



# PERRY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Perry Parish Council Meeting held at 1900 hours on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at the Grafham Water Sailability Clubhouse

## **Present:**

**Parish Councillors:** Chairman Sheila Brighton (SB), Vice Chairman Eleanor Abbs (EA), Nigel Noon (NN), Emma Prew (EP), Jo Shirreffs (JS) [as of item 23/54]. The meeting was quorate.

**County Councillor:** Ian Gardener (IG)

**District Councillor:** Stephen Cawley (SC)

**Members of the public:** seven

**Clerk to the Council:** Eugene Smith (ES)

## **23/53 Apologies**

None.

## **23/54 Appointment of a councillor**

Motion proposed by EP and seconded by EA. Jo Shirreffs was appointed as a councillor of Perry Parish Council by unanimous vote of the council.

## **23/57 Report from County and District Councillors**

(item moved forward due to other commitments)

IG and SC delivered their reports, which are attached as Appendices One and Two respectively.

## **23/55 Councillors' declaration of interest for items on the agenda**

EA and EP declared interests regarding item 23/66/e. ES explained that he had issued a dispensation for both councillors regarding this item.

## **23/56 Open forum for public participation**

The possibility of organising a CPR / defibrillator training session was raised and discussed.

**Action:** ES to arrange publicity / expressions of interest and report back at the next meeting.

## **23/58 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the Perry Parish Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**23/59 Clerk's report**

Attached as Appendix Three.

**23/60 Parish / village matters**

- a) Sponsorship of planters  
The current tenders of the planters by the village gates said they were happy for Grafham Water Centre to take these over.

**Action:** ES to inform Grafham Water Centre.

- b) Rabbits  
The excessive rabbits and associated damage in parts of the village were discussed.

**Action:** ES to write to Anglian Water and Grafham Water Sailing Club.

**23/61 Parish council property**

- a) First aid kit  
It was agreed to purchase a first aid kit for council events, to be stored by ES.

**Action:** ES to liaise with EP and JS re contents.

- b) Litter pickers  
It was agreed to buy 10 additional litter pickers

**Action:** ES to purchase.

**23/62 Events Working Party**

- a) The group's name - Perry Events Working Party - was **noted**.
- b) The terms of reference were **approved**.
- c) Updates were received re the garage sale, despite the heat it was well-attended and judged a success by all.
- d) Flyers for the litter pick will be delivered over the weekend of 16/17 September.
- e) Arrangements for Remembrance were discussed, the poppy placing will commence a fortnight before Remembrance Day (which will be observed at 1100 hours on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November).

## **23/63 Highways, pavements and traffic**

- a) Gaynes "estate" sign  
The road-name style sign was **approved**.

**Action:** ES to place order.

- b) Speeding  
Methods of speed control were discussed.

**Action:** ES to present detailed options at October's meeting.

## **23/64 Meetings attended**

EA attended a CAPALC (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils) Chairmanship training course in July.

## **23/65 Council administration**

- a) Social media  
Primary responsibilities were **agreed** as follows:  
Facebook and NextDoor: EA  
Website: ES

- b) Handyman weedkiller training  
It was decided to hold a year's trial period of not using pesticides, relying on organic or physical methods (subject to review as necessary). The weedkiller training was **declined**.

## **23/66 Finance**

- a) Bank service charges of £18.00, taken on 31/03/2023 and 30/06/2023, making a total of £36.00, were **noted**.
- b) A VAT refund of £783.93, received on 24/05/2023, was **noted**.
- c) A grass-cutting contribution from Cambridgeshire County Council of £829.55, received on 21/07/2023 was **noted**.
- d) Noting the bank reconciliation for Quarter One was **deferred** to October's meeting.
- e) The following payments were approved / ratified (signified by\*):
- Antony Abbs (Four Seasons, grass cut six): **£220.00**
  - Eugene Smith (stationery and litter pick materials): **£94.04**
  - Arthur Ibbett Ltd (handyman equipment servicing): **£271.82**
  - Grafham Water Sailability (clubhouse use for July's PPC meeting): **£30.00**
  - CAPALC (CiLCA training): **£400.00**

- Martin Wilson (dog waste bags): **£8.55**
- Perry in Bloom: **£154.00**
- Eugene Smith (clerk's salary July/August 2023)\*: **confidential**
- Eugene Smith (home working allowance July/August 2023)\*: **£52.00**
- Colin Beesley (handyman's wages July/August 2023)\*: **confidential**
- HMRC (July/August)\*: **£82.80**
- BWP Creative Ltd (website and email hosting)\*: **£216.00**
- Lady Gardener (branch removal): **£420.00\***
- CAPALC (chairmanship training)\*: **£50.00**
- CAPALC (councillor training)\*: **£75.00**

**23/67      Agenda items for the next Perry Parish Council meeting**

No additional items. Items must be received by the clerk no later than Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

**23/68      Date of next Perry Parish Council meeting**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 1900 hours.

**Meeting closed at 2021 hours.**

**END OF MINUTES**

**APPENDICES**

**APPENDIX ONE – Report from County Councillor Ian Gardener**

Perry Parish Council Meeting – September 23

I am pleased to report that the new Public Rights of Way Officer for Hunts starts in October. The Council also hopes to appoint the New Green Infrastructure Manager towards the end of this week. Next week interviews will be held for the two vacant Green Infrastructure Technical Officer Roles.

I am also pleased to report that our new Local Highways Officer is due to start in October. I will continue to have regular meetings with her and Site Visits. Once I have a start date and name I will let you all know.

The Greater Cambridge Partnership have now come up with their revised proposals for the Congestion charge in Cambridge following the consultation.

The proposals are that the:-

Congestion Charge will operate between the hours of 7am and 10am and the 3pm to 6pm Monday to Friday, The cost will be £5.00 for cars, £10.00 for vans and £50 for HGV's.

Motorists will get 50 free days per annum, however this means drivers/ commuters will still pay in excess of £1000 to commute into Cambridge on a daily basis.

There will also be a 50% discount for locally owned small to medium businesses using HGV's and vans. Its not yet known whether this is just for Cambridge City businesses or for all businesses in Cambridgeshire.

There will also be a 50% discount for people on low incomes, this however will still mean that these residents will have to find in excess of £500 to commute into Cambridge per annum

There will also be exemptions for most people who have, to travel to Addenbrookes, the Royal Papworth and Rosie Maternity Hospitals, as these hospitals will remain in the zone. As, yet we don't know how this will operate and who will not be exempt. There will also be exemptions for those in receipt of Carer benefits and personal mobility benefits.

Also, motorbikes will be exempt from the charge.

However, the Labour Party in Cambridge and the Lib Dems in South Cambridgeshire have said they won't support these proposals as they are seen as a vote loser as seen in the recent Cambridge. So the proposals are dead in the water until after the General election.

I have received a the large amount of complaints about weeds along the edges of our roads, if the PC consider this an issue, as Cambridgeshire County Council are no longer carrying out annual /cyclic weeding due to it being cut from the budget, back in February.

I would suggest that the PC circulates the petition to show the Cllrs in charge that this is an important issue The link to the petition is <https://shorturl.at/dkFTZ>

I would also ask that the PC consider writing to object to this policy and request that it is reversed. I would suggest you write to Stephen Moir, Chief Executive, Frank Jordan, Executive Director Place and Sustainability and Cllr Alex Beckett, chair of Highways and Transportation.

With regard, to next year's Local Highways Improvement Bids Parishes will be able to submit applications from Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 23 until noon on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 24. The County Council will undertake feasibility studies between February and May.

The LHI Panel meetings will be in June /July 24. With the report to Committee in September 24.

Cllr Ian Gardener

County Councillor for Alconbury & Kimbolton Division

## **APPENDIX TWO - Report from District Councillor Stephen Cawley**

August/September PC REPORT

### **Green Bin Waste Subscription Service**

Cabinet Members Approve New Garden Waste Subscription Service

At a meeting of the council's Cabinet Members, it was agreed that a new garden waste subscription service will be introduced in April 2024.

### **Compost Bin Offer**

<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins-waste/additional-garden-waste-bin-and-composting/>

### **Take the Pledge to Cut Food Waste**

Are you interested in making changes to the amount of food waste you generate in your household?

Whether you want to save food, save the environment, or save money, take the pledge to reduce your food waste today!

Reducing food waste is one of the easy habits which will not only reducing your carbon footprint but will also save you money too. HDC is seeking residents who want to make this positive change to sign the pledge and commit to reducing their food waste in 2023.

<https://www.recap.co.uk/pledge-to-fight-food-waste>

### **Food Recycling Bin Offer**

<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins-waste/additional-garden-waste-bin-and-composting/>

### **Investment in Hinchingsbrooke Country Park**

The investment plans for Hinchingsbrooke Country Park are now available for you to view and comment on.

Check out the plans in person at the Countryside Centre on the following dates: September: 8th, 9th, and 10th.

The plans are also available via the Council's planning portal using; Ref no: 23/01377/FUL

<https://publicaccess.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=RY5JL3IKGGB00>

Read more about the investment via the HDC Website

<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/news/investment-in-hinchingsbrooke-country-park-plans-published/>

### **Licensing**

It is not a requirement by statute unlike Planning to notify and we need to be careful with any formal notification as there needs to remain a clear distinction between HDC and the licensing authority and any such formal notification may compromise their position and potentially may expose HDC to Legal challenge.

Following feedback, the Licensing Team notify all ward councillors for all applications and in addition to this, the plan is to send communications to all Town and Parish Councils to encourage them to check the Licensing Portal of live applications on a regular basis and to share this on their websites and any newsletters circulating in their area.

### **2023 Parliamentary Boundary Review**

The Boundary Commission for England has submitted the final report to the Speaker of the House of Commons and the report has been laid in Parliament. The recommendations are published on their website here.

The new constituency of St Neots and Mid Cambridgeshire includes the four District wards covering St Neots and the two District wards of Great Paxton and Fenstanton, all currently located within the Huntingdon constituency.

The existing Huntingdon constituency has been amended to include the transfer of the remaining areas of the district ward of Alconbury, Great Staughton (including Ellington), Holywell-cum-Needingworth, remaining areas of Kimbolton, Sawtry, Somersham and Warboys from the existing North West Cambridgeshire constituency.

This leaves the three District wards of Ramsey, Stilton, Folksworth & Washingley and Yaxley remaining in the final North West Cambridgeshire constituency.

Conservatives in process of selecting candidate by end September

### **APPENDIX THREE - Clerk's report**

- Thanks to HMP Littlehey and Grafham Water Centre for acting on the letters sent after July's meeting regarding speeding (minute ref. 23/46/e)
- The visit to the MAGPAS (air ambulance) base will take place in 2024 due to base relocation. Dates to be agreed nearer the time.
- The book swap launch has been delayed until a sufficient amount of books has been gathered. This has been advertised in autumn's Life and Diaries magazine.
- Thanks to Sharon Burchall (Lady Gardener) for her excellent work clearing the branches from the village green

**END OF APPENDICES**