holidays.  
Cllr Milton left at this point.
- There still had been no response from the VH architect/project manager to close the dispute and further action would be discussed.

**15.0 Village Upkeep and Maintenance**

Cllr Elbourn asked if the Parish Council had considered putting a tennis court in the village. The Chair responded that this idea was not especially well supported in the last village plan and there was no obvious place for one. Cllr Scott spoke about the hedge around Town Farm Close being overgrown, making it harder for pedestrians to walk on the footpath. Cllr Strudwick said he would discuss with Town Farm Close residents.

**16.0 Items for next meeting – none**

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm**

**Date of next meeting – September 9<sup>th</sup> at 8pm.**