I HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE

A meeting of Little Downham Parish Council will take place on Thursday 7th December 2023 commencing at 7.30pm in Little Downham Book Café

Members of the press & public are welcome!

AGENDA

1	168/23	**To receive and accept Apologies for Absence:** (LGA 1972 s85 (1))
2	169/23	**To record any declarations of interest:** Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)
3	170/23	**Minutes of previous Meeting:** LGA 1972, sch 12, para 41. See below.
4	171/23	**Public Participation Session**
5	172/23	**District and County Councillors Reports:** i) County Councillor Report – unavailable in person, report attached. ii) District Councillor Report
6	174/23	**Co-Option of New Councillors –** To consider any new applications for co-option onto the Council.
7	175/23	**Finance:** **i)** To approve the monthly payment schedule as presented. *A list will be sent nearer the meeting to ensure as many payments as possible are included to avoid delays.* **ii)** To consider the maintenance contract details for the MUGA from Dura-Sport and accept their proposal with immediate effect. Details attached.
8	176/23	**Clerks Report:** Verbal report to be shared at the meeting.
9	177/23	**Planning Applications**: List below
10	178/23	**Council Matters:** i) To consider forming a small sub-committee to create a strategy that supports the Council's commitment to the agreed 5 climate change pledges. Details below. ii) To appoint a PC representative to the Downham Feoffees Charity committee due to the resignation of Ellie Butcher. iii) To consider a change of Internal Auditor from Ben Stoehr to Judith Lawson.
11	179/23	**Parish Council Land and Assets:** **i)** **MUGA** – update on opening/bookings system/goals **ii)** **Pavilion** – update on grant application process **iii)** **LD Rec** – update on overhead barrier **iv)** **LD Village Green** – update on damage caused.
12	180/23	**Parish Matters:** i) Storage of tennis nets and posts for hirers. **Urgent** matter to be resolved at the meeting to enable hires of the MUGA to commence.
13	181/23	**Highways Matters:** i) Damage done to Village Green from large vehicle. Update on action taken.
14	182/23	**Ouse Washes/IDB:** i) To update Members on recent meetings attended, if any.
15	183/23	**Matters to Share or Inform the Next Meeting:** Verbal only, no decisions can be made.

16	184/23	**To confirm the date of the next Meeting/s:** 4th January 2023 – Finance & Budget 11th January 2023 – Full Council Meeting
17	185/23	**Close of Meeting**

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Agenda Item 170/23 – Minutes of Previous Meeting held 2nd November 2023 in Little Downham Book Cafe

In attendance:

Cllrs	D. Parson	P. Spofforth
	G. Taylor	P. Travers
	A. Butcher	F. Waddelow
	C. Scott	

Also in attendance: K. Palmer, Clerk to the Council

1	153/23	**To receive and accept Apologies for Absence:** (LGA 1972 s85 (1)) **RESOLVED** to accept the apologies from Cllr Waters and Maxey.
2	154/23	**To record any declarations of interest:** Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations) **NONE**
3	155/23	**Minutes of previous Meeting:** LGA 1972, sch 12, para 41. **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes as presented. Cllr Butcher, Waddelow and Taylor abstained as they were not in attendance.
4	156/23	**Public Participation Session - NONE**
5	157/23	**District and County Councillors Reports:** iii) County Councillor Report – Budget overspends at County reached £23m which is higher than expected. Storm Babette was less impactful then feared. Councillors challenged Cllr Dupre on the County's stance on not sharing the useful emergency contact information in case of a flood with the PC. Cllr Dupre agreed this was not suitable. Cllr Butcher asked Cllr Dupre what CCC was doing to protect the area from floods given data shared with the public claimed climate change will bring floods. Cllr Butcher asked what level of priority this had at County level. Cllr Dupre stated it was the responsibility of the Environment Agency. Cllr Butcher asked how a congestion charge can be given attention and funding and then scrapped, but the flood risk can't be given the same energy. Cllr Dupre repeated they will continue to lobby but it isn't CCCs responsibility. Cllr Butcher agreed but persisted emphatically the County's role is to lobby for this protection and any Cllr who took this issue on would be widely supported as the risk of the 100-foot river breaking its banks is of huge concern to the Council and all residents. It will be a national disaster were it to happen. Government needs to fund the Environment Agency to install a tidal barrier at Kings Lynn. Council was of the view that further lobbying was needed at every level higher than themselves. Council further raised the issue of the solar studs being covered by weeds again and nothing had been done to clear them since they last reported this. Cllr Spofforth raised the issue of loneliness in the area from younger people and their sense of desolation. The mental health service for Cambs and Peterborough was ineffective to an extraordinary degree by deflecting referrals at such a rate it exhausts the service which means much needed funding is being wasted on the re-referral system that could be given to patients who desperately need it. The service is so limited that referrals are repeated at cost and patients can't get the help they need. Cllr Travers expressed his deep concern about this. iv) District Councillor Report - unavailable
6	158/23	**Finance:** **iii)** To approve the monthly payment schedule as presented. *A list will be sent nearer the meeting to ensure as many payments as possible are included to avoid delays.* **RESOLVED** to agree the payments as presented.
7	159/23	**Clerks Report:**

		Insurance claims update, MUGA set up, potential sports clubs at MUGA, quote for the tarmac at the recreation ground, update on assistant clerk job creation.
8	160/23	**Planning Applications**: List as below sent to Planning Department.
9	161/23	**Council Matters:** iv) To consider a request for grant funding - **RESOLVED** not to offer any funding as it wasn't in line with the terms and conditions.
10	162/23	**Parish Council Land and Assets:** i) To review the ROSPA reports for the play areas and confirm any actions to be taken. **RESOLVED** to repair the entrance gates as a matter of priority and investigate the most cost-effective option to replace the tile surfacing.
11	163/23	**Parish Matters:** i) To discuss the state of Third Drove and agree a response to CCC Highways. – **RESOLVED** to send a letter to Highways requesting they write to landowners on Third Drove to cut back trees on their land and for CCC to remove any trees that are too close to the road and will block/undermine the road structure.
12	164/23	**Highways Matters:** i) To consider a request for a pedestrian crossing on Main Street. **RESOLVED** not to support the request due to parking concerns in that area and access to shops and businesses.
13	165/23	**Ouse Washes/IDB:** ii) To update Members on recent meetings attended, if any.
14	166/23	**Matters to Share or Inform the Next Meeting:** Verbal only, no decisions can be made. Formal request to CCC for the useful contact details in case of flooding.
15	167/23	**To confirm the date of the next Meeting** **Full Council** – 7th December 2023. Little Downham Book Café.
16	168/23	**Close of Meeting** - Meeting Closed at 22:02

Agenda Item – 175/23 – Planning

APPLICATIONS
23/01239/FUL - Lighting to existing stable building – retrospective - Land to The South of Caraby, The Hythe, Little Downham.

23/01096/FUL - Single storey side extension along with conversion of existing garage and part of dwelling to form holiday let annex accommodation and formation of new drive access and parking - 43 Main Street Pymoor - **1. Addition of pedestrian visibility splay**

23/00814/FUL - Replacement dwelling - Quaker Farm, Main Drove, Little Downham

DECISIONS
23/00603/FUL - Proposed office building following removal of existing outbuilding and demolition of 2no. Romney stores, workshop & office - Denmark Farm, 3 Straight Furlong, Pymoor - **APPROVED**

Agenda Item 176/23 (i) – The five climate asks were:

1) Declare a climate emergency.

2) Work to improve electric vehicle charging infrastructure locally.

3) Redraft neighbourhood plans to encourage community renewable energy developments like wind and solar schemes, support active travel and place new requirements on landlords and developers to improve energy efficiency.

4) Publicly state support for divestment from fossil fuels.

5) Support and Facilitate Wildlife Conservation and Ecosystem Restoration locally.