

Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council Meeting held on 12th November at 8.00p.m. in the Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 5RY.

Present:	Chair	Mr L Ginger
	Councillors	Mr W Elbourn, Professor A Milton, Mr R Scott, Ms A Birch & Ms J Vries
	Parish Clerk	Ms A Bridges
	District Councillors	Ms P Hart
	County Councillor	Ms S van de Ven
	Members of the Public	1 present
Apologies:	Councillors	Dr N Strudwick
	District Councillors	Mr J Hales

1.0 Apologies for Absence – Dr Strudwick and Mr Hales.

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 15th October 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 new village sign is here and work is ongoing to replace the post and the rotten wood forming the seat around the base.
- Permissive Paths - these have now been established and it needs to be established who will cut them and the schedule before Spring next year. Action: Chair to finalise schedule.
- The estimate to replace and install the telephone box will be sent to the insurance company imminently. The possible relocation of the site of the telephone box will be introduced to residents by the village email. The temporary library will be located at Whaddon Golf Centre. Action: Clerk to ensure quote is received promptly.
- Traffic calming measures are continued to be monitored in the village. It was concluded that since the proposed housing development at the Eternit Site was turned down, Whaddon should not suffer from the associated rise in lorries and cars.

5.0 Parish Councillor vacancies

5.1 Co-option of new Councillor Joanne Vries. Cllr Vries was elected and welcomed to the Parish Council.

5.2 Cllr Birch was formally nominated as a PC representative on the Village Hall and Recreation Trust Committee.

6.0 Reports from District and County Councillors:

6.1 District Cllr Report – receipt of oral reports

- Cllr Hart explained that Cllr Hales was attending a Planning Committee meeting in Melbourn and sent his apologies. Cllr Hart firstly spoke of the need to be considerate in bonfires and to only burn suitable material. (Guidelines from her written report are here: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/environment/pollution/air-pollution/smoke-and-bonfires/>). She spoke of a building site in a local village which had felled trees before permission was granted and burnt them, causing frustration and concern of local residents.
- Cllr Hart also spoke of attending the Home-Start AGM which provides important support for young families who need assistance. This is also suffering from financial cuts and needs to raise substantial funds to continue its service at the current level.
- MIND and the Citizens Advice Bureau both have offices at the Melbourn Hub. Cllr Hart described the highly complex and time-consuming issues that this branch deals with and with this level of demand, it could be a full-time service. MIND is run on a self-referred basis and is there for all local residents to use.
- Cllr Hart also talked about the Social Isolation Press Kit, which will be published in the near future. This provides ideas to improve social networks and support in rural communities to those who are experiencing loneliness and isolation.
- Lastly Cllr Hart reported that she was also struggling to gain an informative response to the large numbers of badger faeces on Whaddon's recreation ground - which was reported at last months Parish Council Meeting. It was felt by the Parish Council members that advice is needed in the interests of public health for the many users of the ground.

6.2 County Cllr Report – receipt of oral reports.

- Cllr van de Ven stated that there is another Bus Users Group meeting in January to update residents on the results of the Mayor's bus review, expected later this month. Cllr van de Ven also informed the members of the next Rail Users' Group, which will be on December 5th, at Elin Way Community Room, Meldreth. Cllr van de Ven encouraged people to continue to attend meetings to highlight difficulties they experience using the trains. She remarked that peak time trains are still being cancelled.
- Cllr van de Ven explained that she attended a meeting with the Brexit Advisory Committee, which explores issues surrounding the EU workforce, supply chains for the EU and the economic impact. South Cambridgeshire District Council say that six out of seven local small businesses have not done anything to prepare for the risks involved. Larger companies have dedicated staff to explore these. Small businesses are invited to contact SCDC Economic Development officer Johanna Davies for more information.
- Cllr van de Ven talked about the lack of police presence in the rural communities and highlighted that the next police drop-in surgery will be on the 11th December between 11am and 1pm at the Melbourn Hub. A police public information evening will also be held on the 22nd January, at 7:30pm once again in the Melbourn Hub. The local police are also very happy to provide a drop-in service in every local community if requested.

- Cllr van de Ven also spoke of the free self-referral service provided by MIND at the Melbourn Hub. She felt that this and the CAB needed to be publicized to all local villages in order to be fully accessible to everyone who may need it.
- The Children's Centres closed at the end of August and Cllr van de Ven discussed the lack of planning and clarity that remains ongoing. An outreach service was originally planned to be set up in order to support those families who needed additional assistance. Whilst this service states it is in use, the reality is different, and families continue to be in limbo with limited support. The service to young families is now called Child and Family Services which includes breastfeeding support, stay and play sessions, baby clinics and midwifery services.

7.0 Public Participation

- A member of the public asked how the recent planning approval restrictions in Bridge Street would be monitored. Cllr Hart explained that the SCDC Planning Team would need to supervise this and the Planning Team had also requested information on how waste and water would be managed. The member of the public also enquired about the change of use of the field, which now had two animals grazing in it. The Chair stated that it did need clarification, but that South Cambridgeshire District Council were aware of this and had placed restrictions on the number of animals which could use the paddock. It was also pointed out that many fields in the village had animals enjoyed as pets grazing.

Correspondence & Complaints –

- South Cambridgeshire District Council – possible land sale by Ridgeway Close. (12/11/18)
- South Cambridgeshire District Council - Cabinet and Parish Councils Liaison meeting invitation at 6.30pm on 27 November 2018 at South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne (14/11/18).

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

9.0 Finance:

8.1 Approval of payments:

- Staff wages and expenses – £362.73
 - Chairs expenses (qtr) - £50.00
- Additional payments for approval after Agenda was set:**
- Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - £27
 - MD Landscapes – verge and recreational grass cutting - £2,100

10.2 2019-20 Precept Planning – agreement of date for Precept Meeting and noting of potential projects requiring funding. Resolved: This was agreed for the 7th January 2019 at 8pm.

10.3 Review of progress against budget for six months to 30th September 2018 Action: this to be emailed to the Councillors as soon as possible by the Clerk.

11.0 Whaddon Village Hall & Recreation Ground Trust:

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

- Cllr Birch gave a verbal update from the recent meeting. Firstly, she stated that they are still investigating if the Completion Certificate was signed off for the heating system at the Village Hall and the water heater may need replacing as it is not working correctly.
- Cllr Birch also asked for clarification on the Village Hall signs for the car park. The Chair said he would email Steve Argent with the details.
- Cllr Birch told her fellow Councillors that the cleaning role at the Village Hall was also due to be clarified to ensure that it was at a consistently high standard.
- The garage extension plans were also reported to be under discussion. The monthly inspection of the playground was also still in place and it was agreed that some areas may need updating in the future.
- Cllr Birch spoke about the proposed Film Club at the Village Hall which starts on February 23rd 2019 and will take place every three months. She also spoke about arranging various fund-raising quiz nights which Cllr Hart kindly offered her help with one in the New Year.

12.0 Village Upkeep and Maintenance:

It was agreed that the additional bench should be of the same size as the existing one, which is higher in price than agreed at the Parish Council Meeting in October, up from £472.80 (without delivery) to £652.80 (with delivery). Cllr Vries pointed out that the playground is used by many and this will benefit both local residents and visitors. Councillors agreed the extra cost. **Action:** Clerk to arrange delivery

13.0 Items for next meeting – noting of requests for agenda items:

Cllr Hart requested that the East-West railway proposition should be on the agenda, although there had been no announcements.

Date of next meeting – Monday January 14th at 8pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.22p.m.