

## **A meeting of Croydon Parish Council was held on Wednesday 20 May 2015 in the Reading Room at 8.00pm.**

**Apologies:** Mrs Slator - other event, Cllr Kindersley - over-tired

**Present:** Mr Martin, Mr Wheeler, Mr Sole, eight members of public, two representatives from Air Broadband, and the Clerk.

### **Elections:**

**Chairman:** Mr Wheeler was proposed for the office of Chairman by Mr Sole and seconded by Mr Martin. Mr Wheeler was elected to the post of Chairman.

**Vice Chairman:** Mrs Slator was put forward for the office of Vice Chairman. As Mrs Slator was not present at the meeting, it was agreed to approach her to see if she is willing to accept the office. Clerk to action.

**Minutes:** of the March meeting, previously circulated, were agreed and signed.

**Declarations of Interest:** None received. Mr Friend tendered his resignation (by e-mail) from the Parish Council, as he has moved away from the village. Clerk will inform the monitoring Officer at SCDC and post the notice of the vacancy.

**Air Broadband:** Andrew Glover and Jo Denning gave a brief presentation of the merits of the Air Broadband system. There is already an installation in Ely cathedral, which serves surrounding villages and already has around 180 customers. Air Broadband can be mixed and matched with fibre systems. The proposal for Croydon is to put a repeater in the village so that a signal can be emitted from Valley Court Offices to the village for the benefit of the residents. The system only works for line of sight - trees or buildings will stop the signal. If Valley Court offices can be seen from your property, there is a strong possibility that this system would work for you. A repeater could be placed on the church tower, which may be able to service the village - this would require Diocesan permission. The basic speed expected from Air Broadband would be 10 mbps, but higher speeds are possible at a higher monthly cost. Accepting the installation would require a small receiver to be fitted onto a property. The cost of installation is around £140-00 and a further £40-00 for the router. Usage is not capped. Connecting Cambridgeshire offers grants of up to £3000-00 for businesses - this can be used for the installation of Air Broadband. Each property has to be assessed to ensure it is suitable. Further information is available from Air Broadband, or Mr Brown at Valley Court offices.

Mr Wheeler thanked Air Broadband for their presentation and the representatives left the meeting.

Due to the pressure of the recent elections, there was no written report from our District and County Councillors, but Cllr Smith gave a brief update:-

**Queen Adelaide:** Cllr Smith suggested that speaking to Mr Wenman first about any problems would have been a good idea, and then if nothing has improved, go to an authority. Mr Wenman stated that neighbours should be able to discuss things. It was suggested that Sunday working should not start before 9.00am.

**UKSP:** Consultations on the proposals for solar farms around the district would be good to attend.

**Larkins Road:** Is being closed for a week to allow for improvements/resurfacing. Residents will be informed well beforehand.

**Refuse Collections:** In order to make savings on the refuse collections, operators of street cleaning vehicles have been used, so the streets have not been cleaned as often as perhaps they should have been.

**Boundary Review:** The proposed new boundaries have been presented. If you wish to see/comment on the Review, please go to:- [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk) or [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk) for maps and information, and then send any comments to:- [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk) Cllr Smith is pleased with this ward.

### **Matters Arising and Village Issues:**

**QA:** A complaint was received regarding work starting on the Queen Adelaide site at 7.30am on a Sunday. Mr Wenman was disappointed that the complainant did not approach him directly, but wrote to both Parish Council and District Council representatives. He has taken action to mitigate further problems from the complaint. He also said that he cannot give a projected opening date due to the amount of work that is being done on the premises.

**CLP:** Mr Ralph and Ms Brant, chairs of the Community Led Plan committee said that the final proofs are being checked before going to print. Cllr Smith congratulated the CLP Steering Group on an excellent job, better than many larger villages.

**Solar Farm:** The letter sent to Push Energy following the Annual Meeting has not received any response. Cllr Smith suggested that Council sends Cllr Kindersley a copy of the letter and he can try and obtain an answer..

**Dog Bin:** Following Council's acceptance of SCDC's quotation of £456-00 to site a dog waste bin in the High Street, complaints have been received from nearby houses. Mr Ralph pointed out that the CLP had asked for an additional bin in the High Street and offered to allow it's placement on the corner of his property.

**Lower Road:** There have been no objections to the advertised proposed reduction of the speed limit to 50mph on Lower Road, so CCC will continue with its introduction.

**Overhanging trees in the village:** CCC is well aware of the problem and has written to the landowner. Nothing can be done until September.

### **Correspondence:**

**Electoral Register:** Has been updated.

**Larkins Road:** Council received notification that Larkins Road is to be closed from 1 June for one week to allow for essential repairs/resurfacing. Residents will apparently be notified individually.

**Electronic Correspondence:** All circulated - nothing raised.

### **Planning:**

**Queen Adelaide House:** Planning reference number S/2897/14/FL. The application for a four bedroom detached house in the grounds of the Queen Adelaide has been approved. One of the conditions is that the house may not be occupied until parking spaces for the pub have been laid out on the site and approved in writing by SCDC. Other conditions may be viewed on the SCDC website.

### **Finance:**

**Bank Statement:** Current account balance is £4737-48

**Savings Account:** £13-02 interest for 2014.

**Precept:** First instalment of £1125-00 received.

**Approval of accounts for audit:** The internal auditor has examined the accounts and signed them as correct.

- (i) Clerk presented the accounts to the meeting for approval - acceptance of the accounts was proposed by the Chairman, all in favour.
- (ii) The Annual Return Governance Statements were considered and discussed, completed and signed - acceptance proposed by the Chairman, all in favour.

The Clerk will send the completed accounts and required paperwork for Audit to Littlejohns for 8 June.

**Cheques:** The following cheques were presented for signing:-

AON Insurance	£407-44
Reading Room - Parish Council	£110-50
Reading Room - Steering Group	£71-50
Internal Auditor (P Chilvers)	£20-00
Clerk's salary and Out of Pocket expenses	£1207-44
Mr Ralph - CLP printing/stamps	£105-44
Mr Wheeler - website hosting	£39-99

It was proposed by the Chairman that these cheques should be signed - all in favour.

It was decided not to renew Council's membership to CAPALC due to a 70%+ rise in the subscription.

**Items for the next agenda:** None put forward.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 17 June 2015 in the Reading Room, starting at 8.00pm.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.03pm.

Signed .....

Date .....

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