

MEPAL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Karen Peck, email: mepalparishcouncil@msn.com tel 07842 499377
Chairman: Mr Brian Rollason, email: brianrollason.mpc@outlook.com

NOTICE OF MEETING: Full Parish Council Meeting
TIME: 19.30
DATE: Monday 8th July 2019
VENUE: Mepal Village Hall, School Lane, Mepal

All members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend for the purposes of considering and resolving the business to be transacted at the meeting as set out below.

MEMBERS 5
VACANCIES 2
QUORUM 4

Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council at its Open Forum.

MINUTES

041/19 TO RECORD APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received by Councillor Mark Brill

042/19 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

043/19 TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF:

Full Parish Council Meeting 18th June 2019 -approved and signed by Chairman Brian Rollason

044/19 TO RECEIVE DISTRICT AND/OR COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Reports received from County Councillor Lorna Dupre and District Councillor Mark Inskip.

Councillor Lorna Dupre touched briefly on the Local Transport Plan which she is currently condensing for each Parish and highlights the consultation drop in sessions run until Friday 24th September.

Previously reported the huge financial challenges facing our local NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

The CCG has a savings plan of £32.7M in 2019/20. Many of these savings are to be found in contractual transactions, but many propose a change in how a service is delivered or the level of service or medication that is available. The CCG is therefore planning to open a consultation with the public about making hard choices in a time of limited resources. The consultation will open on 22 July and extend into September.

Following the successful motion at the annual meeting of the council on 30 May to draw up plans to increase the proportion of affordable housing on the MOD site in Ely, a further meeting was called for 19 June. At this meeting, the motion for more affordable housing passed on 30 May was overturned by the casting vote of the Chair, after the vote was tied at 13:13.

Three amendments were proposed, which Mark and Lorna voted for, but which were also defeated by the Chair's casting vote. These included putting to the Combined Authority a proposal with 35 per cent affordable housing, including seven units as affordable rent. The defeat means the scheme will go ahead as originally planned, with only 17 per cent of the homes being affordable.

... but new luxury apartments at Alexander House in Ely The Mayor's Combined Authority has agreed to lend developer Laragh House Developments Ltd £4.74 million to convert the Alexander House office block on the corner of The Forehill and Broad Street in Ely into luxury apartments and penthouses. The money will come from the £100 million given to the Mayor by the Government to build 2,000 affordable homes in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough. The scheme will include just four 'affordable' flats.

Work is continuing regarding Elean Business Park working with the council and the police to take firm action against the landowner and agent over their failure to prevent illegal encampments and joyriding.

045/19 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

046/19 PLANSERV VISIT

Visit to discuss development of land adjacent to Brick Lane was taken by Plansurv and not-for-profit housing provider Havebury and their interest in developing land at Brick Lane Mepal for approx. 50-55 houses. No planning application has been submitted and this is unlikely to happen until Autumn 2019.

Questions from local residents in relation to the access to the site as outlined in current draft which is via Brick Lane and suggestions were access from Sutton Road via a mini roundabout or traffic lights opposite Witcham Road junction, would be a more viable option.

The design has changed in regard to the green space now being around the site and not in the centre which Plansurv advised was driven by East Cambridgeshire District Council.

Also highlighted were provision for parking both for construction vehicles and the household parking once completed. Plansurv confirmed that East Cambridgeshire District Council is stating a minimum of 2 parking spaces per property is required and in regard to construction traffic this will be dealt with using a Construction Management Plan which East Cambridgeshire District Council can implement to ensure residents have minimal disruption throughout the project thought to last approx. 18 months to 2 years.

A further issue of the hedge way along Brick Lane being removed was raised stating there was an order on this hedge that it cannot be removed. Plansurv have surveyed and nothing has been flagged but they did confirm they will look into this matter further.

Councillor Diana Bray concluded that there is strong feeling from both the resident and the Parish Council on access for the site and they will raise these on behalf of the Parish with County Council Highways and East Cambridgeshire District Council and Plansurv will take on board the proposed access options raised by the local residents but did make clear the final decision is with the County Highways Authority but would put residents' concerns and suggestions to them. The project is something that the Parish would like to support for the further of the village but it has to be right for the village for the support to continue.

047/19 PLANNING

TO BE CONSIDERED:

19/00627/FUL Site North East of 15 Bridge Road, Mepal

Erection of dwelling and garage on land benefiting from extant outline permission (LPA Ref:18/0090/OUT) and retrospective consent for the retention of 2 mobile homes for a temporary period – NO COMMENT

19/00826/FUL Land West of Whitegate Farm Witcham Road, Mepal

Demolition of 2 no. Nissan huts, construction of two dwellings with associated parking and amenity area – Councillor Diana Bray asked for the Clerk to contact East Cambridgeshire District Council for comment on the Nissan huts air base links and for Conservation to be consulted on the demolition of the huts.

048/19 RECREATION FIELD UPDATE AND POSSIBLE FUNDAY

Line marking commenced on Sunday 7th July and the grass has been cut back today (8th July) and equipment delivered ready for the soil deliver on 9th and commencement of works on 10th. Then it is just matter of waiting for the grass to grow.

The possible fun day was discussed with a football match between Mepal current team vs The Legends and a picnic in the park and bouncy castles. Costing for these were £360 but they would need to be manned and also insurance sought as the football clubs does not cover this. The Parish Council advised that the matter of insurance needs to be looked into but in principle they support the Fun Day for August Bank Holiday.

049/19 PAVILION UPDATE

Tiling is commencing in the Pavilion this week and then once complete the showers will be installed and a legionella test and flush is needed before use.

050/19 PLAYAREA UPDATE

Discussions are pending.

051/19 COMMUNITY LED PLAN UPDATE

Councillor Steve Green advised he will have a draft plan put together in the next two weeks ready for the next Parish Council Meeting on 8th September 2019.

053/19 MEPAL & WITCHAM PRESCHOOL - DISCUSS LETTER RECEIVED

No further action can be taken in regard to the grant until the outcome of the DEMAT decision which was due on 4th July 2019. Parish Clerk will contact Pre School for an update.

054/19 CHURCH YARD GRASS CUTTING

Councillor Diana Bray has met with the Church Warden and the outline sketch was drawn to distinguish between the three specific areas of the graveyard. At present the Parish Council provide the church with a £500 grant for the maintenance of the graveyard, it is thought that a new approach would be for the Parish Council to use this money itself to carry out maintenance to two areas. Councillors to meet and survey and obtain cost implications on the feasibility of these works for the Parish.

055/19 FINANCE

- a) PAYMENTS made since last meeting - TBA
- b) DIRECT DEBITS paid: TBA
- c) PAYMENTS to be made: TBA
- d) QUOTES - TBA

056/19 OUTSTANDING ISSUES AND UPDATES

Street Lighting is now been passed for the Parish to source own energy and carry out these works internally, this effects all parishes with 5 number lights in Mepal.
As agreed, the Clerk will order the approved Dog Bin for delivery and a location was discussed. Once delivered East Cambridgeshire District Council will need to be contacted to install.

057/19 DIARY DATES -

Next Full Parish Council meeting will be Monday 9th September 2019 at 7.30pm in Mepal Village Hall

Meeting Closed at 21.17

.....Monday 9th September 2019
Karen Peck, Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

..... Monday 9th September 2019
Brian Rollason, Chairman