

**Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 8p.m. in the Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, Nr Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 5RY.**

Present:	Chair	Mr L Ginger
	Councillors	Mrs K French, Professor A Milton, Mr W Elbourn
	Parish Clerk	Ms A Bridges
	District Councillor	None present
	County Councillor	Mrs Susan van de Ven
	Members of the Public	4 present
Absent:	Councillors	Ms A Walker

**1.0 Apologies for Absence** – Dr N Strudwick, Mr R Scott, Mr Nigel Cathcart and Mr David McCraith.

**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 (PC) meeting of 12th March 2018 are a correct record.

**4.0 Reports from Clerk and Councillors** – to receive updates about progress on resolutions and actions from previous Parish Council meetings:

- Telephone box glass has been replaced by Cllr Scott.
- Tree inspection to commence when the weather improves.
- The village sign – the Chair Reported that he is in discussion with three sign makers and is waiting for confirmation on prices.
- The Mobile Vehicle Activated System will be delivered to the Clerk on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018.
- Bank reconciliation has been completed by Cllr Scott.
- Permissive paths – Mr Huffer has not yet met with Country Farm Estates to discuss the future of permissive paths Action: The Chair to follow this up.
- Dog waste bins – Waiting clarification on a further dog waste bin. Action: Clerk
- Litter pick – provisional date of Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 10am. Action: Clerk to arrange equipment hire and refuse collection with South Cambs District Council.
- Safety issues on Whaddon Gap Junction: it was felt that there would need to be widespread concerns from South Cambs District Council to start action on improvements.

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

- Cllr van de Ven discussed the large number of potholes on the local roads, which are considered to be in ‘acceptable levels of managed decline’. The budget for this would

be decreasing in the next four years. Currently the emphasis is on mending A and B roads, meaning that smaller roads will continue to decline without improvements.

- Royston and District Community Transport needs to recruit more volunteer minibus drivers. They will reimburse travel expenses to and from the minibus.
- The train timetable will change on May 20<sup>th</sup>. All trains will have eight carriages and will run every half an hour from Meldreth (except at lunch time) This new timetable is on the rail users website: <http://meldrethsheprethfoxtonrail.org.uk/> It is hoped all rail users will be aware of these time changes before May 20th.
- Cambridgeshire County Council County Farm Estates are selling land to raise revenue. A commercial and investment committee has been set up to assist this. Cllr van de Ven spoke of the need to be transparent in the process of selling land and subsequent house planning. This involves consultation with the local community in advance of the land being sold to a development company.

## 6.0 Public Participation:

- A member of the public commented on Cllr van de Ven's discussion on selling land and spoke of the large numbers of houses that the South Cambridgeshire District Council, like all Councils, is expected to provide to address the nationwide shortage. It was noted that as Whaddon has areas that could be potentially developed, it is imperative to be aware of any potential land sales.
- The large numbers of potholes on minor roads was also noted. The need to keep reporting to the Council was empathised to increase the likelihood of repairs. There is also a lack of white lines on the A1198, causing safety concerns.

## 7.0 Correspondence and complaints:

- Barrington Parish Council – an invitation to a meeting to discuss health care provision with regards to the increase in housing. This is at Barrington Village Hall on Thursday 12th April at 7 p.m.

## 8.0 Planning:

8.1 Planning: Eternit – the decision on the appeal by the developer has yet to be announced. It was noted that there had been small extension to the deadline to submit written submissions.

## 9.0 Finance:

### 9.1 Cheques to be approved for signing today (9<sup>th</sup> April 2018)

- Cheque number 101028 - CAPALC – GDPR training £70
- Cheque number 101029 - Staff wages (Clerk) - £399.70
- Cheque number 101030 - Catalyst2 services - £59.99

9.2 **Bank mandate** – Cllr Elbourn also agreed to be a signatory.

Action: online applications from Parish Councillors to be submitted to bank.

9.3 **Appointment of internal auditor** – for audit of Annual Return for financial year 2017/18 has been confirmed.

## 10.0 Whaddon Village Hall & Recreation Ground Trust

**10.1** Cllr Strudwick, WVH&RGT Chairman, gave a written update:

- Village Hall heating system – the architect appears to have a discrepancy with the dates of servicing the heating. Cllrs Strudwick and Ginger will respond accordingly. It was noted in the meeting that the heating appeared to be working consistently now and the village hall continues to enjoy a large number of bookings.

**10.0 Annual Parish Meeting 16th April** – Content includes items from Cllr van de Ven Neighbourhood Watch, Speedwatch, Palmer’s Trust and the gardening club. Action: Clerk to organise refreshments.

**11.0 Village Upkeep and Maintenance: to report upkeep and maintenance issues and agree actions:** It was agreed that there has been a large increase in the number of potholes and that this should be reported on South Cambridgeshire County Council’s website.

**12.0 Items for next meeting – noting of requests for agenda items:**

- None requested but the next meeting is the AGM of the PC at which the newly elected Parish Council will meet for the first time
- **Cllr French** is not seeking re-election and was warmly thanked by councillors for all her hard work for the Parish Council since 2011.

**13.0 Dates of next meetings –**

**Annual Parish Meeting Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April from 7.30pm**  
**Annual Parish Council Meeting May 14<sup>th</sup> at 8pm**

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.51pm.**