

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 2nd June 2011

Present: R Hickford (Chairman), Mrs E Bald (Vice Chair), D Champion, Ms E Cornell, Dr B Cox, Mrs S Dew, M Gee, Ms T Hunt, J Linsdell, B Manley, G Potter, Mrs S Parry (Clerk to the Council)

Mrs K France (Press) was in attendance together with 12 members of the public.

Public Forum

No member of the public sought to address the Council at this point.

The Chairman opened the meeting of the Parish Council at 8.08pm

29 Apologies. Cllrs Mannassi and Wilson – family commitments.

30 Declaration of Interests from Members. There were none.

31 Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th May 2011. The following amendments were made:

Agenda item 18, the last sentence was changed to read However, in the opinion of the planning committee, it was still likely to contravene the original conditions.

Agenda item 23, the second from last sentence was changed to read Cllr Kindersley and others apologised to the residents, the planning department and Parish Council for the effect of the development.

Following these amendments Cllr Hunt proposed that the minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Linsdell and agreed by the meeting.

32 Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th May 2011.

Correspondence item 17. Cllr Batchelor had supplied information regarding SEN transport. Cllr Champion noted that this appeared to differ from what he had reported. It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting when Cllr Batchelor would be present. **Agenda 16/6**

Correspondence item 19. It was noted that the County Council had agreed to relocate a grit bin from the junction of Back Road and Symond's Lane to Parsonage Way.

Under agenda item 23, SCDC had requested a meeting between their planning officers, Sanctuary Housing, the Parish Council and local residents to discuss the Nichols Court lighting scheme.

Under agenda item 23, it was agreed that the shrubs in Palmers Close should be trimmed but not removed and that this work should not set a precedent for any future maintenance.

Under agenda item 27, correspondence item 63, Cllr Champion reported on the proposal to introduce civil parking enforcement. The change of emphasis only appeared to affect South Cambs. Based on the figures quoted it was very possible that a maximum of £50k per year would be raised from the scheme and was unlikely to be cost effective.

33 Consideration of the Minutes of the Planning meeting held on 19th May 2011. These were noted.

34 Consideration of the Minutes of the Finance meeting held on 17th March 2011. These were noted.

35 Cllr Champion proposed that the payments listed below be paid. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Manley and agreed by the meeting. Cllrs Cox and Potter signed the cheques.

	*S137	Gross	Excl VAT
Wages	bacs and 1514, 1515, 1516	3082.72	
CGM Ltd (grass maintenance)	bacs	1331.80	1109.83
CGM Ltd (Village Green)	bacs	48.00	40.00
Linton News	bacs	100.00	
Sandcroft Payroll Services	bacs	21.36	17.80
CPALC (subscription)	1517	674.85	

Universal Fencing Ltd (skate ramp)	1518	120.00	100.00
Cambs County Council (Youth Club)	1519	2000.00	
*Cambs County Council (reading challenge)	1520	200.00	
BT	1521	95.18	79.32

36 Reports from Co-ordinators:

1 Open Spaces and Environment – There was nothing to report.

li Recreation Ground

A request to site a memorial bench close to Drop In Centre had been received. Whilst the Council agreed in principle to this request they required a plan of the exact position. **Clerk**

A request to level the top of the river bank from Stanton's Lane bridge to the third tree to the east opposite the cricket square had been received. This was to enable the erection of cricket screens. A representative from Morgan Sindall had verbally offered to undertake this work free of charge. The area would then be seeded. Cllr Cornell suggested that the Environment Agency be contacted in the first instance to ascertain whether this would increase the risk of flooding. The Council could then make a more informed decision. **Clerk**

iii Cemetery - There was nothing to report.

iv Rights of Way – There was nothing to report.

v Venture Playground

Skate ramp – Cllr Potter reported that the Council had received two quotes so far for repairs to the ramp, and that the third was in the process of being done. Once all three quotes had been received, the Council could authorise repairs to the winning contractor. PCSOs Pulley and Fisher had joined the meeting and outlined their concerns regarding the increase in anti social behaviour and drugs use in the vicinity of the ramp. They reported that they were continually reminding children not to use the ramp and to take notice of the safety signs. Cllr Hickford commented that the Council was investigating upgrading the CCTV coverage of the area. Barry Easton, Youth Worker, thought that the anti social behaviour and drugs problem was a separate issue. The vandalised ramp had attracted the drugs and alcohol users.

Stuart Crook wanted the ramp users to take ownership and to raise money for its upkeep.

Cllr Hickford reported that funds were available for the repairs however there had been deliberate damage done and this had to stop. As an example, a light had been put up at a cost of around £1000 and within three weeks it had been ripped down.

Barry Easton reported that a sponsored virtual bike ride had been arranged to raise funds for the ramp. It would take place, with the kind permission of Caroline Derbyshire, in the LVC sports hall. It aimed to cycle 755 miles which was the distance to Malmo, Sweden where the largest skate park was situated.

Max Reed, George Bainbridge, Ben Wood and Barry Easton outlined their ideas and would be raising awareness at St Mary's Flower Festival Fete. They wanted to give something back to the community in exchange for the repair of the ramp. Cllr Potter suggested that they help dig a trench to carry a power supply to the ramp so that a lamp post could be erected to illuminate the area and to house a CCTV camera.

Sue Filby, youth worker, thanked the Council for taking the time to listen and for inviting them back to report.

Cllr Hickford thanked everyone for attending and reiterated that as soon as all three quotations had been received the Council would arrange for the ramp to be repaired.

vi Leadwell Meadows, River and Wildlife – Cllr Cox reported that he and Darryl Nantais had photographed the pipe which was now about 18 inches in water as the sluice gates had been closed. There was also evidence of a mink.

vi Glebe Land – Cllr Cox reported that he had cut a pathway through the grass.

vii Churchyard – Cllr Cox had met with Barbara Clarke, SCDC Conservation officer, regarding application (S/0884/10/F) to rebuild and repair the flint wall and brick boundary walls in the Churchyard. The red bricks which were basically new but looked old were approved although she wished to be supplied with their name. It was agreed that the flints would be reclaimed, and that the mortar should meet the specifications set out in the application. However, the capping bricks were not acceptable because they were not new. It appeared that the Conservation Officer had regarded this wall as a new wall and therefore the materials should be new where possible. It was requested that reconstruction up to the level of the capping bricks might be undertaken so that work could commence, knowing that flint walls with lime mortar take time to construct. To this request there was no reply except to comment that there was an £85 charge to lift the restrictions on the reconstructions. In view of the fact that this planning application had taken so long to be processed due to the District Council losing the original application it was

agreed to write to request that work be allowed to commence and any further fees be waived. The new owners of the Rectory would not wish to have construction work in their garden for an unspecified length of time.

viii A1307, Traffic and Recreation Ground Parking – A report would follow.

37 Written reports from Council representatives. There were none.

38 Correspondence received for discussion and decision.

Item 4 Request for funding from Open Spaces Society – This was refused.

Item 9 Request for decisions regarding water supply to proposed allotment site. Council deferred this item to the next meeting for a response from the Allotment Group **Agenda 16/6**

Item 10 A request to support the complaint to the County Council regarding the cutting of the Back Road protected verges had been received. It was agreed to support this request and to ask that the protected verge signs be replaced as a matter of urgency. **Clerk**

Item 13 A letter of thanks from residents of Tower View was noted. Cllr Champion was again thanked for his input. Cllr Champion reported that he had received a copy of a letter from the Ombudsman giving SCDC 28 days notice to answer.

Item 20 A request from Mr V Harris for the overhanging trees and hedges in Meadow Lane to be trimmed was discussed and it was agreed to contact the Highways department. The Council would not sanction the installation of a standpipe on the Recreation Ground but would contact the Football Club to request the use of the pavilion water supply. Mr Harris would be asked if he required a continuous connection. **Clerk**

39 Reports from Councillors.

Cllr Cornell reported on the Library Service Review which had only recently been received. It appeared that the Library would be closed every evening. It was agreed to respond that the Library should remain open for two evenings per week even if this meant that it would have fewer daytime openings.

Cllr Bald reported on the Review of Planning Services at SCDC and asked Councillors to send their comments to the Clerk.

Cllr Hickford reported on a successful six-a-side football tournament which had taken place last Sunday and had been sponsored by Linton Tandoori.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed

Date

Note: Copies of reports and documents referred to in these minutes can be inspected at the Council's office.