

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 22nd January 2009 commencing at 8 pm

Present: A Gore (Chair), Ms E Cornell (Vice Chair), Mrs E Bald, Dr B Cox, S Daly, M Gee, 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 together with Louise Clark, Acting Head of Linton Infants School and Tony Cox, Vice Chair of the School Governors.

Public Forum

Mrs France asked if there was any news on the construction of a footpath at the bottom of Granta Leys. The Chair replied that this item would be discussed under item 221.

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

- 211 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Hammett.
- 212 Declaration of Interests from Members. Cllrs Cornell and Hickford expressed a personal interest under item 219 (70) as governors of Linton Heights Junior School.
- 213 Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2009. Cllr Hickford proposed that the draft minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting subject to the substitution of the words "Cllr Bald proposed that the Council" for the words "It was agreed to", the insertion of the words "the provision of" after the word "with", the substitution of "and" for the words "It was also agreed" and the addition of the sentence "The proposal was seconded by Mr Gee and agreed by the meeting with two abstentions." Cllr Hickford's proposal was seconded by Cllr Gee and agreed by the meeting.
- 214 Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2009. Under item 206, Stanton's Lane bridge, Cllr Bald reported that she had met with the manufacturers, Newmech, who had confirmed that the order was being processed and the work should be completed in the current financial year.
- 215 Report from Police and consideration of Policing, Safety and Security issues:
Correspondence item 71- letter from Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Police Authority re delay in Housing Stock Transfer. The letter was noted.
Cllr Hickford reported that he had met with the Principal of Linton Village College regarding police issues and a full report would be circulated.
- 216 Camping Close future arrangements.
A report from Councillor Hickford had been circulated regarding a meeting he and Cllr Cornell had held with representatives of Linton Infants School, the County Council and the Diocese, at which the representatives of the County Council and the School had expressed a desire to enclose the northern part, and possibly more, of Camping Close within the school grounds. A report from Cllr Cornell about the history of Camping Close had been circulated, in which it was noted that the term derived from the East Anglian medieval game of Camp Ball, for which a special field was set aside; she said that Camping Close had been used by village residents for many years as a public open space which they would lose if it were to be partly fenced off. Cllr Gore had circulated a report regarding the land's legal status, noting that it might be possible to register it as a village green. Cllr Rossiter suggested a compromise whereby the playground immediately adjacent to the churchyard could be fenced off from the playground to become a public right of way in exchange for some of the northern part of Camping Close being enclosed with the School. All other councillors who spoke expressed the view that Camping Close should remain a village open space and that none of it should be enclosed within the School's grounds. A formal resolution was not proposed.

- 217 Consideration of the minutes of the Planning meeting held on 4th December 2008. These were noted.
- 218 Consideration of the minutes of the Finance meeting held on 20th November 2008. These were noted.
- 219 Report from the County Councillor:

Correspondence item 15- Chalklands Residents Association, request to renew white lining. Cllr Batchelor reported that this work had been completed. A request for a Give Way sign had also been requested which he was pursuing and he requested the Parish Council to lend its support.

Clerk

Correspondence item 53- Concerns re safety at junction of Coles Lane and High Street. Cllr Batchelor had raised the issue with highway officers and their only suggested response was the laying of double yellow lines at the bottom of Coles Lane. Councillors were not in favour of the suggestion, which they felt might increase the speed of traffic turning right from the High Street into Coles Lane. The writer had also requested a staggered barrier at the High Street end of Dodger's Lane. Cllr Bald stated that the Council's proposed disability and access works included provision for the renewal of the barrier, but that it could not be staggered as it had to be accessible for wheelchairs and motorised buggies. She would be proposing that the forthcoming precept should include provision for the replacement of the existing barrier with one more appropriate to a conservation area.

Correspondence item 58- further request for repairs and white lining. Cllr Batchelor said a quotation had been sought but that whether the work was undertaken was dependent on the availability of funding. A quotation had also been sought for the resurfacing of Wheatsheaf Way.

Correspondence item 67- Complaint from a resident regarding the use of Back Road by construction vehicles. Cllr Batchelor reported that Hildersham Parish Council had asked the County Council to impose a temporary weight restriction on Back Road, with an exemption for farm vehicles, to address the problem of lorries accessing the Flaxfields development damaging the road and verges. Cllr Potter was concerned that the alternative was for heavy construction vehicles to come through the village, which would endanger pedestrians, whilst roads and verges could be repaired. Cllr Cornell said that the Council had expressed concern about access in connection with the planning application for the development but that neither the District Council nor County Council Highways had given the objection any consideration. Cllr Potter proposed that Council express its opposition to a temporary weight limit for safety reasons. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gee. There were eight votes in favour of the proposal, with one against and one abstention.

Proposal carried. Clerk

It was also agreed that the Clerk write to the developers asking them to ensure that all construction vehicles reduce their speed along Back Road.

Clerk

Cllr Batchelor reported that Back Road would be closed between Linton and Hildersham on 16th February for minor patching and some verge repair.

Correspondence item 70- Linton Heights Junior School request for Wheatsheaf Way to be added to gritting list. It was agreed to write to the County Council supporting the request. **Clerk**

Cllr Batchelor reported that he had met with Keith Walters, Chair of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Police Authority regarding the future of the police station. Mr Walters had told him that in agreeing to sell its police houses, the Authority had mistakenly included the police stations in Melbourn and Linton in the sale. Mr. Walters had confirmed that a 'police presence,' but not necessarily a police station, would remain in Linton. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Police Authority expressing the Council's view that the fire station was its preferred site for a replacement police station.

Clerk

Cllr Cornell asked Cllr Batchelor to determine the status of the 20mph speed limit on the High Street.

JB

- 220 Reports from the District Councillors:

Cllr Batchelor reported that a meeting regarding the future of the Council's housing stock was due to take place shortly. He was concerned that the Council was encouraging its tenants to vote in favour of a stock transfer to a housing association instead of providing unbiased information.

221 Consideration of quotations to construct footpath alongside the river bank at Granta Leys, resurface part of roadway in Cemetery and to resurface footpaths in Churchyard. It was agreed to defer these matters to the meeting on 19th February when it was anticipated that further quotations would have been received.

222 Written reports from Council representatives:
A report from Cllr Rossiter on the AGM of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Association of Local Councils PALC AGM had been circulated. She had tendered her resignation as the Parish Council's representative.

223 Payments due:
Cllr Potter having stated that the drainage work at the Meadow Lane entrance to the recreation ground undertaken by Atkins had resolved the problem with the puddle, Cllr Krarup proposed that the payments listed below be paid. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Linsdell and agreed by the meeting. Cllrs Urwin and Gore signed the cheques.

(*Section 137 payment)			Gross	Excl VAT
Point Contact Hygieneis	PAID	1118	47.96	40.82
Cambridge Tree Surgery	PAID	1125	448.50	390.00
Dent Security Systems Ltd		1126	96.40	83.83
Shine Windows		1127	50.00	
Anglian Playground Services		1128	569.25	495.00
P&C (Electrical) Contractors Ltd		1129	140.88	122.50
Linton Granta Football Club*		1130	250.00	
Atkins Ltd		1131	1489.72	1295.41

224 Correspondence received and for discussion:

Item 68- V Harris request to use recreation ground for funfair from 13th to 16th May. Cllr Bald proposed that Mr Harris be permitted to use the recreation ground on the same terms as in 2008. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gee and agreed unanimously by the meeting. It was also agreed to request the occupiers of 18 Meadow Lane to cut back their front hedge hard to the gate post to aid accessibility to the recreation ground. **Clerk**

Item 82- Concerns from a resident re Camping Close – this had been noted under item 216.

225 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.