

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
IN FOXTON VILLAGE HALL, HARDMAN ROAD, FOXTON, CAMBS, CB22 6RN  
ON 7TH OCTOBER 2013 AT 7.45 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllr N Oakley (Chairman), Cllr M Bore, Cllr G Barnes, Cllr L Elliott, Cllr C Grindley, Cllr R Macintyre, Cllr R McCreery, Cllr C McFadzean, Cllr P Sutton and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** County Cllr S van de Ven, District Cllr D Roberts, several members of the public (Mr Don Challis, Mrs Joyce Ward, Stephen Homent, Dr Ian Sanderson, Cllr Janet Lockwood from Harston and the District Cllr from Barrington, Mr Brian Stinton - from Cambs County Council)

		<b>Actions</b>
1.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</b> There were no apologies received as all Councillors were in attendance.	
2.	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS:</b> No items were declared.	
3.	<b>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 2ND SEPTEMBER 2013:</b> Cllr Oakley proposed and Cllr Grindley seconded to say the minutes were agreed and they were signed as a true record.	
4.	<p><b>UPDATE ON NETWORK RAIL'S PLANS FOR FOXTON LEVEL CROSSING FROM BRIAN STINTON (CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)</b></p> <p>Mr Stinton apologised that a representative from Network Rail was unable to attend. The problems of the Foxtton rail crossing are well known eg safety and congestion on the A10. Network Rail has had a policy of late of closing many crossings and therefore a solution is sought for the problem of the Foxtton crossing. There is a prolonged assessment procedure (8 stages) and they are moving forward with this, including a high level feasibility study as the 2nd stage. The 3rd stage looks at the different outcomes and options and will take in topographical studies, survey of services etc and will result in an idea of costs. The solution appears to lie to the north of the A10. At this stage there is not a lot of local consultation (this is Network Rail procedure) but CCC push for more local involvement. Should the next stage 'fail' Network Rail's criteria then they <i>could</i> pull out and the County Council will be left to decide if they proceed with the project in terms of highway benefits. The current publication is somewhat weighty but the PC have a copy and it can be shared and should be available on the CCC web-site. Cllr Oakley thanked Mr Stinton and Cllr van de Ven for keeping Foxtton PC up to date with developments.</p> <p>Cllr van de Ven said that Network Rail has responded to local issues before the actual start of the project otherwise it wouldn't even have got this far. She said that a project of this size will have benefits and disbenefits associated with it.</p> <p>Cllr Oakley said that as a PC, they must take on board everything the local people are saying.</p> <p>Cllr Sutton asked when the project might be ready to begin and Mr Stinton said that within 2 years much firmer plans should be set.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts said that this is not just about Foxtton as it also affects other villages on the A10 corridor and it's very difficult to access the A10 because of the current traffic issues. Mr Stinton added that Network Rail has been encouraged to look at the broader impact of the whole A10 community.</p>	

	<p>Dr Sanderson asked when the environmental impact consultation will happen? Mr Stinton said this will escalate as part of the process and the public consultation will come as part of the next stage (stage 3).</p> <p>Cllr Roberts asked if senior members at CCC had been to site to look at this project yet and asked that this is put forward - (it hasn't been through the 'cabinet' process yet.) Cllr van de Ven added that the willingness of Network Rail to fund this project is key to its success and is a great opportunity.</p> <p>Harston PC is anxious of the effect of a bypass as it may encourage additional car usage and this will need to be added through the consultation process.</p> <p>Cllr Barnes asked if a Harston by-pass had been considered? It is too early for this consideration.</p> <p>Dr Sanderson asked when the County will engage in the project re important associated transport issues and Mr Stinton said that they are already involved and having influence to produce a holistic assessment. He also asked if the County could fund a more enhanced scheme if necessary and this is difficult to answer at this stage.</p>	
5.	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING:</b> There were no matters arising not on the agenda.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts said she was asked if there were car sales still going on at the site on the A10 - she reported it to SCDC who visited the same day and were assured that no sales were continuing - cars parked at the back are staff cars.</p> <p>It was asked that the page numbers on the minutes should continue from p35.</p> <p>Overgrown planting at Hillfield - Cllr Grindley said it's 56 Fowlmere Road and has a hedge growing over half of the footpath. SCDC have maintained it in the past. Cllr Roberts to check if this is to continue.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Roberts</p>
6.	<p><b>VILLAGE INFRASTRUCTURE:</b> Cllr Oakley gave the following report:</p> <p><b>"STREET LIGHTING</b> New street lights have been fitted in Hardman Road and Edis way and are causing some problems with residents with lights shining into bedrooms. A shield can be fitted to the new lanterns if they are causing trouble so affected residents are advised to contact the county council via <a href="http://www.lightingcambridgeshire.com">www.lightingcambridgeshire.com</a> and make a complaint.</p> <p><b>BUSES</b> Limited funding (£40,000) is available from the County Council to improve bus transport around Cambridge and they are seeking expressions of interest from Parish Councils for funding to improve facilities for bus users. These could include shelters, cycle parking and real time information displays. As I understand it all costs will be met by the County Council. The timetable to express an interest is pretty tight and applications have to be in by November 4th. Have we any interest?"</p> <p>Cllr van de Ven reported some possible costs - real time information £5000, cycle racks £2000, bus shelter £5-6000. Cllr's to e-mail Cllr Oakley with any ideas.</p>	<p>All</p>
7.	<p><b>PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE:</b> Cllr Elliott gave the following report:</p>	

	<p><b>"Parish Council Office internet access</b></p> <p>I have spoken to Jenny Jones about the possibility of sharing the school's wireless internet access for the Parish Council office. She was amenable to the idea in principle, but it would not be a practical solution since the school's wireless access is in the eco classroom and the range of this doesn't even reach the rest of the school, let alone out to the Parish Council office. They also have a wireless router on a trolley of laptops which is moved from classroom to classroom, but this is only switched on when needed.</p> <p>If there were any problems with the wireless system (for example, the router needed to be restarted – which is not an uncommon occurrence on wireless networks) the Parish Council would not be able to get into the school to sort this out.</p> <p>My conclusion is that we should have our own broadband in the office and not try to share the school's.</p> <p><b>Web site</b></p> <p>I am currently working on filling in a 19-page development brief, which contains a full range of questions about the design and layout of the web site. This has involved a time-consuming process of trawling through dozens of existing web sites and example templates to determine the best one for Foxton, as well as choosing the structure of the site and what is on each page.</p> <p>I have now decided on a design for the site, and have been working on a page structure which gives a sensible layout for all the features that we will need. Yesterday I received a CD full of photos from Pat and Geoff Houghton, which I will be sorting through to decide on some good ones for the site. I hope to have the development brief sent off in the next couple of weeks.</p> <p>I have a couple of questions that need answering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One of the sections of the site involves "Parish Councillor details" – i.e. a list of who is on the council, and their contact details. I am proposing that we just give names, without any address, phone or e-mail details, and refer people to contact the council via the clerk.</li> <li>- We need to specify some e-mail addresses. I will initially specify <a href="mailto:clerk@foxtonparishcouncil.gov.uk">clerk@foxtonparishcouncil.gov.uk</a> and <a href="mailto:webmaster@foxtonparishcouncil.gov.uk">webmaster@foxtonparishcouncil.gov.uk</a>, but do we also need individual addresses for the sub-committees? (e.g. <a href="mailto:planning@...">planning@...</a>, <a href="mailto:rand@...">rand@...</a>, etc). These e-mail addresses will be accessible through the web site, and can also be used from within an e-mail client such as Microsoft Outlook."</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Elliott to source connection costs - Virgin v BT.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts said a web-site needs some interest and photos and a little information about Cllr's is useful. If anyone wishes their photo to be included, please send it to Cllr Elliott.</p>	<p>Cllr Elliott</p> <p>All</p>
8.	<p><b>REPORTS FROM THE WORKING PARTIES:</b></p> <p><b>A) RECREATION AND AMENITIES</b></p> <p>Cllr McCreery gave the following report:</p>	

**"QEII Registration**

The replacement plaque has been received and should be in place in the next month.

**Skatepark Project**

We are expecting to hear the result of the latest grant application to AmeyCespa this week.

The Fun Run on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September saw about 100 runners participating on a gloriously sunny morning. About £1,000 was raised from the event.

Bag packing at Morrisons took place also in September and the young people involved raised approximately £440.

**Trees**

After consultation with members of the Parish Council we have commissioned Kask to carry out the tree survey and report. A first meeting with them will take place tomorrow.

**Sports Club Meeting**

The bi-annual meeting took place on 25<sup>th</sup> September.

In order not to miss the opportunity of re-seeding next year, an early on-site meeting will be held in February to assess the wear and tear from football training and the operation of two football pitches either side of the cricket square by Dynamo Foxton.

A second spray application was carried out last week and CGM has been instructed to carry out grass cutting on the main area of the recreation ground this week.

The storage of equipment on the picnic bank was discussed. It was agreed that the Cricket Club's net and the Football Club's goal posts could be stored there in season. Out of season both will be moved into the compound. Dynamo Foxton have been requested to keep their goal posts in the compound throughout the year.

The continued interest in junior football means an additional team each year requiring pitches. Although next year the oldest boys (under 14) will play on Sundays on the main football pitch, this does raise again the shortage of space on the recreation ground for both junior football and cricket pitches.

The advertising and notification of Rock on the Rec. were raised and noted for next year.

Richard Barnes was thanked by all for his generosity in fertilising the Recreation Ground free of charge.

The possibility of purchasing a defibrillator was raised. The clubs are willing to contribute to the purchase of a machine and I would request the Parish Council's support. From a quick internet survey, I believe the cost would be of the order of £1,000 plus lockable cabinet with combination lock - say £1,500 in total. The ambulance service will be contacted before proceeding with any purchase. I would suggest a 50% contribution up to a maximum of £750. *Agreed. Ambulance service to be contacted and final quotations received.*

**Recreation ground**

The new seats for the picnic bank, despite their weight have been moved several times. I propose that they are permanently sited and concreted in. *Agreed.* They will be sited to leave space for the storage of the equipment mentioned earlier and access to the site of the proposed skatepark

Two dog anti-fouling signs have been broken. Should they be replaced? *Agreed to replace.*

Further damage has been done to the youth shelter. I have asked David Salmons to make it safe but do not propose spending any more money on the shelter.

**AOB from last FPC Meeting**

Anglian Water is being contacted re the overgrown trees at the pumping station.

The War Memorial has been tidied up.

The Dovecote Meadow hedge has been cut on both sides."

Ref the defibrillator - Cllr Roberts asked what happens if this is used incorrectly? Cllr McCreery said they are well instructed and they can be used by someone with very little first aid training.

Cllr Barnes reported that the school are happy to have someone trained to use it as well.

Cllr Bore asked if the cricket square is getting larger - but it doesn't seem to pose an issue.

**B) FINANCE**

Cllr Sutton gave details of the balances on our Accounts at Barclays Bank as follows:

Deposit Account	£24,460.19
Current Account	£40.91
10 Day Notice Account	£22,802.16

**Cheques required:**

R J Barnes - work at Dovecote meadow	£60.00
Foxton Cricket Club - 2nd instalment grass cutting services 2013	£325.00
R Macintyre - refreshments for Dovecote meadow working party	£46.50
Foxton Village Hall (hire mtg room 2/9, pavilion 24/9, office 1/4 rent)	£128.16
CGM (Cambridge Ltd) - grass cutting September	£360.00
D Salmons - Village Warden duties, September plus extra work	£142.50
JE Burns - Salary for October	£310.08
HM Revenue and Customs - tax on Clerk's salary for 3 mths to 5/10/13	£145.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1517.44</b>

Cllr Sutton requested to be able to transfer £1,530.00 from the Deposit to the Current Account. This proposal was agreed and cheques were duly signed.

Cllr Sutton reported that the National Association of Local Councils has agreed a pay increase of 1% for Parish Clerks with effect from 1 April 2013

	A VAT repayment claim for £451.06 is being made in respect of the 6 months to 30 September 2013.	
9.	<p><b>PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT:</b></p> <p>The following report was given by Cllr Grindley:</p> <p><b>"PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT 7th October 2013</b></p> <p><b>Correspondence.</b> The District Council approved the following applications:-</p> <p>(i) <b>S/1259/13/FL. Porch to replace pergola.</b></p> <p>7 Edis Way, Foxton. Mrs Leak.</p> <p>(ii) <b>S/1768/13/LB. Replacement windows.</b></p> <p>20 Fowlmere Road, Foxton. Mr &amp; Mrs Hammond.</p> <p>Cemex has invited residents to a public consultation on its proposed housing, community use and renewable energy proposals for the redevelopment of the former cement works at Barrington.</p> <p><b>The planning committee met on 24th September 2013 and considered two matters.</b></p> <p><b>1. <u>Proposed Local Plan.</u></b></p> <p>(i) The council supported <b>Policy S/7</b> – concerning the retention of Village Development Frameworks.</p> <p>(ii) Foxton is classified as a Group village for the purpose of the local plan and the Council supported <b>Policy S/10</b> on Group Villages.</p> <p>(iii) <b>Policies NH/11 and NH/12</b> – protected village amenity areas and local green spaces. It is proposed that the spaces identified in the plan should be provide protection from development that would adversely affect the character and local significance placed on such areas, which make them valued by their local community. The policy map identifies four such areas in Foxton submitted by the Council to SCDC :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Green .</li> <li>• The dovecote meadow.</li> <li>• The green in Station Road.</li> <li>• The recreation ground.</li> </ul>	

The Council welcomed and supported this initiative.

- (iv) **Policy NH/13** identifies important countryside frontages where land with a strong countryside character sweeps into the built up area providing a significant connection between the street scene and the surrounding rural area, or provides a break between two nearby but detached parts of a development framework, and on which planning permission would be refused if it would compromise these purposes. The Council supported this, and advised SCDC that the proposed ICF behind the southern boundary of the recreation area and the school has been missed out in the proposed plan and needs to be included.
- (v) **Policy H/7** on housing density provides for a lower density (ie. 30 dwellings per hectare) in Rural Centres, a Minor Rural Centre Village and Group Villages. The Council supported this policy.
- (vi) **Policy H/8** on housing mix requires that for market housing developments of 10 or more dwellings should consist of (a) at least 30% 1 or 2 BR homes, (b) 30% 3 BR homes, (c) at least 30% 4 BR homes, and a 10% flexibility allowance to be added to these categories to allow for local circumstance, subject to the mix of affordable homes in all developments being determined by local housing need evidence. All affordable homes and 1 in 20 market homes will be built to meet the lifetime homes standard, and developments including specialist accommodation for the elderly will not be subject to the housing mix requirement and will demonstrate appropriate design standards. The Council considered that the planning authority cannot be prescriptive about specific sites and did not support this policy.
- (vii) **Policy H/9** on Affordable homes requires that all developments which increase the net number of homes on a site by 3 or more will provide affordable housing as follows: a) to provide that 40% of the homes on site will be affordable b) to address evidence of housing need. An agreed mix of affordable house tenures will be determined by local circumstances at the time of granting planning permission c) in small groups or clusters distributed through the site. Except where d) it can be demonstrated that the level of affordable housing sought would make a development unviable in light of changing market conditions, individual site circumstances and development costs. In which case a revised mix of affordable house types and tenures and

then a lower level of affordable housing provision may be negotiated e) the off-site provision of affordable dwellings can be demonstrated to have benefits such as the provision of additional affordable dwellings or the improvements or a better use of existing stock and would contribute to the creation of mixed and balanced communities f) it can be demonstrated that it is not possible or appropriate to build affordable homes on-site or off-site, in which case the development will provide a financial contribution towards the future provision of affordable housing. The contribution to be of 'broadly equivalent value' to that which would have been provided on-site. The Council supported this initiative, but advised that this may not work in a group village.

(viii) **Policy H/10** deals with rural Exception Site affordable Housing to meet identified local housing needs on small sites adjoining a development framework boundary and states:

1. Affordable housing which will be permitted subject to a) the number, size, design, mix and tenure of affordable homes are confined to and appropriate to meeting identified local needs b) the development is of a scale and location appropriate to the size, facilities and character of the settlement c) for sites at settlements within or adjoining the Green Belt, that no alternative sites exist that would have less impact on Green Belt purposes d) that the affordable homes are secured for occupation by those in housing need in perpetuity.

2. If viability appraisals demonstrate that a 100% affordable housing scheme is unviable, consideration will be given in order of preference to: e) changing the tenure mix of the affordable homes and/or the application of any available public subsidy f) including the minimum market housing necessary to make the scheme viable and still remain an exception site.

The Council supports part of this policy - paragraph 1 (a-d) and objects to paragraph 2 (e-f) on the grounds that there should not be any private development on Exception Sites.

## **2. SCDC Proposed community infrastructure levy.**

The Council responded to the preliminary questionnaire received on this topic, under the local development framework consultation, and local plan consultation documents, but has since been advised that the notice of extension for the planning consultation



	<p>period applied solely to the local plan and did not apply to the questionnaire, but that the views of this Council reflect the views received from other respondents to the questionnaire."</p>	
10.	<p><b>COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:</b> Cllr van de Ven gave the following report:</p> <p>"1. I looked into the field odour issue that many people complained about in late August. This was turkey manure from Meldreth farms. Excess had been taken away and spread on the fields and was being incorporated within the 48 hour period as required by DEFRA guidance.</p> <p>2. A10 Corridor Cycling Campaign met in Foxton last month and formally endorsed the proposal to spend the £300K govt grant on the stretch from around Foxton Bottom to Shepreth Frog End junction. The Foxton to Harston stretch will be sided out – meaning vegetation substantially cut back, including on the path itself. Cycling officers will present the campaign with plans and work should start relatively soon.</p> <p>3. The County Council decided last month, without warning, consultation or risk analysis of the cost of consequent displaced parking and congestion, to impose a £1 charge at the five Cambridge Park and Ride sites, starting in January.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This will cost £800 K to implement and will raise £1 million per year.</li> <li>• Guided Bus sites at Longstanton and St Ives are not included and remain free, due to concern about fragile off-peak ridership figures on the Guided Bus.</li> <li>• Under the charge it will cost out-patients more to park and take the Guided Bus to Addenbrookes than to park at Addenbrookes.</li> <li>• The charge is on top of bus fare.</li> <li>• Departure charge for Stagecoach hasn't gone up since 2001: £2 per day.</li> <li>• Biggest impact on South Cambs residents who lack public transport and will pay £20 per month more on their transport costs.</li> </ul> <p>The charge goes against the whole premise of the council's own transport strategy for city and South Cambs, which it has just finished consulting on, and which aspires to persuade people to change behaviour and use multimodal transport, including reducing car travel.</p> <p>The decision did not follow correct procedure in that it was a 'key decision' in terms of impact on council finances, and should have been in the Forward Plan. The matter was called in by the council's Scrutiny Committee and returned to Cabinet for reconsideration but essentially there will be no change in delivering the policy.</p> <p>4. Foxton Station Gardening will take place on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 11AM."</p> <p>Cllr Oakley thanked Cllr Van de Ven for coming to the meeting</p>	
11.	<p><b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:</b></p> <p>Cllr Roberts gave the following report:</p> <p>"Re the Infrastructure Levy - big strategic developments should be exempt from the levy and there is a fear that all money raised will need to be put into the A14 project. This needs to be properly thought out.</p>	

	<p>County have put the remaining travellers sites up for sale (Milton and Whaddon). SCDC have decided they will purchase, run and upgrade them. Cllr Roberts has no concerns re the upgrading but has reservations as to the fact that other formal groups have not been approached who might wish to purchase the sites, thus saving SCDC money.</p> <p>The Foxton Affordable Housing scheme is now on the 'list' at SCDC but the time-frame is still vague."</p> <p>Cllr Oakley thanked Cllr Roberts for coming to the meeting</p>	
12.	<p><b>POLICE LIAISON REPORT:</b> Cllr Barnes reported the following:</p> <p><b>"Police Liaison Report 7-10-13 - W/End 21st/22nd September</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Child's push bike taken from cycle rack.</li> <li>2) 2 School sheds broken into some alcohol stolen.</li> <li>3) Bowls club broken into.</li> <li>4) Dynamo Football storage bins broken into. Footballs left around village</li> </ol> <p>All the above had padlock cut</p> <p><b>Other Incidents:</b> Barons Lane - Burglary. Barrington Road - Vehicle crime. Hillfield - Criminal damage and arson. All are still under investigation.</p> <p>Melbourn &amp; Bassingbourn police panel will be at Melbourn village college 7:30 15th October 2013"</p>	
13.	<p><b>RECREATION GROUND TRUST REPORT:</b> There was nothing to report - there is a meeting planned for mid October</p>	
14.	<p><b>DOVECOTE / MEADOW REPORT:</b> There was a very successful working party a few weeks ago, followed by a barbeque and the area looks very tidy.</p>	
15.	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE:</b> The reported correspondence was just routine.</p>	
16.	<p><b>VISITORS' QUESTIONS</b> There were no visitors' questions further to the earlier ones concerning the Foxton rail crossing.</p>	
17.	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS:</b> Cllr McCreery reported that the WI are wanting to replace a bench (covered by tree insurance) that got damaged in Station Rd. He suggested that it was sited elsewhere - perhaps in Dovecote meadow and will speak to the WI.</p> <p>Colin from the shop would like assistance in advertising the fact he has a huge box of lost property from the last year or so and Mr Challis will put it in his report in the Laurentian.</p>	<p>Cllr McCreery</p> <p>Mr Challis</p>
18.	<p><b>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:</b> The meeting closed at 9:40</p>	

	The date of the next meeting is Monday 4th November 2013 at 7:45pm at Foxton Village Hall, with a planning meeting to be held in the interim.	
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