



**July 2016**  
**HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**

Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 7.00pm in the  
Village Barn, Eastern Way, Heath & Reach.

		Reporting / Action
<p>771</p> <p>771.1</p> <p>771.2</p> <p>771.3</p>	<p><b>INTRODUCTION:</b></p> <p>Cllr Thyer opened the meeting by reminding those present that the 15-minute time allocation for the public forum would be strictly adhered to and that there may be others present who had issues unrelated to the wind turbine. He also reminded councillors that they should address item 778.1 with an open mind and had a duty not to have predetermined their view</p> <p>Meeting Attendees: Cllrs Thyer, Ellis, Fitzpatrick, Green, Gell, Inns, Beilby, Owers, Clerk and 26 members of the public in attendance.</p> <p>Apologies for Absence: Cllr Versallion, Cllr Hawes</p> <p>Declarations of Interest: Cllr Ellis regarding item 778.1</p>	
<p>772</p> <p>772.1</p> <p>772.2</p> <p>772.3</p> <p>772.3</p> <p>772.4</p>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL / COMMITTEE MINUTES:</b></p> <p>Approval of Minutes from June 2016 Full Council. Approved &amp; signed by Cllr Thyer</p> <p>Approval of Minutes from 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016 Planning Committee. Approved and signed by Cllr Beilby</p> <p>Approval of Minutes from 22nd June 2016 Planning Committee Approved and signed by Cllr Beilby</p> <p>Approval of Minutes from 13th June 2016 Cemetery Committee Approved and signed by Cllr Fitzpatrick</p> <p>Approval of Minutes from 13th June 2016 Sports and Recreation Committee Approved and signed by Cllr Fitzpatrick</p>	
<p>773</p> <p>778.1</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC FORUM</b> – members of the public have a cumulative 15 minutes to address the Parish Council, no resolutions other than those on the agenda can be resolved from items raised in the public forum:</p> <p>Mr Graham Leslie wanted to make the Parish Council aware of the dangers of the over grown verge approaching the entrance to the Stone Lane Quarry. The grass is so high that it is obscuring the road traffic warning signs. Cllr Beilby to inspect this and also on the status of the butterfly orchids which have previously been reported as having been mown down.</p> <p>A resident asked if the Parish Council are aware that one of the houses at Sandhouse Cottages was to be used as a half-way house for young offenders. The Parish Council are not aware of this. Clerk to ask Cllr Versallion if he has any information on the matter.</p> <p>Mr Chris Roberts spoke on behalf the Stop Checkley Wood Turbine group about item 778.1 CB/16/01389/FULL, (installation of wind turbine). Submissions from this group and from those in favour of the application have been previously circulated to the Parish Council. Mr Roberts stated that the amount of energy production claimed in the application was doubtful given the number of days, up to 254, the turbine should be switched off if there is flicker on houses: 50 days if the wind direction raises noise levels to the houses. Cllr Thyer challenged this statement and Mr Roberts confirmed that this was the maximum possible when the turbine could be switched off “at times” The main point he wished to raise was ‘Localism’ and for the Parish Council to promote only changes the community want to see. To date there were 700 objections to the application, Mr Roberts was not able to state the number in favour or where these objectors lived. Cllr Beilby asked if there was any evidence about flicker on the traffic on the A5 and was informed this information was not known.</p> <p>CB/16/01389/FULL Installation of a single wind turbine with a maximum tip height of 149.8m (hub height between 93.5m and 100m; rotor diameter between 87.0m and 112.5m), substation, hard standing area, access track, underground cabling and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>Cllr Thyer informed the meeting that the Parish Council would discuss item 778.1 at this juncture. Cllr Ellis absented himself from the meeting Cllr Thyer reminded the meeting that the discussion and decision should be confined to planning grounds.</p>	



	<p>Cllr Beilby stated that his concern about the visual impact of a second turbine, the existing turbine is inconvenient enough and a second turbine will only compound this.</p> <p>Cllr Owers stated he has no personal objection to visual impact but was concerned that the Parish Council could miss the opportunity to set out clear conditions should the application go ahead. Namely: (1) Any issues with TV reception are fixed at Arnold White Estate expense. (2) Heath and Reach will be seen as pioneers and it is therefore vital that there is an on-going review of impact/performance and these reports are regularly published including impact on wildlife.</p> <p>Cllr Green questioned how the village will benefit from a second wind turbine.</p> <p>The decision to oppose this application was put to the vote. <b>It was resolved.</b></p> <p>Cllr Owers asked that in future any major development should be brought to the full parish council and the terms of reference of the planning and environment committee be amended to reflect this. It was agreed.</p>	
774	Central Bedfordshire Councillor Mark Versallion Report. The Clerk read Cllr Versallion's report. His call in to DMC of the wind turbine will not come to committee before September 14th. Having attended the Reach and Bryant's quarry meeting last week, Cllr Versallion is happy with the proposals being made by LBSS to merge the two and would argue for earlier restoration by considering an application from LBSS for increased vehicle movements, with the commensurate highways mitigations.	
775	Police Report: Clerk had circulated the latest report for period ending 31 <sup>st</sup> May. An email has been received saying that a recruitment drive should ensure more up to date reports in the future. Clerk has also received a response to asking for increased vigilance /action over parking on the zebra crossing which the Parish Council do not find acceptable. The village contributed circa £28,000 for traffic calming measures which are not being enforced. Clerk to question why the advice to send in photographs is no longer valid and whether this is because of a change in the rules? Also, parking on zebra crossings is a criminal offence and why this is being ignored? Finally, even half an hour twice a week would have a deterrent affect and if this manpower is not available can the Parish Council fund this directly?	
776	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b> – for information only	
776.1	Disclosure of Interest: Clerk clarified that a pecuniary interest is one where a councillor (or member of their household) could benefit financially from an item under discussion. A personal interest is where a councillor's interest means they hold a pre-determined view about a matter. It is up to the individual's conscience to decide whether they hold a personal interest and to be aware this can be challenged. Cllr Ellis asked for clarification as to when this interest should be declared, this should be when the declaration of interest item arises on the agenda.	Clerk
776.2	Shared Access inspection update: Nothing further to report	Fitzpatrick
776.3	HGVs through the village : Cllr Versallion continues to try and arrange a meeting with Mr Salmon. Cllr Beilby asked Clerk to contact David Peachey regarding location of CCTV cameras showing vehicle movements as there is an apparent increase in the number of vehicles travelling through the village.	Clerk
776.4	Speed Limits in the village: Clerk had previously circulated a quotation for this. Further information is required regarding data collection. Councillors to confirm lamp post numbers to clerk who can then obtain further information and costings.	
776.5	Parish Council website: Cllrs Green and Beilby have been working on a test site and will report back in September.	
776.6	Community Asset update: The form to register the Co-operative store has been submitted and is out for consultation.	
776.7	Grit Bins update: Clerk yet to receive a response from CBC Highways,	
776.8	Bus Shelter Sheepcote. Planning department had contacted the Clerk today for confirmation of location.	
776.9	Clerk had sought advice from BATPC who confirmed that financial contributions to action groups was not a proper use of public finds.	



777	<b>PARISH COUNCIL REPORT</b>	
777.1	Clerk Report/Outstanding Matters, Clerk to meet a representative from Mayday Charity regarding hiring of Bryants Lane facility during weekdays.	
777.2	Planning & Environment Committee: P3 meeting minutes have been circulated to members. Cllr Ellis asked that the Planning Committee arrange a meeting to discuss the CBC call for sites as Miletree Road is included. Also New Trees Quarry at Shenley Hill Road. Both need to be discussed prior to 29 <sup>th</sup> July.	
777.3	Sports & Recreation Committee: Bryant's Lane repairs complete. Cllr Green offered to carry out routine playground inspections.	
777.4	Cemetery Management Committee Monument safety test to take place on Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> July, Cllr Green to accompany clerk. Cllr Ellis reiterated the view of a member of the public that the cemetery was in need of attention, especially regarding the hedge, and the back row of grave stones. Clerk said that the payback team would be on site three times this week and this will show an improvement. Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that the tell-tale on the wall was not showing any signs of movement	
777.5	Finance Committee Meeting arranged for Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	
778	<b>MATTERS FOR RESOLUTION</b>	
778.2	To purchase a sign for Bryant's Lane car park to notify its private car park status. Not exceeding £75. Proposed by Cllr Beilby . <b>It was resolved.</b>	
779	<b>VILLAGE MATTERS.</b>	
779.1	Post Office: The PC felt no special measures were required to assist the vulnerable during the period the Post Office was to be closed. The Clerk to respond formally to the consultation on changes to the Post Office raising concerns on the grounds of security of information, parcels, large amounts of cash on the premises as well as the increased queues at peak times which could adversely impact both the post office and the co-op store.	
779.2	Notice Board: The PC to discuss the use of the PC notice board to advertise commercial events unrelated to the local community. Clerk confirmed this was not permissible and had not been asked to post any non-parish council related notices.	
779.3	Sandhouse Link Path Closure: Clerk to write to AWE to ask them to reconsider the closure of this path	
779.4	Community Woodland: Planning and Environmental Committee recommended the Parish Council take on this lease for a peppercorn rent. The benefit of this to the village was questioned and in response it was stated that it is open space for residents enjoyment, it would guarantee the sports field is not over-looked and would need minimum maintenance.	
779.5	Stone Lane Path: Outcome of meeting; Minutes have been circulated to members.	



780	<b>FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	
780.1	Cashbook Summary & Bank Account Balances	
	Current account Balance at 30 <sup>th</sup> June £30,094.32	
	Savings account balance £61,068.03	
	<b>Cheques</b>	
780.2	Markland Gardens £320.00	
	JG Landscapes £1,675.00	
	Dillamore £1,323.60	
	Fire FM £90.00	
	Michele Green £48.00	
	Francesca Sheppard salary £667.58	
	Francesca Sheppard expenses £14.00	
	<b>Direct Debits &amp; Standing Orders</b>	
	Cheaper Waste £ 196.13	
	Eon £62.00	
	Eon £10.00	
	Anglian Water £57.00	
	M Redwood Green £43.33	
	<b>Administration</b>	
	<b>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</b>	
	Letter from Andrew Selous MP.	
	<b>OTHER MATTERS of interest</b>	
	The Clerk confirmed that she had written to CBC about the importance to the village of the two bus services.	
	<b>Meeting closed at 8.30pm</b>	