

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 22nd April 2010

Present: Ms E Cornell (Chair), Mrs E Bald (Vice Chair), Dr B Cox, A Gore, B Hammett, R Hickford, Ms T Hunt, 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 10 members of the public.

Public Forum

Mrs Dew of Symond's Lane spoke of her despair regarding Nichol's Court the new care home in Flaxfields. Her house and garden were completely overlooked on every aspect by balconies and eighteen windows. The security and ground floor lights illuminated her house and garden. She asked whether this development would be entirely for the elderly as there appeared to be many steps in the courtyard. These concerns were echoed by eight other members of the public including Mrs Dockerill of Flaxfields.

The Chair responded that the Parish Council had strongly objected to the application and had written letters of complaint to the District Council but had had no response. It was agreed to discuss this matter further as it was an agenda item.

The Chair opened the meeting of the Parish Council at 8.25pm

302 Apologies for absence
Cllr Gee – holiday. Cllr Krarup – holiday.

303 Disclosure of Interest

Cllr Hickford disclosed a personal and prejudicial interest for the items of correspondence relating to Aztecs JFC and Linton Action for Youth and left the room during the discussion and decision on this matter.

Cllrs Gore, Hammett and Bald declared personal interests regarding item 311, Flaxfields as the building could be seen from their properties.

304 Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2010. Cllr Bald proposed that the minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hickford and agreed by the meeting.

305 Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2010.

The Chair reported that the Inspector of St Edmundsbury's Concept Statement had agreed that Access A1307 would be given a chair to speak at the Inquiry.

Cllr Bald reported that three ash trees had been planted on land at the junction of Symond's Lane and Back Road and two had been planted in Stanton's Lane.

The Clerk reported that unfortunately our Future Jobs Fund employee had only lasted for three days before leaving.

311 It was agreed to discuss agenda item number 311, Update on Nichols Court, Flaxfields at this juncture.

Cllr Bald had met on site with Ray McMurray (SCDC planning officer) and Simon Edwards (Architect for the developer). The meeting had been called following several complaints and ongoing problems reported by residents living adjacent to the building. Initially an enforcement officer had been asked to visit the site to look into the design, colour, height, lighting, measures to safeguard privacy etc. Residents were not happy with the response received and hence this meeting had taken place. The major complaints were light pollution and nuisance, surface height, noise, overlooking and concerns regarding the narrow enclosed footpath from Symond's Lane. It had already become evident that this was a meeting place for undesirables. Many of these problems had only become evident when the blue hoarding had been removed. It was resolved that an urgent meeting with the District Council, the developer and residents be called by 4th May to discuss these issues. If no meeting were forthcoming the Parish Council would issue a formal complaint to the District Council.

Cllr Bald urged residents to write to the District Council enclosing photographic evidence and to also contact Mr Wilson at Environmental Health department.

306 Consideration of the Minutes of the Planning meeting held on 8th April 2010. These were noted.

307 Report from Police and consideration of Policing, Safety and Security issues
PCSO Leanne Allan had requested when, where and at what time the Parish Council would like Police Surgeries to be held. It was agreed that these should be held in the Police Station.

308 County Councillor Batchelor confirmed that resurfacing would take place in the High Street and Back Road along the one way system and also the top and bottom of Coles Lane. The section from the A1307 to the Crown had not yet been agreed. The Back Road section would commence by 5th June at the latest however the County Council was pressing for this to be brought forward. This work would obviously result in road closures.

309 District Councillor Bear reported that the grass bank to the left of Chalklands had been added to the grass maintenance contract. The renovation scheme for all District Council owned garages had been scrapped. Yearly gas appliance checks on all District Council housing would take place. The tree offered in memory of a resident would be planted on the Village College site. Cllr Gore stated that the transfer to the Parish Council of the public open space at Paynes Meadow should be confirmed soon.
A request by the Parish Council for the replacement of Palmers Close sign was refused due to lack of funding.

310 Consideration and adoption of updated Cemetery Regulations. Cllr Rossiter proposed that following minor amendments the Cemetery Regulations be adopted. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hickford and resolved by the meeting. **Resolved**

311 Update on Nichols Court, Flaxfields – dealt with after item 305.

312 Update on Heritage Trail by Cllr Bald and
Cllr Bald proposed that the siting of approximately 20 way markers and 3 to 4 finger pointers be agreed as per the previous report. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hickford. A vote took place with seven votes in favour and three abstentions. **Proposal carried**

It had originally been suggested that the map board lectern be sited in front of the village sign. However Corrie Newell, principal conservation officer, felt that the sign should stand alone and the best place to site the lectern would be between the bus shelter and the sub station. The lectern would be made from oak to match the village sign. Cllr Bald proposed that this be the site to be requested in the planning application. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hickford. A vote took place with six votes in favour, one vote against and three abstentions.

Proposal carried

313 Written reports from Council representatives
As an outgoing councillor, Cllr Rossiter had issued a report regarding trees in the village. Cllr Rossiter had spoken with a resident regarding the possible removal of the willow tree in the cemetery and had explained that it had been her idea for its removal as the debris from the tree was affecting the ashes plots. She had suggested that new planting took place in that area on the other side of the hedge to reduce the impact if the tree were to be removed in the future.

314 Cllr Hunt proposed that the payments listed below be paid. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Cox and agreed by the meeting. Cllrs Cox and Gore signed the cheques.

	*S137	Gross	
*Linton ACE	1332	3500.00	} agreed
*Linton Carpet Bowls	1333	250.00	} agreed
*Linton ATC	1334	1200.00	} agreed
*Chestnuts Playgroup	1335	500.00	} agreed
*Linton Children's Book Festival	1336	3000.00	} agreed
*Granta Grapevine	1337	175.00	} agreed
*Granta Playgroup and Toddlers	1338	500.00	} agreed
*Linton Junior Cricket Club	1339	2500.00	} agreed
*Beacon Community Trust	1340	1280.00	} agreed
*MAGPAS	1341	1500.00	} agreed

*Brinkman, Butt & Harrison Trust (Parish Charities)	1342	750.00	} agreed
*Friends of the Roman Road & Fleam Dyke	1343	10.00	
Linton Music Society	1344	500.00	} agreed
Linton Village Hall	1345	500.00	} agreed
Linton United Reformed Church	1346	1500.00	} agreed
Shine Windows	1347	56.00	

315 Consideration and approval of Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for year ending 31st March 2010. Cllr Cox proposed that the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for year ending 31st March 2010 be approved and signed. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hammett and resolved by the meeting. **Resolved**

316 Correspondence received and for discussion
 Item 40 A request for a donation had been received from Aztecs JFC Football Club. Cllr Bald proposed that £50 be given. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Linsdell and resolved by the meeting. **Resolved**

Item 54 The Chair read out an email from Linton Action For Youth (LA4Y) which stated that they would Work in partnership with the Parish Council and would welcome a representative from the Parish Council to the meeting on Tuesday 29th June at 10am in the Drop In Centre and would expect that the representative would make a constructive contribution to the organisation as had very much been the case in the past. Cllr Hickford replied that it was good to see that the situation was progressing and partnership and communication had begun.

Cllr Potter proposed that in light of the proposition of 8th April agenda item 297 being fulfilled in that LA4Y and the Parish Council are corresponding with each other and addressing points referred to in debate, that payment of £5000 be made in full to LA4Y. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hammett who requested a recorded vote.

For: Cllrs Potter, Cox, Rossiter, Gore, Urwin, Hammett, Hunt and Linsdell.

Against : None

Abstentions: Cllr Bald

No Vote: Chair

Proposal carried

Item 55 SCDC had served formal notice of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on St Mary's Church. Cllr Cox reported that the Parish Council should object strongly to this order as the sucker limes had caused the collapse of the southern boundary wall, the gate had had to be re-hung, pillars had recently been rebuilt at the entrances in Church Lane and the School and the structural engineer's report. At the recent Annual Meeting of the Parish Church the congregation agreed that they would be happy to see the trees removed. The Parish Council would be unwilling to rebuild the wall whilst the trees were there.

Cllr Cox proposed that the Parish Council object to the TPO. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gore. A vote took place with seven votes in favour, one against and two abstentions.

Proposal carried

317 Reports from Councillors (for information only)
 Cllr Bald asked that anyone with memories of attending Linton Village College contact them as part of their Heritage Project.

Cllr Hickford reported that a property in Brinkman Road and Back Road had problems with tree roots.

The Chair reminded everyone that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Tuesday 27th April in the Village Hall.

The Chair thanked the outgoing councillors; Cllr Gore, Cllr Urwin and Cllr Rossiter for all their hard work over the years.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm

Signed

Date

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