

MEPAL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Sally Shipley, 50 Chestnut Way, Mepal, Ely, CB6 2YR
Email: mepalparishcouncil@msn.com

Chairman: Mr Michael Stacey

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Monday 14th November 2011
TIME: 19.30
VENUE: Mepal Village Hall, School Lane, Mepal
PRESENT: Chairman Mr Stacey, Mrs Stazicker, Mr Slough, Mr Sallis, Mr Pleasance, Mr Harknett, Mr Drew, Clerk Mrs Shipley

IN ATTENDANCE: Abigail Taylor of East Cambridgeshire District Council and 8 members of the public were in attendance.

179/11 TO RECORD APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and approved from District Councillor Bailey and County Councillor Read.

180/11 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs Stazicker declared a personal interest in agenda items 186/11(a) and 192/11(a).

Mr Sallis declared a personal interest in agenda item 186/11(a).

Mr Harknett declared a personal interest in agenda item 186/11(a).

181/11 TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF:

The minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 10th October 2011 and the Extraordinary Meeting of 19th October 2011 were approved and signed as a correct record of the meetings.

182/11 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

7 members of the public wished to register an object to the planning application at agenda item 184/11(a) due to the noise. The proposed bundling is already present and does not suppress any of the noise.

183/11 TO RECEIVE DISTRICT AND/OR COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Written report received from County Councillor Read.

184/11 PLANNING.

New Planning Applications

- a) F/YR11/0752/F - change of use of land from minerals extraction and processing to minerals extraction and motor sports usage involving formation of 4 metre high bunding for noise suppression and siting of 4 containers for use as storage (retrospective) at the land at Block Fen Drove, Mepal.

It was proposed Mr Sallis, seconded Mrs Stazicker and resolved unanimously to object to the application on the following grounds:

- The site has already been operating illegally for approximately three years.
- The level of noise is intolerable for local residents.
- The operating hours are excessive.
- The reinstatement of the Block Fen area after mineral extraction has never included provisions for this type of facility.
- Immediate removal of four containers will be requested.
- Similar facilities are already available in this area.

A letter of complaint will also be sent to Hansons, the site owner, regarding the unregulated use.

Other Planning Issues

- b) To receive presentation from Abigail Taylor, Forward Planning Officer of East Cambridgeshire District Council, regarding the results of the Mepal Village Vision Consultation.

Oral presentation received from Abigail Taylor. Disappointingly there were only 36 responses to the Village Vision consultation.

c) To consider key decisions and future actions resulting from the Consultation.

The first key issue was whether the Parish Council supports new housing growth on the edge of the village?

It was proposed Mrs Stazicker, seconded Mr Pleasance and following a vote of four in favour and three abstentions resolved that the village does not require any further housing development outside the envelope save any that may be necessary if the need for affordable housing is identified.

The second key issue was does the parish council support employment growth within the village?

It was proposed Mr Pleasance, seconded Mr Slough and resolved unanimously that the parish council does not support allocation of land outside the development for employment growth purposes.

As a result of these decisions, Mepal will be designated as a low growth village, all future growth will be within the current development envelope. A consultation will be undertaken by East Cambridgeshire District Council on the draft local plan in spring next year.

185/11 MEPAL COMMUNITY PAVILION

a) To receive correspondence from Mepal Sports Action Group regarding the lease of Mepal Community Pavilion. The meeting noted the contents of the letter confirming that Mepal Sports Action Group are currently unable to accept the longer term model lease document provided by Cambridgeshire ACRE.

b) To receive written report and consider recommendations from the Working Party regarding the lease of Mepal Community Pavilion to Mepal Sports Action Group.

It was proposed Mrs Stazicker, seconded Mr Pleasance and following a vote of 6 in favour and 1 abstention resolved that the following recommendations be approved:

- that the working party be authorised to make final amendments to the lease, including deletion of clauses 33.1 and 33.2, and transmit it to MESSAGE for their final consideration

- that so long as no further matters of significance are raised by MESSAGE, the signatories authorised to sign the lease (Mrs Stazicker and Mr Sallis, minute no 038/09(c) dated 9th March 2009) be authorised to sign the present short-term lease, duly amended as set out above, on behalf of the Council

- that the Council consider whether additional members should be nominated to the Pavilion working party to share further the burden of work and minimise the impact upon the precept.

Mr Pleasance agreed to join the Pavilion Working Party.

186/11 MEPAL VILLAGE HALL

a) To consider request from Mepal Village Hall Management Committee regarding the future provision of the Computer Access Point.

It was proposed Mr Drew, seconded Mr Sallis and resolved unanimously that Mr Drew and Mr Pleasance would work with the Village Hall Management Committee on this issue and report back to a future meeting.

187/11 WEBSITE

a) To receive oral report regarding the future provision of the parish website.

Oral report received from the Clerk.

188/11 APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

a) To consider application from Mepal Good Companions.

It was proposed Mrs Stazicker, seconded Mr Pleasance and resolved unanimously that whilst the parish council acknowledges the work of the group, the request for financial support could not be approved at this time.

189/11 HIGHWAYS

a) To receive oral report of the Highway Warden Induction Session with Cambridgeshire County Council.

Oral report received from Mr Harknett. Mr Harknett is now the Highway Warden for Mepal and will be the main contact for all highway and footpath issues.

b) To consider attendance at the Heavy Commercial Vehicle (HCV) Strategy meeting with Cambridgeshire County Council on Tuesday 29th November.

It was resolved unanimously that Mr Harknett would attend.

190/11 FOOTPATHS

a) To receive and consider correspondence from Cambridgeshire County Council in relation to the Mepal Circular Walk Leaflet.

It was agreed that Mrs Stazicker would prepare a draft of proposed amendments to the leaflet and circulate to other councillors for comment. The Clerk will respond to Cambridgeshire County Council.

b) To consider attendance at the P3 Parish & Volunteers' Definitive Map Seminar on Thursday 8th December. It was agreed that Mrs Stazicker and Mr Slough would attend the seminar on 8th December.

191/11 NEIGHBOURHOOD PANELS

a) To receive oral report of the West Neighbourhood Panel Meeting on Monday 24th October 2011. Mrs Stazicker reported that she was unable to attend but will circulate the minutes once she has received them.

192/11 CAMBRIDGESHIRE ACRE

a) To consider options for renewal of membership to Cambridgeshire ACRE. It was proposed Mr Sallis, seconded Mr Drew and resolved unanimously to renew membership to both Cambridgeshire ACRE and the Playing Fields Association.

193/11 TRAINING

a) To consider Councillor Training needs and schedule of available training from Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Association of Local Councils.

It was unanimously resolved that no further training is required at present.

194/11 CONSULTATIONS

a) To consider response to the Boundary Commission 2013 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in England. The meeting noted the change in constituency for Mepal. It was proposed Mrs Stazicker, seconded Mr Pleasance and resolved unanimously to make no comment.

b) To consider Cambridgeshire Primary Care Trust consultation on the proposed redesign of Mental Health Services in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough.

It was agreed that Mr Stacey and Mr Sallis would prepare a draft response for consideration at the January meeting.

195/11 FINANCE

a) To consider a proposal for the setting of the estimated figure for the 2012/13 precept. Following discussion, it was proposed Mrs Stazicker, seconded Mr Drew and resolved unanimously that a new laptop, up to a maximum cost of £500, be purchased from the current year's budget. The resultant saving in the annual computer can be used to offset this cost.

It was proposed Mr Pleasance, seconded Mr Sallis and resolved unanimously that the estimated figure for the 2012/12 precept be set at £31725.00.

b) It was proposed Mr Pleasance, seconded Mr Sallis and resolved unanimously that the following payments made between meetings be approved:

S Shipley - expenses August & September	£27.85	LGA 1972 s.111
Cambridgeshire County Pension Fund - contributions September	£188.83	LGA 1972 s.111
Target Print - newsletter	£115.00	LGA 1972 s.142
Salaries - September	£747.54	LGA 1972 s.111
H M Revenue & Customs - PAYE/NI September	£38.78	LGA 1972 s.111
Truelink - grass September	£526.87	Open Space Act 1906 s.10
EIBE Play Ltd - play equipment spares	£63.34	Open Space Act 1906 s.10

c) It was proposed Mr Pleasance, seconded Mrs Stazicker and resolved unanimously that payment of the following outstanding accounts be approved:

Cambridgeshire County Pension Fund - contributions October	£188.83	LGA 1972 s.111
Salaries - October	£754.17	LGA 1972 s.111
H M Revenue & Customs - PAYE/NI October	£40.18	LGA 1972 s.111
Truelink - grass October	£400.92	Open Space Act 1906 s.10
Sutton Parish Council - photocopying	£13.20	LGA 1972 s.111
Cambridgeshire ACRE - quarterly play area operational inspection	£95.94	Open Space Act 1906 s.10
Sutton Parish Council - councillor training	£105.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Mepal Village Hall - annual grant	£550.00	Local Government
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19		
The Little Sign Co - clips for signage	£34.46	Open Space Act 1906 s.10

196/11 WEEKLY RECREATION FIELD AND PLAY AREA INSPECTIONS

a) To review and agree schedule of future inspections.

The Park Ranger checks the play area Fridays – Tuesdays and the main recreation field twice a week. It was resolved that Mr Pleasance will also check the play area on a Thursday and Mr Slough will undertake the weekly equipment inspection.

b) To receive the Quarterly Operational Inspection Report.

Report received and actions noted by the meeting.

c) To consider quotations for actions required by the Quarterly Operational Inspection Report.

It was proposed Mr Sallis, seconded Mr Drew and resolved unanimously that the quotation from CGM Ltd, approved suppliers, be accepted.

d) To consider quotation for actions required by the Annual Play Area Safety Inspection Report.

It was proposed Mrs Stazicker, seconded Mr Drew and resolved unanimously that expenditure of up to £200 be approved for the purchase of the required three signs for the recreation field and play area.

e) To receive correspondence regarding the possible safety issue with the cradle swing as reported in the Annual Play Area Safety Inspection Report.

The Clerk reported that she had received confirmation from EIBE Play Ltd that the cradle swing does meet the necessary safety standards.

197/11 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (For Information Only).

a) Cambridgeshire Playing Fields Association – The Playing Field (Autumn 2011).

198/11 DIARY DATES

- Monday 9th January 2012 – Full Council Meeting
- Monday 23rd January 2012 – Neighbourhood Panel Meeting
- Monday 13th February 2012 – Full Council Meeting
- Monday 12th March 2012 – Full Council Meeting
- Wednesday 11th April 2012 – Full Council Meeting
- Monday 16th April 2012 – Neighbourhood Panel Meeting
- Monday 23rd April 2012 – Annual Parish Assembly

Meeting closed at 21:30

..... Chairman to Mepal Parish Council

..... Date