

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 16th October 2008 commencing at 8 pm

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

County and District Councillor J Batchelor, District Councillor Mrs T Bear and Mrs K France (Press) were in attendance.

Public Forum

No member of the public sought to address the Council.

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

- 132 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cox and Gee.
- 133 Declaration of Interests from Members. There were none.
- 134 Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October 2008. Cllr Hickford proposed that the minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Potter and agreed by the meeting.
- 135 Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October 2008. Cllr Potter queried some of the points in the recent Car Park Working Party report. It was agreed that the Chairman would consider with Cllr Potter the issues he had raised. **AG and GP**
- 136 Report from Police and consideration of Policing, Safety and Security issues:
Item 31- It was agreed that the public should be consulted before the Parish Council made any decision about involvement in the Speedwatch programme, and that any such involvement should be community-led. It was agreed that Cllr Gore would write an article for the Linton News to solicit residents' views. **AG**
A report from Cllr Gore, Police Liaison Representative, regarding the recent Linton Neighbourhood Panel meeting had been circulated. Cllr Bald expressed concern regarding the recent crime figures for Linton and the increase in burglaries particularly against the elderly.
- 137 Consideration of expenditure for youth projects:
A meeting had taken place on 13th October with the youth group at the Village College who were concerned that the proposed adaptations to the youth shelter would not address the problems of uncomfortable seating and protection from the rain. Cllr Gore was awaiting a response from the manufacturers to see if these problems could be resolved.
Cllr Hickford reported that a meeting was due to take place on 17th October with the County Council and the Infants School to discuss dual use of Camping Close. He distributed details of possible picnic benches for Camping Close and asked councillors to submit other sources of benches and ideas to the Clerk. It was possible that a customised bench to provide wheelchair access could be made by the youth group with help from Malcolm Coxall.
- 138 Report from the County Councillor:
Item 17 – A resident had requested that the steps in Rivey Lane be refurbished. It had been established that South Cambridgeshire District Council owned the land in question and in Cllr Batchelor's view was therefore liable to repair them. He agreed to try and arrange a meeting with interested parties to address the issues involved. **JB**
Overgrown vegetation in a stretch of Rivey Lane was the responsibility of the County Council. The Clerk agreed to ask the relevant County Council officer to arrange for its clearance. **Clerk**
The budget for highways maintenance had been frozen and only planned work, including the resurfacing of Emson's Close and the patching of Back Road to Hildersham, and emergency repairs would take place until April 2008. All unofficial signs, but not shrines, were being removed from the A1307 verges for health and safety reasons.
The stopping up order adjacent to the Co-op in Green Lane was to be advertised.

He was advised by councillors that the 'give way' sign in Symond's Lane was covered by vegetation and 'The Rivey Way leading to Rivey Close' sign was on the wrong side of the road.

- 139 Reports from the District Councillors:
 Cllr Bear reported that she arranged for the planning department to investigate a conservatory erected in Palmers Close. They had found that it constituted permitted development, so that planning permission was not required.
 Cllr Batchelor reported that due to the credit crunch the District Council would not meet its target for new housing and had been requested by the government to find further sites to fill the resulting shortfall of 2,200 homes. He agreed to investigate the delay in the processing of planning applications. **JB**
 Cllr Hickford thanked Cllr Batchelor for submitting the current accounts for Linton Action for Youth and requested accounts for previous years. **JB**
 Cllr Rossiter voiced her concerns regarding 'Cambridgeshire Together' (CT) and their allocation of public funds. Cllr Batchelor observed that the governance of CT was unaccountable and undemocratic, that only three of its twenty members were elected and that its decision was not open to investigation by either the County or District Council Scrutiny Committees.
- 140 Written reports from Council representatives:
 A report from the Planning Committee regarding a minor amendment to planning application S/1457/08/F had been circulated, proposing that no recommendation should be made to the District Council. This was agreed.
 Cllr Rossiter, Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils representative, had circulated a report which was considered.
- 141 Flaxfields: A report had been circulated of the meeting of Cllrs Cornell, Gore and Lindsdell and the Clerk with Sanctuary Housing and SDC, the main contractors for the Flaxfields Extra Care development. Cllr Bald stated that residents were concerned that the footpath to Symond's Lane would be closed for three months and that the contractors had been calling on residents advising that their fences would be removed. It was agreed to advise Sanctuary Housing that agreement must be obtained in writing before any fences could be removed. **Clerk**
 The Council agreed to accept the report's recommendations, namely that the Council reluctantly accept that the path between Flaxfields and Symond's Lane be closed temporarily to allow construction works to proceed, subject to the following conditions:
- A strict time limit of 13 weeks to be placed on the closure
 - Adequate and well placed signs warning of the diversion to be erected in advance of the closure
 - If works were required to make the diversionary route through Crabtree Croft safe, those works to be carried out by SDC before the temporary diversion was introduced
 - At least a weekly taxi service to village destinations be provided for elderly residents of Flaxfields or its immediate vicinity
- 142 Cllr Cornell proposed that the payments listed below be paid. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Potter and agreed by the meeting. Cllrs Gore and Urwin signed the cheques.
- | | | Gross | Excl VAT |
|------------------------------------|------------------|--------|----------|
| (*Section 137 payment) | | | |
| SLCC (cemetery info) | 1095 | 27.00 | 27.00 |
| Point Contact Hygienesis (broom) | 1096 | 9.76 | 8.31 |
| Wages cheques | 1097, 1098, 1099 | 991.60 | |
| *Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal | 1100 | 100.00 | |
| Shine Windows (bus shelters) | 1101 | 50.00 | |
- 143 Written reports from Council representatives (see 140)
- 144 Correspondence received and for discussion
 Item 12 – Mrs S Anderson, Tree Warden, regarding the planting of available trees. Councillors with views of where they might be planted were requested to contact Mrs Anderson. **All**
 Item 15 – Tree Works, Mr Gelder 6 Did-Dell Court – cut back walnut tree in front garden by 15%, shorten canopy over road by 10% and reshape and balance remainder of crown so as to retain a more upright tree. It was agreed to support the application.

Item 19 – Linton Granta Bowls Club, request for repairs to be carried out. It was agreed that funding for repairs could not come from the carpet fund budget and that a further two quotations be obtained. **Clerk**

Item 20 – South Cambridgeshire District Council, Engaging Parish Councils event 19th November. Cllrs Gore and Rossiter were nominated as the Council’s representatives. **AG/JR**

Item 25 – D Champion, regarding road safety issues. It was agreed to forward the letter to David Lines, Highways Engineer at Cambridgeshire County Council for consideration. **Clerk**

Item 29 – B Priestley, complaint re hedge. It was agreed that in future where complaints had been made to the Council regarding vegetation overhanging the highway from private property, the Clerk would inform landowners that the County Council would be in contact with them.

145 Reports from Councillors (for information only)

Cllr Bald noted that Herald should ensure the cemetery was mown and tidy in readiness for Remembrance Day. The Clerk confirmed she would be reminding Herald.

Cllr Gore reported that Dave Mackay, formerly one of the Council’s Custodians for some years, had died.

Cllr Rossiter reported that she had written her article on the Glebe Land for the Linton News.

Cllr Cornell had circulated notes regarding the origin and etymology of “Symond’s Lane” which confirmed that the District Council should amend the road signs to include the apostrophe.

146 **The Council resolved to exclude the press and public whilst the Council considered the following item of business pursuant to section 100 (A) (4) Local Government Act 1972**

Consideration of pay increase. The Councillor resolved to accept the recommendations in the report which had been circulated regarding the payment of staff wages.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm

Signed

Date

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