

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER 2008, AT 7.45 p.m.

PRESENT

Dr Oakley, Dr Grindley, Mr Barnes, Mr Bentinck,
Mrs Macintyre, Dr McKeown,

County Councillor David McCraith

District Councillor Mrs Roberts

IN ATTENDANCE

3 members of the public

APOLOGIES

Mr Allars

Dr Oakley welcomed all to the meeting

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Mrs Macintyre declared an interest in a planning application (31 Shepreth Road) to be discussed later in the meeting.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

No amendments were needed. Dr Oakley proposed that the Minutes of the previous Meeting, held on Monday, 4th August 2008 be signed as a true record. Dr Grindley seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Recreation Ground Trust Report

Dr Grindley said that he had spoken to Mr Callin about the valuation required for the Land Registry process. Mr Callin had a query that he wished to raise with Hewitsons.

Correspondence – letter from Mr Bochoven

Mr Bochoven had written to the council expressing his concerns about the Village Hall Management Committee's licence application. The council was unanimous in its support for the application.

PARISH PLAN REPORT

Mrs Howell (in the visitors' seats) said that so far 125 completed forms had been received and that by now there would be further completed forms at the village shop. The Steering Group was hoping for a much higher proportion of forms returned and would be manning a stand at the Garden Show (the deadline for return of the forms was mid-September).

Mr McCraith suggested that it might be a good idea to hold a public meeting and Mr Bentinck suggested laminated notices round the village.

REPORTS FROM THE WORKING PARTIES

RECREATION AND AMENITIES

Mr Bentinck reported as follows:

1. Grass cutting

Mr Bentinck said that the grass had been cut this week and that he had toured most of the village and made notes as to what areas had been covered. In conjunction with the notes already made by the R&A working party, these would be used for the plan for the next cutting contract. This would be complex as the working party (WP) understood that the price was due to increase considerably, the areas covered required modification and the Cricket Club was keen to be involved in the cutting plan. The WP needed to obtain some maps of the areas concerned as soon as possible, as the existing plans all had markings on them.

2. Village Warden

Mr Salmons' had requested two further bins for the Recreation Ground: one to replace that outside the Hindley's house and one next to the bench near the slope onto the Recreation Ground (RG) from Edis Way. *Mr Bentinck asked whether the clerk had contacted SCDC about infrequent dog bin emptying. The clerk said that the district council was surprised that there had been a problem as the employee responsible for emptying the bins had a very good reputation. The bins were emptied on a Monday and the council had suggested monitoring the situation.*

Mr Salmons had also requested that the council obtain some bin bags from SCDC (*the clerk was asked to telephone the SCDC Environmental Department*) and asked permission to purchase more gloves and dog bin bags (*agreed*). Mr Bentinck had asked Mr Salmons to add to his "beat": the area around the Hindley residence, areas on either side of the RG gravel car park entrance and the left hand flowerbed at the entrance to Village Hall car park. He was also asked to lay the four paving slabs left over from the new Village Hall waste container across the "short cut" on the previously mentioned flowerbed. Mrs Macintyre had liaised with Mr Salmons who should be able to strim and rake the bike-track in September: following this he would apply weed killer and then an appropriate grass seed. A regular routine for maintaining the bike track was needed. Mr Bentinck had bought two basketball nets for £5 as the existing one had broken and Mr Salmons has put one up. Mr Salmons mentioned that his contact was ready to do the Dovecote hedge again, if required. Mr Bentinck asked the council's agreement to this and to trimming the hedge on Fowlmere Road. *The council were agreed and asked that the hedge in the lay-by past the telephone kiosk in Fowlmere Road be included.* Some graffiti had appeared over the summer holiday, including a large yellow item on the Village Hall wall. Mr Salmons asked whether the cigarette ends at the back of the Hall were in his remit, and Mr Bentinck had

assumed they were. Mr Salmons also suggested a cigarette end container on the wall at the back of the Hall.

3. RoSPA report/Play area

Dave Allars was preparing a summary of findings from the RoSPA report.

4. Letter re Access to the Recreation Ground

Only two residents had failed to respond. Dr Oakley and Mr Bentinck had met with Mrs Meese-Grove who had agreed to the fence panels being removed from the area of the Recreation Ground to the rear of her property. It was agreed that footballs presented a real problem for Mrs Meese-Grove and it was agreed that Dr Grindley would speak to the Football Club and suggest that the club erect protective netting during matches.

A letter would be sent to a St Laurence Road resident about encroachment onto the Recreation Ground.

Tree Report

Mr Barnes reported that the work had been carried out on the Wilson's trees and that Mr Hindley was going to undertake the necessary work on the churchyard trees on behalf of the PCC.

FINANCE

Dr Oakley gave details of the Bank Accounts as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Deposit Account | £20,899.01 |
| Current Account | £63.23 |
| Cambridge Building Society | £14,395.69 |

Dr Oakley proposed the following cheques for payment:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Hewitsons LLP (professional charges re Registration of title etc) | £1,871.50 |
| Eastern Tree Surgery (tree works in gravel car park) | 640.38 |
| Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (wreath for Remembrance Sunday) | 16.50 |
| FVHT (hire of meeting room on 7 th & 15 th July and Lounge on 10th July) | 37.50 |
| D Salmons (Village Warden duties, August) | 99.00 |
| J E Burns (salary August/September) | 594.84 |
| J E Burns (expenses July/August) | 49.82 |

Dr McKeown seconded the proposal and all were agreed that these payments, totalling £3,309.54, should be made and that £3,300 be transferred from the Deposit Account to the Current Account.

PLANNING

Mr Barnes reported as follows:

Planning permission refused:

Dr K Beardsall

Application No. S/0740/08/F for the erection of a first-floor extension at 36 High Street

Reason: the proposed development would have an overbearing impact on neighbouring properties

Planning permission granted:

Mr and Mrs D A Whitaker

Application No. S/1124/08/F for an extension and alteration at 5 Fowlmere Road

Usual condition, plus no windows, doors or openings, other than authorised on side elevations, & first-floor windows to be fitted with obscure glass

Planning applications considered at the meeting:

Mr P Lloyd

Application No. S/1393/08/LB to install a flexible stainless steel flue liner in sitting room hearth at Home Farm, 2 the Green

Approved

Mrs and Mrs Shelford

Application No. S/1452/08/F for approval of siting, design, external appearance, access and landscaping of replacement dwelling approved under Planning permission S/1668/05/O at 14 Shepreth Road

Approved with comment that the council would wish the trees on site to be retained.

Tree Application:

Mrs McCombie

Application Reference No. C/11/40/030. to fell a Lawson Cypress and reduce the height of a Leylandi Cypress

No comment

Dr Grindley commented on the letter received from EEARA last month on the Review of the East of England Plan – consultation on the draft project plan and statement of public participation. He said that the review undermined the integrity of the plan that had already been agreed for a specific period of time. The council agreed that Dr Grindley should reply to the letter in this vein.

POLICE LIAISON

Mr Barnes reported that a young couple contacted people from Foxton, Melbourn, Meldreth and Shepreth appeared to be involved in a kind of begging activity associated with people known to attend church. The police wished to contact these people. Mr Barnes also reported that there had been intruders in the old Methodist Church and the toilets had been used. The church had now been re-secured from unauthorised access.

RECREATION GROUND TRUST REPORT AND RECREATION GROUND EXTENSION COMMITTEE (REGEC)

Dr McKeown said that the Preschool group had now completed its lease and would commence paying rent for its site. Nothing had been heard from the Cricket Club. Mr Carpenter had borrowed a key so that some strimming could be carried out but had not returned it.

Dr Oakley said that the Trust needed to hold a meeting.

Mr Barnes said that repainting of the exterior of the Community Building would commence shortly. A Health and Safety Review had been carried out at the school and it was noted that the lock for the gas-meter cupboard was dysfunctional. The gauge on the water pipes coming into the water softener appeared to be leaking.

DOVECOTE/MEADOW REPORT

Mrs Macintyre reported that Mr Pusey would treat the external brickwork of the dovecote against damp later this month. There would be a mowing and raking working party on the 24th September for which volunteers were needed. The scaffolding tower had been dismantled.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

- 1) Letter dated 6th August from Cambridge and County Folk Museum offering the council three A1 panels featuring text and historical photographs relating to Foxton (copy passed to Tessa Howell). *It was agreed that the clerk would confirm that the council would like to have these and would arrange collection.*
- 2) Letter dated 6th August from Cambridgeshire ACRE reporting that the results of its Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Rural Services Survey are now available to view online.
- 3) Letter dated 14th August from the General Manager of CarillionWSP advising that his firm will now act in the capacity of Management Agent to the Highways Agency Area 8: enclosing map showing the relevant parts of the motorway and trunk road network maintained by CarillionWSP on the Agency's behalf.
- 4) Letter dated 18th August from the CCC Senior Map Development Officer enclosing a copy of the Countryside Access Team Annual Report 2007-08
- 5) Letter dated 20th August from Mr Wilson thanking the council for agreeing to allow him to cut the grass to the rear of the Village Hall and confirming that this will be at his own risk, with no liability to the council.
- 6) SCDC "Housing Futures" leaflet, August 2008.
- 7) Memo from Cambridgeshire Older People's Reference Group (COPRG) requesting information for database on support groups (SAE enclosed). *Passed to Mrs Sanderson*

- 8) Letter dated August from Cambridgeshire Local Involvement Network (LINK) introducing the organisation and enclosing publicity material, registration form and SAE.
- 9) SCDC leaflet re its Funding Fair 2008 to be held at the council's offices on 13th September from 10.00am – 1.00pm
- 10) Notice from Barcham Trees of seminars to be held on 9th and 10th September. (*Passed to RM*)
- 11) Copy of letter sent to SCDC Tree Preservation Department by Mr Cook re a tree thought to be in a dangerous condition on the verge immediately in front of 76 Station Road, together with copy correspondence between Mrs Cook and First Capital Connect regarding the lack of waste bins at Foxton Station.
- 12) Local Council Review, September.
- 13) "Clerks and Councils Direct" magazine September 2008.
- 14) Publicity material from Steelway Fensecure (including free tickets to IOG Saltex 2008), Digital Copier Systems and ASM (Associated Surfaces and Materials).

VISITORS' QUESTIONS

Mr Challis said that the notice in "The Laurentian" advertising the "Rock on the Rec" event advised that there would be an admission charge of £10. This was a departure from past practice as all parts of the open Recreation Ground had hitherto been regarded as accessible to the public free of charge. He asked whether the council was in agreement with a charge being levied for the "Rock on the Rec" event.

Dr Oakley thanked Mr Challis for bringing this matter to the council's attention. The council had given permission for the event to be held on the Recreation Ground and this had been granted. However, the question of charging for the event had not been raised with the council and would have to be addressed for future events, when perhaps, rather than a charge, donations could be invited or seats charged for.

Mr Bochoven asked about lighting for the youth shelter.

It was confirmed that the youth shelter would have independent solar powered lighting for a period of time that could be set by the council.

On the question of the licence for the Village Hall, Mr Bochoven agreed to talk to Mrs Howell after the meeting.

Mrs Howell said that the appearance of the spinney at the top of Station Road had deteriorated and asked whether there was any chance of some replanting being carried out when trees were removed.

Dr Oakley suggested the council consult the SCDC Trees Officer and Mrs Roberts said she would check the position.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs Roberts said she was still trying to check the position regarding the former Q8 garage.

Mr Barnes recommended that a Planning Officer visit the College Farm site to check that works there were in compliance with permission granted.

Mr Bentinck said that the Cricket Club was proposing a “Gentlemen’s Evening” on the Recreation Ground and that this would be discussed at the Village Hall Management Committee’s meeting.

Mr Barnes complained that the process of filling holes in Barrington Road was proving completely ineffective as the filler was pushed to the side of the road and was clogging up the drains. The clerk was asked to contact Mr Cooper at CCC South Highways Department

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that this would be held on **Monday, 6th October 2008 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.50 pm.