

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LAKENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT THE METHODIST CHURCH CHAPEL ON MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

Present: - Messrs D Gathercole (Chairman)      Mrs Whitehand

I Frost      Mrs Gyte

D Durrant      Mrs Brown

R Norman      Mrs Lucas

J Gentle      Miss Marston

Sqdn Ldr Neild, 2 members of the public and 3 representatives from Elveden Estates / CgMs Consulting were present.

The Chairman opened the meeting and asked for the agenda to be varied. All agreed.

### 4. Reports from:-

#### (a) RAF Commander Lakenheath

Sqdn Ldr Neild said that he didn't have a lot to report. Flying continued and included the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of December which caused a lot of comments. He added that gate one is back in operation.

Cllr Marston said that she had received many complaints about the morning traffic.

Sqdn Ldr Neild said that there have been 6 officers on the gate.

Cllr Norman said that there had been no problems this morning.

Sqdn Ldr Neild said that he had concerns about the traffic from the proposed Little Eriswell development and would feedback on behalf of the MOD.

The Chairman thanked Sqdn Ldr Neild and he left the meeting.

### 9. Little Eriswell Scheme – Presentation from CgMs Consulting

Three representative gave a presentation on the proposed Little Eriswell Scheme.

*They said about the proposal:*

- *The blast zone had covered 80% of the land on the east of Eriswell site and that they had spent 18 months looking for housing land for the local area.*
- *The village currently has 5 shops, with no playing-field or open spaces.*
- *The Little Eriswell scheme is an alternative to the East of Eriswell development.*
- *It will provide housing, a school, shops and a walkway/cycleway to/from Lakenheath.*
- *The site is split between estate sandland and fenland. Belts of pine will be kept in a finger like pattern.*
- *Noise contours and stone curlew sites are currently being looked at.*
- *The scheme covers 41 hectares providing 550 dwellings, a school, sports and open space facilities.*
- *The development could be brought back to the roundabout.*
- *Allotments and green space would be provided around the sewage works.*
- *Drainage/water/noise and traffic surveys will be carried out.*

- *SCC has recently carried out a traffic survey and the key junctions are Sparks Farm and the Lords Walk roundabout capacity. Traffic lights are needed for the approval of 300 additional houses.*
- *Elveden Estate has the extra land if more houses are approved.*
- *The school is to be positioned on the southern end of the scheme where it is quieter.*
- *There are 4 listed buildings within the site.*
- *This is a scoping exercise.*
- *An exhibition will be held in Eriswell Village Hall in 2 weeks' time.*

The Chairman asked if Councillors had any questions.

Cllr Brown asked if Lords Walk roundabout would provide an entrance to the site.

*Yes*

Cllr Brown asked if the pathway would be all the way into Lakenheath.

*Yes, the estate would provide the land.*

Cllr Brown asked if the scheme would just provide the land or also build the school.

*The school would be funded as a whole.*

Cllr Brown asked what the school capacity would be.

*Single entry with 210 capacity or possibly to 315, SCC are advising.*

Cllr Brown asked about pre-school provision.

*Further feedback was needed from SCC.*

Cllr Whitehand asked if the roads could be widened as regular accidents occur at Sparks Farm.

*It is a bottleneck and SCC recommend 2 improvements.*

*The estate has enough land to do more if required.*

*There is a need for 2 stage improvement. Now with houses due to be granted approval and then again if more are granted approval. The estate has the space to do it.*

Cllr Brown asked about phasing and how it would be done for the market to accommodate. She also asked about school parking spaces and the need for a service road to the school.

*Design standards will need to be met.*

Cllr Gyte asked if the only access to the site would be from the roundabout.

*It was one of 2 or possibly 3. Engineers are currently looking at it.*

Cllr Gyte said that this was crucial as the roads are already overcrowded.

Cllr Durrant asked if a doctor's surgery would be provided.

*The NHS want to see expansion of the surgery in Lakenheath.*

The Chairman asked about traffic lights on the A1065.

*It is not considered necessary at the moment.*

Cllr Whitehand asked if Eriswell characteristics would be seen in the new development.

*Haven't yet got to this piece of work. We are keen to be of high quality calibre.*

Cllr Gentle said that the major roads are a problem as drainage is poor and that they are not built for purpose. No public transport will be provided and yet no development addresses this.

Cllr Whitehand said that she wasn't against the scheme but was eager to speak to Eriswell residents.

Cllr Lucas said that there were lots of unanswered questions at this stage.

*The representatives asked Councillors about their thoughts on the location.*

Cllr Durrant said that he was concerned about road problems and the extra pressure on the doctor's surgery.

*We would happily see a surgery built on the site.*

Cllr Whitehand said that she was concerned about 550 homes with the NHS saying that no further requirements were needed for double this amount.

The Chairman said that according to the NHS Guide, the surgery currently has capacity for another 1200 houses.

Cllr Lucas said that roads are the biggest issue with the location.

Cllr Brown said that a service road was needed for the school access with one in and one out.

Cllr Durrant asked if development could be done next to the A1065 for accessibility.

*Environmental issues prevents this.*

Cllr Normans said that car parking was already insufficient for the surgery.

*This is the problem with piecemeal development.*

The Chairman said that the original development was going to provide a doctors and dentist.

Cllr Brown asked if anything could be done about the church wall in Eriswell.

*Traffic calming measures would be ideal.*

Cllr Gentle said that it was once declared that the Lakenheath sewage system wasn't large enough.

*The development would be serviced by a different sewage works.*

Cllr Whitehand said that it would be lovely for Eriswell to have a school again.

The Chairman asked if the Council supported the development. Support was proposed in principle but with reservations. Voting 6 in favour and 3 abstain.

### ***Resolution - Little Eriswell Scheme supported in principle but with reservations***

The Chairman thanked the representatives and they left the meeting.

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Morley.

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

Cllr Gyte - Lakenheath Good Neighbours, Trustee Lakenheath Peace Memorial Hall /Peoples Project.

Cllr Whitehand - Junior Youth Club, Lakenheath Playingfield Association and Lakenheath Carnival.

Cllr Gathercole - Playingfield Association.

Cllr Brown - Lakenheath Youth FC Treasurer and Lakenheath Peace Memorial Hall / Peoples Project.

Cllr Lucas - Sutton Services Ltd and Playingfield Committee (Elveden Estates).

Cllr Frost - Friends of Lakenheath Library.

Cllr Marston – CEP Foundation, LCPS Governor and Forest Heath District Councillor.

### **3. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

It was proposed to accept minutes. After amendment, all those present at the meetings agreed.

### **4. Reports from:-**

#### **(b) Forest Heath District Council**

Cllr Marston gave her report:

##### **“Transformation work**

As every councillor is aware, the pressures on local government funding are continuing and are likely to do so for the foreseeable future. We can no longer simply ‘do more with less’ – we need to transform the way we work. Our focus is now on integrating our work with the rest of the public sector in Suffolk, and strengthening partnerships beyond the public sector, whilst improving our efficiency and our customers’ experience. At the heart of this work is our aim to help individuals, families and communities to support themselves, thereby reducing the demand for acute health and care services, especially in light of future funding pressures.

In particular:

- West Suffolk councils have been successful in leading a bid for a place on the Design Council’s ‘Design in Public Services’ programme for the East of England. The project that won support is being carried out jointly with Suffolk County Council and the West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group and is looking at how older people can be supported in staying independent for longer.
- We are working with partners from across the public sector in Suffolk on a programme of ‘Suffolk-wide working’, supported by £3.3 million from the Cabinet Office’s Transformation Challenge Award.
- We are continuing with a programme of channel shift through which we encourage customers to access council services online. This is supported by a programme of Business Process Re-engineering (you’ll usually see it referred to as BPR), which also aims to strip out inefficiencies in current processes.

##### **Devolution**

Hopefully you have found the regular updates useful. Earlier this month, Norfolk and Suffolk’s Leaders met to consider the shape of our proposals and what more needs to be done before the final version can be sent to Government. Good progress is being made across all of the work streams with ongoing support from civil servants. The leaders also agreed to further dialogue with colleagues in Cambridgeshire to explore the possibility of closer co-operation with those councils, although work on the Norfolk/Suffolk proposals will also continue as planned.

On 9 December, the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill reached its Report stage in the House of Commons. Some new amendments were tabled, including those relating to the role of the Secretary of State. The Government’s approach to devolution remains one based on collaboration and consensus as in the case of the Norfolk and Suffolk proposals. A Grant Thornton survey of larger businesses in Norfolk and Suffolk showed that over half of respondents support having more local control over infrastructure, economic development and

skills:[https://www.suffolkchamber.co.uk/news/chamber\\_news/over\\_half\\_of\\_norfolk\\_and\\_suffolk\\_businesses\\_support\\_devolution\\_says\\_new\\_survey/](https://www.suffolkchamber.co.uk/news/chamber_news/over_half_of_norfolk_and_suffolk_businesses_support_devolution_says_new_survey/)

We will continue to work on our proposals with a view to completing them in the New Year. We have also commissioned the Local Government Information Unit (LGIU) to run a series of seminars (one in each of the councils participating in the Norfolk and Suffolk devolution bid) to allow all councillors the opportunity, in a politically-led environment, to share their views and ideas on our emerging proposals and to ask questions about them.

### **One Public Estate Programme**

The West Suffolk councils and local partners have recently been informed that they have been successful in their bid for funds from The Government's One Public Estate (OPE) programme. The bid was made by West Suffolk councils, Suffolk County Council, Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough LEP, New Anglia LEP, and the West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group. On behalf of the partners, Forest Heath will now receive £230,000 to use towards work planning for the future of RAF Mildenhall, the wider growth of the town and the Mildenhall Hub Project designed to give residents smarter, more cost effective public services by co-locating them on one site.

The OPE funding will also help the councils and local partners with the development of the Mildenhall Hub which will bring together public services to make them more accessible to the public whilst reducing the costs of the public services to the taxpayer. The relocation of public services to the Hub site will also enable the release of other publicly owned sites for housing and growth.

The One Public Estate Board of West Suffolk partners met this month to examine the whole public estate in West Suffolk.

### **Project updates**

#### **West Suffolk Operational Hub**

Consultation on whether we should have a West Suffolk Operational Hub (bringing Suffolk County Council's and our own waste management services together on to a single site) and, if so, where it should be sited starts on 8 January and runs until 19 February 2016. We are making very clear in this consultation that we do not have a 'preferred site', unlike the previous consultation when Hollow Road Farm, to the North of Bury St Edmunds, was put forward.

A large amount of technical information will be put into the public domain from 8 January – in effect we will be showing our 'workings out'. This information will show how we originally arrived at singling out Hollow Road Farm. It will enable people to scrutinise our research and, if they disagree with it, come up with alternatives. We will then consider all those responses and publish a Consultation Report before taking any further decisions.

It is important to emphasise that this is not simply a matter that affects people living in or around Bury St Edmunds – the way we deal with, and fund, our waste management services affects every household in West Suffolk. We encourage you to persuade as many people and parish or town councils to respond to the consultation. Please refer people to the website page: [www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/wsoh](http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/wsoh) and you should also have received a press release which sets out details of the various drop-in events, public meetings and information points.

#### **Forest Heath Local Plan consultation**

Forest Heath is planning for long term growth so that there is certainty in how and where settlements will grow. Consultations on the Site Allocations Local Plan and the Single Issue Review (SIR) of Core Strategy Policy CS7 Overall Housing Provision and Distribution took place between August and October 2015.

In early 2016 the responses to the consultation will inform a further consultation document, setting out the council's preferred strategy for the allocation of sites across the district, this is expected April 2016.

Following this, a final draft of the Site Allocations document will be prepared, which the council will submit to the Secretary of State for an independent planning examination. This final draft will be known as the Submission Document and when it is published in 2016 there will be another and final opportunity for the public and stakeholders to comment.

### **Hatchfield Farm**

After the planning application was initially approved by Forest Heath District Council the decision was called in by the Secretary of State for review. A decision was due in October 2015 following a public inquiry in April 2015, however this was delayed because the Secretary of State received further submissions, including the Deloitte's report on the Newmarket horseracing industry and issued a new decision date (on or before 16 December). On 15 December the Secretary of State issued a letter stating he would not be in a position to issue the decision until mid/late January 2016.

### **RAF Mildenhall**

In January 2015 the U.S Office of the Secretary of Defence announced that the United States Air Force (USAF) will be withdrawing from the RAF Mildenhall airbase and developing the RAF Lakenheath airbase for the deployment of the F-35A aircraft. In November 2015 the U.S announced that further changes at RAF Lakenheath will see the 56th and 57th Rescue Squadrons relocated to Italy. This will see a further net reduction of 350 USAF staff from the two bases. It is estimated that overall there will be a net loss of 2900 jobs from the changes across the two airbases.

Although both bases are in the Forest Heath district, the impact of over 11,000 US personnel and dependents living in West Suffolk goes far wider. An impact study, commissioned by Forest Heath and neighbouring authorities, was completed by external consultants in November 2015. A report on the draft results of the study is expected in January 2016. The final report will be circulated to partners, including MPs and the Mildenhall, Alconbury and Molesworth (MAM) Working Group.

The MOD is currently considering the future of the RAF Mildenhall airbase as part of their Strategic Defence and Security Review, which is due to conclude early in 2016. The Council continues to work with the Government-led MAM Working Group to ensure that the site is not mothballed after 2022 and that the long term future of the site is one that is beneficial to the local area. Should part or all of the site be released there is a huge opportunity for jobs and growth to be considered within the developing local plan. The councils' Planning and Growth team will be supporting U.S. officials at RAF Lakenheath with the planning process for significant infrastructure development to enable the deployment of the F-35A. It is estimated that the U.S. Defence will be investing a minimum of \$120 million in future development of the RAF Lakenheath airbase."

Cllr Marston added that she had received the traffic report over Christmas and that the document would now go to public consultation.

Cllr Brown confirmed that it had gone to public consultation today. She asked that as Lakenheath was a strategic partner could a representative be on the board for the planning and growth team.

Cllr Marston said that she would ask if that was possible.

Cllr Gentle asked when the admin for West Suffolk Council would be linked up.

Cllr Marston said that it started long ago and would be situated in Mildenhall. She added that she would get details for the next meeting.

***Action Point – Cllr Marston to investigate Lakenheath Parish Council having a representative on the board for the planning and growth team***

***Action Point – Cllr Marston to report back on West Suffolk Council admin linking up in Mildenhall***

### **(c) Suffolk County Council**

The clerk read an email from SCC agreeing to provide a new No Through Road sign on Maids Cross Hill this financial year.

The clerk advised of a road closure on Highbridge Gravel Drove between 13<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> January.

The clerk advised of overnight road closures at the level crossing on Station Road between 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> February. She added that this would be included in the Lakenheath Times.

Cllr Brown said that she had received an email from the leader of SCC in May 2015 saying that outstanding works following the resurfacing of the High Street would be attended to. She asked the clerk to chase this up as items were still outstanding.

Cllr Whitehand said that a resident had complained about his driveway being blocked near to the RBL.

Cllr Brown said that there had been a white line which was not reinstated when the resurfacing took place.

Cllr Durrant said that potholes were appearing everywhere.

Cllr Norman asked if there were plans to resurface the Sedge Fen Road.

The Chairman said that it was unlikely as it was a C road.

***Action Point – Clerk to email Cllr Noble regarding the outstanding resurfacing issues***

## **5. Police Matters**

All Councillors had been provided with information regarding the opportunity for Match Funded PCSOs in the 2016/17 financial year.

The clerk added that Clare Town Council had complained about the timescales involved.

Cllr Durrant asked if Council Tax still included police and fire. He added if the Parish Council did not fund would it mean the village would not get a PCSO.

Cllr Marston said no and that PCSO Chittock had been offered the job for Lakenheath.

Cllr Brown said that in the autumn statement police funding was not to be reduced.

Cllr Gentle said that this was in urban areas.

Cllr Marston said that funding was not reduced but redeployed.

Cllr Brown asked if a copy of the presentation materials could be seen.

Cllr Norman asked how many speed checks were done in Lakenheath as Eriswell seem to have more.

It was proposed to dismiss the idea of a match funded PCSO. All agreed.

***Action Point - Clerk to ask for a copy of the presentation regarding match funded PCSOs***

***Action Point - Clerk to obtain information regarding speed checks carried out in Lakenheath and Eriswell***

***Resolution - Dismiss the idea of a match funded PCSO***

## **6. Representations from Members of the Public**

Mr Clayton said that the solar farm construction had started today. There would be 200 lorry movements and that it would be completed by mid-March. All contractors have been given specific traffic routes along Wangford Road and through the farm access.

## **7. Matters Arising from Minutes not elsewhere on Agenda**

The Clerk advised that Cllr Robin Millar was funding the 30 mph stickers and said that more were available if required. It was agreed that 50 was sufficient for the time being.

The Clerk advised that the Lakenheath sign would be removed in January for refurbishment with the post work to be carried out during the spring.

Cllr Lucas said that although she had not been at the meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, she had read the minutes and that Cllr Durrant had said that LPFA had defaulted on a loan which they had not.

Cllr Durrant said that he apologised if he was factually incorrect.

Cllr Lucas said that Cllr Gentle had said that the building was not owned by the LPFA but that she can confirm that it is. She added that Cllr Gentle had said that the Parish Council had already supported by way of £100,000.

The Chairman said that this had in fact gone towards the Undley Road development not the current LPFA.

The Chairman relayed figures dating back to 1998 and said that there was certainly not £100,000 of Parish Council money spent on the new project.

Cllr Marston asked if the clerk could work out total monies that had been paid to the LPFA.

Cllr Lucas said that the LPFA were due to meet and will produce the figure from the accounts of 1998 onwards.

Cllr Durrant said that he had not been at all reluctant to support but just wanted more information and that he didn't understand why the extra-ordinary meeting was called.

The Chairman said that after the LPFA had met on the Monday, monies had been secured elsewhere. The extra-ordinary meeting could not be cancelled as 100 public members could have turned up.

The clerk said that delivery of the new noticeboards had been delayed until the 6<sup>th</sup> January. She added that they are solid oak and may need three people to put up, asking for volunteers.

Cllr Brown said that the USAF are always eager to help.

Cllr Marston said that Richard Keeble is eager to help and proposed that she would contact him.

Cllr Brown asked if a response had been received regarding the posies on the war memorial.

The clerk advised that no response had been received and that she would add it to February's agenda.

***Resolution - Cllr Marston to contact Richard Keeble about help with putting up the noticeboards***

***Action Point – Clerk to add War Memorial Posies to February agenda***

## **8. Street Lighting**

**(a) Including a presentation from Richard Webster, Street Light Manger, Suffolk County Council**



Mr Webster had sent his apologies as he was unable to attend the meeting.

Each Councillor had been provided with a copy of his report.

Cllr Durrant said that there was the potential for SCC to take ownership with them paying for maintenance and energy.

The Chairman said that their forefathers had kept ownership of the churchyard.

Cllr Gentle said that FHDC take care of the churchyard but that the Parish Council still have to pay.

The Chairman asked if SCC should take complete control.

The clerk said that 40 G39 units could be replaced, the remaining 61 units that contain lamps that no longer meet EU requirements and the three smaller items for a total of £51,737, which would be covered by the street lighting reserve. She added however, that this reserve was built to cover the potential problems with concrete posts.

Cllr Durrant proposed that there were more questions and asked if Mr Webster could attend February's meeting. All agreed.

Cllr Gentle said that parishioners should be asked about night time shut off.

Cllr Durrant said that night lighting should be extended at weekends.

Cllr Whitehand said that the LED units cause migraines.

***Resolution – Clerk to invite Mr Webster to February's meeting***

**(b) Unit 240, Eriswell Drive – Replacement**

The clerk advised that she had received a quote to replace unit 240 in Eriswell Drive which has been recently identified as in need of replacement through deterioration and damage. The price of an LED lantern is £509.20 VAT.

*It was proposed to replace. All agreed.*

***Resolution – Clerk to organise replacement of lighting unit 240, Eriswell Drive***

**10. Vandalism - Children's Play Area & Wings Road Car Park**

The clerk gave details of vandalism at the children's play area and Wings Road car park.

Cllr Gyte proposed that an article should be written for the Lakenheath Times and said that she would do this with the clerk. All agreed.

There followed discussion regarding the cleanliness of the toilets on both the children's play area and the Wings Road car park.

***Resolution – Cllr Gyte and the Clerk to write an article about vandalism for the Lakenheath Times***

***Action Point – Clerk to add Public Toilets to February agenda***

## **11. Planning Matters:-**

**(a) To receive report from Planning Committee**

**(b) To consider any other outstanding applications/matters/including Lakenheath Hall**

Cllr Brown gave her report:

### **'Applications with No Objection:**

- DC/15/2270/HH - The Poplars 39A Wings Road Lakenheath -Householder Planning Application - single storey rear extension.
- DC/15/2326/HH - 117 High Street Lakenheath Suffolk - Householder Planning Application - construction of a two storey rear extension (demolition of existing single storey kitchen and conservatory extension)

### **Applications with conditional approval:**

- Appeal DC/15/0831/FUL Land rear of 37 Eriswell Road, Lakenheath – erection of detached 4 bedroom bungalow and detached garage resubmission.

### **Applications with Objections:**

- DC/15/2407/TPO - Planning Application DC/15/2407/TCA - Tree in a conservation Area Notification - Fell 1 Beech tree - land rear of Meadow Drive, Lakenheath We have asked if approved the land owner be requested to plant a replacement tree.

### **In Circulation and to be discussed this Thursday please:**

- DC/15/2087/FUL - Re-consultation in respect of Change of use for the former Lakenheath Village Home, 7 Back Street
- DC/15/2449/HH | Householder Planning Application - timber framed garage with timber cladding in front garden | 11 Eriswell Road Lakenheath Suffolk IP27 9AF
- DC/15/2523/HH | Householder Planning Application - single storey extension to front of bungalow | 16 Arrowhead Drive Lakenheath Suffolk IP27 9JN
- DC/15/2522/TCA | Trees in a Conservation Area Notification - fell 1 No. Conifer (T1) and reduce in height by up to 6 metres 1 No. Conifer (T3) | Dove House Hall Drive Lakenheath Suffolk IP27 9JT
- Planning Consultation-DC/14/2096/HYB(2) – Land north of Station Road, Lakenheath - a re-consultation in response to the submission of further ecological information. We requested a delay for response until Natural England responded and their report has been received today. They are the experts to evaluate the contents.

On the major developments in Lakenheath including Tesco's site I have no further information to report since last month with the exception that the cumulative traffic assessment for the first three sites is now available and out for consultation today. I have spoken to Gareth Durrant who advised that the first 3 cases and the Pigeon application are still on target to come before committee in February. I would ask for an affirmation that I can now discuss these cases with Richard Buxton so that there is time to prepare a proper representation. This would take into account the cumulative impacts on environment and transport amongst other things.

Results from the Hatchfield Farm enquiry are still not available. This has been delayed by the Secretary of State – a decision is anticipated by April.

The planning and control meeting for January has been cancelled there were no items to present. I was expecting Toggam Farm to come up this month.

**Enforcement:** no new updates.

**Lakenheath Hall:** Dave Beighton at FHDC has advised me that he has been having discussions with a potential purchaser, as to the best option to resolve the present site. The site remains with the administrators so there is little prospect of a resolution on the final outstanding enforcement matter, which is the correct reconstruction of the Station Road wall.

Cllr Gentle said that 160 trees need to be replanted at Lakenheath Hall.

Cllr Durrant said that £3100 had been recently paid to Richard Buxton and that no report had been given and asked for an update.

Cllr Brown said that she could do that for February's meeting.

Cllr Durrant said that he was confused on the stance as the Parish Council had given approval to the Broom Road development.

Cllr Brown said that it had but with certain conditions.

Cllr Durrant said that the Parish council is spending money but he wasn't sure what it was going on.

Cllr Brown said that the last invoice covered the responses to the Single Issue Review.

Cllr Marston asked if any other councillor felt this way.

Cllr Brown said that it's what is good for the village. She herself had been working on a noise assessment.

The Chairman asked if the Council wanted to continue with the fight. He added that if they didn't want to go all the way then they might as well give up now.

Cllr Gentle said that sites were proposed outside the village boundary, on sloping land and why water channels were needed.

Cllr Durrant asked where the Parish council were heading.

Cllr Brown said that the Parish Council needed joined up thinking in order to be listened to. She added that development should be in the right place and that she is personally against a school on Station Road. She said that development and infrastructure should be correct, with shops not take-aways. She added that this is what the village wants, with a 10% response to the parish consultation, with the majority against the proposed development.

Cllr Durrant asked how noise on Station Road was any different to Briscoe Way.

Cllr Brown said that it was due to planes coming closer to the village boundary.

Cllr Durrant said that they fly over the whole village.

The Chairman said that it went wrong when it became developer led. He added that Hatchfield threw a spanner in the works and opened the floodgate to developers. He said that it was not good for the village and asked if the Parish Council wanted what is best for the village or let the developers dictate.

Cllr Durrant asked, isn't that what FHDC do? He added that the Parish council does not have the money to fight.

The Chairman said that district planners' hands are tied.

Cllr Whitehand said that parishioners put councillors in their seats to act on their behalf.

Cllr Gentle said that Cllr Durrant was never in favour of spending the money. He added that landowners are taking advantage and are not interested in the village.

Cllr Durrant said that Elveden estates couldn't build in Lakenheath so have now moved onto Eriswell.

Cllr Brown said the Rural Parish Alliance now wish they had joined in the legal process and that the RPA collectively may have got a better deal on the legal expenses.

The Chairman said that Cllr Brown spends hours on planning and what the Parish council sees is just the tip of the iceberg.

Voting 7 in favour and 2 abstain.

***Resolution - Affirmation that Cllr Brown can now discuss the 4 cases with Richard Buxton to prepare a proper representation, taking into account the cumulative impacts on environment and transport amongst others***

***The Chairman proposed in view of the time to suspend standing order 2v. All agreed***

## **12. Lakenheath Cemetery**

### **(a) To receive a Cemetery Report including Bunker/Trees/Driveway/Regulations/Grave Depth**

The clerk advised that she had not yet received a quotation for the bunker removal and driveway repair.

Each Councillor had been provided with the tree removal quotations.

It was proposed to accept the quotation from CGM Group.

Cllr Lucas asked the clerk to confirm their health & safety and insurance but once satisfied to instruct them to carry out the work. All agreed.

Cllr Whitehand said that she wanted to check on information regarding grave depth and asked for this and regulations to be added to February's agenda.

***Resolution – Clerk to confirm CGM health & safety and insurance and then to instruct tree removal work***

***Action Point – Clerk to add Cemetery Grave Depth/Regulations/Bunker/ Driveway to February agenda***

### **(b) To confirm Grant of Exclusive Rights of Burial**

There was one, Jamie Sharp, 10 Mill Road.

## **13. Skate-Park Equipment**

Cllr Lucas asked to withdraw this item.

## **14. Financial Matters including:-**

### **(a) Payment of Accounts**

It was proposed to accept expenditure as listed and all agreed.

## **(b) Bank Reconciliation**

A bank reconciliation for 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015 was presented. It was proposed to accept and all agreed.

## **(c) Precept Setting 2016/17 - Setting thereof & Chairman to sign off**

The clerk reminded Councillors that the figures arrived at in the December meeting were net expenditure of £143,217 and after the Local Council Tax Support Grant of £3,053 would set the precept for year 2016/17 at £140,164, representing a 0% increase. All Agreed. The Application for Grant & Precept was duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

***Resolution – Precept of £140,164 requested for year 2016/17***

## **(d) St Mary's Church - Alarm System**

The clerk advised that she had spoken with Mr Rolph who confirms that sufficient monies have been raised.

## **15. Consultations:-**

### **(a) Forestry Management**

Each Councillor had been provided with a copy of the consultation. It was proposed to make no comment. All agreed.

***Resolution – No comment to be made to Forestry Management Consultation***

### **(b) Suffolk Local Policing Review**

Each Councillor had been provided with a copy of the consultation.

Cllr Gentle said that the police were underfunded and shouldn't knock on the Parish Council's door.

Cllr Brown said that they should be visual. It was proposed to submit in response and all agreed.

***Resolution - Comment to be made in response to Suffolk Local Policing Review Consultation***

### **(c) Housing and Planning Bill**

Each Councillor had been provided with a copy of the consultation.

Cllr Gentle said that affordable housing shouldn't be sold.

Cllr Brown asked how it would be priced and how old the report was. She added that the government says it will address the sold properties and asked where in the area this was being done.

Cllr Norman said that affordable homes in London are £700,000.

Cllr Gentle said that the solution is to build houses that people can afford.

Cllr Brown said that it was a mixture of affordable, split purchase and starter homes.

The Chairman said that district councils should provide this type of housing.

Cllr Lucas asked what October the report refers to.

Cllr Whitehand said that it was a shame Councils did not build to replace old council houses.

Voting to response - 2 in favour, 1 against and 6 abstain.

***Resolution - Comment to be made in response to Housing and Planning Bill Consultation***

**(d) Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service**

Each Councillor had been provided with a copy of the consultation.

The clerk highlighted that the event in Bury St Edmunds was the same day as the Policing Review.

Cllr Lucas said that there may be inadequacy to deliver service to emergencies.

It was proposed to respond asking if they can continue to deliver. All agreed

***Resolution - Comment to be made in response to Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service Consultation***

**16. Correspondence**

The Clerk advised of the Most Active Village Competition.

The Clerk read an email advising that the referendum relating to council tax increases will not apply to the parish sector in 2016/17.

**17. Items for Future Meetings**

- Speed-Watch
- Street Lighting
- Public Toilets
- Cemetery – Bunker/Driveway/Regulations/Grave Depth
- War Memorial Posies

**18. To note future dates**

- Forest Heath Parish & Town Forum - 20<sup>th</sup> January - Barton Mills

**19. Such other business which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered as a matter of urgency**

There was none.

**20. To note date of next Meeting Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:20pm.

**Lakenheath Parish Council**
**1st February 2016**

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Description of supply	Amount
29.01.2016	3474 to 3478	Staff	January Salaries, Income Tax, NI & Pension	£4,630.88
01.02.2016	* 3479	Acting Returning Officer WS Constituency	May 2015 Uncontested Election Charge	£21.34
01.02.2016	* 3480	Bussens & Parkin (2015) Ltd	Nails & Pest Control	£31.31
01.02.2016	* 3481	Suffolk County Council	Street Lighting Maintenance & Energy	£15,733.68
01.02.2016	* 3482	Forest Heath District Council	Emptying of Dog Bins - Weekly Collection	£61.60
01.02.2016	* 3483	Forest Heath Fasteners	Rivet Tool, Drill & Bits and Fastners	£141.32
01.02.2016	* 3484	Forest Heath District Council	Annual Playground Audit	£58.80
01.02.2016	* 3485	Ron Archer	Reimbursement (bleach & toilet rolls)	£10.00
01.02.2016	* 3486	Simpsons Nurseries Ltd	Trees & Associated Equipment (LPFA)	£859.22
01.02.2016	* 3487	John Thompson	Playground Toilet Refurbishment	£2,200.00
01.02.2016	* 3488	A B Electrical	Replace led flood light at Cemetery	£75.60
01.02.2016	* 3489	British Gas	Electricity - Wings Road Public Toilets	£95.25
01.02.2016	* 3490	BT Payment Services	Telephone & Broadband	£66.81
01.02.2016	* 3491	M I Edwards Energy Ltd	Play Area Chip	£625.20

\* Cheques for signing