

# PAPWORTH EVERARD PARISH COUNCIL

Papworth Village Hall, Ermine Street South, Papworth Everard, CB23 3RD

## EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**Minutes of the 781st Meeting of the Parish Council  
held on Wednesday 10 October 2018  
at 7.30pm in the Seminar Room at Papworth Village Hall**

**Present:** Paul Phillips (PP), Pete Cruse (PC), Chris Howlett (CH), Victoria Carter (VC), Paul Hicks (PH), Chris Dawson (CD), Mark Honeywood (MLH), Adam Honeywood (AH)

**In Attendance:** Sarah Cruse (SLC) Clerk, Cllr Mark Howell (MH), Cllr Mandy Smith (MS)  
Three members of the public were present at the meeting.

**170/10-18 To receive and approve apologies for absence – None**

**171/10-18 To receive any declarations of pecuniary interests – None declared**

**172/10-18 Public Participation**  
It was agreed to move this agenda item to after Item 173

**173/10-18 To discuss any updates received regarding the withdrawal of the X3 bus service**  
The Clerk gave an update regarding the situation since the announcement of the withdrawal of the Whippet X3 service.

Cambridge County Council had been working with Stagecoach, who agreed to extend the 18 service to include Papworth Everard and ensure that a bus service was maintained for the village. An application to extend the Stagecoach 18 route had been submitted to the Traffic Commissioner for approval.

In the meantime, South Cambs District Council and the Combined Authority had found funds to provide a £10,000 payment to Whippet to allow the X3 bus to continue to run until the end of March 2019 and an application to withdraw the notice to cease the Whippet x3 had been submitted to the Traffic Commissioner.

In light of the deal with Whippet, Stagecoach confirmed that they would no longer be looking to extend the 18 route and would be withdrawing their application lodged with the Traffic Commissioner.

The meeting discussed what would happen in April 2019 when the funding came to an end for Whippet.

There is likely to be a new X2 service running between Papworth and the Addenbrookes site from April – predominantly aimed at hospital workers. Further details of this, including route and timetable are not yet known but it is thought that there will be 3 buses in the morning and 3 in the evening, one way only. This would not be a suitable option as a replacement for the X3.

If the X3 does not continue in the longer term will there be a direct replacement or alternative option from another bus company ?

The village requires more certainty on what bus provision there will be from April 2019. The continuation of the Whippet X3 is a reprieve, but the issue could return in the spring once the funding ceases.

### Public Participation

Grace Fisher update the meeting with details of the petition she had started which had gained over 2000 signatures. Grace had been interviewed on BBC Radio Cambridge and for the Cambridge News regarding the petition and to highlight the loss of the X3 service. Grace was congratulated by the Parish Council on her work to highlight the transport issues faced by the village.

Several questions were raised by the members of the public present:

The No 18 is usually full by the time it leaves Cambourne in the mornings – had any consideration been made to the impact of people boarding the bus in Papworth ? Will the use of the No 18 lead to an increase in fares compared to the cost of the Whippet X3 Service

Why was the No 8 not extended instead ? MS advised that No 8 is a subsidised service. Is there a concern over the monopoly of the bus services by Stagecoach ? – MS advised that the Combined Authority Review currently being undertaken is looking at this and the possibility of franchising services.

If the new X2 service is intended for Papworth Hospital staff to get to the Addenbrookes site, how many staff will actually use it - will it be available for general public use ?

**174/10-18 To consider what steps the Parish Council can take to address the situation**

The Parish Council has looked into the possibility and costs of funding a minibus shuttle between Papworth / St Ives / Cambourne at peak hours as a temporary short term measure should there have been no alternative service once the X3 was due to be withdrawn, although this is currently no longer necessary.

It was agreed that a meeting should be sought as soon as practical, to meet with Councillors from South Cambs District Council and Cambridge County Council, a representative from the Mayors' Office, Combined Authority and possible a representative from Heidi Allen's Office to discuss the provision of a bus service post April 1 2019. Cllr Howell (MH) agreed to speak with the necessary people and with regard to calling a meeting as soon as possible.

**MS, MH and the members of public left the meeting at 8.25pm**

**175/10-18 To approve the purchased of a battery charger at a cost of £189.99 incl VAT**

It was resolved to purchase a battery charger at a cost of £189.99 incl VAT– to be allocated from the Playing Fields Budget  
(Proposed PH, Seconded PC, Agreed All)

**176/10-18 To approve the purchase of a safe box for the implement shed at a cost of £23.95 incl VAT**

It was resolved to purchase a safe box at a cost of £23.95 incl VAT– to be allocated from the Playing Fields Budget  
(Proposed AH, Seconded CD, Agreed All)

**Close of meeting**

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Signed: ..... Date: .....