

Meeting on 4th February 2019

Clerk's report to councillors

2. Apologies for Absence – to receive apologies for absence.

4. To approve the minutes of the meetings on 7th and 23rd January – copies previously provided.

6. Matters Arising:

6.1. Neighbourhood Development Plan - to update councillors on the progress since the last meeting (AP).

6.2. Multi-Use Games Area – Peter King to report on developments since the last meeting to include the application to HDC for approval of reserved planning matters and to consider commissioning a Tree Protection Strategy.

7. Grass Cutting Contracts. To consider renewal of the following contracts:

- (a) cemetery – present cost is £100 per cut with a proposed increase of £105 for the 2019 season. Total cost for 2018 was £1,300. The proposed cost per cut for 2019 is still less than the cost in 2016 when there was a change of contractor.
- (b) sportsfield – see analysis:

Great Gransden Sports Field 2019 Season

	Frequency	Cost per visit £	Annual
Grass cut main field 19 times per season.	19	81.37	(1546.03)
Extra cuts if required	1	81.37	(81.37)
Strim behind tennis court once per month.	8	28.63	(229.04)
Strim Surrounds fortnightly	15	18.54	(278.10)
Weed spray car parks, pathways and surrounds	3	36.05	(108.15)
Litter pick prior to cutting on each visit.	19	5.41	(102.79)
Total Contract Cost			£2,345.48

The present contractor was asked to tender with a view to renewing for a further year.

Their costs have increased by 3%:

2018/19 – total contract price £2,199.75 (£79 per cut)

2019/20 – total contract price £2,264.11 (£81.37 per cut and excluding cost of any additional cuts)

The full number of cuts were not needed during 2018/19. So far 18 out of a total of 19 cuts and the football club do not think there will be the additional cut before the start of the next contract on 1st April 2019.

The cost per cut is less than other contractors quoted last year - £90 per cut.

No further quotes have been sought for the 2019/20 contact as the present contractor has been the cheapest for the past 3 years and the GSRA have indicated “have been doing such a great job”.

8. Village Litter Bins – the Parish Council is responsible for emptying the litter bins at the sportsfield. These 2 bins are owned by the Parish Council and until 2016 were being emptied by HDC until the District Council carried out an audit of the litter bin provision. Email from HDC:

“We would be happy to empty them regularly with the cost being £252.64 per bin per year for a once weekly visit, so in total you would be looking at a charge of £505.28 for two bins per year.”

9. Waste Collection -District Councillor Richard West will be addressing councillors in open forum about a pilot scheme ensuring assisted collections and reporting missed bins. Councillors to consider becoming part of the scheme.

10. Clerk's Financial Statement – will be available before the meeting.

11 Cheques for Approval – will be available before the meeting.

12. East West Rail – non-statutory consultation on the proposed routes. Email from HDC:

“The East West Rail Company have now gone live with their '**Bedford and Cambridge Route Option Consultation: Have Your Say**'.

It can be accessed via the following link:

Eastwestrail.co.uk/haveyoursay

The East West Rail web site pages include:

- Consultation document
- Technical Report
- Route Options Map, and
- Feedback Form

The front page also carries details of confirmed **Consultation Events** – **please note some of the dates and venues have changed; the table below reflects the amended details.**

Please also note that East West Rail Company are working in partnership with Local Authorities, and **Deposit points** have been set up, located at a number of Council offices where you can read printed copies of our Consultation Document and Technical Report.

Date	Time	Location
11.02.19	15:30 – 19:30	St Neots: The Priory Centre, Priory Lane, St Neots PE19 2BH
15.02.19	15:30 – 19:30	Bedford: Scott Hall, Barford Ave, Bedford MK42 0DS
16.02.19	10:00 – 14:00	Bassingbourn: Bassingbourn Community Primary School, Brook Road, Bassi
19.02.19	15:30 – 19:30	Potton: Potton and District Club34 Station Road, Potton, Sandy SG19 2PZ
22.02.19	15:30 – 19:30	Cambridge: The University Centre, Granta Place, Cambridge CB2 1RU
26.02.19	14:00 – 18:00	Orwell: Orwell Village Hall, 32-66 High St, Orwell, Royston SG8 5QN
02.03.19	10:00 – 14:00	Sandy: Sandy Village Hall, Medusa Way, Sandy SG19 1BN

13. Highways – any matters to report and reports on:

(a) West Street Light – email from Balfour Beatty on 28th January 2019:

“I have been chasing this and there had been a problem with the connection and they were looking into this. I have emailed again today requesting an update as we want this resolved asap. As soon as they get back to me I will let you know.”

14. Correspondence:

14.1 Hunts Forum – invitation to the AGM on 26th February 2019.

“Hunts Forum’s Annual Conference and AGM will take place on 26th February between 1:30pm and 6:00pm at Wood Green Animal Shelter, Godmanchester.

This year’s event is all about the 3 I’s: Income, Innovation, Impact, and it is proposed that the afternoon be divided into two workshops and a showcase session, each covering these themes. More information will be sent out nearer the date.

And this is where we need your help please.....

Are there any members who have delivered something that they feel is different or **innovative** during the last 12 months and would be happy to share their experiences amongst other members?

It could be working with people in a different way or finding new solutions to age old problems such as funding or partnership working.

Whatever it is we would be more than happy to hear from you. So, drop us an email (sue@huntsforum.org.uk) in the first instance and one of us will be in touch to discuss it with you further.

Following the afternoon conference there will be a light buffet leading into our AGM and the presentation of the Volunteer Awards, which you are all invited to attend. “

14.2. Trees – cost of an additional inspection of the village trees. Email received:

“In terms of when, there are pros and cons with trees in leaf and out of leaf - in balance its better when trees are in leaf.

I would suggest £290 + VAT. This is subject to travel. Travel is charged at £20 + VAT per site visit.”

14.3. Tree Guard – email from the Allotment Society:

“A few years ago, the allotment society received a walnut tree plus a guard provided by HDC.

The guard was a commemorative guard for the Queen’s Jubilee (embossed).

We are now removing the guard since the tree no longer requires it.

Can the Parish Council make use of the guard? It may suit a tree on the Playing Field or the Sports Field.”

14.4. Seminar on transport, energy and place-making topics – invitation from HDC.

“Huntingdonshire District Council would like to invite two Parish Councils representatives to attend a seminar designed to stimulate debate across a range of transport, energy and place-making topics to help shape the future of Huntingdonshire and the sub-regions.

Presented by a range of experts, it will be of interest to political and business leaders as they consider how to respond to the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly changing world. Places are limited and by strict invitation only.

Amongst the speakers organised for the day are:

- Standard Gas, Huntingdon – Adrian Cooper (MD)
- Cambridge Regional College – Mark Robertson (Principal)
- Pod Point
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority
- 5th Studio

These are all innovative forward-thinking organisations who see the potential for Huntingdonshire and its sub-region.

We recognise the roles Parish Councils have to play in moving the local economy forwards and would like to offer you two places at the seminar. The event will take place at the Pathfinder House in Huntingdon at 8.00 on 5th March."

14.5. Agricole Oil's Village Rebate – email from Jeremy Cole (via Little Gransden Parish Council):

"For everyone that has ordered over 1000l or above, the village receives £5 from Agricole Oil Ltd.

This year your rebate is: 6 x £5 = £96

Let me know when we can meet up for the annual Agricole cheque presentation for ours and your website/parish mag etc.

What deserving cause will benefit this year?"

Little Gransden Parish Council liaises with Great Gransden to agree a deserving cause.

15. Planning:

15.1. 18/02545/HHFUL Single storey side and rear extensions plus the conversion of the loft area to habitable accommodation following the demolition of the existing lean-to extension, 21 Sand Road.

15.2. Reading Room Cottage - the drawings (prepared by Jason Dixon) and request by HDC have been submitted and validation of the application is awaited following the emails from the planning officer on 29th January 2019.

"All we require now is for the external dimensions (length and height) for the proposed window and door to be shown on the proposed drawing you submitted on 15.01.19."

The drawing has been re-submitted as requested.

15.3. Erection of dwelling (planning in principle) land adjacent to the North West of 43 Mill Road - report on the decision of the Development Management Committee (AP).