

MEPAL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Emma Harris, email: mepalparishcouncil@msn.com tel 07842 499377
Chairman: Mrs Elizabeth Stazicker, email: eliz.stazicker@gmail.com tel 01353 778129

NOTICE OF MEETING: Full Parish Council Meeting
TIME: 19.30
DATE: Monday 9th October 2017
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 6
VACANCIES 1
QUORUM 3

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

MINUTES

158/17 TO RECORD APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Parish Councillor Jan Fishenden and District Councillor Mike Bradley

159/17 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Chairman Elizabeth Stazicker declared an interest in 164/17- 17/01616/FUL

Parish Councillor Diana Bray declared an interest in 164/17- 17/01616/FUL

Parish Councillor Alan Catley declared an interest in 175/17 (f)

160/17 MEMBERS' REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

It was agreed that Parish Councillor Diana Bray could answer any questions about 164/17- 17/01616/FUL

161/17 TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF:

a) Full Parish Council Meeting 11th September 2017

Approved and signed by Chairman Elizabeth Stazicker

162/17 TO RECEIVE DISTRICT AND/OR COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

District Councillor Anna Bailey gave an update on the East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC)'s Corporate Plan for 2017-2019 which included 0% Council Tax rise, maximising benefits of devolution, increasing tourism locally, development of a district Community Land Trust to support smaller communities, improvements to and sustainable road transport, a crematorium within the District and possible woodland burial site. Anna also mentioned that the Local Plan was accepted at Full Council the previous week which included the late deletion of a site in Witchford for 720 houses. The site in Mepal south of Brick Lane has been included. This does now mean that ECDC is declaring that it does once again have a 5-year land supply, the effect being that the development envelopes are back in place and applications for sites outside the envelopes will be refused (unless they comply with one or more of the limited number of reasons for exception). Anna's full report is available upon request.

The Chairman read out an update from District Councillor Mike Bradley. The update included the issues with drainage and the Hundred Foot river and the planning application 17/01036/FUL which had recently been approved with the support of Mike and the Mepal Parish Council. Mike also reminded us of his desire to get a Mepal Speed-Watch group together. It was agreed that the Clerk would inform the residents of these plans and ask anyone interested to contact her or Mike.

County Councillor Lorna Dupre gave an update on the County Council budget, the Innovate & Cultivate Fund (on the agenda below), the Children's Centre petition which is going to Full Council on the 17th October, the ECDC Air Quality report, local government reorganisation, Research School scheme at Littleport Community Primary, the delay in Cambridgeshire Archive moving to the old Strikes bowling alley in Ely, the complaints about the A142 recent repairs and cycleway from Sutton to Witchford. Lorna will be holding 'Meet Your

Councillor' sessions in October and November, dates and times can be found on her blog or in the full report which is available upon request.

163/17 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was agreed that comments from the public relating to matters on the agenda should be heard at the commencement of the relevant agenda item.

A member of the public asked about the maintenance of the bridleway from Brick Lane to Brangehill Lane. It was agreed to be included in the discussion later 170/17.

Another member of the public asked is it would be possible to have a notice board put up near to Chesnut Way. It was agreed that it would be added to the agenda for the next meeting for discussion.

164/17 PLANNING

TO BE CONSIDERED:

17/01616/FUL. Construction of single storey dwelling, Rectory Cottage, 3 Rectory Fields, Mepal
Discussed and agreed that there were no comments. The Clerk would respond with no comment by the agreed extension for comment 10th October 2017.

17/01638/OUT. Demolish part of existing complex & convert or erect buildings to form hospitality leisure annexe. 17 Bridge Road Mepal.

Discussed and agreed that it is a good idea and it would be an economic advantage to the village. Some concerns were raised about car parking; 150 wedding guests in 17 car park spaces at the venue (18 additional mentioned in business plan with no further details). There is also concern at the number of vehicles driving through the village late at night after a wedding and the potential noise throughout the afternoon and evening. The Parish Council would like to see a further consultation with the residents along Bridge Road who would be mostly affected by the development. The Parish Council feel strongly that the speed limit in the village should be extended along Bridge Road and that this could form part of the proposal. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond with these comments by the deadline of 11th October 2017.

17/01738/FUL. Extensions, loft conversion and alterations plus change is use from public house to hotel. The Three Pickerels 19 Bridge Road Mepal

Discussed and agreed that the Parish Council strongly support the application. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond with these comments by the deadline of the 23rd October 2017.

PLANNING UPDATES:

15/01316/DISC. To discharge condition [11] (Workplace Travel Plan) of decision dated 05 February 2016
It was agreed that Parish Council Diana Bray would speak to the residents at Paradise Cottage to suggest they comment on this decision if they wish to. It was requested that the Clerk contact ECDC to find out more information about this.

F/2001/16/CM - Mepal Quarry, Block Fen. Planning refused.

17/01490/FUL - (resubmission of 17/00184/FUL), Site west of Broadmead, Witcham Rd. Planning approved.

165/17 RECREATION FIELD

The Secretary to Mepal Sports Senior Football Team wrote to the Parish Council on the 29th September to inform them that the club had meet with the Junior Football Club and it has been decided to merge the two parts of Mepal Sports into one club run by one committee and with one bank account. The letter explained that since the move to other playing facilities both clubs have had financial difficulties and that they will be applying for a Parish Council grant in November. The letter explained that there is still concerns from the teams that they will be unable to return at the start of the 2018/19 season as nothing has yet been done about the field.

Parish Councillor Diana Bray gave an update on the recreation field drainage issues. Diana explained that she had been in contact with Timothy McCreadie at ECDC and Chris Gray at Institute for Groundsman (IOG) about the consultancy proposal that the Parish Council had received. Diana believes that accepting the proposal would be the correct action to take. If any additional soil samples were needed that it would cost £30 per sample. Timothy had confirmed that the consultancy would provide advice to make it playable; maintenance and advice for correcting issues including information on costs involved and that the advice would be completely independent. Diana explained that she made it really clear that the issue is not the grass but underlying issues below the ground. It was agreed to go ahead with the proposal and that Diana would take a lead on this with the support from the Clerk.

166/17 COMMUNITY LED-PLAN

The Chairman thanked Georgina and everyone else involved in the launch event on Sunday 8th October which seemed to be very successful. Georgina explained that she now has a list of 30 residents interested in being involved and 10 people interested in being part of the steering group. 2 people came forward about running a youth club and it was agreed that a separate working party would need to be set up to move that forward.

It was discussed and agreed that the Parish Council fund the Community Led Plan with up to £2,000 for associated costs. It was agreed that the Clerk keep a separate spreadsheet to record all expenditure.

167/17 A142 IRAP ROAD SAFETY ASSESSMENT AND REPORT

The report received from the Highways Team at Cambridgeshire County Council was distributed prior to meeting with the executive summary and conclusions published on the notice board and the website. The report concluded that there are no specific causes of the accidents and that the best way to approach the issues in the road would be holistically by widening it throughout. It was mentioned that the report was well written, the accident levels were not the highest in Cambridgeshire and that there was no mention of the increased use of the road in the future. It was agreed that the Parish Council are really keen to be involved in the presentations by the County Council to ask questions. It was agreed that the Clerk contact the County Council to find out when these presentations will take place.

168/17 LOCAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE 2017/18

The Clerk updated the Parish Councillors on the mobile vehicle activated sign and speed indicator for the village. The Parish Council agreed that the sign is a good idea but had queries to go back to the Cambridge County Council (CCC) before agreeing to the procurement. It was agreed that the Clerk contact CCC with the queries and if the response is satisfactory then she will ensure the MOU document is signed. The Clerk mentioned that CCC are meeting with her on the 30th October to discuss potential locations for the device.

169/17 THE INNOVATE AND CULTIVATE FUND

A fund to strengthen communities and reduce the need for County Council services. The Cambridgeshire County Council are seeking applications that will help to achieve the County Council's seven priority outcomes. It was discussed and queried if the potential setting up of a youth club or provision of the youth bus would meet the criteria for this funding. It was agreed that the Clerk would look into this.

170/17 LILIBET WOOD

Parish Councillor Steve Green gave an update. The Clerk had provided him and Diana with a copy of the Land Registry documents showing the area of the freehold land that Mepal PC have lying north of Brick Lane. Steve and Diana are now going to work together with the contractor on a 3-year plan for the maintenance of the area. It was mentioned that the County Council cut the bridleway twice a year.

171/17 CONSULTATION ON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A draft Cambridgeshire Local Council Development Plan 2017-2021 had been distributed prior to the meeting. The Parish Council had no comments on this.

172/17 VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE EVENT

Zoe Angier gave an update on the planning for the 3rd December 2017. The Parish Council agreed to provide up to £250 towards the costs of the event. It was agreed that the Clerk look into the insurance of the event and conduct a risk assessment.

173/17 CAMBRIDGE ACRE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It was agreed that the Parish Council renew their membership from November 2017.

174/17 OUSE WASHES LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP PROJECT FINAL REPORT

The Chairman reported that the project had now finished for which she represented the Parish Council. Good links had been made throughout the project with groups like the RSPB and Environment Agency and it is hoped that these stay strong for the future. There is another project for the Old West and further south but it will not involve Mepal Parish Council.

175/17 FINANCE

a) FINANCE REPORT 17/18 Q2 HALF YEAR RESULTS (April 17-Sep 17)

- Report distributed prior to meeting showing Budget v's Actual 2016/17 Q2 and bank reconciliation as at 30th September 2017. The report was accepted.

b) PAYMENTS made since last meeting

• Came & Company – Annual Insurance	£1,203.98	BACS
• Truelink Ltd – Grass Cutting August 2017	£793.80	BACS
• Balfour Beatty – Power socket for Christmas Tree	£408.32	BACS
• David J Richards Ltd – Councillor Training booklets	£76.86	BACS
• New Flame – Annual Maintenance Fire Equip at Pavilion	£41.88	BACS
• HMRC – Tax & NI liabilities Sep 17	£31.60	BACS
• Simon Batchelor – Sep Wages	£126.48	BACS
• Emma Harris- Sep Wages	£646.83	BACS
• Cambridgeshire ACRE – Payroll charges July to Sep 2017	£45.00	BACS
• Simon Batchelor – Sep Expenses (play area & rec field maintenance)	£70.65	BACS
• Emma Harris – Sep Expenses (mileage, Website costs, stationery)	£147.94	BACS
• PKF Littlejohn LLP – External Audit 16/17	£240.00	BACS
• Truelink Ltd – Grass Cutting September 2017	£677.88	BACS

c) DIRECT DEBITS paid:

• Tesco Mobile – Clerk Telephone	£7.50	DD 15/9/17
• E.on – Street Lighting August 2017	£24.95	DD 11/9/17
• Opus Energy – Gas supply at the Pavilion	£3.92	IN CREDIT
• Anglian Water – Water 19/1/17-14/5/17 at Rec Ground (after reading)	£1.34	DD 16/10/17

d) PAYMENTS to be made:

e) INCOME received:

• ECDC – September Precept	£16,212.50	BACS
• SSE – FIT Payment 22/6/17-14/9/17	£483.62	CHQ
• Mepal People Adverts	£105.00	

d) QUOTES to discuss

f) FUNDING REQUEST

Mrs Chris Catley, Mepal People editor had requested reimbursement for MS Word subscription £59.99 including VAT. It was agreed that the Parish Council will reimburse the cost.

176/17 ACTIONS completed and outstanding (report for information)

- Business Plan – Meeting Cambridgeshire ACRE 10th October to discuss the initial start of the project. More information to be provided after that.
- Additional banking options – Clerk to organise urgently
- Replacement baby swings – Ordered and due for delivery 10/10/17
- Streetlight – back of river close. Quote received since last meeting for £1,415. Quote excepted and purchase order sent to supplier 21/9/17.
- Pavilion Health & Safety review and re-decoration- ongoing with Clerk and Parish Councillor Alan Catley.
- Boundary change and CIL – Clerk to chase Sutton Parish Council
- Status of Brick Lane – Chairman has been through archive paperwork but no further information

177/17 DIARY DATES

- To note that the next Full Council Meeting will be held on Monday 13th November at 19:30 at the Village Hall

Meeting closed at 21.08.

..... 13th November 2017

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Emma Harris, Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

Elizabeth Stazicker, Chair