

Minutes of a Meeting of FULBOURN PARISH COUNCIL held in The Fulbourn Centre, Home End, Fulbourn on Wednesday, 9th February 2011.

Present: Councillor Patten (Chairman) and Councillors Bullen (from Item 170.7), Dawson, Newell, Scarr (and District)(from Item 166), Stalley, Ward, Webdale and Williams (and District), County Councillor Clarke, the Clerk and 3 parishioners.

Public & Press - You are invited to attend the whole meeting and are welcome to speak at our Open Forum at the beginning of the meeting. There were no questions from the floor.

162. To accept apologies for absence. Councillors Drage and Hardwick, Lacey, Lockwood, Mair.

163. To notify the clerk of any declarations of interest that will be declared by members for any item to be discussed.

Cllr Dawson: Personal – Item 170.10.

164. To approve the minutes of the last meeting.

Following an amendment to Item 148, the Minutes were accepted and signed by the Chairman.

165. Matters arising from the last meeting.

165.1 New Councillor Training. CPALC offer Outreach training for Councillors. The Clerk will make further enquiries.

165.2 Replace CCTV. This will be considered at the next Finance Committee Meeting.

166. Report of Meeting at SCDC – Windmill Redevelopment.

This item is included in the report from Item 167.3. Cllr Williams advised that the motion went through by a majority because if Officers do want to use Compulsory Purchase Powers (CPO), they would have to go back to Full Council with a specific CPO request. He hoped discussions with the remaining residents could now continue.

167. To receive reports from County and District Councillors.

167.1 Councillor Clarke issued the attached report.

167.2 Councillor Scarr and 167.3 Councillor Williams issued the attached reports. Regarding number 6 on the latter report, Cllr Clarke pointed out this matter came under the County Council. Cllr Williams had included it in his report having been contacted by parishioners.

168. Post Office Update.

The Manager from Fulbourn Co-operative Stores met his Area Managers on 8th February 2011 who are all keen to open a Post Office in the village and will be speaking with their Regional Manager, which appears positive. Post Office Ltd has also visited The White Hart PH who expressed an interest in opening an outlet there.

169. Nos. 16 and 17 Bus Routes – Possibility of service being withdrawn from April 2011.

Bus subsidies are being removed over 4 years. Each route costs between £120/130K to run and there will be a community consultation for each route before anything is decided. Cllr Clarke said improved community transport is planned with a Forum meeting in February to see what is needed and who can deliver. Cllr Williams advised Stagecoach is looking at registering parts of the Nos. 16 and 17 routes.

170. Correspondence.

170.1 CCC – Invitation to a meeting on Delivering Transport and Accessibility in the New Era on 3/2/11 at March Town Hall. Cllrs Clarke and Patten attended and found this very interesting.

170.2 **K Hardwick** – Concerns over damaged verge on Foxhole Joint. Members were aware of lorries parking for lunch breaks despite the road being narrow, has numerous potholes and buses struggle to get by. Standing Orders were suspended and Mrs Hardwick confirmed she often litter picks along here too. Discussions continued. Standing Orders were resumed. As CCC is responsible for the verges, we will contact them for their assistance in this matter.

170.3 **Connections Bus Project** – Buses available to hire for village fetes and events.

170.4 **SCDC** – Next Parish Council Liaison Meeting is 29/3/11, 7pm at Cambourne.

170.5 **CPALC** – Winter 2011/11 Bulletin.

170.6 **CCC** – Possibility the Village Maintenance Grant will be cut by 25% so this will affect the grass cutting budget we receive.

170.7 **Fulbourn Village Library** – Response to an invoice we sent regarding The Swifts for Council to consider. Members agreed this was a much needed village facility. The volunteers have worked very hard to make this successful, and to remain self-sufficient. The library now has to purchase new books and a change in the system, means they have lost revenue on overdue books. Cllr Williams proposed Council pays the Service Charges from the Contingency Fund, seconded by Cllr Scarr and agreed by the Council.

170.8 **CCC** – Information on the Cambridgeshire Library Service Review can be found at: -

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/leisure/libraries/news/libservicereview>

170.9 **Local Works** – Information on the 199 short listed proposals made under the Sustainable Communities Act and how Councils following consultation with their communities, can submit further proposals direct to the government.

170.10 **Scouts** – Message re lack of progress in securing a new lease following a Scout meeting last week. Cllr Webdale has spoken to Mr Toovey as there had been some confusion over what piece of land the Council was taking over from the Guides. Mr Toovey has offered to draw up an open lease for the Scouts until a permanent building has been provided. Cllr Webdale will draw up a new plan of widening the entrance road. It would appear the Scouts did not think the Council were committed to this project of a new Youth Facility Building. Cllr Dawson reassured them this was not the case.

170.11 **CCC** – Advised repair work has been done to a section of Bye way 8 from Stonebridge Lane.

170.12 **The Haven** – Request for overhanging tree limbs to be cut from the wildlife area onto adjacent properties. Permission will be sought as this is a Conservation Area before work is done.

170.13 **Haggis Gap/Swift's Corner** – Request to have hedge work done to assist pedestrians using the footpath and to remove unsightly dead branches that have been fly tipped. Although the verge is maintained by CCC, Members agreed to have this small area done.

170.14 **NALC** – From October 2011, employers will no longer be able to enforce compulsory retirement at the age of 65 under the DRA (default retirement age) without justification.

Rabbits. This is an ongoing problem at the cemetery. It has been suggested rabbits vanish when a lavender hedge has been planted. Members agreed to try this and see if it alleviates the problem.

171. Marshall Airport Cambridge re-branding to Cambridge Airport and new Airport Director.

Archie Garden has been appointed Airport Director, and re-branding information received.

172. Report of Meeting with Fulbourn Forum.

Members from the Forum met Cllr Hardwick to consider a herb garden for public use at Pound Hill (opposite the War Memorial in Manor Walk). The Forum would erect a wooden container and consideration was given to watering, leaf fall and possible vandalism. Cllr Hardwick explained the Council had plans to plant three large trees along the frontage. A Member from the Forum suggested tree producing ones i.e. Sweet Chestnuts, Indian Bean, Walnut, Medlar and Malus (Crab Apple). Council Members expressed concerns about some of these but will consider the idea further.

173. Report of A.C.E. Committee Meeting.

From the report: - Shrubs have been trimmed at the cemetery; A new mower is still needed and Cllr Stalley will get quotes; Daffodil bulbs have been planted at Twopenny Green (Balsham Road lay-by); Horse Pond has still not been cleared, and now Cambridge Water Company are no longer the owners, enquiries as to who has bought it will be made; Concerns to verges being damaged by lorries to be monitored and thanks to Mr & Mrs Wright Cllrs Mair, Newell and Dawson for the Christmas lights opposite the church that were well received by parishioners.

174. Report from a Youth Committee Meeting.

Report attached.

175. To resolve the accounts for the month.

Ridegons: Supplies.....	118.62R	D Wright: Electricity.....	25.00R
M&M Building: Pavilion repairs....	366.00	St John Ambulance: Course.....	340.00RC
B Gas: Pavilion electricity.....	1,002.65	ESPO: Supplies.....	140.52
Shelford Heating: Service.....	210.00	B's Travel: Shopper & PO bus.....	440.00
CCC: Street Lighting.....	1,463.76	Furnleaf: General maintenance.....	601.16
Dementia Compass: Donation.....	120.00	Petty Cash: Stamps & Admin.....	20.08
Talk Talk: Jan Phone Calls.....	28.74	Shelford Heating: New Programmer.....	135.85
Collacott: Light repairs.....	337.50	Dents: Maintenance Contract.....	87.36C
Wages: Clerk + Expenses.....	802.13	Wages: Pavilion Cleaner.....	136.00

Cllr Webdale proposed, seconded by Cllr Newell that the accounts are passed. Agreed by the Council.

176. Reports of Meetings of the Finance Committee and Precept.

Reports attached.

177. To consider planning applications.

Refusal received for S/1846/10, Locksley House, Cox's Drove – Extensions to house.

Permissions received for S/1909/10, 76 Haggis Gap – Conservatory and

S/2206/10, 12 Geoffrey Bishop Avenue – Side and rear extensions.

New application: - S/2182/10, 14 Teversham Road – Extensions. Recommendation approve.

Tree works:

School Lane – Crown reduce Walnut; Fell Cypress & Yew; Remove small group of Conifers and cut back various trees at side of property. “Area viewed – sad when trees have to be felled but understand reasons for proposals. Sad agreement to proposals”.

Manor Walk – Fell Sycamore, Crown reduce two Sycamores and an Ash. No objections.

With regret Council was informed that Cllr Doggett has now resigned after 17 years service having also served as a District Councillor. Members agreed to write and thank her for all her hard work.

178. To receive items for inclusion on the next Agenda for decision and/or action.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Date of the next Full Council – 9th March 2011.

Attached Reports.

(167.1) FULBOURN DIVISION COMMUNITY NEWS Jan /Feb 2011

10 Peacock Drive, Bottisham, Cambridge Tel: 01223 812595 nick.clarke@me.com

Parish Council report from County Councillor Nick Clarke

Integrated Planning Process – budget setting.

There will be no increase in the County Council's element of Council Tax in the next financial year, and probably no increase for a further four years. The County Council aims to save £50.4 million in 2011/12 and £160.6 million over 5 years.

The Council faces increasing pressures of demand, an increasing and ageing population and inflation coupled with a 14 per cent reduction in the core funding received from Government.

A new set of Council priorities are being proposed:

Supporting and protecting vulnerable people when they need it most

Helping people to live independent and healthy lives in their communities

Developing the local economy for the benefit of all

Four principles will guide the way the Council work - being a genuinely local council, making sure the right services are provided in the right way, investing in prevention, and working together.

In Children's Services a fundamental shift from universal to targeted services is proposed, which over the next four years would save £1 million from youth services, £761,000 from home to school transport and £600,000 from children's centres. Direct support to some children and young people will end, saving £1 million from disability services, £527,000 from specialist teaching, £315,000 from budgets for educating looked after children and £301,000 from the Cambridgeshire Racial Equality and Diversity Service.

The Council aims to save £950,000 from children's social care, £240,000 from the early year service, and £3 million from mainstream and special educational needs school transport.

In Libraries, Learning and Culture, the Council will save £282,000 through operational efficiencies, income generation and new ways of working, £108,000 from redesigning the mobile library service, and £100,000 from introducing more self service and using volunteers in libraries. Working in partnership with other councils to provide support services and creating a Trust to run libraries will save a further £294,000.

In social care, promoting prevention and localism will save £2.9 million, adopting reablement approach a further £4.75 million, and decreasing the cost of high cost and complex placements will save £1.3 million.

In Environment Services, a proposed restructuring Trading Standards will save £641,000 over four years, reducing spending on environment and climate change £492,000, a proposed restructuring waste services will save £159,000 and a proposed reduction in senior management will save £100,000. Further efficiencies from the highways services contract will save £2.4 million, and restructuring Highways and Access £1.1 million.

In public transport, phasing out subsidised bus services will save £2.7 million but there will be an **extra £1 million invested in supporting community transport schemes** over the next five years as well as a **summit on how to make public transport more locally focussed and value for money**. There will also be a £1.4 million saving in revenue funded highways maintenance but an extra £3.85 million investment in this area from capital funds.

In Corporate Directorates, over a four-year period, reducing properties and maximizing office space in retained buildings will save over £1 million, reducing the contact centre opening hours and standards and moving more services being accessed and delivered online £426,000, reducing IT functions and delivering services in different ways will save £989,000 and reducing communications and marketing activity will save up to £550,000.

Budget decisions have and are being made in conjunction with Community Impact Assessments, which consider the impact of our services on communities, with particular reference to ensuring equality and cohesion. These will continue as changes are made to services.

To deliver the proposed plan, The Council will have to work in a completely different way.

The County seeks to be a genuinely local council. It will hand decisions about spending and service provision to people at the most local level wherever possible. We know that a lot of people are already actively involved in their local areas, and we want to free up communities to do even more and support themselves.

We will focus on prevention - helping people early on, increasing their independence and choice, and helping them to help themselves.

We will make sure that every penny in every pound counts. We will protect the frontline and will be as efficient behind-the-scenes as possible. We will only provide services directly when this makes most sense. And we will work even more closely with other public services, the private sector, voluntary organisations, and communities to make sure we're joined up and providing the best value possible.

The reduction in our grant reflects the part public services have to play in repaying the nation debt. There is no escaping the fact that there will be cuts to services. Cambridgeshire was already a lean authority and that has made for difficult decisions.

We will focus more than ever on our priorities, so our proposals will protect the most vulnerable, help people to live independent and healthy lives, and promote economic growth.

(Item 167.2) District Councillor's Report to Fulbourn Parish Council **Council votes to End Self-Denial of use of Compulsory Purchase Powers**

At the January Council meeting SCDC passed the following motion: "This council agrees that Compulsory Purchase powers may be used if there is no other alternative way of ensuring the completion of the Windmill Estate project in Fulbourn".

At the risk of stating the obvious, SCDC always retained the legal right to use these powers. As a matter of policy the council had agreed not to use them in this instance by a simple resolution, hence the reversal of the policy by passing another resolution.

Position unclear on Regional Spatial Strategies

The government announced in July that Regional Spatial Strategies (which we have always called the Regional Plan, as it used to be known as that) were abolished. This has successfully been challenged in the High Court, and the position at present is that the policies in the RSS are still in force. The situation in court is yet to be resolved, and if it cannot be resolved satisfactorily, then an Act of Parliament may be necessary finally to abolish the RSS. Since the Regional Plan system in our area has been based on the assumption of major housing growth in the Cambridge sub-region its demise (even if delayed) can only be welcomed. Let's hope that councils haven't forgotten how to make plans which reflect the needs and wishes of local communities!

South Cambridgeshire DC is working on the assumption that local development frameworks will continue, and work is ongoing with updating documents forming part of the LDF as this falls due. Since it appears that there will be no requirement to submit these for central government for approval, councillors will be more able to

reflect the wishes of their constituents than before. Recent plan-making has involved council members trying to look two ways at once: back to our constituencies and our promises at election-time, and across to see what the RSS expected us to do, all whilst trying to second-guess the attitude of the Planning Inspectorate. Since this involved trying to combine quite different things (and was accordingly stressful), I think most councillors will thank the government for this decision.

Referenda on Council Tax Levels

Instead of “capping” the amount of council tax increases by local authorities, the government intends to provide for automatic local referenda on council tax increases above a certain level. This still provides a potential veto on higher council tax increases, but it takes the power away from the Secretary of State and his civil servants and gives it to local people. It is hard as a democrat to argue with this principle – although presumably the costs of the referendum will have to be met by the council concerned out of monies raised locally. Given the timetable for setting the council tax and organising local elections, it would seem to be sensible to hold both at the same time to contain costs.

Whilst this heralds a tighter financial regime for SCDC, the council still has substantial reserves which could be used to support capital spending (in spite of blowing a substantial sum a few years ago on moving to Cambourne).

Central Government Grants

Government grants to SCDC will be reduced from £7.1million to just over £6million for the next financial year - ouch!

A General Power of Competence

At present, County, District and Parish Councils have specific powers, which they operate within the legal framework which gives those powers, and duties. Put simply: Highways is a County matter, provision, management and regulation of Housing is a District matter. So, District authorities have no obligation to provide or maintain roads, paths and lighting (and only very limited powers to do so) and Counties have no obligation to provide housing services (and only very limited powers in their social services capacity to do so for specific groups). This is really an extension of the principles of the “free tu’pence” which parish councils (and districts come to that) can spend on anything to the benefit of their areas or any part of it.

Clearly this new power means that District and County Council across the county will need to liaise on how it is to be used to avoid risk of duplication of effort. It is good that there are already liaison meetings of county, district and parish councils to work things out under existing legislation. Purely a personal view, but I think that this power might strengthen the case for introduction of unitary authorities, although only time will tell whether this is right or wrong!

Neil Scarr

(Item 167.3) My report to the February 2011 meeting of Fulbourn Parish Council

1. Since the January parish council meeting I have attended the Corporate Governance Committee of SCDC on 12 January, the full council meeting on 27 January and a local government finance workshop on 3 February. In addition I spoke at the planning committee meeting on 12 January in support of the parish council’s recommendation that a planning application be approved.
2. At the full council meeting it was decided to give back to officers the opportunity to seek to use Compulsory Purchase powers in order to complete the Windmill Estate redevelopment as planned. Officers will have to obtain the approval of the full council should they wish to apply a Compulsory Purchase Order against a particular owner occupier. This decision was not taken likely, but after a lengthy debate the vote was decisive with well over two out of three members voting to give back the CPO powers.
3. At the Corporate Governance Committee meeting we were given a presentation on the work of the internal audit team and received the last external audit report on SCDC from the Audit Commission.
4. At the planning committee meeting I was able to persuade members to go against the officer recommendation that the planning application for a property in Coxs Drove be

5. rejected and instead agree with the parish council that it would not adversely affect the conservation area and be approved.
6. After Christmas Fulbourn Mill received a complaint about night time noise levels and after investigation it found that equipment used for processing peas needed further noise reduction measures. Work is now in hand to deal with this.
7. I am concerned about the funding of the 16 and 17 bus routes and I have been contacted by a number of users. Should the county council decide to withdraw its subsidy Stagecoach say they will withdraw the service in April as most users are bus pass holders. These routes are well used and it raises the issue of how the government money for the concessionary bus pass scheme is allocated between routes.

John Williams
February 2011

(Item 174) Minutes of a meeting of the Committee for youth held in the Parish Office, Home End, Fulbourn, on Tuesday the 25th January 20011.

Present: Councillor Bullen, Dawson, Newell, Patten, and Webdale

This being the first meeting of the youth Committee Councillor Patten chaired the meeting in the absence of an elected Chairman.

Item 1: To elect chairman, Councillor Newell proposed Councillor Dawson, seconded by Councillor Webdale and agreed and duly accepted by the Committee.

Item 2: To elect Vice Chairman, Councillor Dawson proposed Councillor Pattern and seconded by Councillor Webdale and agreed and duly accepted by the Committee.

Item 3: How to work with Youth, Councillor Patten reported to that there was a meeting of FY4Y on Thursday the 27th January at 10.30am in the Institute Building and it was proposed that Councillor Dawson would attend with Councillor Patten to establish a link.

Item 4: Guide Hut Development. A formal offer had been made to the Guides subject to receiving a copy of the deeds. The Parish Clerk had chased up a reply but it is believed there Committee only meets every 3 months and this may be the reason for no response.

Item 5: Scouts Lease, a letter had been received from Nick Toovey indicating that they had a meeting arrange on the 4th February and would like to have some sort of lease in place to give them confidence in moving forward with some necessary repairs to the Scout Hut. Councillor Patten informed the meeting that the current lease had expired some time ago. It was generally felt that drawing up a short term lease was expensive and unnecessary, a simple letter of understanding should be sufficient. Councillor Bullen felt that the Scouts should have no fear of being evicted of the site, it was suggested that Councillor Webdale meets with Nick Toovey giving assurance and suggesting a letter of understanding to be drawn up to be signed by both parties and witnessed.

Item 6: Entrance widening, in the letter received it indicated that some compensation was sort for giving up the land required to widen entrance. Councillor Dawson felt this was may be due to necessity of moving their fire escape door, Councillor Webdale reported that this was not required has they would still have access to the side of scout for its entire length. Councillor Webdale to revisit site and produce a new drawing showing in detail the widening proposed.

Item 7: A.O.B. Councillor Dawson asked if there were any plans to provide some play equipment towards the other end of the village. Councillor Pattern reported that two areas at Huntmill and Thomas Road area had been identified however the local residents in both were against. The Windmill development will provide an opportunity to provide some play equipment for the young on completion.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm. Date of next meeting arrange for 5th April 2011.

(Item 176) Report of the **Finance Committee** of FULBOURN PARISH COUNCIL held on Friday, 14th January 2011 at The Fulbourn Centre, Home End, Fulbourn.

Present: Councillors S Hardwick (Chairman) and Councillors Patten, Stalley, Webdale and the R.F.O. Mr R Ward.

Apologies for Absence. Councillor Bullen.

The Chairman opened the meeting by commenting that there could be unknown expenses during the next financial year due to government reductions to County and District resources, which could lead to services needing the support of the Parish Council.

A financial report was present to the meeting by Mr Ward which claimed that expenditure in all areas remains below budget of 2010/11. All precept had been received from the District Council. The only capital expenditure was to replace the computer.

Regarding investments; £250,000 was in Bonds at Barclays Bank and Cambridge Building Society; of which £100,000 would mature on 25th February 2011. The meeting was advised by the R.F.O. that the Council should not invest more in the C.B.S. but should seek other possibilities and members agreed (the Saffron B.S. was mentioned as a possibility). The R.F.O. also considered that the Section 106 funds should be, or part of, marked for village and Council projects; this would be considered improve the general balance of Council accounts. The R.F.O. was thanked for his report.

The meeting then considered the budget for the next financial year 2011/12 and papers enclosed explain their proposals.

The Committee recommends that the precept should stand at £115,000. This means no change to the precept that has stood at that figure for the last four years.

It should be noted that this precept does not balance with the budget, but any excess will or can go to capital or at year end, to Council balances.

Note that the Committee recommends that the Land Fund should receive an additional £10,000; that the Phase II should stand at £50,000; Guide Hut increase to £20,000 and an addition to the Capital planned account - £5,000 for Recreation Ground entrance.

This report will I hope give you sufficient information, but certainly any questions can be answered at the Precept Meeting and remember all, this is a recommendation only.

SDH

Minutes of a **Precept** meeting of Fulbourn Parish Council held in The Fulbourn Centre, Home End, Fulbourn on Tuesday, 1st February 2011.

Public & Press - You are invited to attend the whole meeting and are welcome to speak at our Open Forum at the beginning of the meeting. No one present.

Present: Councillor Patten (Chairman) and Councillors Bullen, Newell, Stalley, Webdale and the Clerk.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Drage, Hardwick, Mair and Ward and the R.F.O. Mr Ward.

To receive recommendations from the Finance Committee and set the Precept for 2010/11.

Minutes of a Finance Committee Meeting held on 14th January were presented together with a Budget Sheet for 2011/12.

A Precept Proposal for 2011/12 prepared by our R.F.O. was also circulated. It is Council's recommendation that the R.F.O. also includes the agreed £1,500 library fall back amount on this in future.

Due to receipt of Section 106 monies, the current bank balances are healthy.

The main areas for future expenditure will be cemetery land and improving youth facilities.

Those present agreed on the recommendation from the Finance Committee to keep the Precept at £115,000 for the fifth consecutive year.