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**Minutes of the Bluntisham Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 6th February 2019 at 8.00pm in The Village Hall, Mill Lane,
Bluntisham**

Present: Chairman Mr Mark Berg, Mr Frank Hudson, Mrs Philippa Hope, Mr Gary James, Mrs Cynthia Curtis, Mrs Jayne Smith & Mrs Tracey Davidson (Clerk)

Also present: 5 x member of the public & Cllr Jon Neish

	<p>Open forum The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened the forum. Concern was raised with cars parking on the grass verge due to the puddles in the layby area on Station Road following the road resurface. Mrs Philippa Hope asked if photos could be taken and sent to the clerk to report to CCC Highways. Further concern with the condition of the cycle/footway outside Bluntisham House which is starting to crack. Meeting opened at 8.04pm</p>	Clerk
182	Dispensation Forms received & decisions given - None	
183	Declarations of interest for items on the agenda – Mrs Philippa Hope pecuniary interest item 193 BACS run 4th January.	
184	Apologies for absence – Mr Rob Gore, Mr Martin Crowhurst, Mrs Kathy Searle, Cllr Steve Criswell. No contact from Cllr Besley.	
185	<p>Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update following meeting with HDC on 24.1.19. This item was deferred for Mr Rob Gore to report on. • Enforcement update: The clerk provided updates on the following outstanding enforcement cases. 17/00158/ENVOG – Station Road. No change 18/00255/ENCARA – the use of the land is in breach of the planning permission by virtue of the number of caravans and the non-gypsy and traveller origin of at least some of the occupants. A requisition for information under section 330 of the 1990 act has been served on the last known owner. The reply is due by 12th February. 18/00171/ENBDOM – The Witches Twist Chicken Farm. No further action to be taken as application within the planning consent approved 1700951HHFUL. 	
186	Minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated 2nd & 16th January to be approved and signed by the Chairman – The minutes were signed by the Chairman. (Proposed Mrs Philippa Hope, seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed.)	
187	Matters arising from previous minutes not on the agenda – None.	
188	<p>County Council & District Council reports: Cllr Jon Neish reported on the following update from Huntingdonshire District Council. A 2.6 % rise in council tax which represents a cut due to vastly reduced grant from central government. This equates to £3.60 per year for Band D. With a total of £142.16 per year is one of the lowest in the country. The council proposes to modernise the way it charges for off-street car parking. No longer will motorists have to worry about how long they have left on their pay and display tickets, as they will ‘Pay for What You Use’ on exit. ‘Pay for What You Use’ allows a pay and display</p>	

	<p>machine to mimic the benefits of a pay on exit car park, by allowing payment at the end of a parking session. Users: ‘Pay for What You Use’, based on 15 minute time periods (after the first hour), will reduce the amount of overpayment by customers, who will pay a parking charge relating more closely to the actual time elapsed on departure. A minimum one hour period is proposed in order to encourage longer dwell times, which will help promote and support retail in our towns. ‘Pay for What You Use’ provides customers with more choice. By paying on departure, customers have a reduced likelihood of incurring an excess charge for overstaying.</p> <p><u>Convenience</u> The council is proposing to modernise the method of payment for off-street car parking by introducing cashless parking. Introduction of new payment terminals would mean that motorists will no longer get caught either not having the right change or not having any change at all. The council is proposing to trial some premium larger bays for those motorists who would like to pay for a larger space. The council is proposing to upgrade electrical charging points in three key locations within St Ives, Huntingdon and St Neots to meet the demand for electric charging. The upgrade will ensure compatibility across charging platforms, increasing the current number of sockets from six to 18. This will increase the availability of live charging points as the need grows.</p> <p><u>Safety and security</u> The council is proposing to introduce solar canopies to power lighting, to improve safety and car park experience in the evenings, when car parks are free to use.</p> <p>Cllr Steve Criswell emailed the following: CCC budget meeting was held on 5th February where it was agreed on a 2.99% rise in council tax, plus a 2% rise in Adult social care. CCC receives the 6th lowest funding in the country. A fairer funding formula is promised and it cannot come soon enough. The clerk has not heard from Cllr Besley.</p>	
189	<p>FY2017/18 Accounts to end January 2019 – Mrs Philippa Hope raised concern with the high electricity costs at the village hall, but did forecast a year end surplus of £5,500 from the full budget. It was agreed to look at efficiency savings at the village hall which are to be discussed later and to use this surplus to fund these and any other village improvements. Income January - £1580.33 Expenditure January - £4753.23 Bank Balance: £35220.55 (Proposed Mr Frank Hudson, seconded Mrs Cynthia Curtis. All agreed.)</p>	
190	<p>Cambs ACRE membership renewal – the clerk advised the annual membership is due at a cost of £57.00. It was agreed to renew this. (Proposed Mr Gary James, seconded Mrs Philippa Hope. All agreed.)</p>	
191	<p>Payroll software renewal – the clerk advised the annual subscription for the payroll software was due at a cost of £68.00 + VAT. It was agreed to renew this. (Proposed Mrs Philippa Hope, seconded Mrs Cynthia Curtis. All agreed.)</p>	
192	<p>Authorise purchase orders – Mr Mark Berg signed the purchase order. All expenditure approved by full council above: PO011 – £57.00 – Cambs ACRE PO012 - £68.00 – Payroll Manager</p>	
193	<p>Accounts for payment for January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BACS run 4th January- £2049.51 authorised by Mr Mark Berg & Mrs Kathy Searle • BACS run 31st January - £2030.53 authorised by Mr Mark Berg, Mrs Cynthia Curtis. <p>(Proposed Mr Mark Berg seconded Mrs Cynthia Curtis. All agreed.)</p>	

194	<p>Village Maintenance & events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SID update – the clerk advised the recent figures from Rectory Road were on the website and the SID will be placed on the High Street as soon as CCC approve the location. • Open Morning – all approved the printing of the leaflet and to produce onto card rather than paper. The clerk will get these ready for delivering w/c 25 February. • Village Litter Pick – the clerk advised this had been arranged for Saturday 16th March to meet at the Baptist Chapel at 8.45am. All equipment will be provided along with a risk assessment. • Annual play park inspection – the clerk advised the annual inspection is due in April and obtained quotes however, ROSPA remain the cheapest at £100 + VAT. It was agreed to continue with ROSPA for this year’s inspection. <i>(Proposed Mr Frank Hudson, Seconded Mrs Cynthia Curtis. All agreed.)</i> • Notice board – Mill Lane. The clerk obtained quotes to replace the notice board at the entrance to the car park at Mill Lane. The cheapest quote was from the parish notice board company at a cost of £590 +VAT. A header panel is an additional £35. This is an aluminium magnetic noticeboard with a hinged opening and posts. It was agreed to purchase this and to get someone to fit it. <i>(Proposed Mr Gary James, seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed.)</i> • Grass cutting – recreation ground. The clerk advised that Mr Peter Searle has terminated his contract to cut the recreation ground for this year. Mr Andrew Wager has agreed to take on this task and the clerk has liaised with him directly to discuss times, etc. The clerk has sourced a supplier for the red diesel and it is hoped that a small saving can be achieved by this change. The PC asked the clerk to thank Mr Peter Searle for his commitment over the past years. • Salt bin – village hall. The clerk asked to purchase a small salt bin to be erected outside the front of the village hall to be used by hirers as appropriate. The model suggested costs £100 and can be locked and the key can be left inside the hall for use. <i>(Proposed Mr Gary James, seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed.)</i> • Village hall – motion sensors. The clerk obtained two quotes to replace the lights in the main foyer with LED motion sensors and to install motion sensors to the changing rooms, disabled toilets and toilets in the rear foyer. It was agreed to go with Steven Grice Electrical who quoted £535 + £385 for both jobs. This was significantly cheaper than the other supplier at a quote of £1760.00 for both jobs. <i>(Proposed Mr Gary James, seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed.)</i> • Boot scrapers – village hall. The clerk asked if the boot scrapers to the rear of the village hall could be replaced as they have worn away and create more mess inside the hall. It was agreed to replace at a cost of £126.00 + VAT for both scrapers. Mr Roly Searle has agreed to fit once supplied. <i>(Proposed Mr Gary James, seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed.)</i> 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
195	<p>Committee updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allotment – Mr Frank Hudson advised that all the allotment shed had been broken into, however, nothing had been taken. The CCTV has been damaged and BALGA are looking at options to replace. He raised concern with plot 21b. • Updates from Mrs M Lumb – emailed the following summary. <i>Road Safety – I am still waiting for a response from the Road Safety Engineering team as the committee felt that STOP signs either side of the Wheatsheaf crossroads would be helpful as an interim measure.</i> <i>Police – I went to the meeting of the Police & Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable & Neighbourhood Policing Lead at Police HQ on behalf of Road Safety to ask why speed limits were not enforced. The Chief Constable advised that if village hotspots were identified by SID deployment he would consider sending a laser gun officer to the</i> 	

	<p>site for a speed check.</p> <p>Extraordinary Hanson meeting – was held on 21st January to discuss the planning application for a visitor’s car park off the Shelford Road to Willingham. It is proposed a short distance inside the current entrance. A height restriction barrier will be erected and the gates will be closed and locked overnight. Hanson will submit planning to alter the size and shape of lagoons but this will all be internal and an area of archaeological interest will now be left.</p> <p>Willow Hall Farm – it has been suggested HGV traffic go through Willingham, which hasn’t gone down well!</p>	
196	<p>Heritage Project – Mrs Philippa Hope would like to create a village archive and is seeking permission from the PC to apply to the Heritage Lottery for funding. If supported she would like to launch the project at the Open Morning. All agreed it was an excellent idea and fully supported the project. (<i>Proposed Mrs Cynthia Curtis, seconded Mrs Jayne Smith. All agreed.</i>)</p>	P Hope
197	<p>“Solution” project – Mrs Philippa Hope shared an innovative project just launched by Gamlingay PC and would like the PC to support her suggestion to contact the technology company with a view to using a similar platform for the Heritage Project. Those who want to see what the platform looks like should visit: www.solutiongamlingay.com It was agreed to investigate the options for the platform and to report back. (<i>Proposed Mrs Cynthia Curtis, seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed.</i>)</p>	P Hope
198	<p>ENVAR Fire – the clerk and the Chairman visited the site last week alongside the Environment Agency & the Fire service to discuss the fire and to get further information. The clerk advised that at the outset of the fire she found it difficult to get any answers from all the responsible parties and communication was very restricted. Through persistence regular updates started to appear which the clerk shared on social media and the council’s website. The clerk and the chairman asked to be part of a lessons learnt de-brief with ENVAR and the agencies.</p> <p>Questions were raised about the volume of waste on the site and is the platform and lagoon big enough to cope should another fire break out in the future. Is the risk assessment and emergency plan up to date to take into consideration the recent extension of the platform. What is the site capacity and are all the regulatory bodies happy with this. The clerk will raise these questions with ENVAR. It was raised that there might be a conflict of interest with ENVAR and CCC, due to the volume of waste CCC deliver to the site.</p> <p>The Councillors all thanked the clerk for her efforts with corresponding updates about the fire.</p>	Clerk
199	<p>Correspondence received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Thatcher – Trees. It was agreed these trees could be taken out at the owners expense. (<i>Proposed Mr Frank Hudson, seconded Mrs Philippa Hope. All agreed.</i>) • RAF - Annual Pathfinder March. The clerk advised of the annual march which is to take place on Saturday 22nd June. She has notified the OVW group and asked the footpath be cleared ahead of the march. 	Clerk
200	<p>Items for consideration (for information only)</p> <p>Mr Frank Hudson advised that the funeral of Mrs Joan Gutteridge will take place on Monday 11th February at 11.15am at Cambridge Crematorium.</p> <p>Mrs Philippa Hope asked if the clerk could obtain quotes for servicing of the Ransome in the future to allow adequate budget provision to be made.</p> <p>Mrs Philippa Hope asked if the consultation on the East/West rail link could be added onto the parish website and promoted for all to comment. For those interested follow the link: Click here</p> <p>The clerk advised that CCC have confirmed the local bus service will continue for a further year and CCC are re-tendering for these services now.</p> <p>Meeting closed 9.50pm Next meeting Wednesday 6th March 2019</p>	Clerk Clerk

Bluntisham 100 club draw took place:

1st place wins £50 – 19 A Fitzgerald

2nd place wins £20 – 93 Geoff Curtis

3rd place wins £10 – 63 R Gore

A few numbers remain if anyone is interested in joining the 100 club please contact

Cynthia Curtis – BPC.cynthiacurtis@gmail.com

Future Meeting dates

Wednesday	3 rd April	2019
Wednesday	1 st May	2019
Wednesday	5 th June	2019
Wednesday	3 rd July	2019
Wednesday	7 th August	2019
Wednesday	4 th September	2019
Wednesday	2 nd October	2019
Wednesday	6 th November	2019
Wednesday	4 th December	2019