

# MEPAL PARISH COUNCIL

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

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**NOTICE OF MEETING:** Full Parish Council Meeting  
**TIME:** 19.30  
**DATE:** Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018  
**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 3

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

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## MINUTES

### 001/18 TO RECORD APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Elizabeth Stazicker, Chairman was unable to attend so Alan Catley chaired the meeting in her absence.  
Janet Fishenden resigned from the role of Parish Councillor.

### 002/18 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

### 003/18 MEMBERS' REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None

### 004/18 TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF:

#### a) Full Parish Council Meeting 13th November 2017

Minutes were amended 191/17 'the ditch behind the properties on Meadow Way' and then approved and signed by Vice Chairman Alan Catley.

### 005/18 TO RECEIVE DISTRICT AND/OR COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

District Councillor Anna Bailey gave an update on Mepal Outdoor Centre, commuter car parks, Barton Road housing in Ely, Combined Authority priorities, Neighbourhood Cares Pilots update, NHS STP Programme Board and the A10 maintenance. Anna also gave an update on the Mepal Traffic Management Plan which was drafted by Mal Peters and commented on by Anna who also provided information about the different funding sources. Anna's report is available upon request.

County Councillor Lorna Dupre gave an update on flooding, grit bins, Council Tax, Witchford Village College, Mayor taking over Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the Mepal Bridge works which were scheduled for week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> January but have now been postponed due to flooding. Lorna explained that the study on the A10 road from Ely to the A14 is due to be published on the 8<sup>th</sup> January and includes cycleways, relocating Waterbeach station, Park & Ride, junction improvements and turning it into a dual carriageway. Lorna is holding 'Meet Your Councillor' meetings on 9<sup>th</sup> Jan, 15<sup>th</sup> Jan, 29<sup>th</sup> Jan, 7<sup>th</sup> Feb and 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. Lorna's report and meeting information is available upon request.

### 006/18 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.

Mepal Resident, Mal Peters spoke about the recent correspondence he has had with Steve Barclay MP about Mepal Traffic Management Plan including the A142, the speed through the village and the proposed access to the new development near Brick Lane.

## 007/18 PLANNING

**TO BE CONSIDERED:** None

**PLANNING UPDATES:** 17/01738/FUL – The Three Pickerels – Extension, loft conversion and alterations plus change of use from public house to hotel – Approved subject to conditions.

## 008/18 RECREATION FIELD

Parish Councillor Diana Bray gave an update. Diana has contacted 4 companies to advise upon and quote to undertake work to correct the issues with the field. 3 declined to quote and 1 quote has been received. Diana has been in contact with the groundman at Over Parish Council who has experienced similar issues with sinkage along the drainage lines who explained that a number of Parishes have experienced the same issues and that the sinkage lines require ongoing maintenance. Diana explained the maintenance that Over Parish Council have had to do since having the drainage installed. Diana has been given contact details for 2 companies who have been used by other Parish Council's for top dressing and verti-draining. Diana explained that the correcting the drainage issue will require getting the lines top dressed and seeding. This work may need repeating and there will almost certainly be ongoing verti-drainage and maintenance costs thereafter. Diana recommended that the Parish Council undertakes the work suggested once, additional quotes have been received late spring/early summer and that she and another Parish Councillor meet with representative of each of the football clubs to discuss the process and timescales.

A member of the public thanked Diana for the update but expressed concern that the original drainage work was not done to tender and that any maintenance work done would not resolve the issue.

## 009/18 COMMUNITY LED-PLAN

Parish Councillor Steve Green and Mepal Community Led plan Steering group member Roger Taylor gave an update on the Community Led Plan. The steering group meet last month and it was agreed that due to the concerns raised at the launch event in October the A142 was a top priority. The group have decided to survey the Mepal residents on their views of the A142. The next meeting is on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

## 010/18 LOCAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE 2017/18

The Clerk explained that the new speed activated signs have been ordered and expected delivery is late January.

## 011/18 LILIBET WOOD

Parish Councillor Steve Green gave an update on the maintenance plans for the wood. Steve has been in contact with the Woodland Trust for information. Steve explained that he will plan what needs to be done now and annually and it was agreed that it can be brought to the next meeting in February.

## 012/18 MEPAL CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON EVENT

Zoe Angier gave an update on the very successful Christmas event on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Zoe thanked the Parish Council for the grant and others for their time and donations. Zoe explained that they are already planning the Christmas 2018 event. A report will be published in the next edition of the *Mepal People*.

## 013/18 A142 IRAP ROAD SAFETY ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION

Vice Chairman, Alan Catley read an update from the Chairman on the presentation attended in December 2017. The report is available upon request from the Clerk. The Chairman explained there was a long question and answer session which resulted in 2 important responses for Mepal; (i) possible amelioration at the Mepal junction is at present under active consideration (this is the only part of the route for which this is the case) and (ii) The Road Safety Engineer noted reports of mud on the road at and close to the Block Fen roundabout, and undertook to talk to relevant bodies to prevent occurrence and insist in early cleaning.

## 014/18 DOG FOULING CONCERNS

It was discussed that various complaints and comments had been received via social media about the increase in dog fouling in village, Laurel Close green and field near church. The Parish Council discussed options and it was agreed that something be printed in the next edition of *Mepal People* to raise awareness of the risks of dog fouling. It was also agreed that the white pavement stencils could be re-done in the summer when the paths are dry.

## 015/18 FINANCE

### a) Budget v's Actual Q3 2017/18

- The Clerk explained the 2017/18 Q3 results which were distributed prior to the meeting and approved.

- The bank reconciliation up to end December 2017 was received and approved.
- b) Budget and Precept for 2018/19**
- A presentation on the 2018/19 draft budget was received and it was agreed that the Parish Council continue to work on the draft budget to enable to present the final version at the meeting in February. The draft budget was used to decide on the precept money for 2018/19. It was agreed unanimously that the precept for 2018/19 will be the same as the previous year 2017/18 at £32,425. It was agreed that the Clerk complete the relevant forms for the deadline of 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018.
  - A meeting was arranged for the budget discussions on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January.
- c) PAYMENTS made since last meeting:**
- |  |         |      |
|--|---------|------|
| • Truelink – November 2017                       | £57.96  | BACS |
| • HMRC – December 2017                           | £31.60  | BACS |
| • Simon Batchelor – December 2017 Wages          | £126.48 | BACS |
| • Emma Harris – December 2017 Wages              | £646.83 | BACS |
| • Simon Batchelor- Maintenance Expenses Dec 2017 | £101.85 | BACS |
| • Emma Harris – Office Expenses Dec 2017         | £72.70  | BACS |
- d) DIRECT DEBITS paid:**
- |  |        |          |
|--|--------|----------|
| • Opus Energy – Pav Gas ((18 <sup>th</sup> April-19 <sup>th</sup> Nov 17)) | £0.45  | DD 3/12  |
| • E.on – Street Lighting November 2017                                     | £24.14 | DD 11/12 |
| • Anglian Water – Pavilion 15/8-14/11 *estimated bill*                     | £50.65 | DD 15/12 |
| • Anglian Water – Recreation Field 15/8-14/11 *estimated bill*             | £12.10 | DD 15/12 |
| • Tesco Mobile – November 17   | £7.50  | DD 15/12 |
- e) PAYMENTS to be made:**
- |   |         |      |
|---|---------|------|
| • Mepal Village Hall – Oct, Nov & Dec 17      | £115.00 | CHQ  |
| • Cambridge ACRE - Oct-Dec 17 Payroll Charges | £54.00  | BACS |
- f) INCOME received:** Mepal People advert invoices paid x1
- d) QUOTES to discuss**
- A quote for the Bus shelter repairs at The Green, Bridge Road was discussed and agreed.
- e) PRIORS FIELD SURGERY FUNDING REQUEST**
- The Clerk explained that she is awaiting information requested at the previous meeting to enable a fair discussion on the request for funding towards proposed extension. It was agreed to take this item to the next meeting in February.
- f) GAS SUPPLY CONTRACT RENEWAL, PAVILION**
- Vice Chairman Alan Catley agreed to look in to the gas supply contract which is due for renewal in February 2018.

**016/18 ACTIONS completed and outstanding (report for information)**

- a) Business Plan – Workshop arranged for Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 9.30-3pm.
- b) Additional banking options – ongoing
- c) Streetlight – back of river close. Connection transferred, old post still in situ.
- d) Pavilion Health & Safety review and re-decoration- clearing pavilion 11/1/18 in preparation for decoration.
- e) Boundary change and CIL – wrote to Sutton PC 4/12 who discussed at meeting mid-December. They resolved that clerk obtains some information and then a meeting with both PC’s will be arranged.
- f) Status of Brick Lane – no update

**017/18 DIARY DATES**

- To note that the next Full Council Meeting will be 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

Meeting closed at 21:26.

..... 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
**Emma Harris, Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer**

..... 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
**Elizabeth Stazicker, Chairman**