

**Present:** M T Davis (Chairman), Mrs P Amos (Clerk), Cllrs: Dent; Crawford; Clarke; Hennen; Rose

Margaret Moulton; Mrs C Sibley; John Gowing; Mr Adam Pratt – FDC;  
Mrs Harding; Mrs Hart; Paul Clark; G Bellard; S Morrissey; E Clarke; Gerry Atkin; Mr & Mrs Mercieca

| Number  | Title                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Action |
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| 0071/18 | Apologies for Absence           | PCSO Holloway; Cllr Knowles; Cllr Wright;                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |        |
| 0072/18 | Absentees                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |        |
| 0073/18 | Declarations of interest        | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |        |
| 0074/18 | Confirmation of minutes         | RESOLVED – that the minutes of meeting held on 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2017 were correctly recorded and that they be signed as being a true record. Proposed: Cllr Dent. Seconded: Cllr Rose                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |        |
| 0075/18 | Representations guest speakers: | <p>Cllr. Steve Tierney – Area Champion – did not attend</p> <p><b>Lisa &amp; Chris Mercieca</b> – Wood Green animal shelter – Lisa apologised as their projector was not working but offered to show slides via her laptop. Wood Green’s vision is to see a world where pets all have their forever home. Unfortunately, this is not the case. Wood Green started in 1924 in London in a terraced house by Louisa Snow who was appalled at seeing strays on the street. In 1933 it became a charity. Up to 6000 animals per year are looked after including pigs, llama’s horses as well as cats and dogs and small animals including chickens which are the 6<sup>th</sup> most popular pets in the UK now. The pet market – 24% of households have pets. 7.4 million cats live in 7% of households. 2% of households own rabbits which equates to 1 million pet rabbits in the country, sadly these are the most neglected pets. A third of people who get a pet have done no research whatsoever. There are many reasons that the animal shelter receives pets, among them are older owners who cannot cope; new babies in the family; emigration; moving home to rented accommodation which will not allow pets. Wood Green have their own vets who work full time. 40% of animals received need additional veterinary care, all are neutered, a lot needing dental work. In 1954 the Haydon centre opened mostly for cats and is one of 3 centres owned by Wood Green. After realising they did not have the perfect set up for cats, they replaced the old housing with individual houses for each cat, which makes monitoring each one much easier and more comprehensive. In 1985 the charity acquired 52 acres at Godmanchester opening it in 1987 and extended the care to dogs, with individual kennels for each dog within new parasols which at the time were innovative, however the wood began to rot and they needed to be replaced. They were replaced with new kennels with underfloor heating with frosted doors so that each dog can’t see the others, which makes it less stressful for them and calmer and home like. The capacity is 40 dogs at the moment. Each one has between 1 and 4 walks a day, every day of the year including socialising with each other. Each dog and cat receives individual daily attention. One staff member usually looks after 4 dogs building a relationship with them, including using a mock up living room to test many things, including whether they can be left alone and whether they chew the furniture. Other than looking after pets they also have a huge education programme, going into schools and to meetings like this trying to educate people. They also do dog and cat MOT events which includes pet health checks which is a free service. They help communities in trying to keep pets safe. They also have a neutering voucher service helping those who can’t afford neutering. One cat who is not neutered can in its lifetime produce over 100 kittens. Microchipping is now a legal requirement, so they now offer that service to those who cannot afford it. Education on the importance of the choosing the right pet is essential. The animal welfare act of 2006 says you must be able to provide a suitable environment for your pet. Rabbits are probably the pets most likely to suffer, they are not suitable as indoor pets and need companionship. Responsible ownership is most important. A rabbit needs the same amount of exercise as a Jack Russel and need mostly hay to eat. They help families to look after their pets and will in the right circumstances help someone who has lost their job to keep their pets after the criteria have been met. This costs a lot and is privately funded with nothing from the government, it costs over £122,000.00 each week to run the 3 centres.</p> <p><b>Mr Adam Pratt</b> – Fenland District Council Environmental Services manager. Adam explained that he is responsible for recycling banks, trade waste, road sweeping etc. and has been in this job for over 13 years. Sewage treatment works are also within his remit. Re-cycling is at the moment a big thing – reprocessing materials which brings in revenue. Any recycling helps through the blue bins really helps the environment. The only thing which we cannot recycle, via our blue bin, is textiles, which at the moment goes to separate re-cycling bins.</p> |        |

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|         |                   | <p>Each month FDC receive two thousand tons of waste and re-cycle 800 tons of waste. 60% of our waste is recyclable. Unfortunately, it costs a lot to get rid of textiles. The biggest problem for is having the wrong thing, mostly black bags, in the blue recycling bin. Anything which can be biodegraded is sent to be composted. Everything FDC recycle is sold on for revenue. Garden waste is also composted and this resulting soil conditioner is available free of charge from Amey Cespa in March. Mr Pratt said that Street cleansing was also within his domain. Staff work 4 on 4 off shifts 06.30 to 5.30 7 days a week. They have a large area to cover and always aim to attend by the end of the following working day to any report of the need for Street cleaning. Wimblington has the bins emptied 3 days a week so there shouldn't be any overflowing bins. New bin provision has to be paid for by the Parish Council, but the bin is then emptied by FDC. Its position has to be accessible by FDC staff. Public conveniences have been cut recently usually due to vandalism; these are usually in the Market towns. They also collect about 120 tons of trade waste. Cllr Davis asked whether any extra household bins can be had. Mr Pratt said that if you have 5 or more people in the family, you may have an extra blue bin, 6 or more you may have an extra brown bin dependent upon it's use. Cllr Hennen asked about glass in the blue bins whether it was recycled properly – yes, it is, but possibly not to such a high grade as that put into individual coloured recyclable bins. Gilda Bellard asked about shredded paper – the best place is in the brown bin not the recycling as it is difficult to separate from glass. Cllr Davis asked Lisa (Wood Green) if they would like shredded paper as long as there are no staples in it – She said yes. Cllr Davis also suggested it can be taken to the RSPCA at block fen for small pet bedding. If you don't have a brown bin it should go into the green bin. Judy Harding asked about rigid plastic toys – Mr Pratt said these should go into the green bin particularly if its broken. . . Cllr Davis asked for confirmation about food waste – Mr Pratt advised that vegetable waste can go into the brown bin, but not cooked food which should go into the green bin. Mr Pratt said that whilst there have been some issues recently Wimblington is a clean village. He said that Streetscene had been to the village twice in March 2018 to clear dog mess. <b>Gerry Atkin</b> - Food bank. Mr Atkin said we have tried where we can to help the food bank. Ely is the main centre for the food bank. A voucher has to be signed by a health professional to enable people to claim free food donated mostly by the large supermarkets. March food bank was set up in 2013. The food comes in to March and then goes to Chatteris for distribution. Food parcels – a food parcel is sufficient for 3 days. Some people have no money and no food and this is where the food bank helps. We are the 5<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world but still need food banks, which is astonishing. Sometimes the Food Bank are asked if the requests are genuine – and they are, the screening is stringent and real. Toiletries and dog food are included as some families are in desperate need. Demand is going up and the average distribution is 300 kilos. Tesco and Sainsburys help allowing collections within their stores as well as donating food. Approx. 1600 kilos can be collected in a weekend, Tesco then give an extra 20%. Mr Atkin started his work with the Food Bank in 2014 and collects at St Peters Church every Tuesday morning. He has collected 2300 kilos since starting. He said we really do only give to those in desperate need. G Bellard asked what is most needed – Mr Atkin said Pasta, cooking sauces, toiletries. Mr Atkin was asked if a list of what is most needed was available. He said there is a list in Tesco and Sainsburys and Cllr Davis suggested a list could be put on village notice boards and website. Cllr Davis asked whether there could be another collection point. It was discussed that the Parish Hall could be a collection point every Monday afternoon between 2 and 4pm and every Monday evening between 7 and 9pm when regular events were held and the hall was open. The new Anchor pub landlord, Paul Clark, who was present at the meeting was also asked and agreed collection point as long as it would be collected quickly. Mr Atkin was pleased to receive both offers and would liaise with both regarding set up and collection.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked all the guest speakers for their contribution.</p> |                   |
| 0076/18 | Chairman's report | See appendix 1 from Cllr Davis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | PA put up posters |

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| 0077/18 | Financial report     | <p>The clerk reported that:</p> <p>At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, amounts of £1557.71 and £184,287.89 were held in the Parish Council's Treasurer's and Business bank accounts with £90.17 petty cash held. These figures include the £50,000.00 which had been moved to a Norwich &amp; Peterborough savings account. Unfortunately, the Norwich &amp; Peterborough closed all Business savings accounts and the decision was made to move the money back into our normal accounts, as 2 fairly large expenditures are to be made (hopefully) very soon, which will reduce the money held in one bank to an acceptable level. This gives us an unaudited grand total of £185,935.77. There are 2 unrepresented amounts of £200.00 and £36.00, which will reduce the figure to £185,699.77.</p> <p>For the financial year 2017/18, we have received a net income of £130,989.00, and an expenditure of £70,245.00 has been recorded to date. The income includes a one-off receipt of £34,540.00, received for the siting of a new telecommunications mast at Parkfield. £25,000.00 of this figure is earmarked for improvements at Parkfield with the rest earmarked to go towards the resurfacing of the car park at the Parish Hall. As last year, these are healthy figures, however the village street lights are still yet to be paid for. The replacements lights and updates have been ordered and hopefully the work will be started in the near future.</p> <p>Improvements have been made during the year at the Parish Hall and Parish Council plan to do more in the coming year, with the help of any grants which can be secured, to improve the main hall to the same standard as the entrance hall, kitchen and small meeting room.</p> <p>Three VAT claims had been made in the 2017/18 financial year, with a final one, pending receipt of bank statements, to be done, which will reclaim in the region of £1,400.00. Cllr Davis explained that whilst the lights replacement has been ordered the bills will be substantial.</p> |  |
| 0078/18 | Open forum           | Cllr Davis invited questions. There were none                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
| 0079/18 | Date of next meeting | <p>The next Parish Council meeting will be the Annual General Meeting and will be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The next Annual Assembly will be held on Tuesday 9 April 2019.</p> <p>Meeting closed at: 20.15</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |