

Minutes of a Meeting of FULBOURN PARISH COUNCIL held in The Fulbourn Centre, Home End, Fulbourn on Wednesday, 11th January 2012.

Present: Councillor Patten (Chairman) and Councillors Bullen (from Item 139), Dawson, Drage, Farmer, Hardwick, Lacey, Lockwood, Newell, Scarr (and District), Stalley, Ward, Webdale and Williams (and District), the Clerk and 3 Parishioners.

The Chairman read out a letter from CPALC offering congratulations to the Parish Council who has just been awarded Quality Status. She thanked the Clerk for compiling the evidence file. Cllr Hardwick offered thanks to Cllrs Patten, Drage and the Clerk for their hard work. The award is to the Council so everyone has contributed in some way.

137 To accept apologies for absence.

Councillors Mair and Clarke.

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

Personal – Item 139, Cllrs Lockwood and Scarr.

Personal – Item 140, Cllrs Farmer and Webdale.

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.

139 James Fisher, SCDC Section 106 Officer & Tim Herod, SCDC Development Officer for Sports (Ida Darwin Development of Open Spaces).

Mr Fisher has been working with the agents and landowner on the impact of the Open Spaces at the Ida Darwin site and advised any sports provision would have an effect on the Masterplan. James then showed a draft plan of the site showing a football pitch, NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play) for older youths, allotments and parking areas.

Mr Fisher asked if the Parish Council had any long term views regarding management of the Open Spaces in the future. When asked, Mr Fisher confirmed that Council would receive a commuted sum for the long term status through S106.

The Parish Council replied they would be prepared to consider taking these over, but as the area is half the size of its recreation ground it would be a huge financial commitment area so Council would need to have financial costings. James said if the Council did not adopt the Open Spaces then they would be taken over by a Management Company and residents would be charged a subscription by the company to maintain them.

Regarding the proposed football pitch, members were asked whether it was intended for Senior or Junior teams. Tim Herod continued it was important to get the dimensions correct at the beginning to accommodate future needs. Whether a clubhouse was required, or what level of provision, would depend on who would be using the football pitch. The Parish Council will contact the Football Club to see what they would like to see on the site.

Cllr Williams suggested having a publicly accessible wildlife area behind the water tower.

From the history of this area, members felt it might be contaminated and would need clearing up before development.

From the draft plan, Council suggested moving the allotments nearer to the railway line where the chalky soil might also be better. Members were told a condition could be included that the land is made suitable for allotments. They should also be fenced to combat rabbits.

Cllr Williams was concerned that the NEAP was close to the railway line and suggested it was moved. Cllr Ward said youths are also keen to have a half pipe in the village. Young children would be accommodated within the residential dwellings.

Tim Herod suggested a Fitness Trails suitable for buggies might also be worth consideration.

James Fisher said it was up to the SCDC Planners if Gypsy and Traveller pitches are to be included in the development although they are not on the Masterplan yet.

Regarding the Social Club, ownership of the existing one is not known. Originally the land was given to the club by the Cambridgeshire Area Health Authority, built on the other side for its employees and retired workers. Enquiries will be made for the Parish Council to have a copy of the constitution. The Chairman thanked both Messrs Fisher and Herod for their presentation.

140 To consider planning applications.

Permissions received for: S/2106/11, 24 Cow Lane – Timber Garden Room;

S/2146/11, 13 Cow Lane – Two Storey Rear Extension;

S/2215/11, Capital Park – Day Care Nursery, Car Parking & Landscaping;

S/2369/11, 6 Greater Foxes – First floor side and single storey front and rear extensions.

New Applications: S/2158/11, 11 High Street - Signage (Retrospective);

S/2310/11, 15, Hinton Road - Erection Of two semi-detached houses following demolition of existing detached dwelling;

S/2415/11, 34 Station Road - Single Storey Front Extension;

S/2594/11, 89 Cambridge Road – Two storey rear extension.

Council recommends these four applications are approved.

S/2418/11, 8 Balsham Road - Replacement of flat roof with new pitched roof and replacement windows to existing swimming pool outbuilding. Council recommends approval, but requests any comments from neighbouring properties are considered.

The following applications were deferred until the Precept Meeting on 24/1/12.

S/2457/11: Proposed car parking area for Fulbourn Primary School

Location: The former Fulbourn Library, School Lane, Fulbourn, Cambridge

S/2459/11: Change of use and alteration of the former Fulbourn Library to form two residential dwellings.

Location: Fulbourn Village Library, School Lane, Fulbourn, Cambridge, CB21 5BH

Applicant: Cambridgeshire County Council

Tree works: None to report this month.

141 To approve the minutes of the last meeting.

The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

142 Matters arising from the last meeting.

142.1 Adult Exercise Equipment. The official opening will be on Saturday, 4th February 2012 and the Chairman from SCDC, Mr Tony Orgee has accepted an invitation to attend.

143 To receive reports District Councillors.

143.1 Cllr Williams issued the attached report.

143.2 Cllr Scarr also attended the Windmill Estate Steering Group meeting saying snagging on Phase 1B has been done with few defects found. Cllr Scarr questioned the wording on the new play area sign, but was told the Residents' Association had been consulted on this matter. Cllr Scarr continued the new numbering of properties was proving a problem as the street names had been recycled but numbers cannot be issued from existing dwellings that are still in use. It would have been easier to re-number when the estate was finished. The transfer date for the remaining houses is to be settled by the end of March 2012.

144 Cemetery Memorial suggestion to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Cllrs Patten and Bullen inspected the memorial surround which is in a poor state. Cllr Bullen will measure the circle and suggested paving around it with York stone. They also inspected the trees at the entrance to Greater Foxes. Cllr Bullen will replant four trees; one to the cemetery to

replace one that died and 2 more trees along Babraham Road and one in the Balsham Road lay-by. Members suggested incorporating a plaque to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee in the Silver Jubilee sign. To February 2012 agenda.

145 Correspondence. The following items were received this month: -

145.1 **Cambridge PPF** – Workshop on 26/1/12 on a two year project to see how Cambridge and surrounding area should be like in 2030. Cllr Williams to attend.

145.2 **Friends of the Roman Road and Fleam Dyke** – November 2011 newsletter.

145.3 **Campaign to Protect Rural England** – New guide “Planning Explained” received.

145.4 **SCDC** – Copy of letter sent to resident regarding tree work at Home Close, Cow Lane. Cllr Hardwick said two more trees had been felled than on the application but as they were dangerous it was necessary.

145.5 **Suffolk Accident Rescue Service** – Request for financial donation. Declined as this is against Council’s policy. The Clerk will reply.

145.6 **Communities and Local Government** – Update on changes to Council Tax Referendums.

145.7 **Circus Tyanna** – Would like to hire Recreation Ground for one week during 2012.

Although in theory Council would like to offer this to the village, as the ground is well used by the Sports Clubs it is difficult to accommodate and we do not have anywhere else suitable.

145.8 **Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS** – Winter 2011 newsletter.

145.9 **Connections Bus Project** – Sessions during Summer Holidays available for hire. The Clerk will pass this information onto FA4Y who arrange activities during the Summer.

145.10 **Post Office** – Confirmation of the trial of a Post Office local service which opened on 24/11/11 which will be monitored and hopeful this will meet the needs of the village.

145.11 **Townley Trust** – Suggest joint venture with Parish Council to put stones near the Nature Reserve entrance where cars park. Cllr Stalley said road planings had been put there before and would make a good job; also, potholes to be reported.

145.12 **Clerks & Councils Direct** – January 2012 magazine.

145.13 **CCC** – Briefing note update on the A14.

145.14 **Fulbourn Forum** – Wish to set up a wide group of stakeholders to peruse and comment on any early designs prior to receiving a planning application in regard to the proposed Ida Darwin redevelopment and asks if Council wish to pursue with this if a meeting could be arranged. Standing Orders were suspended. Mr Cottee explained The Prince’s Trust offer villages the chance to have a say by arranging workshops to take ideas from the community to develop a brief incorporating schemes that would be put to the developer.

Cllr Williams said the developers had not consulted residents and said we should write to SCDC saying we would like the developers to engage with the Parish Council. Mr Cottee said a representative from the Prince’s Trust would meet with the Parish Council, SCDC and Fulbourn Forum to explain what they can do. Members felt they could see what was on offer without making a commitment. Cllr Williams said as the local community hasn’t been consulted, SCDC would say the new guidelines had not been met. Standing Orders were resumed.

Cllr Williams proposed Council asking SCDC Planners to request January’s, the Agents, to meet with The Prince’s Trust to see how we can have an input on the draft Masterplan. Proposal seconded by Cllr Drage and agreed by the Council.

145.15 **Fulbourn Arts** – Invitation for Councillors to see a sixteen minute film of *One Day in June* on 20/1/12 at 7.45pm followed by the feature film.

146 Report of Meeting with SCDC Planners regarding Youth Building.

Cllr Patten said at the meeting when the plans were seen, although the Planning Officer had no objections the Conservation Officer raised various concerns that will need to be resolved.

147 Report of a Meeting from the Recreation Ground Working Party.

Report attached. Youths broke onto the MUGA on 9/1/12 then caused damage to the pavilion. The Police were in the village and the offenders are known to them. Members suggested encouraging them to get involved with the new Youth Forum.

148 Proposed Fence Work off The Haven and rear of Pierce Lane.

When The Haven was built the developers put up the fence which soon needed repairing. As a gesture of goodwill, the Council had concrete posts put in and the owners paid for the boarding. As the fence is owned by the occupiers, Council agreed any further repair work is their responsibility. The Clerk will reply.

149 To resolve the accounts for the month.

Wages: Clerk plus expenses.....	853.91	Wages: Pavilion Cleaner.....	115.70
B Gas: Pavilion electricity.....	289.30	B Gas: Swifts Electricity.....	358.86
Konica: Photocopier.....	110.00	Ridgeons: Supplies.....	69.70RC
B's Travel: Shopper Bus.....	275.00R	ESPO: Dog Bins.....	387.00
Shaw & Sons: Internment Book.....	253.80	BT: Internet services.....	119.70R
Townley: Swift's Cleaning.....	298.80	Water Co: Swift's Rates.....	109.15R
Ernest Doe: Supplies.....	20.35	A Lamb: FA4Y Management fees.....	1,380.00
Shaw & Sons: Internment Book.....	253.80	British Gas: Pavilion Electricity.....	289.30
CCC: Street Lighting.....	952.56	B Gas: Swift's Electricity.....	358.86
Petty Cash: Stamps & Admin.....	74.49R	Barclays: Fees.....	15.80
WREN: Phase II funding.....	5,478.00	Talk Talk: December calls.....	45.78
ESPO: Supplies.....	75.65		

The invoice for A Lamb was deferred to the Finance Committee meeting on 17/1/12.

Cllr Hardwick proposed the accounts are passed, seconded by Cllr Lockwood and agreed.

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

Queens Diamond Jubilee.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 10.30pm.

Attached reports: -

Item 143.1**My report to the January 2012 meeting of Fulbourn Parish Council**

1. Firstly, you will know that the Government has offered to increase their grant to local authorities for 2012/13 by 2.5% if the councils agree not to increase their council tax in return. However, you will appreciate that this increase is well below the current rate of inflation and as a result of this year's freeze on council tax, South Cambridgeshire along with many other district councils had budgeted for a 3.5% for this coming financial year just to keep essential services afloat. Therefore if it accepts the Government's offer it will be short and have to make further savings. As you may also know South Cambridgeshire council tax rate and level of spend is already nearly the lowest in England, so has very little wriggle room. To increase above 3.5% would trigger a referendum under the new Localism Act.
2. On Monday I attended a presentation by the Chartered Institute of Housing about the changes to rents and tenancies under the Localism Act. Basically the act gives more freedom to councils and private registered providers (housing associations to most

people) to set tenancy conditions and rent levels. As I have explained before private registered landlords will be able to set “affordable” rents up to 80% of the local market rate in order to raise capital to build more homes, while councils with their own property such as South Cambridgeshire will be able to charge a “social” rent up to 60% of the local market rate. With Cambridge and its hinterland being a growth area market rents are high and at the maximum levels set for “affordable” and “social” housing they will be above the new housing benefit maximums due to come into force in 2013 – putting more pressure on “social” council housing. As to tenancies, councils and private registered providers will be able to introduce for new tenants after 31 March this year a minimum five year tenancy (in place of a life time tenancy) and in exceptional cases a two year minimum. It will also allow them to introduce more criteria to qualify for a tenancy. Some private registered providers have already said they will increase rents and shorten tenancies. We do not currently know where the three housing associations covering the village stand on this, but they will have to produce and publish their tenancy policy by 31 March.

3. On Tuesday I attended the Windmill Estate Steering Group and am pleased to report that there is optimism that the previous issues have been resolved and that the redevelopment is on course again. The very high numbers applying for the available rented and shared ownership accommodation demonstrates the serious housing shortage in the village for affordable properties. For example there were 120 bids for eight three bedroom properties and all will be let to families with local connections.

John Williams - 5 January 2011

Item 147

Minutes of Recreation Ground Working Party Meeting **Wednesday, 4th January 2012**

Present; Gill Ward (Chairman), Jo Patten - PC

Bryan Stevens – Football, John Pearce – Bowls and Martin Callingham - Tennis.

Apologies: None received.

Minutes of the last meeting accepted.

Matters arising – all on Agenda.

Vandalism: - Both bins on Skate Park set on fire – to be replaced by concrete ones: re-positioning of CCTV to be considered.

Dog fouling: - New bin to be put opposite the Exercise Sign and another behind the pavilion.

Tennis: - Jack Levitt suggests using scaffolding boards on the MUGA side, but it is felt that a new gate would be a better solution, although this was not favoured by the Tennis Club.

Courts 1 & 2 will need resurfacing in 2/3 years time and an Astro Surface is being considered at an estimated cost of £24,000. SCDC are to be consulted about funding/grants.

Rabbits and Moles: - Situation being monitored.

Pavilion: - 5 Year Plan.

For 2013: – quotes to be obtained for re-vamping the ladies toilets including looking at the door steps; Soffits and fascia to be priced too.

Electrical update has already been agreed for 2011/12.

Containers: - Bryan Stevens to talk to the Football Club.

Car Park: - Pot holes need to be filled and is more gravel required?

Adult Exercise Equipment: - Official launch to be arranged for Saturday, 4th February 2012.

Next meeting – Wednesday, 2nd May 2012