

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 19th February 2009 commencing at 8 pm

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

District Councillor Mrs T Bear and Mrs K France (Press) were in attendance together with one member of the public.

Public Forum

Ms T Hunt of Holttums Yard advised the Council that the WI were not in favour of Camping Close being enclosed and supported the views expressed by members of the Parish Council at a previous meeting.

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

- 237 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Daly, Hammett and Krarup and County Councillor Batchelor.
- 238 Declaration of Interests from Members. Cllr Rossiter declared a personal interest under item 243.
- 239 Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2009. Cllr Bald proposed that the draft minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting, subject to the substitution of the words 'was recommended' for the words 'would be required' under Item 231 (iii) and the words 'procedures followed' for 'decisions taken' under Item 232. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Urwin and agreed by the meeting.
- 240 Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2009. There were none.
- 241 Consideration of the minutes of the Planning meeting held on 22nd January 2009. These were noted.
- 242 Report from Police and consideration of Policing, Safety and Security issues.
Item 44: An e-mail from Cambridgeshire Police Authority confirming the exchange of contracts relating to the sale of the police station and houses was noted.
Item 45: A letter from the Chairman of Cambridgeshire Police Authority acknowledging the Council's preference for the Police Station to be based at the Fire Station site was noted.
Cllr Hickford reported that PC Parkin would try to ensure that in future a PCSO attends parish council meetings.
PCSO Julie Abbott joined the meeting and reported on a seizure of alcohol at the Village College on 13th February following an event for the pupils. The parents of two girls had been called to escort them home. Cllr Cornell reported on graffiti on the new bus shelter. Cllr Hickford confirmed that a rolling calendar of village events would be produced and sent to the police to assist them in arranging attendance.
PCSO Abbott left the meeting.
- 243 Camping Close. A report from Cllr Hickford on a further meeting with the Infants School had been circulated.
Cllr Rossiter left the meeting.
Cllr Bald proposed that village green status for Camping Close be sought. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gee and agreed unanimously by the meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk contact the relevant County Council department to begin the process. **Clerk**
Cllr Rossiter rejoined the meeting.
- 244 Cllr Bald reported that following complaints from residents regarding noise concerns relating to Camgrain some steps had been taken to minimise noise, but she considered them to be insufficient. Cllr Bald had contacted the Local Government Ombudsman who had advised her

that the District Council claimed that in an undated conversation with the Environmental Health Officer, the Chair of the Parish Council had said that noise was not a significant issue in the village. The Chair refuted the claim and agreed to write a letter to that effect. As the Ombudsman had only received one complaint it was felt that this matter was not being taken seriously. It was agreed to send extracts of the Council's minutes where the issue of noise from the Camgrain site had been discussed to the Ombudsman. **Clerk/AG**

Cllr Cox suggested that a petition be sought from residents who had experienced noise nuisance.

- 245 District Councillor Bear reported that the application for the proposed wind farm had been received by the District Council. Mr Ray McMurray would be the planning officer responsible for the processing of the application. Determination of the application by the District Council Planning Committee could be as early as its meeting on 6th May, but 10th June or later were thought more likely dates.

Cllr Linsdell requested a sign be placed at the end of Rivey Close which included signage for house numbers. **TB**

Cllr Bald reported that the Palmer's Close sign had been burned and needed to be replaced and that replacement signs for Symond's Lane were still awaited. **TB**

A written report from County and District Councillor Batchelor had been circulated. He reminded the Parish Council of the need to submit details of resurfacing work, to include paths and roads, to the County Council Highway Department, and requested councillors to report really bad areas to the Clerk as soon as possible. **All**

- 246 Consideration of motion on notice proposed by Cllr Rossiter:

"Linton Parish Council

1. is satisfied that the footpath running between Kingfisher Walk and Stanton's Lane has been enjoyed by the public as a footway as of right and without interruption for a full period in excess of 20 years and that there is no sufficient evidence that there was no intention during that period to dedicate it as a highway;
2. considers that the northern section of the path (the section between the end of the metalled path running behind Granta Leys and Kingfisher Walk) is not in a satisfactory condition for the use being made of it by members of the public;
3. considers that despite taking reasonable steps to establish ownership of the northern section of the path or the identity of any person responsible for it has been unable to identify any such person;
4. accordingly resolves pursuant to section 50 Highways Act 1980 to undertake the maintenance of the northern section of the path and in particular to lay tarmac or similar surface along it;
5. agrees to request Cambridgeshire County Council as the highway authority for the parish to assume responsibility for the future maintenance of the footpath as a highway maintainable at public expense.

The motion was seconded by Cllr Cox. There were 8 votes in favour of the motion and one abstention.

Motion carried Clerk

It was agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow Mrs France to advise the meeting that she had attended to report on a meeting of The Grove Residents Association during the 1970s at which an attempt by some residents to acquire land to extend their gardens to the river bank had been rejected. It was agreed to restore Standing Orders.

It was agreed that prior to a contract for the works being placed, the Council's solicitors be asked to carry out a further Land Registry search regarding ownership of part of the land in question. **Clerk**

- 247 Consideration of quotations to:
- i Extend footpath at the bottom of Granta Leys to Kingfisher Walk. It was agreed to defer a decision until the issue of ownership of the land had been resolved pursuant to the decision under Item 246 and that in the meantime the Clerk should contact John Cobb & Sons Ltd to establish when they could carry out the work if a decision to proceed was taken at a future meeting. **Clerk**
 - ii Resurface footpaths in Churchyard from Infants School to small bridge and from junction to Camping Close. It was agreed to accept the quotation of £3360 + VAT from J F Knight (Roadworks) Ltd. Cllr Cox agreed to liaise with the contractor regarding a timescale for the work. **BC**
- 248 S/1327/07/F Hereward Housing - Very Sheltered Housing Scheme including 40 Flats with Community Facilities, Car Parking and Landscaping following the demolition of existing dwellings at Flaxfields – minor amendment to fenestration – For information only. This was noted.
- 249 Written reports from Council representatives. Cllr Gore reported that the County Council and the Cathodeon trustees were investigating the possible setting up of a Children’s Centre on the Cathodeon site.
- 250 Cllr Cox proposed that the payments listed below be paid. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Bald and agreed by the meeting. Cllrs Urwin and Gore signed the cheques.
- | | (*Section 137 payment) | Gross | Excl VAT |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|----------|
| ESPO | 1141 | 79.18 | 68.85 |
| The Wildlife Trusts | 1142 | 36.00 | |
| CCC (footway lights) | 1143 | 3620.80 | |
| Zurich Management Services (LCAS) | 1144 | 166.75 | |
| Barclays Finance (bus shelter) | 1145 | 4435.55 | 3857.00 |
| CBS Office Solutions Ltd | 1146 | 186.30 | 162.00 |
| CPRE | 1147 | 29.00 | |
| ESPO (gritter) | 1148 | 575.00 | 500.00 |
| Wages | bacs and 1149, 1150, 1151 | 2990.98 | |
| Viking Direct | 1152 | 316.18 | 274.94 |
- 251 Correspondence received and for discussion
- Item 27: Cambridgeshire Transport Commission consultation on transport proposals. It was agreed that Cllr Cornell should formulate a draft reply for consideration by the Council prior to 6 March 2009 as requested. **EC**
 - Item 32: M Glover 31 Paynes Meadow, request for permission to expand the perimeters for eligible buyers to South Cambridgeshire. The request had since been withdrawn.
 - Item 36: Mr S Toussenet, request that a festive event be held to mark the first day of summer. Councillors thought that this was a good idea in principle, Mr Toussenet to be reminded that should he wish to use Parish Council land permission would need to be obtained. **Clerk**
 - Item 38: Forestry Commission, regarding a review of the Lavenham Forest design plan, to include Borley Wood. It was anticipated that the wood would be managed to allow its reversion to deciduous native woodland. Councillors agreed that it was an excellent proposal. **Clerk**
 - Item 41: Parochial Church Council, request for new lawn mower. It was agreed to defer consideration of the request until costs were known. **BC**
 - Item 49: J Cummings, request for renewal of white lining at the top of Coles Lane. It was agreed to pass the request to the County Council Highways Department. **Clerk**
 - Item 51: Stop Linton Wind Farm requesting a meeting prior to determination of planning application for proposed windfarm. It was agreed to advise the group that the Council had agreed a written policy of the steps to be taken in relation to the possible application for a wind farm at its meeting on 6th December 2007 and to provide them with a copy of the policy. **Clerk**
- Cllr Potter expressed concern that if a public meeting was held and interested groups like Stop Linton Wind Farm gave a presentation, there would be no evidence that the views expressed were just those of Linton residents.
- It was agreed that the Clerk write to the District Council requesting an extension of the consultation period for the Parish Council to 8 weeks. **Clerk**
- It was agreed that the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk draft a questionnaire for circulation to all councillors. **AG/EC/Clerk**

252 The date for the Annual Parish Meeting was set for Thursday 30th April at 8pm in the Village Hall.

253 Reports from Councillors (for information only). There were none.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed

Date

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

DRAFT