

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY, 3rd OCTOBER 2005, AT 7.45 p.m.

PRESENT

Mr Pusey, Mr Hockley, Mr Barnes, Mr Brooksbank,
Mr Chilton, Dr Grindley, Mr Kennedy, Dr McKeown,
Miss Thake

District Councillor Deborah Roberts

IN ATTENDANCE

6 members of the public

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from County Councillor
David McCraith

Mr Pusey welcomed all to the meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

As no amendments were necessary, Mr Brooksbank proposed that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th September be signed as a true record. Mr Hockley seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Article for "The Laurentian" on Parish Plans

Mr Pusey said that the article on Parish Plans had duly appeared in the last issue of "The Laurentian".

The Old School site

Mr Pusey said that a meeting had been arranged with the County Council on 2nd November.

Inaugural Meeting about the extension to the Recreation Ground

It had finally been arranged to hold this on 11th October at 8.30pm in the Village Hall.

Correspondence –letter from Cemex (item 7)

Mr Pusey said that Cemex had arranged for a road show to visit the village on Monday, 17th October between 3 and 8pm and the firm had offered a donation to the Village Hall.

Visitors' Questions – Puddles in the village

Mr Hockley said he had not yet managed to take the necessary photographs but he had not forgotten that these needed to be taken.

Any Other Business – flooding in the village

Mr Pusey reported that there had been more flooding in the village but that residents had been pleased to see County Council officers were following this up. Remedial work had been carried out on the kerb at No. 35 Fowlmere Road to prevent flooding.

REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEES

RECREATION AND AMENITIES

Mr Chilton said the Committee had not met in the past month and reported as follows:

1. Work on the Recreation Ground

Mr Salmons had submitted a quotation for £800 for the repair of a section of the Bowls Club fence. However, he had said that, rather than renew the upper part of the fence, he would prefer to replace the whole of this section of fence at no extra cost. The work would be carried out as soon as Mr Salmons received the necessary materials.

Mr Chilton said he had reviewed outstanding jobs with Gary Dash: the work, including the new seat, would start next week.

The clerk was asked to read out a letter (in verse) from Mr Phillips about the poor provision of seats on the Recreation Ground. The letter finished with a comparison with other parish councils' provision of seats. Mr Pusey said that Mr Phillips had a point. However, Mr Chilton said that although more seats were needed, this was a very expensive matter. The clerk was asked to write to Mr Phillips.

The Football Club floodlight had now been removed from the Recreation Ground and the hole in the goal mouth of one set of junior goal posts had been filled in.

2. Play area

Mr Chilton said that the "Play Area Closed at Sunset" sign had been installed.

Two swing seats needed to be replaced. The safety bar on one of the cradle seats had broken and this seat had been removed and one of the ordinary seats had deteriorated badly.

Some of the equipment would need to be painted in brighter colours to comply with the Disability Act.

There was a short discussion about the problem of the area between the fences of houses backing onto the play area and the planted area. There was a conflict of interest between the occupants of these houses who didn't want children using this "path" and the children who enjoyed the play possibilities of the area. It was felt there was no clear solution to this issue.

3. Vandalism

One bin had been ripped out of the ground and might need repair. *Mr Chilton said that he thought it might be an idea to tot up the costs incurred in dealing with vandalism.*

4. Skateboard Project

There was nothing further to report.

Dr Grindley said that he had applied for a quotation for the electricity supply for the training lights installation.

The clerk said she had spent considerable time in the past month trying to get a response from Cleanaway to the council's request for a quotation for various work in the village including tree work and the spraying of the Recreation Ground against plantains. Cleanaway had at last arranged a site meeting for Wednesday morning. The manager at Cleanaway to whom she spoke asked whether any of the trees were subject to a Tree Preservation Order. The clerk said she would check this with Mr Hellingsworth, the SCDC Tree Officer.

Mr Pusey said that the registration of RGT land could move forward following the receipt of a letter from Mr Fawcett (The Old Vicarage) agreeing the boundary consulted on: St Laurence PCC was also in agreement with the boundaries.

FINANCE

Mr Hockley gave details of the bank accounts as follows:

Deposit Account	£17,654.64
(This included interest of £44.80 for the period 6//6/05-4/9/05 of £44.80, the second half of the year's precept of £5950 and a VAT refund for the period 8/3/05-22/8/05 of £707.08)	
Current Account	£50.28
Cambridge Building Society	£8,300.05

Mr Hockley proposed the following cheques be approved:

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£16.50
Foxton Village Hall Trust (hire of meeting room 1/8/05	£12.50
The Sign Workshop "Play Area Closed at Sunset" sign)	£28.20
British Wild Flower Plants (various wild flower plant plugs)	£140.30
Cambridgeshire County Council (scan of Dovecote lanternslide)	£7.00
V W Mead (refuse collection and ground maintenance, September)	£34.50
Inland Revenue (tax on JEB/VWM earnings for three months to 5 th October)	£173.14

Mr Barnes seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

PLANNING

Mr Barnes reported as follows:

Planning Permission granted:

Frederic Smart & Son Ltd	Application No. S/1163/05/F for an extension to a storage building Various conditions
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Planning Application considered at the meeting:

Mr & Mrs Fellows	Application No. S/1814/05/F for an extension at 5 Barons Lane No recommendation
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POLICE LIAISON REPORT

Miss Thake said she had nothing to report this month. Mrs Roberts said that PC Sutton had told her the police were making regular checks in the village. She said it was probable that an order would be placed on one offender and she would try to find out more details. Referring to the suggestion from Mr Chilton that the council compile a schedule of expenditure due to vandalism, she recommended sending the schedule to the SCDC Community Safety officer.

RECREATION GROUND TRUST

Mr Pusey said that the Trustees had not met in the past month. Following a meeting of the school governors, the County Council were satisfied that there was no longer a requirement for a hedge to be planted along the school boundary on the land being purchased from the County Council for an extension to the Recreation Ground. This had been a delaying factor in the sale. Further figures for the sinking fund had been produced and were being discussed. There was an outstanding letter from Hewitson's that needed a reply and Mr Brooksbank undertook to e-mail its contents to the trustees for comment.

COMMUNITY PROJECT

The clerk reported that Mr McCraith had asked Bill Tarling to deal with outstanding matters. It was apparent that nothing had been done and the clerk was asked to inform Mr McCraith of this.

DOVECOTE/MEADOW PROJECT

Mr Pusey reported that he had received the architect's plans for the dovecote. Another image of the building had been obtained from a County Council lanternslide showing a different doorway arrangement. There was no date but the image was the earliest available. Mr Pusey said that the County Council's solicitor was completing the leases and that FPC should have them soon.

There had been two workdays at the site in the past month. The Green Belt Project helpers had come on the 21st September; work had been done on the footpath to remove obstacles and level the path. There had been a training day on 24th September

when such things as plant identification and the use of hand tools had been covered and the wild flower plugs had been planted.

CORRESPONDENCE

The clerk summarised the correspondence received in the past month, which is given in full below:

- 1) Letter dated 8th September from the CCC Senior Countryside Officer re the inclusion of information on biodiversity and green spaces in Parish Plans.
- 2) Letter dated 12th September from the SCDC Community projects officer about the debating competition for young people: enclosing poster and application form.
- 3) Letter dated 12th September from RECAP (recycling in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough) partnership on waste consultation events in the region
- 4) Letter dated 14th September re the need for improved bus stops in Foxton (signature indecipherable): enclosing details of website giving information on public transport in Foxton.
- 5) Letter dated 19th September from Cemex enclosing notes of the extraordinary meeting of the Barrington Liaison Group held on 6th September 2005.
- 6) Letter dated 21st September from the CCC Passenger Transport Operations Manager re bus service tenders April 2006: enclosing consultation schedule.
- 7) Letter dated 26th September from SCDC Development Services Department re future public participation in the South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework. The letter states that the council intends to publish the LDF on CD-ROM in future and requests completion of the enclosed questionnaire.
- 8) Letter received September 2005 re CCC's priorities and budget strategy 2006-10: enclosing a copy of the council's current corporate plan, questionnaire and leaflet.
- 9) Letter received September 2005 from the Countryside Agency enclosing the relevant map for Foxton of registered common land and open country.
- 10) South Cambs magazine, Autumn 2005 and "Key Issues" (SCDC Tenants' Newsletter), Autumn 2005
- 11) The CCC Countryside Services Annual Report April 2004-March 2005 and poster about the Parish Paths Partnership Scheme in Cambridgeshire for 2006.
- 12) Information from CALC including:
 - Memo re the draft East of England Plan – Examination in Public giving timetable and requesting copies of representations delivered to the Panel Secretariat
 - Minutes of the South Cambridgeshire district Association AGM held on 15th September 2005
 - Circular from The British Leprosy Relief Association about holding "Cookie parties"

- 13) Information from Cambridgeshire ACRE including:
 - “Community Action” magazine 2005
 - Annual Review 2004-2005
- 14) “Clerks and Councils Direct”, September 2005.
- 15) SCDC “Event” magazine September/November 2005
- 16) Leaflets on:
 - Cambridgeshire Registered Trader Scheme at Cambridgeshire Age Concern
 - “Money Maze” – Age Concern publication about the choice in the way state pension and benefits is received
 - “Arts in Cambs on Tour” October-December 2005
 - Local Network Fund
- 17) Publicity from SMP Playgrounds, Matta products (UK) Ltd, and EIBE (all playground products); Glasdon; Townscape (street furniture); and Miracle Design and Play Ltd (skateboard park equipment).

VISITORS’ QUESTIONS

Mr Abbotts began his speech by praising the Minutes of council meetings that he had read on the village web site. However, he had found the reporting of matters relating to his planning application hurtful. Basically, Mr Abbotts was not satisfied with the way his planning application had been dealt with by South Cambridgeshire District Council. Mr Abbotts also criticised the handling of applications relating to the site in Mortimers lane between Nos. 3 and 11, the latest of which was for outline planning permission only.

It was agreed that Mr Abbotts should have access to the Minutes of previous council meetings, but that any discussion of the issues relating to his planning application should be referred to the District Council.

Mr Miller said that a lot of old cars and lorries were being parked on the lay-by opposite the garage on the A10 by the level crossing, some for sale. Mr Miller was also concerned about maintenance at the garage. He also enquired as to any progress on altering the white-lining in the road.

It was confirmed that necessary maintenance was being carried out at the garage. Mrs Roberts said she would be seeing County Councillor David McCraith and would mention the white-lining to him.

Mr Boreham said that footways in Fowlmere had been resurfaced and asked whether there was any chance of a similar improvement to Foxton’s footways, which were in a dreadful state.

It was agreed that the clerk would contact CCC South Highways Division.

Mrs Howell said she had seen some boys kicking a football onto the pavilion roof. She also asked whether there had been any progress with the defective lights on the Community Building site.

The clerk said she had telephoned John Kaye who said that they had inspected the lamps and that the firm would have to erect scaffolding in order to effect repairs. The clerk said she would chase the matter up.

Mr Challis expressed his frustration about delays in acquiring the extension to the Recreation Ground.

He was assured that progress was being made and that the council expected to complete the purchase in the near future.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Dr Grindley said that he had completed applications for project grants from Cambridge Water for a pre-school garden and for school cricket nets. Unfortunately, both applications had failed.

Mr Barnes asked if someone would follow up on a continual water leakage at the corner of Mortimers Lane

Mr Pusey pointed out that three months of circulating correspondence had been brought to this night's meeting and asked councillors pass on the circulating correspondence much more quickly.

The clerk said that Mr McCraith had mentioned in his telephone call to her that he and Andrew Lansley were working with determination on the question of parking provision at the station.

Mr Mckeown said he had been looking into a source of grant money but unfortunately the skateboard project did not qualify. Mr Roberts said that she would send the council a fresh copy of the information about funding available from the District Council.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that this would be held in the Village Hall Meeting room on **Monday, 7th November at 7.45pm**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.