



## **6. Vacancies for Parish Councillors.**

Mrs Marina Almond confirmed that she wished to join the Council as a co-opted member. Following completion of the application form, Mrs Almond read the Declaration of Office Order 2001 and was welcomed to the Council. Proposed Cllr Mahony and seconded by Cllr Spurling.

## **7. Release of Land for Development by Darley Estates**

Cllr Oakervee explained that a request had been made under the Freedom of Information Act 2001 to try and get a better understanding of the background to the circumstances under which the land was being made available, including details of past contacts between ECDC and Darley Estates. The material subsequently provided by ECDC had not yielded any fresh information and had contained some inaccuracies. It was agreed that further clarification should be sought (via Solicitors acting for the Parish Council), to include a request for copies of relevant correspondence and meeting notes. It was also agreed that ECDC should be asked to confirm when the results of the "Village Visions" survey would be available.

*Action :Clerk*

## **8. Provision of Aerial Zip Wire and Youth Shelter.**

It had been suggested that the zip wire should be installed closer to the Pavilion. Members considered the viability of this proposal but concluded that the original proposal, to locate the zip wire close to the western boundary, represented the best option. Proposed Cllr Spurling and seconded by Cllr Almond.

## **9. Playground Maintenance**

East Cambs DC Parks and Gardens Dept., had advised that it was acceptable to use weedkiller such as "Round Up" in the Play Area, so long as sensible precautions were taken such as closing the area until the liquid was dry. However, given the spread of weeds in the area, it was agreed that rotovation would be preferable in the first instance.

The contractor had confirmed that it should be possible to reduce the tripping hazard at the roundabout by rounding off the existing concrete base. The cost for this work, to include removal and reinstatement of the roundabout etc., would be £ 231-72 +VAT. It was then agreed that the following works should now proceed, with completion by the end of September.

Proposed by Cllr Spurling and seconded by Cllr Almond.

(1) Dismantle roundabout, round off concrete base and re-fix -	£231-72 + VAT
(2) Provide new gate (in present position) (ROSPA)	£281.83 + VAT
(3) Rotovate area & lay new bark on completion	<u>£557.60 + VAT</u>
	£1071.15 + VAT

## **10. Recreation Ground - Hire of football pitch**

The Clerk reported that the Newmarket under 14s Football Team had decided not to rent the football pitch for the 2011-12 season.

## **11. Sanctuary Sheltered Housing**

Cllr Oakervee confirmed that the Parish Council had written to Sanctuary Housing in the light of complaints received about disturbance and poor enforcement of tenancy

agreement conditions. A subsequent inspection of the estates had revealed a number of issues and Sanctuary had now written to a several tenants about these matters which mostly involved overgrown hedges, accumulation of rubbish and inconsiderate burning. It was agreed that a notice about bonfires in particular should also be published in the parish magazine,

Sanctuary had also held a meeting with tenants in the Sheltered Scheme at which the need for a better age mix on the estates had been stressed. A separate meeting between these tenants and Matthew Shuter (County Councillor) regarding traffic issues was being held concurrently with the Parish Council meeting.

## 12. Cutting of Protected Verges

It was noted that the County Council would no longer carry out any cutting of the protected road verge from Gazeley Road to B1085. It was believed that only one verge had protected status and it was agreed that the Parish Council should consider adding this section to its grass cutting contract. Clerk to confirm cutting requirement and seek a quote from the contractor. Action: Clerk

## 13. Pavilion Trust Report

Cllr Mahony reported that the 100 Club would be holding a Table Top sale on 8<sup>th</sup> October at the Pavilion. Flyers would be issued shortly to advertise the event. In relation to the status of the car park, the Clerk confirmed that whilst it had not been possible to obtain definitive legal advice, on the balance of probabilities the car park could be regarded as private.

## 14. Finance matters

### (a) Approval of expenditure Aug/Sept

£

Nb: The invoices listed below include those received since the agenda was issued

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| • Clerks salary (July –Sept inc)                               | * LC1 -7 |
| • Clerk's expenses   | 24.75    |
| • Ashley Pavilion Trust (Room Hire- July-Sept)                 | 30.00    |
| • Ashley Pavilion Trust (Pavilion Buildings Insurance Premium) | 411.23   |
| • CGM Cambridge (Grasscutting 13 August)                       | 300.60   |

\* denotes relevant Local Authority pay scale and spine point

It was agreed that all the above payments be approved. Proposed by Cllr Oakervee and seconded by Cllr Almond.

## 15. Planning cases

No applications had been received.

## 16. Footpaths

(1) Proposed diversion of Footpath No 1 - a retrospective application had been submitted to legitimise a diversion made in 2010 by the landowner of Mill House, Mill Road, to prevent the public from coming into direct contact with horses crossing the original line of the path. Whilst the Council broadly supported the proposal there was uncertainty as to whether the new section of path was actually 2 metres wide. In

addition it was felt that clarification was required as to who was responsible for cutting the hedge along the diverted route. Action: Clerk

(2) Footpath Warden's Report - the report was read by the Clerk. All paths were open, with no obstructions but Footpath no 5, required urgent grass cutting. Responsibility for grass cutting along this path would need to be investigated. Action Clerk/Footpath Warden

## **17. Youth Club**

Diana White ( Club Leader) was not in attendance and no report on club activities had been received.

## **18. Standing Orders.**

The Clerk confirmed that a review of the non-statutory orders had been carried out and whilst many were not relevant at the moment, there may be a future requirement . It was agreed that all orders be retained with the exception of those pertaining to the Code of Conduct for Welsh Authorities (P99). The financial standing orders would now be reviewed to better reflect current practice and to update financial delegations. Action: Clerk

## **19. Correspondence**

**East Cambs District Council – Annual Neighbourhood Panel Review Meeting.** – This would be taking place on 20<sup>th</sup> September at The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely. Cllr Oakervee (and possibly Cllr Mahony) to attend.

**Victim Support** – request for donation – it was unanimously agreed that a donation of £25 should be provided to support the work of the organisation, which had been of benefit to Ashley residents.

**Addenbrookes Hospital** - opportunity to meet the Governors. - this letter confirmed the Governors' willingness to visit parish/town councils to discuss any local issues together with a request to publicise this through parish magazines.

## **20. Urgent matters**

There were no urgent matters

## **21. Date of next meeting**

This will take place in the Pavilion on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October.

*The meeting closed at 9.40pm*