

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY, 3rd SEPTEMBER 2012, AT 7.45 p.m.

PRESENT

Dr Oakley, Dr Grindley, Mr Barnes, Mr Elliott, Mr McCreery, Mrs Macintyre, Mrs McFadzean and Mr Sutton

County Councillor Susan van de Ven

IN ATTENDANCE

2 members of the public

APOLOGIES

District Councillor Deborah Roberts and Mr Bore

Dr Oakley welcomed all to the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Parish Councillors have received a dispensation from the SCDC Standards Committee to permit them to discuss, without prejudice, matters concerning Foxton Recreation Ground Trust of which they are all trustees and thus have a personal interest.

There were no other declarations.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2nd July: Further amendments were needed to the Minutes of this Meeting. On page 31, under the Finance Report, the figures for the Barclays Bank Premium 10-day Notice Account should be as follows:

Barclays Bank Premium 10-day Notice Account	£30,779.95	
Add: monthly interest	<u>28.49</u>	£30,808.44

9th August: No amendments were needed.

Dr Oakley proposed that the July Minutes should be further amended and that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th August should be signed as a true record. Mrs McFadzean seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no Matters Arising.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Dr van de Ven reported as follows:

1. Barrington Cement Plant Site: Cemex had been in touch with the following message and asked for a response from the local community.

- “In 2011 the company submitted a proposal to the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) programme. The process thus far has rejected the site as inappropriate for the number of units submitted.
- Also in 2011, the company received permission to upgrade the existing railway line in order to bring in inert waste, such as clay, to achieve the restoration of the quarry site. Work has not yet commenced on this project.
- The company now recognises that the time is fast approaching when decisions on the longer-term future of the plant site will be required.
- The “Brownfield” portion of the site (the actual cement plant site, not the quarry) is identified as potential employment site in the SCDC Core Strategy: Issues and Options and thus has the possibility of being developed for commercial or industrial development to create jobs.
- The possibility of some degree of housing development is also available, a proportion of which would be affordable.
- The site has been in existence as a cement works for over 100 years and has been an integral part of the local community for all of that time. CEMEX now wish to engage the local community in trying to ascertain the views of the immediate village and the area beyond in how best the future of the site can be managed.”

2. Melbourn Hub and affordable housing application:

This was approved by a 9-1-vote meaning that the Library Access Point would be rehoused in modern, permanent premises.

3. Rail User Group and the level crossing at Foxton:

The group would next meet at 7.30pm on 11th September at Melbourn Village College.

The pedestrian gates: locking mechanisms upgrade was complete, but had been out of use from 25th August to 1st September. Dr van de Ven expressed her thanks to those people who had contacted her to let her know. She said she had been away on holiday and, when she had contacted the Network Rail general manager, he hadn't known about the problem, but actioned it straight away and the gates had been back in operation within a few hours. Dr van de Ven commented that communications were terrible as there should have been a way of letting the group know what was going on, and it underlined the fact that even state-of-the-art gates don't provide a foolproof safe crossing.

Dave Ward had promised an update on the Feasibility Study commissioning sometime this week.

3. Melbourn Area Youth Development (MAYD):

Dr van de Ven Thanked to Mrs McFadzean for her hard work over the summer with Youth Group sessions in Foxton. These had really paid off with great attendance. There was very good attendance also at Meldreth and Melbourn sessions. There appeared to have been some cross-over between villages - the whole idea of MAYD was to form a liaison across this cluster of Melbourne Village College (MVC) feeder villages for an age group that would most likely wish to socialize with new friends made through school in the wider area. Youth Club would resume on 11th September and the AGM date would be posted shortly. The County Council had found some more money for the group and the new administrator would be starting on Tuesday. The Bike Bank had been a big success: the Chief Constable was impressed and found the group some funding for more sessions this year. The MVC-based Basketball Club would resume after school and there was a strong Foxton contingent helping to form the core of the group. So, after a difficult first year, there were some very good things to build on and the group was in good shape for its second year.

4. Drainage:

Dr van de Ven thanked all those who had sent in relevant photographs and for the feedback from residents in the village about potential hotspots. She would be meeting Mike Cooper (CCC Highways Department) on site the next day and they would be looking at St Laurence Road, the War Memorial and the Green. Dr van de Ven said that, realistically, the problem would need to be pretty severe (impassable roads for significant periods of time, household flooding) in order to warrant significant expenditure but some extra jetting sessions might be possible and that could make a difference.

5. Heavy Commercial Vehicles Strategy

Dr van de Ven said she would be meeting with FPC's chairman and with County Highways next day to find out what tools might be suitable for Foxton.

6. South Cambs Transport Strategy/ South Cambs Local Plan consultations

These consultations, running in tandem would both end on 28th September. Dr van de Ven said that this was a big deal and it was important to respond! She was not yet ready with her own response on the transport consultation, due to summer holidays, but could forward this to the parish council, or any designated member, in the next week or so.

7. Project "Community Connect"

A project called "Community Connect" (which was where the idea and ingredients for the Bike Bank originated) would be holding a networking event at Gamlingay Eco-Hub on 12th November 2012 from 1pm-3.30pm. The aim was to help everyone work better together for young people. The event would include advice on funding and grants. The event was free and there was an open invitation to anyone interested. Dr van de Ven said she would be attending in case anyone would like to accompany her.

Mrs McFadzean said that young people should be encouraged to attend the Youth Club at Melbourne.

As Dr van de Ven said she would have to leave the meeting shortly, the clerk asked her about a telephone call she had received from Mrs Pick asking to know whether Edis Way had been adopted or not. There was a short discussion and it was thought

that the main road was adopted but that the spur roads leading off it to small groups of houses were not. Dr van de Ven said she would look into the matter.

Mr Challis (in the visitors' seats) asked about the proposed rail service to carry material for infill at Cemex. Dr van de Ven said there was no contract so far.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In Mrs Roberts' absence, there was no report.

REPORTS FROM THE WORKING PARTIES

RECREATION AND AMENITIES

Mr McCreery reported as follows:

1. Play Area

Mr McCreery said he had been pleased to see how busy the play area had been during the school holidays. The council would now have the responsibility of looking after it.

Kompan was offering three maintenance packages consisting of 1, 2 or 3 Operation Inspections and 1 Annual Inspection. Each inspection would cost £250 and would include a detailed maintenance inspection, a written inspection report and identification of any replacement parts required. The annual inspection would also include required documentation for insurance purposes and a check to ensure that the current standards for compliance and design were being met.

Mr McCreery proposed that the council to have either one or two inspections plus the annual inspection. However, if, on investigation, the council would still require a ROSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) inspection then one additional inspection plus the annual inspection should be sufficient.

The new gate to the play area had been repaired.

2. Half Pipe

The fund raising committee had adopted the title "Foxton Scooter Park Fundraising Committee".

The committee had already come up with a number of ideas for raising money: proceeds from the next Foxton pub quiz on Saturday 22nd September would go towards the project.

An open meeting would be held in the lounge of the Village Hall on Tuesday, 11th September at 7.30pm and it was hoped that interested villagers would attend.

Mr McCreery said that in order to encourage fund raising for the project, the Parish Council was requested to match funds raised by the Committee up to a maximum of £1,000 and proposed the council agree to this expenditure. *Mrs McFadzean seconded the proposal and all were agreed.*

3. Recreation Ground

David Salmons had carried out a fairly extensive tidying up of trees round the village and in the borders of the Recreation Ground.

Moving the ball wall had been delayed owing to problems with the forklift truck that Mr Salmons intended to use but the move should happen this month.

4. Dovecote Field

The new solar light for the Dovecote Meadow had been delivered and installed. Mr McCreery said that the Dovecote field hedges should be cut and tidied up during September and the grass cut, as the wild flowers seeds would have set by now.

5. Cricket Club

The council had supplied a letter of support to the Cricket Club to assist the club in obtaining a grant for a new roller. An agreement would be drawn up to ensure that the Cricket Club took on all liabilities for insurance, repair etc. of the roller.

6. Tennis Club

The Tennis Club would be reminded that it had agreed to remove the overgrown conifer from the hedge adjoining the Recreation Ground.

7. Sports Club Meeting

The bi-annual meeting with the Sports Clubs would be held in September.

FINANCE

Mr Sutton gave details of the bank accounts as follows:

Deposit Account		£12,097.80
Current Account		£55.70
Barclays Bank Premium 10-day Notice Account		
	£22,515.46	
Add: monthly interest	<u>20.78</u>	£22,536.24

Mr Sutton proposed the following cheques for payment:

CGM (Cambridge) Ltd (grass cutting, July)	£228.00
Foxton Village Hall (Hire of Meeting Room 9/11/6 & 2/7, Lounge 8/8 and pavilion 15/8)	£36.00
D Salmons (Village Warden duties in August and extra work)	£364.50
J E Burns (salary August/September)	£627.95
J E Burns (expenses July/August)	£44.83

Mr McCreery seconded the proposal and all were agreed that these payments, totalling £1,301.28 should be made and that £1,300 should be transferred from the Deposit Account to the Current Account.

Mr Sutton said that the council was due a refund from Aon on its insurance premium, as more equipment had been covered than was eventually necessary. He also reported

that Littljohn had been appointed as external auditor for the council in place of Moore Stephens.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr Grindley reported as follows:

The committee had held a meeting on 15th August (chaired by Mr Bore in Dr Grindley's absence) when the following application had been considered:

Mr and Mrs Smith	Application No. S/1554/12/FL for a ground and first floor rear extension to house at 29 Fowlmere Road
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The application was for a ground and first floor rear extension to a semi-detached house. The committee generally approved of the extension, and felt that it would improve the property, although commented on the addition of a fourth bedroom without an upstairs family bathroom. There was some concern over the effect that the first floor of the extension might have on the attached neighbouring property, although the house is already longer at the back than the house next door. The northeast facing extension would not block sunlight from the neighbouring house or garden.

The committee's decision was to recommend approval, subject to the usual conditions that work be done with consideration to neighbouring properties.

Dr Grindley reported that SCDC had responded to the council's complaint of 7th August concerning the handling of planning issues in connection with Endurance Estate's request for access across the grass bank fronting the Press Cottages to a proposed development off Station Road. The response was considered unacceptable for a number of reasons and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Planning Committee for further consideration with the complaint likely to be taken to the next level – SCDC's Chief Executive. It was also agreed to consult with CAPALC.

Planning permission refused:

Goreway Holdings Ltd.	Application No.S/0836/FL for the erection of a dwelling at land adjacent to 7 Station Road Refused on grounds of highway safety and loss of amenity
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Dr Grindley concluded his report by saying that, when the committee next met, it would consider the SCDC Issues and Options Report.

POLICE LIAISON REPORT

Mr Barnes reported the following incidents that had occurred since his last report:

Cambridge Road	1 burglary
Hall Close	1 burglary
Hardman Road	1 burglary
Station Road	1 incident of anti-social behaviour

Mr Barnes said that the police were warning people not to leave bicycles etc in front gardens and to remember to lock garages and outside sheds. Speed checks had been carried out in Fowlmere Road and warnings given.

COUNCIL OFFICE

Dr Oakley said that the council had been asked to pay £306.25 in annual rental for the office. All were agreed to pay this sum.

Dr Oakley said that, as it was in the council's interest to start making use of the office as soon as possible, consideration needed to be given to what furniture might be required. The clerk agreed to contact Mrs Howell to ask for the loan of an ESPO catalogue.

There was a short discussion about the exterior sign for the office and this matter was deferred for discussion by the Recreation Ground Trust.

RECREATION GROUND TRUST REPORT

There was nothing to report but the Trustees would be meeting at the end of the present meeting.

DOVECOTE/MEADOW REPORT

There was nothing further to add to what had been said about the site earlier in the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

- 1) Letter from Roger Taylor, University of Cambridge North West Cambridge Development Project Director re the granting of outline planning permission for the development by the University of its land between Huntingdon Road and Madingley Road, and giving website address.
- 2) Letter from Kompan Ltd re maintenance instructions for safety surfacing on the Foxton Recreation Ground.
- 3) Letters from CCC Transport Department detailing changes to Norfolk Green, Emblings Coaches 380 and WH Fowler WHF services.
- 4) Letter from the Society of Local Council Clerks with 40th Anniversary membership offer: enclosing leaflet re the SLCC national Conference in Bristol Friday 12th – Sunday 14th October 2012.
- 5) Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS magazine “Keeping in Touch”, Summer 2012.
- 6) Publicity material from Wicksteed (play equipment) and IOG Saltex Open Space exhibition.

VISITORS' QUESTIONS

Mr Challis asked to what use the council office would be put.

Dr Oakley said that it would be used for meetings with parishioners, for meetings of the Planning Committee etc and for storage of planning documents and council archives.

Mrs Ward thanked the council for dealing with the tripping hazard at Vicarage Corner

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Dr Grindley recommended that agendas for future meetings should include “Village Infrastructure” as a regular item. It was agreed that this was a good idea and that this agenda item should come before the County Councillor’s report.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on **Monday, 1st October 2012** at **7.45pm** in the **Meeting Room** of the **Village Hall**.

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