

**Draft Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council Meeting held on 14th January 2019 at 8.00p.m.
in the Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 5RY.**

Present:	Chair	L Ginger
	Councillors	W Elbourn, A Milton, R Scott, A Birch & N Strudwick
	Parish Clerk	A Bridges
	District Councillors	None
	County Councillor	S van de Ven
	Members of the Public	1 present

- 1.0 Apologies for Absence** – District Councillors J Hales and P Hart and Cllr J Vries
- 2.0 Receiving Declarations of Interest from Councillors on items on the agenda** – none declared.
- 3.0 Approval of minutes – to resolve that the minutes from the Parish Council meeting of (i) 12th November 2018 and (ii) the Precept Meeting of January 7th 2019 are a correct record** – Resolved the minutes were approved 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 angle of the light outside the village hall was discussed. It was agreed that although the noticeboard does have a sensor light, it would be beneficial to place another directly above the defibrillator, so the keyboard panel could be easily seen in an emergency. This would have to be connected to the mains power supply and it was agreed that Cllr Strudwick could contact the company who tests the fire alarms and other safety equipment for a quotation. Action: to obtain a quote to provide a new light directly above the defibrillator.
 - The new village sign is here and work is ongoing to replace the post and the rotten wood forming the seat around the base, which is a specialist job, as the post is over 3.5 meters high.
 - The estimate to replace and install the new telephone box has been sent to the insurance company.
 - Grass cutting of public footpaths – Resolved: the PC will take over the responsibility for this provided Cambs CC transfer their budget. LG will speak with local farmers about cutting the paths. Action: Clerk to contact Cambridgeshire County Council to ensure a financial contribution will be provided for this. LG has also been discussing a new Permissive Path scheme with Roger Huffer and they will present to the PC at either the February or March meeting.
 - Possible improvements for traffic calming measures, for example purchasing a second MVAS unit, will be reviewed in the next financial year.
 - The lack of defibrillator close to Cardiff Place was discussed. It was felt that further discussions with Bassingbourn Barracks would be helpful to ascertain if one was available in their grounds to local residents as well as Army personnel.

- Lastly, the Alfred John Palmer Trust was considered. A further two local residents were recipients of a small financial donation before Christmas. It was emphasised that requests from Whaddon residents (who are experiencing financial hardship) of any age would be considered.

5.0 Reports from District and County Councillors:

5.1 District Cllr Report – receipt of oral reports:

Both Cllr Hales and Cllr Hart sent their apologies. Cllr Hart sent an email stating that the roads in Whaddon should be swept by the road cleaner every three months and this last occurred at the end of June 2018. (However, this was completed on Tuesday 15th January, the day after the Parish Council meeting.)

5.2 County Cllr Report – receipt of oral reports.

- Cllr van de Ven stated that there was a large social aspect of her report due to the long period of financial decline in many services. Cllr van de Ven firstly spoke of the newly appointed Highways Officer in Meldreth and it was widely agreed that the poor road surface between Whaddon and the A1198 was a priority.
- The bus review conducted by the Mayor of Cambridge has not been published yet, despite being due in the Autumn. The bus subsidy remains under threat to residents and it is hoped that this remains an option to those who need it, despite the lack of financial backing. A Bus Users Meeting is to be held on the 23rd January 2019 in The Limes in Bassingbourn at 7.30-9pm. LG to attend.
- Cambridgeshire County Council will agree their council tax rate on February 5th 2019. It is expected to remain at the same level.
- Cllr van de Ven spoke of recent parking charges given to railway users parking in the wrong place in an otherwise free carpark. Royston railway station has a number plate recognition scheme which will automatically fine you if you wait for over twenty minutes without purchasing a ticket. The Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User group is happy to hear any concerns over wrongful fines.
- Cllr van de Ven spoke about the funding for extra health provision in Melbourn from the housing developments which are rapidly taking place. It was hoped that this funding would benefit local residents, who currently have a small health centre, rather than go elsewhere. Cllr van de Ven spoke of the national shortage of GP's and health workers. Addenbrookes Hospital has recently spent £65 per employee from the EU for ensuring they can continue working. This is approximately 12% of their workforce.
- There has been no official update to the possible East-West Railway, however there is a small article in Meldreth Matters magazine. It is believed that the Government will be consulting on five different routes.
- Cllr van de Ven informed the Parish meeting that the Police would be holding an information evening on the 22nd January in Melbourn Hub from 7.30-9pm. Resolved: the PC agreed to pay the Village Hall costs for a Police evening meeting with Whaddon residents in the very near future. LG to consult with Malan Peyton and the PCSOs to arrange.

6.0 Public Participation – none received.

7.0 Correspondence & Complaints –

- December: SCDC - Consultation - Greater Cambridge Draft Housing Strategy survey for PC
- January: possibility of new deliberator training with Meldreth Parish Council in June.

8.0 Planning meetings and updates – there have been no further Planning Meetings since the last Parish Council Meeting.

9.0 Finance:

9.1 Consideration of request for grant funding from Whaddon Village Hall & Recreation Ground Trust – Action: the amount to be confirmed to the Parish Council by the WVH&RT.

9.2 Cheques already approved (December 2018) to avoid late payment: Printing costs (newsletter) - £103.00

9.3 Approval of payments to sign today:

- Staff wages and expenses – £783.92
- Venue hire for Parish Council Meetings Sept to Dec 2018 - £50 (to be included in the grant funding payment).

9.4 Agreement and approval of 2019-20 precept – consideration of recommended precept £17,478. Resolved: this was agreed and the Chair to sign and complete the necessary paperwork. This is the same amount as last year, although in real terms it is £1.62 a year less for Band D homes due to the small increase in houses paying tax in the village this year. A further meeting at the end of March will consider and formalise plans for projects within the village during the next financial year.

10.0 Whaddon Village Hall & Recreation Ground Trust:

10.1 Receipt of oral report from a member of WVH&RGT:

- Cllr Strudwick informed the meeting that the next WVH&RGT committee would meet on January 21st, whereby the grant would be discussed for the Parish Council to consider ASAP. Cllr Strudwick spoke of the need to update the playground equipment as a priority for the Trust.
- Issues concerning the heating system installation were ongoing and more problems have occurred recently, including a leak under the sink.
- The kitchen worktop had recently been damaged by hirers and this was in the process of being mended.
- Cllr Birch spoke of the National Village Hall Week, which starts on January 22nd in Little Thetford, Cambs.
- It was agreed by the Parish Council that the new picnic bench could be permanently fixed in the playground before the Easter holidays. Action: Clerk to bring quotes to the February Parish Council meeting.

11.0 Village Upkeep and Maintenance: the village handyman has an updated list of work to be done in the village, including litter picking, trimming back vegetation overgrowth on paths and removing old posters from telegraph poles.

- 12.0** Village footpaths and permissive paths – this was discussed as above
- 13.0** East-West Railway Proposal Update - this was discussed as above.
- 14.0** Items for next meeting – noting of requests for agenda items

Date of next meeting – Monday February 11th at 8pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15p.m.

DRAFT