

Minutes of the meeting of Linton Parish Council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 5th March 2009 commencing at 8 pm

Present: A Gore (Chair), Ms E Cornell (Vice Chair), Dr B Cox, S Daly, B Hammett, R Hickford, J Linsdell, G Potter, Dr J Rossiter, Dr V Urwin
Mrs S Parry (Clerk to the Council)

Mrs K France (Press) was in attendance together with one member of the public.

Public Forum

Speaking of the wind farm application, Mr P Harrison of Little Linton asked what procedure the Parish Council would follow. The Chair advised that this matter would be discussed under item 264; a timescale and procedure had been previously agreed. The Clerk would ensure that this information was available on the website.

The Chair opened the meeting of the Parish Council at 8 pm

- 254 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bald, Gee and Krarup.
- 255 Declaration of Interests from Members. There were none.
- 256 Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2009.
Cllr Hickford proposed that the draft minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting subject to the addition of "Cllr Bald had reported on and cleaned off graffiti on the notice board' after the words "bus shelter" under Item 242 and "Cllr Gore advised that if Camping Close was designated as a Village Green it would remain in the ownership of the County Council who would be liable for maintaining it as now" after the words "the process". Under Item 243, the substitution of "Cllr Bald said that a number of residents had complained to the District Council and..." for "As the Ombudsman had only received one complaint..." under Item 244 and the addition after "Symond's Lane" of "and Joiners Road" under Item 245 The proposal was seconded by Cllr Potter and agreed by the meeting.
- 257 Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2009.
Cllr Cox reported that he had removed the graffiti from the bus shelter.
Cllr Daly asked how the application for Village Green status for Camping Close was progressing. The Clerk advised that the application form had just been received. It was agreed that its completion be delegated to the Open Spaces working group to complete, as a justification statement and evidence of use were required. **Clerk**
Under Item 251/27, Cambridgeshire Transport Commission consultation, Cllr Cornell suggested that a statement be sent to the effect that the Commission should consider the effect of any decisions on outlying villages. This was agreed by the meeting.
- 258 Consideration of the minutes of the Planning meeting held on 19th February 2009. These were noted.
- 259 Consideration of the minutes of the Finance meeting held on 8th January 2009. These were noted.
- 260 Reports from Co-ordinators:
- i) Open Spaces:
A report from Cllr Bald had been circulated. The work on Stanton's Lane bridge had been completed and met the specification, and she requested that a quotation to power wash the bridge be sought. This was agreed by the meeting. **Clerk**
A report on new planting at various points in the village would be issued following advice from the South Cambridgeshire District Council's tree officer.
- ii) Recreation Ground:
Cllr Potter reported that the grass was recovering following the recent snow and floods.

- iii) Cemetery:
The clerk had issued a report. Following discussion, it was agreed to grant permission for a specific grave space in row J to be purchased.
 - iv) Rights of Way:
A report from Cllr Rossiter had been circulated, advising that the County Council Countryside Services Team would soon be considering the rights of way proposals first mooted in 2004. There would however be a cost to the parish in the region of £1000 and confirmation of support was required. It was agreed to confirm the Council's support for the proposals.
 - v) Venture Playground:
Cllr Hammett reported that all was in order. He had adjusted the timer on the light to the skate ramp and would monitor the situation. **BH**
 - vi) Leadwell Meadows:
Cllr Rossiter reported that the wildlife group had cleared the path. However there had been insufficient volunteers and time to tackle the remaining work.
 - vii) Glebe Land:
Cllr Rossiter reported that the recent floods had washed the wood pile away.
 - viii) Churchyard:
Cllr Cox reported that the Mr Cahill of Landmark Restoration had reinstated the gate hanging posts. Cllr Cornell had organised the reconstruction of a supporting pin for the Church Lane gate. The gate would need to be hung before the other pier could be constructed.
 - ix) Communications – There was nothing to report.
 - x) A1307 – There was nothing to report.
 - xi) Allotments:
Item 17 Advice from ACRE had been sought who had made various recommendations. Cllr Cornell said that a further letter had been received from South Cambs which was not very helpful and appeared to be stalling matters. She suggested a meeting of the Allotments Working Party with the potential allotment holders be arranged to ascertain their views as to how to proceed. Cllr Gore observed that if the Parish Council supported an application for housing on Balsham Road, it would be contrary to its current policy. Cllr Urwin suggested that the Parish Council could apply for outline planning permission for the land on Balsham Road to be used purely for allotments, including the creation of an access from the road. It was agreed that the Chair should contact Mr McMurray at the District Council again and confirm their conversation in writing, and that the Clerk should advise Mr Balaam that the Council were pursuing the matter. **AG/EC/Clerk**
Cllr Hickford expressed his wish to join the working party.
 - xii) Youth:
Item 8 An update on clubs and activities for the Sawston and Linton locality had been received and was noted.
- 261 Written reports from Council representatives. There were none.
- 262 County Councillor Batchelor had submitted a report following his meeting with the Flaxfields contractors regarding the possible implementation of a one way system as suggested by the County Council Highways Department, for contractor's vehicles to enter the site via Back Road from Abington and leave along Back Road to Balsham Road and then to the A11 via Balsham whenever practical. Cllr Potter proposed that the Parish Council should confirm its previous policy and oppose the implementation of a one way system bringing heavy construction vehicles along Back Road, into Balsham Road, and possibly other parts of the village. This was seconded by Cllr Hickford and agreed by the meeting.

- 263 Discussion regarding January's Precept meeting and procedures for future meetings. The Clerk confirmed that following procedural concerns raised during and after the Precept meeting advice had been sought from CPALC who had issued the following recommendations:
- The meeting should be called as a normal parish council meeting including the 3 clear days rule
 - Members should be summonsed but due to the nature of the matters being discussed it would be appropriate for the Agenda to show the meeting would exclude members of the public & press.
 - A written record of the meeting should be recorded but not published.
 - In meetings of this nature where members sit on other bodies those members were advised to declare an interest.
 - It might be a personal interest but that interest might also become prejudicial if the organisation on which they sat would benefit financially from money from the precept or other parish council funds.

Cllr Hickford proposed that the Parish Council consider that the 2009 precept meeting was a meeting of the full council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Cornell and rejected by the meeting with 2 votes in favour, six against and one abstention. **Proposal defeated**

After further discussion it was agreed that the arrangements for future precept meetings should be discussed and agreed before the 2010 precept process began. **Future agenda**

- 264 Wind Farm – consultation arrangements. The Chair confirmed that receipt of the application for the wind farm was imminent. The plans were now posted on the South Cambs website although they had not been received in the office. Mr Ray McMurray, the planning officer, had asked that a formal request for an extension to the consultation period be sent to him. It was agreed that a request for an extension to 8 weeks from date of receipt by the Parish Council be made as a matter of urgency, that the details of the questionnaire be finalised and agreed at the next meeting on 19th March, and printed and distributed together with a covering letter prior to the Public Meeting which it was hoped to hold on the afternoon of Saturday 4th April at Linton Village College, with the evening of Friday 3rd April as a reserve date. It was agreed that a special meeting of the Council be arranged for 23rd April, by which time the questionnaires would have been analysed, at which the Council would decide whether to support or object to the application.

It was further agreed that the normal Council meeting of the 16th April be cancelled and its business postponed to the meeting on 7 May, and that, at the request of Dr Urwin as Chair of the Finance Committee, the special meeting on 23rd should include an item of business for the consideration of requests for payments received following the debate on the Wind Farm.

- 265 Consideration of the co option of Ms T Hunt and Mrs J Williams to the Parish Council: correspondence items 12 and 23 refer. Cllr Cornell proposed that Ms T Hunt and Mrs J Williams be co opted as members of the Parish Council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Cox and agreed by the meeting.

- 266 Cllr Daly proposed that the payments listed below be paid. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Cox and agreed by the meeting. Cllrs Urwin and Cox signed the cheques.

	(*Section 137 payment)	Gross	Excl VAT
SCDC	D/D	75.86	
BT	1153	91.07	79.78
Newmech Engineering Ltd	1154	4560.90	3966.00
Cambridge Water Co (cemetery)	1155	19.32	
*Cambridgeshire ACRE	1156	25.00	

- 267 Correspondence received and for discussion
 Item 7 PSA Linton Infants School - information re running event on 29th March. This was noted and it was agreed that Linton PSA be thanked for informing the Council.
 Item 16 CCC had advised that if the white lining at the top of Coles was renewed the Parish Council would have to meet the costs. It was agreed to investigate if, following the implementation of the one way system, the white lines should have been renewed. **TWP**
 Item 22 The request for a dog bin in the area of Kingfisher Walk was noted and it was agreed to add this item to the wish list.

268 Reports from Councillors. There were none.

The meeting closed at 10.05pm

Signed

Date

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