

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

Present: Ms E Cornell (Chair), Mrs E Bald (Vice Chair), Mrs S Dew, M Gee, R Hickford, Ms T Hunt, J Linsdell, G Potter, Mrs J Wilson
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 four members of the public.

Public Forum

Mr J Bald had acquired details of County Council management salaries and spoke of his concerns regarding the breakdown of management costs relating to youth workers.

The Chair opened the meeting of the Parish Council at 8.05pm

250 Apologies. Cllr Cox – holiday. Cllr Champion – holiday. Cllr Manley – attending a funeral. Cllr Mannassi – work commitments.

251 Disclosure of Interest
Item 261, Planning application for external lighting - S/2256/10 Sanctuary Housing, Nichols Court. Cllr Dew disclosed a personal and prejudicial interest as the owner of land adjacent to the site and left the room during the discussion and decision on this matter.

252 Approval of the Minutes of the meeting 3rd March 2011. Cllr Hickford proposed that the minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gee and agreed by the meeting.

253 Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2011. Under item 249, Cllr Dew reported that she had spoken with a resident of Back Road who had a deed of variation and documentation from SCDC confirming a right of way to Flaxfields. Cllr Batchelor would take this up with SCDC. JB

254 Consideration of the Minutes of the Planning meeting held on 3rd March 2011. These were noted.

255 Cllr Linsdell proposed that the payments listed below be paid. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Wilson and agreed by the meeting. Cllrs Potter and Gee signed the cheques.

		Gross	Excl VAT
S Robins (Heritage Trail)	1481	246.00	
Simpers (waterproof trousers - C Tofts)	1482	25.58	21.32
Carter Jonas (rent for Glebe land)	1483	100.00	
A cheque for a petty cash claim was agreed and signed.			
Petty Cash	1487	89.72	

256 Report from Police and consideration of Policing, Safety and Security issues
The clerk reported that there had been an arson attack on the Cathodeon fence. Damage had also been caused to the neighbouring garage. The police and fire service had attended the incident.

Cllr Hickford reported that a serious incident had taken place on the evening of Friday 11th March where two local youths had been assaulted. High visibility patrols would take place this weekend to prevent a reoccurrence. CCTV footage had been given for evidence following a request from the police.

Cllr Hickford reported that the police had responded very well to the recent incidents and this should be acknowledged. It was agreed to send a letter of praise and thanks. Clerk

257 County Councillor Batchelor reported that the speed limit policy would be reviewed by Cabinet in April. It was likely that a request for a 20mph speed limit in the High Street would be agreed

if local demand allowed subject to basic requirements. If an average speed of 24mph or less was recorded then only signage would be required. This would need to be financed by the Parish Council at a cost of £70-£80 for each introductory sign and £40 for each repeater sign. However if the average speed exceeded 24mph then further traffic calming measures would be required resulting in a much greater cost. Cllr Batchelor confirmed that he supported the Parish Council in their quest to investigate the reduction of the speed limit to 20mph in the High Street. Cllr Batchelor confirmed that the request submitted in 2009 for 6 sets of dropped kerbs would be implemented in April or May.

258 Reports from the District Councillors

Cllr Bear reported that SCDC performance figures for recycling had increased since the introduction of the blue bin.

SCDC had adopted a street trading policy. They had also adopted a sex establishment and sex entertainment policy.

Cllr Batchelor reported that he had met with the police who had confirmed that extensive plans were in place to avoid a repeat of the anti social behaviour the previous weekend.

259 Youth funding

Update on Youth provision and funding following meeting with Locality. Following the meeting a report had been issued and a draft service level agreement had been received.

It was still felt that not enough information had been received and figures comparing like for like villages and youth clubs were still required. County Councillor Batchelor was asked to clarify his statement that no youth clubs would close imminently even if no funding was found.

However he could not confirm this. The Parish Council did not want the youth club to close and wanted to support it but required further information before a decision could be made. Cllr Batchelor was asked to progress this issue and to provide clarification before the next Parish Council meeting on 7th April.

JB -Agenda 7/4

260 Disability access and dropped kerbs – Cllr Bald

Under item 257, Cllr Batchelor had confirmed that the following works would be carried out:

- Back Road/Flaxfields junction - dropped kerbs to each side of the entrance to Flaxfields (Developer could perhaps donate these and/or carry out under remedial work)
- Dropped kerb needed opposite Dodgers Lane near Sweettalk News. (1 kerb)
- High Street/Market Lane junction, the kerb nearest A1307 is very difficult to negotiate (other side already has dropped kerb to access the cobbled area) (1 kerb)
- High Street near Horn Lane – dropped kerb on side nearest A1307 (1 kerb)
- Wheatsheaf Way/Horseheath Road junction, dropped kerbs to both sides.
- Finchams Close/Bartlow Road junction, dropped kerbs to both sides.
- Emsons Close/Bartlow Road junctions, dropped kerbs to both sides. Both junctions.

261 S/2256/10 Sanctuary Housing, Nichols Court, Flaxfields - External lighting on and around the

existing building/site consisting of lighting columns, bollards and wall mounted fittings

Concerns were raised that Environmental Health had visited the site on a number of occasions, had made recommendations but no enforcement had taken place. This was totally unacceptable.

It was agreed to send the following comments:

We oppose the application as it would continue to provide excessive lighting.

In particular the wall mounted Oyster luminaires on north, east and west sides are not essential and major cause of problems to neighbours.

The Bollard lighting in the car park is currently far too bright and removal of these is welcomed. However the column lighting has also proved to be excessive. We suggest motion sensitive lighting at low level would be less intrusive.

We object to lighting on communal balconies and outside of communal areas, particularly on first floor. These should be removed.

There is lighting on outside pathways/courtyards at night – when they are not used. We object to the current bollard lights and suggest that low level lights inset on edges of paths would be better. This will help residents locate paths and not be obtrusive to neighbours or wildlife.

Gardens need not be lit at night, and this is causing problems for residents too, who have to install heavy curtains in order to sleep. In your own home you would neither expect nor need the

garden to be lit, and this area is already very secure (high fencing, CCTV, permanently staffed, secure doors, gates and windows, fire prevention measures, etc).
Conditioning - a curfew on all external lighting (22:00 to 06:00 minimum), not on all night as at present. This is also to apply to corridor and communal area lighting.
Timescale – amendments and enforcement should be within 28days

Further measures to be conditioned within an overall lighting scheme:-
Corridor lighting to be minimised – obscured glass preferred – and to confirm that motion sensitive lighting is already installed and working. It would alert staff to resident's movements, an additional safety measure for older people.
Entrance lobby lighting to be minimised – this is excessively bright and unnecessary, lighting the whole area and including roof windows that light up the sky.
The bat boxes (of which much has been made, as part of biodiversity measures) can never be used due to the excessive lighting.
Additional benefit would be reduction in lighting bills, which must be huge.

We would also ask for the SCDC lighting columns to be reduced in height, and the lighting levels reduced.

262 Correspondence received and for discussion and decision

Item 28 Zurich Insurance re long term agreement with associated discounts. Cllr Hickford proposed that a three year long term agreement be taken out with Zurich Insurance, a saving of £426.24. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gee. A vote took place with six votes in favour and two against.

Proposal carried

Item 36 SCDC response to our letter re wind farm. Cllr Hickford reported that with respect the wind farm appeal the District Council had continually failed to address concerns on accident records and levels of high traffic flows. The officers at the District Council had failed to investigate and report on the concerns of District Councillors over these matters. The concern of driver distraction had only been partially addressed. The response received from SCDC had once again failed to deliver answers requested.

Item 42 SCDC response re request for advice. This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda 7/4

Item 46 Consideration of quotation for tree works in the Churchyard. This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda 7/4

Item 47 Request for permission to hold a street party to celebrate the Royal Wedding. Under County Council traffic orders organisers of street parties must produce written proof that they have liaised with and there are no objections to the proposed road closure from Cambridgeshire Police, Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance Service and local Parish Council. Each of the above services and council must be informed in writing of the pending closure. No objections were raised.

Clerk

263 Written reports from Council representatives

Notes on meeting regarding the road surface at the Cathodeon Centre had been circulated. It was agreed to accept the reports recommendations.

264 Reports from Councillors.

Cllr Cornell reported that a copy of the Phd study commissioned after the Linton flooding in 2002 had been found on the internet. The link would be forwarded.

Cllr Bald thanked the District Council for six trees which had been planted along Bartlow Road. Cllr Bald requested that the remaining tree works (work on a conifer and removal of a dead tree and general tidy up) behind Crabtree Croft and Symond's Lane be carried out as soon as possible by the District Council.

Cllr Potter reported that due to the sudden resignation, for personal reasons, of the Chair of Linton ATC civilian committee, they were looking for a new chair. The staff were also looking for more help due to their workload not giving them any time off.

Cllr Linsdell reported that from April the County Council would take responsibility for issuing bus passes.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed

Date

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