

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: Tuesday 14th January 2020
VENUE: Mepal Community Pavilion, 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 4
VACANCIES 3
QUORUM 3

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

MINUTES

120/19 TO RECORD APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from District Councillor Mark Inskip

121/19 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Williams declaration of interest in item 132/19

122/19 TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF:

Full Parish Council Meeting minutes from Monday 11th November 2019 were approved and sign by Chairman Brian Rollason.

123/19 TO RECEIVE DISTRICT AND/OR COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

County Councillor Lorna Dupre updated the Parish Council on the planning application for the Three Pickerels stating this had been deferred for 4 months and will then be reheard.

Brick Lane Update

Speed survey results have been received and in summary Geoff Ellwood has confirmed that he "...would have to object to the junction along Sutton Road in its current location for highways safety reasons." Plans will revert to the proposed access on to Brick Lane. Lorna Dupre will go back to clarify the measurements given within this reply.

Bus review

The bus review group, on which we reported last month, has met for the second time and has proposed a questionnaire which will go to the council's Finance & Assets Working Group for approval. It is being combined with a questionnaire on walking and cycling, for a survey which will be launched in February and run until early April. Lorna made a range of suggestions for improving the original draft of the survey.

Waste collection from unadopted roads

Inevitably the council's new policy on waste collection from unadopted roads has had its initial teething troubles. Residents have been contacting us to say for example that their part of the street has been incorrectly identified as unadopted, and we have been liaising with the district council where it has wrongly written to residents on adopted roads, and with county council's mapping team over one or two areas where the mapping doesn't match the situation on the ground

Alconbury Weald and satellite buildings

Cambridgeshire County Council's new HQ building at Alconbury Weald is set to open in spring 2021. Those in favour of the scheme say it will release £45M to spend on local services and reduce the council's building maintenance bill. Those who are more sceptical point to the absence of public transport to Alconbury, and the need to reduce tiers of local government rather than build new premises to accommodate all its current layers.

Meanwhile, senior officers have begun discussing with staff currently based in Shire Hall their dispersal to various satellite premises around the county.

Drainage issues

During December the heavy rainfall resulted in flooding from the Linden Homes site at the top of Mepal Road in Sutton, and at The Warren in Witchford. New drainage pipes are due to be installed along Mepal Road this month, and at the time of writing the county council was due to send a larger vehicle to attend to the blocked drains in The Warren.

124/19 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were two members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

A member of the public questioned the exclusion of the Village CCTV on the agenda for this meeting, the Chairman advised that at this time he is still gathering the relevant information and as soon as this is obtained the item will be added to the agenda for discussion.

125/19 RESIGNATION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR AND APPOINTMENT OF NEW VICE CHAIR

The chairman advised that Parish Councillor Alan Catley and Diana Bray had both resigned from the Parish Council with immediate effect and the appointment of a new Vice Chair was needed. Councillor Brown proposed Councillor Williams and this motion was seconded by Chairman Brian Rollason.

126/19 PRE SCHOOL PROVISION

DEMAT visit to discuss the pre-school provision was postponed due to sickness. To be rearranged.

127/19 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2020/21

The Budget for Expenditure in 2020/21 should be set at £49,032.84 and the Precept for 2020/21 to be requested from the District Council should be set at £32425.00. This is a 0% increase on 2019/20.

The breakdown of the budget is as follows:

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------|
| Administration | £4500.00 | Highways | £1000.00 |
| Wages, PAYE, NI, Pension | £18315.00 | | |
| Section 137 Grants | £4,500.00 | | |
| Loan Interest and payment | £897.84 | | |
| Newsletter | £900.00 | | |
| Public Lighting | £420.00 | | |
| Insurance | £1500.00 | | |
| Parish Maintenance | £8500.00 | Total | £49032.84 |

128/19 PLANNING

TO CONSIDER:

19/01634/OUT The Old Granary Site Whitegate Farm, Witcham Road

Demolition of existing structures and erection of up to four dwellings with parking and associated works.

The Parish Council discussed the application and a "No Comment" reply was agreed by all.

19/01728/FUL Plot 4 Land North East of 15 Bridge Road, Mepal

Erection of dwelling and garage from extant outline planning permission 18/00909/OUT

The Parish Council discussed the application and a "No Comment" reply was agreed by all.

129/19 ST MARYS CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

The Parish Council discussed the ongoing issue surrounding the grounds maintenance for the churchyard. It was agreed the Parish Council will write to the diocese for clarification before progressing further. There was a suggestion that the Parish Council will arrange an Easter and Christmas Voluntary Community Tidy Up each year.

130/19 YOUTH CLUB

The Parish Council discussed the release of a small amount of 2020-21 grant, £250.00 to allow the club to proceed until April 2020 due to a missed application process. It was agreed by unanimous decision to proceed and release the funds. The Clerk asked whether the £250.00 could be a donation from the Parish Council to the Youth Club and not be taken out of their 2020/21 Grant, this was discussed and agreed by unanimous decision.

131/19 COMMUNICATION POLICY

The Parish Council discussed the addition of the Communication Policy and it was agreed to review all policies and procedures in April meeting ready for the new financial year. Clerk to send out to all in March to review.

132/19 MEPAL PEOPLE / PARISH POP UP EVENT

The Parish Council discussed the continuation of the Mepal People Publication and agreed that a period of 6-month free advertising will be given to all advertiser from April 2020 to try and help promote the publication and generate further income from advertisers. The addition of changing to a colour copy of the publication was also agreed for the next issue.

As the Publication shares its name with the community Facebook page it was suggested the name be changed to stop any confusion. The new name will be decided by the community asking for suggestions in the next edition of the Mepal People.

The Parish Council agreed to also take over the sole ownership of the publication as its Editor is the now the Parish Council's Vice Chair.

133/19 UNION CHAPEL DONATION

The Parish Council noted receipt and presentation of an anonymous donation received for Union Chapel. Chairman Brian Rollason delivered the £500.00 cheque to the Union Chapel who were extremely grateful for the donation.

134/19 LAUREL CLOSE TREE WORKS

The Parish Council discussed the Tree works required to the tree and it was agreed by unanimous vote that they will proceed with the quote from S Birt Garden and Tree Care for £1880.00 total. Chairman Brian Rollason will contact and agree a start date.

135/19 MEPAL SENIORS

This item was moved forward on the agenda and took place after item 126/19.

The Parish Council are sad to hear the news that Mepal Sports Seniors has decided to withdraw from the Cambs Football League and hoped once repair of the field was completed, they would be able to re-join the league and return to paying in Mepal. It was agreed that the £450 grant for 2020/21 will be paid to compensate for the increased costs and loss of funds due to playing all matches away from home.

The container currently on site is to be emptied and its contents stored within the Pavilion building until the Parish Council purchase a new unit to replace it. It was requested that the new unit be slightly longer to accommodate goal posts and make stored easier within the unit.

Councillor Brill and Rollason will contact the container company and agree the replacement at a cost to the Parish Council and the Clerk will liaise with Mepal Sports Seniors Secretary to have the old container emptied and the unit removed from site. All costs will be dealt with by the Parish Council.

It was also agreed that the Parish Council will reserve funding to help the start-up of football once repair to the field is completed. The Clerk is to contact the Football Foundation in regard to having the sign replaced at the entrance to the premises.

136/19 FINANCE

a) DIRECT DEBITS paid:

| | |
|--|------------|
| E-on Street Lighting 01.10-31.10.19 | £35.01 DD |
| Wave 06.08-05.11.2019 | £42.49 DD |
| Public Works Loan Board | £448.92 DD |
| Opus Energy - Gas Pavilion 19.10 to 17.11.19 | £76.46 DD |
| Wave - water 06.08-05.11.2019 | £16.32 DD |
| E-on Street Lighting 01.11-30.11.2019 | £33.87 DD |
| Plusnet - JAN 19 | £7.00 DD |
| Plusnet - DEC 19 | £7.00 DD |

b) PAYMENTS MADE:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Leisure Bench Ltd | £417.96 BACS |
| SLCC - Training | £118.80 BACS |
| Mepal VE Day Committee | £250.00 BACS |
| Currys PC World - Printer | £201.98 OC |
| HMRC | £133.90 BACS |
| Cleaning Supplies for Pavilion | £29.25 OC |
| Stationery and Pavilion supplies | £34.25 OC |
| Honey Housekeeping | £50.00 BACS |

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| HMRC | £139.05 BACS |
| Staff wages and Expenses Nov/Dec | Confidential |
| Ebay -postbox | £10.90 OC |
| Wilko - Pavilion supplies | £34.25 OC |
| Wilko - Pavilion maintenance | £29.25 OC |
| Redshoes | £57.60 BACS |
| Truelink | £60.59 BACS |
| Service Charge | £18.00 BACS |
| c) INCOME | |
| Pavilion Hire | £680.00 BACS |
| SSE FIT CREDIT | £777.03 CHEQUE |

137/19 DIARY DATES - Next Full Parish Council meeting will be Friday 7th February 2020 at 7.30pm in Mepal Community Pavilion.

.....
Karen Peck
Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
Mepal Parish Council

.....
Brian Rollason
Chairman
Mepal Parish Council

Date.....