

**HISTON & IMPINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**CLERK'S REPORT**

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>Environment Committee</b>	<b>7 December 2015</b>
<b>AUTHOR/S:</b>	<b>Angela Young, Clerk</b>	

**E15/060.1 Clerk's Report:**

Meetings:

- Cllr Foster attended Homefield & Hereward Residents Association meeting 8 October. Report made to members 9 October
- Cllrs Nudds and Jenkins attended meeting to look at Treatment of the Public Realm at Guided Bus junction. Subsequent workshop attended by several Councillors and Clerk
- Cllr Nudds and Clerk met with Buchans to review contract and work on spec for Kings Meadow works
- Cllrs Foster, Payne and Clerk attended Surface Water meeting with Cty Cllr Mason at County Council 12 November
- WISER collections cancelled until further notice

General:

- SCDC: Approach re (private) dog bin for Hollyoak Vets referred to SCDC; flytipping problems reported
- CCC: Grass verge damage raised by resident re Glebe Way
- Quotes update:
  - Pole for electricity cable – deferred to Spring
  - Youth Shelter stepping stones – recommendation to drop work order
  - Grass protection –
  - St Audreys posts – spec awaited
- BIG TIDY UP held 5 December. Cllr Foster has plans for a “Clean for the Queen” event 2016. Also proposals for “Adopt a Street” programme to keep areas clean.  
**FOR DECISION:** Request for additional litter pickers at cost of £273
- **Bookings:** Carols on Green 16 December

**E15/060.2 Tree Wardens Report** - awaited

**Items noted by Clerk:**

- Resident of Greenleas asked for help with overbearing County owned tree in passage between Normanton Way and Clay Street
- Manor Field Tree Survey carried out 20 October, report made to Tree Warden
- Barcham Research Seminar details 2 December received
- SCDC Tree works application **consultations dealt with by Tree Warden:**
  - 79 Station Road Impington – Conservation area works to holly tree and leylandi
  - 1 Doctors Close Impington – Remove cypress
  - 1 Park Lane, Histon – Crown reduce yew
  - 1 School Hill, Histon – remove 2 limes, remove dead branches maple

14 School Lane, Histon – schedule of works  
IVC, New Road, Impington – schedule of works  
Compass House, Histon – crown reduce London Planes  
3a Clay Close Lane, Impington – prune plum tree  
20 Cottenham Road, Histon – crown reduce ash and associated works

- **SCDC Refusal of Tree works** applications:  
92 Station Road, Histon – sectionally dismantle plum, corkscrew willow and fell cypress  
3 Cottenham Road, Histon – removal of walnut

### **E15/060.3 Allotment Officers Report** - awaited

#### **Items noted by Clerk:**

- Fee collection made – CP has written chasing all outstanding payments with time limit allowed before allocation to waiting list
- Trevor Smith has repaired damaged fence adjacent to Orchard Road property

### **E15/060.4 Footpath Officers' Report** - awaited

- John Dunn confirmed he would be happy to remain as a Footpath Officer for the Parish Council
- Letter from resident regarding future use of Cawcutts Lake received - **attached**

### **E15/060.5 Sustainability Working Party Report**

#### **Items noted by Clerk:**

- £500 grant received for use on SWP's allotment at Gatehouse Road. Earmarked in accounts. Some spend already made since receipt
- Verges plans. Group have been supplied with contact details for Buchans. County Council has been advised of plans. Newsletter article published

### **E15/060.6 Public Art Working Party Report**

- Extra Ordinary Council meeting held 28 October followed by Working Party meeting. Notes available
- Cllr Nudds to report on update on Glazed Pavilion and any other issues. BT Phonebox now in ownership of Parish Council, with suitable insurance cover and legal notices in place
- Workshop for treatment of Public Realm at Station Area/Guided Busway attended by Cllr Nudds and others

### **E15/060.7 Village Green Report**

- **FOR DECISION**: Yesteryear have applied for use of Green 24 April 2016 in support of MAGPAS

- Update on Christmas lights / tree
- Mitigation works – no further contact as yet from CCC or SCDC

#### **E15/060.7 Burial Ground Report**

- Cllr Hertoghe due to visit Burial Ground to talk to groundsman about composting
- **FOR DECISION**: Damage to chestnut fence on B1049 boundary reported to Cllr Nudds, may need professional repair work
- Some ivy has been taken by local tree company, with permission, as last year

#### **E15/060.8 HICOP Report** - awaited

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I am concerned and very upset regarding the decisions that have been made for the future use of this lake. As I understand the situation the Chivers family have agreed to lease the lake to a fishing syndicate and the parish council have been involved in the negotiations. The council has negotiated a permissive footpath around the lake but I do not think that this will ensure the continued enjoyment of the ordinary walking folk.

I am writing because of my concern for the environment, for the many people who enjoy walking around the lake including myself.

I believe that this lake has become a haven for wildlife with swan, duck, geese and many other birds. It is also a home for badgers, they have built a sett on the north bank and are legally protected animals. I fear that they will not survive the impact of the fence. I also feel very strongly that with some creative thought this area could have become a beautiful wildlife lake and I have been told that the Wildlife Trust would have helped with such a venture. What an achievement for the family and for the village!

Many people and dogs enjoy the lake walk and will now be forced to walk outside a fence. The position of the fence was not clearly marked on the plans and after mowing the brambles the fence has been erected on the line of the path. This path has been walked for at least 20 years and I believe that it has therefore become a right of way.

I am annoyed that the fishing syndicate is being allowed to make such changes to plans so that the area will inevitably become the exclusive preserve of fishermen. I note that the new path is very close to the hedge, on a bramble bed and when the brambles grow in the spring it will not be passable by human or dog. The permissive path will also pass close to the guided bus and the slope leading to the A14. My dogs have always been well trained but I would not risk walking a young or bouncy dog on this path. There is now just a single fence, an otter fence and no perimeter fence. Thus the syndicate have ensured a large space for the fishermen and only a narrow path for everyone else.

I would personally query the necessity for any fence. I have consulted English Nature and the Environment agency and understand that otters will usually only hunt in moving water and that otter surveys do not identify any of these animals in the vicinity of the lake. It is my opinion that the syndicate is using the otter threat in a cynical way in order to make this a place for a few fishermen, that excludes a larger number of walkers.

On a very personal note I feel strongly that little thought has been given to the needs of all of us living in this part of Impington. We do need at least some open space that we can access on foot and since the advent of the guided busway the loss of the lake will have a serious impact.

Sincerely  
Val Golightly

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