

## LAKENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Lakenheath Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019  
at the Methodist Church commencing at 7:00pm

### **Present**

Councillors E Morley (Chairman), H Brown, J Hastings, R Norman, J Gentle, W Newman, C Lucas, G Kelly, Clare Shimmom (Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Frost

### **2 Declaration of Interest**

Cllr Lucas - Sutton Services Ltd & Lakenheath Playingfield Committee (Elveden Estates)

Cllr Hastings - Lakenheath Keep Fit & Curling Clubs

Cllr Brown - Lakenheath Heritage Group Recorder & Christian Enterprise Foundation Trustee

Cllr Norman - Village Hall

Cllr Newman - Lakenheath News

### **3 Confirmation of Minutes of Meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

It was proposed and seconded the Minutes of the Council meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March were signed as an accurate record of the meeting. All agreed.

### **4 Representations from Members of the Public**

Mr Jones gave his personal thanks to the Parish Council with a special mention to Cllrs Brown and Gyte. He added that the Parish Council do a great job and faced unwarranted criticism.

Mr Rolph questioned the future of the Lakenheath Times, with problems seen each month with the Editor/Printers. He asked if delivery to every household was needed when it is available in the Parish Office and online. He added that advertising was taken to make it cheaper but no cost saving had been seen.

### **5 Police Matters including Speeding and Dangerous Driving**

Members had been provided with an email from a resident in the High Street, following an accident due to speeding.

After lengthy discussion it was agreed to contact the Police Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable to raise the Parish Council's continued disappointment with lack of policing in the village. Following the accident, Officers should have done more. There was disgust that the drivers in the accident were allowed to walk away without penalty as they were guilty of an offence under the Road Traffic Act 1988 updated 1991 section 213/3/3A. Drivers continue to park on the newly painted lines around the pedestrian crossing and Officers had been seen sitting in a vehicle close by and ignoring the problem. It was proposed by Cllr Lucas and seconded by Cllr Brown. All agreed.

### **6 Reports & Questions:-**

#### **(a) RAF Commander Lakenheath**

There were none.

#### **(b) Forest Heath District Council**

There were none.

#### **(c) Suffolk County Council to include Parking and White Lines on High Street**

It was reported that although numerous emails had been exchanged with SCC, no definitive answer had been received regarding refreshed or new lining near to the Tap PH on High Street.

### **7 Planning Matters:-**

#### **(a) To receive report from Planning Committee**

#### **(b) To consider any other outstanding applications/matters/including Lakenheath Hall**

Application in Circulation:

1. DC/18/2176/HH – Appeal against refusal of a Householder Planning Application - (i) dropped kerb to west elevation to create access and (ii) install electric gates - 6 Mill Road - this is to create a driveway on Back Street to the bungalow on the corner of Mill Road (where there is a double garage and sufficient drive for 3 cars) and the Back Street. No new additional representations can be made.

Representations made in support by the planning sub-committee:

1. DC/19/0339/HH - Householder Planning Application - Single storey front, side and rear extensions - 10 Meadow Drive - subject to matching existing brickwork
2. DC/19/0332/FUL Planning Application - New shopfront and external alterations - 30 High Street - a request for lighter grey window and door surrounds. Although in the conservation area there is no uniformity of colour on the street scene
3. DC/19/0314/TCA Trees in a Conservation Area Notification - T1 and T2 – Yew - reduce the trees overhanging New House back to the boundary line by 0.5 metres - St Marys Church, High Street. As the applicant, approval was given on behalf of the whole Parish council.
4. DC/19/0363/FUL | Planning Application - (i) Single storey link extension to join Chapel and Sunday School (following demolition of existing extension), (ii) removal of door and insertion of 3no windows to East elevation, (iii) insertion of 3no roof lights to Sunday School and (v) new door to south elevation - Baptist Chapel, Mill Road- request that as it is intended to remove the extension which is faced with flint, that the new work is also finished to match the church building. Alternatively to ensure a good gault brick to match the school house at the rear.

**Major Developments:**

Land north of Station Road still awaits its approval notice for the 375 dwellings etc.

The case of Lakenheath Parish Council v Suffolk County Council on all three of the original grounds, was heard in the High Court of Justice last Thursday. The result could be available Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

**SIR:**

Following submission of revised representations to the Inspectors, they were sent to Forest Heath District Council for comment. A response from the Service Manager for Planning Strategy was received last Friday which showed the department to be out of touch. They informed the inspectors that the noise data collated by the Parish Council and used for part of the representations at the Development and Control meetings for both FHDC and SCC, last September and October, was obtained purely for the Judicial Review and that reliance should be placed on the DIO noise contours. There is obviously a lack of understanding with regards to noise. Their view was quite clear there is nothing of relevance that would impact on Station Road North sites being allocated in the SALP. The planning sub-committee will respond to this, correcting the position.

**Lakenheath Hall:**

The first two houses on the site, those bought by the current owners in a half-finished state, have now been completed and sold. The sale triggered a S106 payment, advised at £219,000. The S106 agreement shows the only financial contribution, related to an affordable homes contribution in place of providing actual houses. The S106 Officer has been contacted along with the District Councillors, for confirmation as to how this will be used, asking that they ensure that it is for the benefit of Lakenheath people.

There is now a revised planning application for seven houses on the main site. These houses will be more in keeping with the area in general and in particular with the houses already on the site, including the hall, than the extant permission.

The owners are in the process of preparing building regulation drawings and tendering the construction contract(s). They are hoping to start work in early summer. Their intention is to build homes of the highest quality that will be a credit to Lakenheath and the site. They will not be cheap but hopefully value for money and more importantly affordable.

The application for the demolition of the bungalow in the Retreat gardens has been withdrawn. It seems that because of bats, the owners cannot apply to demolish the bungalow until May. They will be resubmitting their application in May, with a full ecological survey and plans to accommodate the bats. The bungalow itself is not really fit for habitation as the foundations have collapsed. The owners have had initial conversations with FHDC and without in any way committing the planning department, it has been indicated that putting two family homes on the site would be acceptable. This particularly in light of the fact that Hall Drive is not being used for access to 7 Gentle Rise for which they have consent. Replacing the existing bungalow with two homes will not put additional pressure on Hall Drive.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Brown for all her hard work.

**8 Financial Matters including:****(a) Payments of Accounts**

It was proposed and seconded to authorise cheques and the release of online payments for payments previously agreed. All agreed.

Payee	Description of supply	Amount
Staff	March Salaries, Income Tax, NI & Pension	£4083.77
Lakenheath Peace Memorial Hall	Parish Office Rent & Hire for Parish Meeting	£743.09
Clare Shimmon	Reimbursement (Mileage, Stationery, Fuel and Postage)	£237.75
West Suffolk Council	Emptying of Dog Bins	£153.92
Richard Buxton	Planning Services	£9462.60
R A Cash	Minor Repair - Cemetery Cottage	£30.00
BT Payment Services	Parish Office Telephone & Broadband	£72.60
G & J Peck Ltd	Machinery Parts	£44.40
Jady L Peachey	Cemetery Cottage Fencing	£6309.44
Forest Heath Fasteners	Work Boots (Cemetery Keeper)	£39.95
EDF Energy	Electricity – Cemetery Chapel	£39.32
Sunrise Services	Cleaning Public Toilets (February)	£192.00

*Cllr Gentle arrived.*

**(b) Bank Reconciliation**

A bank reconciliation for 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019 was presented. It was proposed and seconded to accept. All agreed.

**9 Lakenheath Cemetery****(a) To receive a Cemetery Report**

It was agreed that the cemetery looked outstanding. Concerns were raised about some patches in the hedge that may need replacing, cars parked in the cemetery and unsupervised children in the grounds. The grass has been affected by last year's hot weather but it is hoped that regular cutting this year will help.

It was agreed to place a sign on the pedestrian gate, showing access to the public toilet.

**(b) To Confirm Grant of Exclusive Rights of Burial**

There was one.

**(c) Cottage Refurbishment**

Following completion of the cottage refurbishment, Cllr Lucas proposed an inspection in October. All agreed.

**(d) Risk Assessment**

After additions, Cllr Hastings proposed to accept the risk assessment. All agreed.

**(d) Chapel**

Cllr Hastings gave an update on getting the chapel ready for regular opening.

**10 Elections - Nomination Papers Delivery**

The clerk reminded all present that nomination papers needed to be with her by midday on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, for her to deliver to West Suffolk House.

**11 Children's Play Area - Litter Bins**

It was reported that litter in the children's play area was made worse by wildlife being able to get into the bins.

A price was considered for bins like those already in the village but it was agreed that Councillors would look into alternatives, ensuring that they had lids.

**12 Great British & Village Spring Clean**

Cllr Frost had reported that due to other commitments in April he would organise 'Keep Lakenheath Tidy' for May/June.

Concerns were raised about only giving short notice to residents and the risk of losing momentum. It could possibly be held over two separate dates.

<b>13</b>	<b>Footpaths</b> Concerns have been regularly raised concerning obstructions on public footpaths including, vehicles, dog fouling and gravel from driveways.  It was proposed and seconded to publish an article in the Lakenheath Times. All agreed.
<b>14</b>	<b>Items for Future Meetings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keep Lakenheath Tidy</li><li>• Children's Play Area - Litter Bins</li><li>• Remembrance Day Parade</li><li>• Telephone Box</li></ul>
<b>15</b>	<b>Such other business which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered as a matter of urgency</b> It was reported that production by the editor of the Lakenheath Times was delayed for April and that collection was arranged for tomorrow. There had been a few issues recently and it was agreed to discuss the matter further if problems continued.
<b>16</b>	<b>To note date of next Meetings - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019</b> <b>Parish Meeting - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019 (Peace Memorial Hall)</b>  There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:00pm.