

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 17th February 2011

Present: Ms E Cornell (Chair), Mrs E Bald (Vice Chair), D Champion, Dr B Cox, Mrs S Dew, M Gee, R Hickford, Ms T Hunt, B Manley, Ms M Mannassi, G Potter and 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 together with six members of the public. Christine May, Acting Head of Libraries, Archives and Information and Lynda Martin, Partnership Manager, were also in attendance.

Public Forum

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

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

223 Apologies. Cllr Wilson – family commitments. Cllr Linsdell – ill health.

224 Declaration of Interests from Members. There were none.

225 Approval of the Minutes of the meetings held on 20th January and 3rd February 2011. Cllr Hickford proposed that the minutes of the meeting of 20th January be adopted as a true record of the meeting. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gee and agreed by the meeting.

Cllr Mannassi proposed that the minutes of the meeting of 3rd February be adopted as a true record of the meeting. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gee and agreed by the meeting.

226 Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2011. Under item 221, 2 Cllr Potter requested clarification on the possible awarding of funding to the Cricket Club. The Chair responded that this matter had been passed to the finance committee for a recommendation based on available budget and would be brought back to full council for a decision.

Under item 222 Cllr Hickford asked that another reminder be sent to SCDC regarding traffic issues in respect of the wind farm.

227 Consideration of the Minutes of the Planning meeting held on 3rd February 2011. These were noted.

228 The future of Linton Library following the Library Service Review

Christine May reported that the Review of the Library Services had been agreed. The Library Service was in a very difficult situation having to save £3.2m over five years, 48% of its total budget. She outlined the following options – to move the whole service into a charitable trust; redefine the library service and move into cluster groups to reduce the number of staff and to consider sharing order facilities and sharing library buildings with other services by approaching communities where it was possible for them to run their own libraries. She reported there were 13 areas with relatively less community need. It was a question of consulting with communities for community hubs to run their own library services. A full community consultation would be held with a meeting in Linton, the date to be arranged.

Mr J Bald spoke vehemently of the impact on the community, especially on children if services were cut.

Mr A Gore, Chair of the Cathodeon Trustees reported that building work should commence on the Children's Centre by the end of the month, therefore the best was being done to provide a community hub by building this Centre. He confirmed that the inaugural meeting of the Friends of Linton Library would take place on 23rd March at 8pm in the Cathodeon Centre.

Items 36 and 43 Mr A Westwood Bate, Cambs Archives & Local Studies Group and Hildersham PC. Mr Gore would liaise with Mr Westwood Bate regarding the structure of the Cathodeon Trust.

229 Cllr Gee proposed that the payments listed below be paid. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Bald and agreed by the meeting. Cllrs Gee and Cox signed the cheques.

	Gross	Excl VAT
Kester Cunningham John (Children's Centre lease) 1466	1518.00	1265.00
Cambs County Council (footway lights) 1467	3252.80	
CBS Office Solutions Ltd (photocopier) 1468	333.30	277.75
Cambridge Water Company (cemetery) 1469	31.47	
Mill House Gardening (siting heritage trail boards) 1470	500.00	

Cllr Bald confirmed that the heritage boards had been erected.

230 Report from Police and consideration of Policing, Safety and Security issues
To discuss the skate ramp following further vandalism
Mr S Crook spoke passionately about the need to encourage skate users to take ownership of the skate ramp and to use community labour for any repairs. He would be willing to design and lead a project. Cllr Bald confirmed that she was able to harness the skills from the community payback team. Cllr Potter was concerned that if bona fide companies were not used to carry out repairs etc then the council may not be covered in the event of an insurance claim. Cllr Potter reported that contrary to popular belief only £3355 had been spent on the skate ramp since 2006. It was agreed to place this item back on the agenda for 3rd March to discuss all options including repair, dismantling and replacement. All parties were requested to submit a report outlining their ideas. **All/Agenda 3/3**
Cllr Bald alerted everyone present to the spate of vehicle break-ins and vandalism in Symond's Lane and other parts of the village.

231 County Councillor Batchelor reported that the budget had been passed which would see £160m of cuts over five years weighted over the first two years. This represented a 36% cut. The main areas to be cut would be highway maintenance, bus subsidies and libraries. These were the areas, following consultation that the public wished to be protected. £423k would be cut from the Library book buying fund in the first year.

232 Reports from the District Councillors
Cllr Bear reported that a request for a sign for Dodgers Lane should be sent to Mrs Duncan at SCDC although she would be happy to progress this on our behalf. **TB**
Item 33 Cllr Batchelor had responded regarding the 'right of way' north of Nichols Court. Discussion took place and it was agreed to write to the planning department asking why the footpath shown on the planning application was no longer available for public use. Further investigations were required. **Clerk**
Cllr Batchelor reported that fortunately most of the spending cuts had taken place in this year. However from April 2012 the government required SCDC to buy back the housing stock; at a cost of £200m, SCDC would retain the rights but would have to borrow the funding for this. Under the New Homes Bonus there will be government funding available for every house built in the district.

233 Consideration of tenders and awarding of Cemetery Grass Maintenance Contract 2011-2014
Cllr Gee proposed that the Cemetery Grass Maintenance Contract 2011-2014 be awarded to CGM Ltd for the sum of £4625.50 p.a. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Mannassi. A vote took place with 8 votes in favour and two abstentions. **Proposal carried**
Cllr Potter requested that the Cemetery committee report any problems or failings within the contract to the Clerk. **Cemetery group**

234 Correspondence received and for discussion and decision
Item 28 Traffic Manager's Business Support Team invitation to attend meeting re management of heavy commercial vehicles (HCV) on county road network. No one was available to attend.

Item 29 Cathodeon Trustees request for a contribution towards solicitors fees in respect of the Children's Centre lease and request to meet cost of tree works outside of perimeter fence. It was agreed to request the accounts from the Trust and to confirm the amount of their request. **Clerk**
The tree officers would be asked for their opinion on the proposed tree works. **EB/Clerk**

Item 34 Bidwells re public consultation on new neighbourhood at North East Haverhill. This was noted.

Item 40 CPALC advice re LA4Y. Cllr Gee proposed that the matter be taken to the SCDC Monitoring Officer for his recommendation. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Champion and resolved by the meeting. **Resolved**

235 Written reports from Council representatives
The notes on the Allotment Association meeting had been circulated. In house training from NSALG would be required. Cllr Bald proposed that up to £500 be earmarked for training. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Cox and resolved by the meeting. **Resolved**

Cllr Bald – Open Spaces report to include proposals to:

1. To purchase bench and material to install beside path leading from Balsham Road to Parsonage Way.
2. Purchase and install heritage style waste bin beside bench.
It was agreed to seek confirmation that neighbours, Police, Fire Authority and October Systems had no objections to these proposals. **Clerk**
3. To provide paving and materials for 2 benches at corner of Back Road/Balsham Road and in front of the green on Parsonage Way. This was agreed.
4. Purchase paving, seating and materials to install between trees and bank bordering LVC on Recreation Ground. A plan or design of the proposals for the area was required. **EB**

236 Reports from Councillors
The clerk reported that completed risk assessment checks had been received for the Cemetery, Paynes Meadow, Parsonage Way and Coles Lane car park.
Cllr Cornell reported that the Fire Station along with the Police Station was under threat of closure.

The meeting closed at 10pm

Signed Date

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