

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY, 1<sup>st</sup> JULY 2013 AT 7.45 p.m.

### **PRESENT**

Dr Oakley, Dr Grindley, Mr Bore, Mr Barnes, Mr Elliott, Mrs McFadzean and Mr Sutton

County Councillor Susan van de Ven

District Councillor Deborah Roberts

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

2 members of the public

### **APOLOGIES**

Mrs Macintyre, Mr McCreery

Dr Oakley welcomed all to the meeting.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest

### **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

One amendment was needed:

On page 21 under the MAYD update (first sentence, last paragraph) should read “----- --targeting the year 6 (*not year 10*) primary school leavers”. With this amendment, Dr Oakley proposed that the Minutes of the previous Meeting, held on Monday, 3rd June 2013, should be signed as a true record. Mrs McFadzean seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### *Matters Arising (June Minutes) – council website*

Mr Elliott said that he understood from Paul Grainger (SCDC) that arrangements for parish councils to access the district council’s mapping system had been agreed in principle, provided a parish council’s website had the .gov.uk suffix. Mr Elliott said that, as the SCDC website officer was leaving the council, the council’s only option would be to adopt a parish council.net website. All councillors agreed to go ahead on this basis.

### **VILLAGE INFRASTRUCTURE**

Dr Oakley reported as follows:

#### Railways

Dr Oakley and Dr van de Ven had had a further meeting with county council officers on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> July to discuss Foxton level crossing. He said these meetings were important so that local input into any decision making process could be maintained.

### Roads

Dr Oakley said he would be having a site meeting with an officer from the CCC Highways Department on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July to discuss speed limits within Foxton.

### Water/Drainage

The major water leaks in the High Street had been repaired. Water leakage from the pump in Mortimer's Lane needed to be addressed and to that end Dr Oakley said he had held a conversation with Tim Baker of BA Hydro Solutions in Shepreth who had offered his advice. The problem with the pump was described as a "wild borehole" that needed to be capped. Mr Baker had suggested various solutions, which would offer a semi-permanent or a permanent, fix and suggested a local contractor with the cost being anything up to £2000. Dr Oakley proposed that he contact the contractor to give his opinion and suggested solution. All were agreed.

*As Dr van de Ven would need to leave the meeting early, Dr Oakley moved the County Councillor's and District Councillor's reports up the agenda.*

## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Dr van de Ven reported as follows

1. Dr van de Ven began by thanking the parish council for agreeing to support the Community Rail Partnership for the local area. She also extended thanks to Mr Salmons for installing a new water butt on the Cambridge-bound platform at the station, to First Capital Connect for paying for it, and to the car-wash attendants for filling the butt up with water (the old water butt had toppled over and was cracked).
2. Dr van de Ven said that members of the A10 Corridor Cycling Campaign wondered whether Foxton PC might cover room hire costs for one meeting per year. *All councillors were agreed to this.* The group would like to rotate round the villages and would be holding its AGM at Foxton Village Hall in September, on account of Foxton level crossing issues and Cambridgeshire County Council's bid for £300K from the Department for Transport to improve cycle links to Foxton Station, the result of which would be announced shortly. The county council had asked the Cycling Campaign how it would recommend the funds be used. Dr van de Ven said that the thinking was to concentrate on the stretches of the cycle path to the north and south, but to leave the area by the level crossing for the time being.
3. Dr van de Ven said that Cambridgeshire County Council was enthusiastic about finding ways to continue supporting the work of Melbourn Area Youth Development (MAYD) as a unique initiative involving parish council collaboration. She said that, as was known, this project had provided special access to "Detached Youth Work" resources, which could be deployed in any of the participating villages if and when problems arose around low-level anti-social behaviour. The Detached Youth Worker was applying for grant funding for a street art project this summer, based in Melbourn but also involving young people from surrounding villages.
5. Dr van de Ven raised the matter of the Draft Transport Strategy for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire, and the Draft Local Plan: She said that South Cambridgeshire District Council had rejected the 270-homes site for Melbourn in this area. However, in spite of the lack of a major new development, the A10 was still considered an important transport corridor which required public transport and

improvements to cycling facilities, if only to avoid eventual gridlock towards Cambridge. The strategy therefore advocated improved cycle and rail links. There would be a public consultation between 19<sup>th</sup> July and 30<sup>th</sup> September.

6. Dr van de Ven asked it to be noted that the Melbourn Hub, currently under construction, would house not only the Library Access Point but also a Citizens' Advice Centre service point.

## **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Mrs Roberts said that she had made enquiries at SCDC about possible sources of funding for the half-pipe project. The only route available appeared to be applying for a Community Chest grant once the project was underway.

Dr Roberts said that three planning officers covering the local area were leaving SCDC for the private sector and this meant that processing of planning applications was likely to become slower.

Although the parish council had not yet received official notification, Mrs Roberts said that the recent Application for a live/work building on the A10 had been withdrawn.

The Local Development Framework Plan would be going out for consultation in the near future and Mrs Roberts urged the council to respond.

## **REPORTS FROM THE WORKING PARTIES**

### **RECREATION AND AMENITIES**

There was no official report. The clerk confirmed that the annual letters and forms regarding access onto the Recreation Ground had been sent to the relevant residents.

Dr Oakley had received an e-mail from Mrs Howell about a request she had received to hire the Recreation Ground for a function. A short discussion followed and it was agreed that this would not be appropriate as it would be an unwelcome departure from normal custom as the Recreation Ground should always be freely available to the public. Dr Oakley said he would let Mrs Howell know that the council had turned down the request.

The Bowls Club wished to apply for an Amey Cespa grant for improvements to the club. However, as the club did not lease the ground, it was unable to apply for the grant itself. Dr Oakley proposed that the council apply for the grant on behalf of the Bowls Club. Mr Bore seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

The clerk had received an e-mail from a Hillfield resident about grass desperately needing cutting alongside the path that runs down and back from the small car park at the top of Hillfield. *Mrs Roberts confirmed that this matter had already been attended to.*

### **FINANCE**

Mr Sutton gave details of the Bank Accounts as follows:

Deposit Account	£17,888.08
Current Account	£5.45

(Two further payments had been made since the June FPC meeting. These

were a cheque for £47.20 to HMRC for the tax on the clerk's salary for the month to 5<sup>th</sup> July and a payment to Npower of £4.33 -interim payments to Npower having been agreed at a previous meeting.)

10-day Notice Account (This included interest applied 1st July of £19.00)	£22,739.63
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Mr Sutton proposed the following cheques for payment:

CGM (Cambridge) Ltd (grass cutting 4/5/13)	£72.00
Foxton Village Hall (hire of Meeting Room 13/5 and Lounge 8/5)	£26.50
J E Burns (salary July)	£308.08
J E Burns (expenses May and June)	£124.08
D Salmons (Village Warden duties June)	£105.00
Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Watch (donation)	£144.00

Dr Oakley seconded the proposal and all were agreed that these payments, totalling £799.66, be made and that £830 be transferred from the Deposit Account to the Current Account.

### **PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr Bore reported on the committee meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> June that he had chaired in Mr Grindley's absence.

Matters considered were:

Mr N Sharp	Application: S/1065/13/FL for an extension to dwelling at 59 Fowlmere Road Approval recommended
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The application was for an extension to an existing semi-detached house, the last house on Fowlmere Road at the end of the village. The proposed extension would increase the existing footprint of the house to add a bigger kitchen and utility room. On the ground floor, at the back of the house, it was proposed to extend to the same point as the adjoining property, with the building slightly enlarged at the side, and extending the living space on two floors. It was felt that this should not inconvenience the neighbours in the attached property.

The Parish Council recommended approval, subject to the usual conditions that work was done with consideration to neighbouring properties.

*(The committee noted that the application was inaccurate, because it did not show an existing static caravan that had been installed on the site across the existing access. It was assumed that this would be removed in the course of the building work.)*

Mr Robert Hays

Application: S/1136/13/FL for conversion of barn to live/work unit at barn adjacent to railway, Royston Road  
Refusal recommended.

Although the committee felt that a conversion would improve the look of the property dramatically, it was felt that there were too many problems with the proposal. It was felt that it would not be a desirable place to live, and that access to the site from the A10 would be dangerous.

If permission were to be granted despite these issues, it was requested that a condition be made that of the property for retail purposes would not be allowed.

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### **Matters considered at the present meeting:**

Mrs Leak

Application No. S/1259/13/FL for a porch to replace pergola at 7 Edis Way

The plans were perused and all were agreed that the council should recommend approval.

Mr Barnes said that it appeared that vehicles were being sold at the car-wash site on the A10. Mrs Roberts said that she would check this matter out with the Planning Department.

### **POLICE LIAISON REPORT**

Mr Barnes reported as follows:

He said that the Neighbourhood Watch scheme was now officially up and running although the response to letters sent out had been subdued. It was intended to go ahead with the installation of street signs marking Foxton as a village covered by the scheme.

The following incidents had been reported:

#### Barrington Road

- A small quantity of cannabis had been seized
- 1 burglary

#### Hall Close

- 1 anti-social behaviour incident
- 1 theft still under investigation

#### High Street

- 1 anti-social incident
- 1 assault still under investigation

The date for the court case, for those arrested in connection with the spate of burglaries earlier in the year, had been set back.

Mr Barnes concluded by saying that there would be a Police Liaison meeting at Bassingbourn on 12<sup>th</sup> July.

## **RECREATION GROUND TRUST**

It was confirmed that the Trustees would meet in the next two weeks. Mr Sutton suggested that Mr Garrick (Facilities Manager) attend for part of the meeting.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The clerk summarised the correspondence received since the last meeting, which is given in full below:

- 1) Letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> May from Affinity Water re “Planning for the Future – Draft Water Resources Management Plan Consultation”: giving website address.
- 2) Local Council Review, Summer 2013.
- 3) “Clerks and Councils Direct” magazine July 2013.
- 4) Various e-mails from CAPALC.
- 5) Publicity material from Wicksteed, Hags SMP Ltd and Play and Leisure (playground equipment) and Parkers (wholesale bulbs).

## **VISITORS' QUESTIONS**

Mr Challis agreed that the Recreation Ground should not be let out.

Mr Howard said that the large gate giving access to the Play Area for machinery was being left open and that shrubs to the rear of the Illingworth Way houses were overgrown.

*Mrs McFadzean said that the Recreation and Amenities working party would look into both these matters.*

Mr Reynolds enquired about the pump at the top of Mortimers Lane.

*Dr Oakley said that it would not be possible to prevent the pump leaking without closing it off.*

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Dr Grindley asked whether there was anything further to report about the proposed affordable housing in Fowlmere Road.

*Mrs Roberts said that she had not yet seen Ms Newstead about this. She added that the Frederick Smart site in Fowlmere Road was now empty and on the market.*

Mr Sutton said that new shutters had now been installed in the kitchen adjacent to the Meeting Room.

## **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was confirmed that this would be held on **Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> August 2013 at 7.45pm** in the **Village Hall Meeting Room**.

Mr Elliott gave his apologies in advance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.