Minutes of a Meeting of FULBOURN PARISH COUNCIL held in The Fulbourn Centre, Home End, Fulbourn on Wednesday, 12th December 2012.

**Present:** Councillor Drage (Chairman) and Councillors Bullen, Dawson, Farmer, Hardwick, Lacey, Mair, Patten, Rickett, Scarr (and District), Stalley, Thorn, Ward, the Clerk, Messrs Smith and Ward.

111 To accept apologies for absence. Councillors Newell and Williams.

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

Cllrs Farmer and Hardwick – Personal Item117, 16 Cow Lane application.

**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.

113 To approve the minutes of the last meeting.

The Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

114 Matters arising from the last meeting.

114.1 Contingency Fund. This is not shown as a separate item in the accounts. Standing Orders were suspended. Mr Ward suggested it was not needed as it is within the reserves as required by Financial Regulations keeping 6 months of operating costs in the bank. When asked about the library fund, Mr Ward advised this was within the Administration Cost Centre. Cllr Scarr raised concerns about increasing the precept but was assured this would not be necessary. Standing Orders were resumed. Cllr Stalley proposed that a separate Contingency Fund was not needed, proposal seconded by Cllr Ward and with 4 votes in favour, the motion was carried.

114.2 Christmas lights. Cllrs Bullen, Dawson and Mair have put the lights on the tree opposite the church with new coloured bulbs and a new Merry Christmas sign. All were thanked by the meeting.

114.3 History Society. DVD’s of the Silver and Diamond Jubilee celebrations have been presented to the society for their records.

115 Extra Care Home Visit. See Item 118.3.

116 To receive reports from County and District Councillors.

116.1 Councillor Clarke issued a monthly bulletin.

116.2 Councillor Scarr and 116.3 Councillor Williams issued the attached reports which were accepted.

Cllr Scarr referred to the second paragraph of his report, adding there would be no meeting in January 2013 as planned. SCDC has decided to look at different areas to put the Travellers as they felt the Mettle Hill site was not suitable.

117 To consider planning applications.


Permissions received: S/0981/12/FL, Mount Farm, Worsted Lodge – First Floor rear Extension, Single Storey side Extension, chimney and veranda; S/1958/12/FL, 4 Shelford Road – Erection of Dwelling; S/2015/12/VC, Tesco Stores – Variation of Condition of Planning Consent S/0390/06/F for Change of Use for Car Valeting Operation including Siting of Office and Canopy; S/2051/12/FL, 15 The Croft – Single Storey rear Extension and Car Port; S/2060/12/FL, 61 Cow Lane – First Floor Rear Extension; S/2078/12/FL, 23 Haggis Gap – Two Storey Side and Rear and Single Storey Front Extensions.

New applications: Standing Orders were suspended as Mr Smith explained his concerns about the proposed balcony and height of fencing which would both overlook his property and reduce sunlight for application: S/2446/12/FL, 16 Cow Lane – Side Roof Extension and Rear Two Storey Extensions. “The applicant has seemingly made every effort to maintain streetscape.
Two concerns from the neighbouring property at No. 18 are the projecting balcony of master bedroom which would overlook their bungalow and garden; also height of fence between Nos. 16 and 18. too high would reduce light in bathroom”. Approve.

S/1891/12/FL, 15 Hinton Road – Erection of a Pair of Semi Detached Houses following Demolition of Existing Detached Dwelling. “As this was originally 2 properties and access is fine with footprint same as now, we see no problems”. Approve.

S/2340/12/FL, 1 The Maples – Two Storey side Extension and replace existing Conservatory. “Whilst fine in itself we request it is looked at within the same parameters as the recently refused application at 1 Hinton Road, (S/1689/12/FL) as the properties are only 50 metres apart”. No recommendation.

S/2350/12/FL, Gatehouse, Fulbourn Hospital, Cambridge Road – Extension and Change of Use of the Gatehouse to Adult Autism Centre. “This seems a sympathetic adaptation and extension of existing building with no impact on view from road. Better than letting it fall into disrepair. We note 175 square metres of the footprint has been recycled from the site for this”. Approve.

Amended applications: S/1958/12/FL, 4 Shelford Road – Erection of Dwelling; S/1972/12/FL, 1A Impett’s Lane – Erection of Gates and Piers.

Tree works: Balsham Road – Yew, reduce and re-shape and fell Lime due to excessive shading. Visited site, no objections.

118 Council Committees.

118.1 Ida Darwin Update.

Members were given a copy of Responses to the Development Brief/Maserplan and a report following a joint party meeting on 16th November 2012. Submission of Outline Planning is next on the timetable of which the Parish Council will be given a copy when this has been submitted.

118.2 Patient Participation Group (PPG).

Minutes of a meeting held on 4th December 2012 were issued along with a brief from Dr Cathy Bennett, Senior Partner at Cornford House Surgery and Fulbourn Health Centre which raised concerns on how an Extra Care Unit would impact on the practice. It was noted they are a branch practice and a practice would be needed. From the Minutes, the Parish Council had not objected to having a Care Home, just the height of the proposed building.

118.3 Extra Care Home visit.

Cllrs Farmer, Patten and Scarr visited a home in Soham describing it as like a Four Star Hotel. Cllr Patten contacted Schulyer Newstead, SCDC, who said the home planned for the Ida Darwin site would be based along the same lines as the one in Soham. Cllr Scarr raised concerns about having vulnerable people on more than one floor as standard fire precaution notices forbid the use of lifts in the event of fire. The Chairman felt parishioners should have priority over places.

118.4 Report from Panel meeting.

Cllrs Drage and Patten attended the Linton Neighbourhood meeting on 11th December 2012. Decisions are being made on future structuring where a Police Sergeant will be in charge of 3 Constables and 6 PCSOs’. The constabulary wish to promote Neighbourhood Watch (NW) where the Police will report to NW Co-ordinators. Concerns were raised about speeding in Teversham High Street which continues into Teversham Road, Fulbourn. The reported crimes figures were lower than in recent months.

119 Correspondence.

119.1 D Farmer – Query regarding date on Fulbourn Life Wall. We will contact The History Society to see if they can assist.

119.2 Marshalls – Information regarding work on a planning application due to be submitted in 2013 to develop 80 acres of farmland on part of the North Works.

119.3 CCC – Cambridgeshire Older People’s Newsletter, December 2012.

119.4 CAPALC (Cambs & P’borough Association of Local Councils) November e-bulletin.

119.5 M Wright – Copy of letter to CCC asking they take responsibility to grit Cox’s Drove.
119.6 **N Gutteridge** – Requesting update on replacement trees and footpath maintenance. Further investigations are to be made.

119.7 **Friends of the Roman Road and Fleam Dyke** – November 2012 newsletter.

119.8 **Linton Neighbourhood Panel** – Profile documents for meeting on 11/12/12.

119.9 **Fulbourn Arts** – Information regarding activities planned over Christmas.

120 **To resolve the accounts for the month.**

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>M&amp;M Building: Pavilion repairs</td>
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Cllr Hardwick proposed, seconded by Cllr Farmer that the account are passed.

121 **Reports from Fulbourn Primary School and Bottisham Village College**

Cllr Rickett reported that the results from last year were excellent across all 3 key stages (EYFS, KS1 and KS2). The school has requested additional accommodation in response to the Swifts housing development for the academic year 2013-14 and it looks like this will be in the form of a mobile classroom. The School has been in talks with Accent Nene to ascertain if new residents will have children of schooling age as this will also have an impact on the school. They have been in talks with the CCC regarding the Ida Darwin redevelopment. It is believed that the CCC has decided to put on hold the sale of the old school building in School Lane for the foreseeable future. Three new teachers have been appointed and have all settled in well. Claire Pickard, the joint Head will be taking maternity leave from Christmas; Fiona Thorpe will take over as Head with Ellie Crowe as Deputy. The school has re-introduced the library with help from the PTA for the refurbishment of the room and the provision of more books. It was suggested that the school works with the village library. A good response has been received for an advert for 2 new school Governors.

122 **Community Navigators Project**

This initiative to assist elderly parishioners with help and support either in their home, shopping or accompanying them to hospital or doctor appointments will be advertised locally.

123 **Youth Building Update.**

A report of a meeting held on 6th December 2012 was issued. Standing Orders were suspended. Mr Ward said the project should be run the same as the Townley Trust which is a Charitable Trust having representatives from the Parish Council, Youth, Scouts and Independent persons. Standing Orders were resumed. Cllr Drage said we would see what comes of the Outline Planning Application then re-visit the project.

124 **SCDC – Launch of Consultation on Shaping Aims and Services.** Available to view and comment on draft plans at [www.scambs.gov.uk/priorities](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/priorities)

A Public Event being held in Fulbourn on 9th January 2013 at The Swifts.

125 **Report from the Village Charities.**

Cllr Hardwick advised the church had had a great influence on the charities in the past. He said the Elizabeth March Trust was intended to help children and support apprenticeships. As it only received a small income, it was decided to combine and run all three charities as one following agreement from the Charity Commission. The Committee was made up by the Rector, 3 nominated Trustees and 5 co-opted Trustees. At present the Parish Council, Primary School, Bottisham Village College and Youth are all represented on the Management Committee which meets at least three times a year. Application forms are available from the Parish Office, Library, Church Office and The Swifts. Bishops and
Caraway Charities own land which is let to local farmers and with investments, £7,000 income per annum is generated to assist parishioners with financial problems. Recent donations have been made to the School, Youth Club and approximately 70 parishioners with heating costs.

126 Report from Marshalls Consultative Committee Meeting.
A report of a meeting held on 21\textsuperscript{st} November 2012 was issued.

127 Tree Survey at Recreation Ground for Resolution.
A Horse Chestnut recently had to be felled as it was badly diseased. Also an Ash tree which was suffering from the Die Back disease. Cllr Scarr proposed having a professional survey of all trees and hedges on the recreation ground in late Spring 2013, and reviewing the Council’s insurance policy now to ensure we have adequate cover, proposal seconded by Cllr Ward and agreed by the Council.

Members were advised a lorry removing a container on behalf of the Tennis Club had got stuck on the ground. A JCB from The Swifts was used to tow the lorry off, causing considerable damage to the edge of the cricket pitch. The Tennis Club were apologetic and will be arranging to repair the damage.

128 Date for Precept 2013 meeting.
To be arranged at the January 2013 Full Council meeting.

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

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Date of next Full Council Meeting – 9\textsuperscript{th} January 2013.

Attached reports: -

**Item 116.2**

District Councillor’s Report December 2012

As usual, much of the last month has been taken up with helping individual parishioners with matters (often relating to housing needs), which are of a confidential nature. Whilst it is appropriate to mention these here, it would be quite inappropriate to go into detail.

At the Full Council meeting on November 22 it was planned to discuss the purchase of the former County Council travellers’ site at Mettle Hill in order to meet some of the shortfall in pitches for travellers in the District. Since this met with a great deal of concern and opposition locally, the decision was postponed (on the initiative of the Leader of Council and the Cabinet) to a special meeting to be held at 6.30pm on Thursday January 10\textsuperscript{th}. I support the idea of holding a special meeting, not only due to the interest which the whole issue has caused, but also due to the complex of inter-linked issues associated with this particular location. Councillors have received a large number of emails and a few letters around this subject, and I at least have read (and will continue to read) them all, before making up my mind.

At the same meeting, the Council agreed its policy in relation to the Gambling Act, of which the most significant component is that the Council upheld its policy of not permitting any casinos within the District. Since South Cambridgeshire has no urban centre, this is an entirely logical stance to take. A casino in a city, seaside town or even a market town is one thing: in a Cambridgeshire village, quite another!

A decision which has caused a considerable amount of controversy was the one to purchase new furniture for the council chamber and update the council chamber electrics with a view to possibly hosting conferences in the building, and earning an income from this. The question here is, Would you
attend a meeting or conference in the council’s building at Cambourne? My answer (based on my own experience of attending regional meetings of trades unions and political or campaigning organisations) would have to be, I’ve been to worse! My experience of actually organising this sort of meeting is limited (and out-of-date), but I hope that it works, and the meetings and income materialise.

Along with our neighbour from Balsham (Cllr. Richard Barrett), I attended a meeting to review the council’s programme of maintenance for the housing stock. In reply to a question I was assured that the council has enough money in the account to carry out all the work in the programme (in spite of still needing to hand large amounts over to the government in negative housing subsidy). At least, this holds good so long as the government makes no unforeseen changes to council housing finance.

Neil Scarr

Item 116.3

My report to the December 2012 meeting of Fulbourn Parish Council

1. Firstly, I apologise for not being at tonight’s meeting, but I am at Bottisham Village College’s Christmas Concert.

2. Since the November parish council meeting I have attended the full council meeting of South Cambridgeshire District Council on Thursday 22 November 2012.

2. At the full council meeting I proposed that the council help residents reduce their energy bills by organising a reverse auction for electricity tariffs which has saved residents in South Lakeland District Council hundreds of pounds a year. The council would invite residents to show an interest and electricity providers to enter an auction at which the one with lowest tariff would be able to offer it to these residents without obligation. The result in South Lakeland shows that it not only produces lower bills for residents, but also gives an opportunity for smaller electricity providers to enter the market, particularly those offering electricity from renewable sources. The council also receives a commission from the supplier for every resident signed up and this more than covers the cost of the scheme. South Lakeland intends to organise another auction in the New Year. Unfortunately, our Conservative colleagues could not get their heads around this scheme and voted it out. But I suspect that once the idea sinks in it and officers have had a word with them it will come back on the table.

3. At the same meeting Conservative councillors voted to spend £45,000 on new furniture for the council chamber on the pretext that it will be used for conferences, whilst having proposed a cut the council’s grants budget by £382,000. This cut will see most grants to the arts and sport activities abolished, particularly to the village colleges and for community activities; also support to the Citizen Advice Bureaux is being drastically reduced, to which the council refers people for financial advice. Capital grants for social and sporting facilities will also be abolished. These cuts will therefore have a serious impact on Fulbourn going forward. This situation arises from the fact that the £300,000 shortfall in this year’s budget (which I did not vote for and was clearly impossible to meet in order to freeze the council tax) has not been met. The Lib Dem group is vigorously opposing these cuts which will be put to the council at its budget making meeting in February.

4. In January South Cambridgeshire District Council will be consulting on the building of houses on Green Belt land either side of Worts Causeway and on extending (again in the Green Belt) the Peterhouse Technology Park in Cambridge Road. The Issues and Options
Report responses will be discussed in public at the Planning and Localism Portfolio holder’s meeting due to start at 10am at Cambourne on Thursday 10 December. See the council website for the agenda. Please attend if you can.

5. On a brighter note, following ongoing pestering of the Cooperative Bank you will be pleased to know that a replacement ATM is to be installed inside the shop. It is not able to give me a confirmed date as I write this.

6. I had a very constructive meeting with Metropolitan Housing Trust to discuss its tenant/leaseholder scrutiny panel and regeneration policy and out of that came its interest to get involved with local youth projects, so I have given contact details to Mrs Andrews. I have also passed contact details to South Cambs with regard to Exception Sites.

7. Having made contact with the newly appointed estates director for Addenbrooke’s University Hospitals NHS Trust, a maintenance schedule is being drawn up for the strip of land along Yarrow Road between Tesco and the Cambridge Road roundabout. I am hopeful of persuading the Trust to open it up for community use, as originally intended when the Beechwoods was built.

8. Finally I have been in touch with Cambridge City council over its proposal to include all residential roads in the city in a 20mph zone, to see if the Beechwoods could be included in this (certainly Primrose Close will be included), given that some of the estate is in the city. However, as some or all of the roads in question are outside the city boundary there are legal matters which may involve the Parish Council to enable this to happen.

John Williams
6 December 2012