

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL

**HELD ON MONDAY, 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2004, AT 7.45 p.m.**

### **PRESENT**

Mr Pusey, Mr Broadley, Mr Barnes, Mr Blakesley,  
Mr Grindley, Mr Hockley, Mr Kennedy, Mrs Thake  
District Councillor Mrs Roberts

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

3 members of the public

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Professor Milton and  
Mr Chilton

Mr Pusey welcomed all to the meeting.

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

Four amendments were necessary:

- (i) On page 91, paragraph 4, the first sentence should read “Mr Blakesley said that although the possibility for a mobile warden scheme had been published twice, once in the Laurentian and once in the Foxton PC Newsletter (*not twice in the Laurentian*), there had been no response ---- to another”.
- (ii) On page 92, paragraph 6, the first two sentences should be amended to read “Mr Davison said the visit to the site of the old school had been made as a result of the imminent closure of the Lady Adrian School. Some rebuilding was taking place at the Lady Adrian School and temporary accommodation was needed for a (*not this*) group of students”.
- (iii) On page 93, the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph should be amended to read “She pointed out ---- - this age group might (*not can*) cause serious problems for residents”.
- (iv) Several items had been omitted from the Planning Committee Report as follows:

#### **Additional Planning application considered at the meeting:**

Mr and Mrs Reeve	Application No. S/2495/03/F for an extension at 3 High Street. No recommendation.
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A letter had also been received from the Mr Hellingsworth, SCDC Trees and Landscape officer, enclosing a copy of his letter to Mr Shelford re tree Preservation Order N0 2/74 – Area A2 – Dead, Dying and Dangerous Trees. A site meeting had been held at which the tree belt adjacent to the A10, and included in the order, was inspected. Recommendations were made by Mr Hellingsworth for replanting.

Both these items needed to be added to the Minutes.

With these amendments and additions, Mr Hockley proposed that the Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2004, should be signed as a true record. Mr Broadley seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### *Care Network address*

Mr Pusey had spoken to Dorothy Woods (Chairman Fowlmere PC) about Fowlmere's progress with the provision of a Care Network scheme. As far as Foxton was concerned, any care provision would need to wait for at least twelve months, as the precept for 2004/05 had already been set without any provision for funding care services. So far he had not personally detected enough need in the village for such a service. Mrs Roberts said that Fowlmere PC would be approaching Thriplow PC with a view to combining with Thriplow in the provision of a care service; she added that she hoped Foxton would "keep the door open" on this matter.

### *The Old School Site*

Mr Pusey said that he had been disappointed by the lack of information from Mr Alan Davison (CCC Property Procurement Department) when he attended the last meeting of the parish council. There had been a considerable background research and exchange of correspondence since then between members of the Council and Mrs Roberts. Although Mrs Roberts had recommended holding a second public meeting about the site, Mr Pusey said he had decided to wait until the present meeting to raise the matter again. He had, however, sent Mr Davison an e-mail letter with a long list of questions, only one of which had so far been answered.

Mrs Roberts said she had found out that the students who might possibly come to Foxton had nothing to do with the Lady Adrian School. When the Lady Adrian School closed for building works, its pupils would be transferred to Littleton House at Girton, which was presently unoccupied, except for one group of pupils. She said it was this unit, formed of 15-16 year-old boys, for which the County Council is seeking accommodation. Although Mr Davison had said the need was only temporary, the Lady Adrian pupils would need Littleton House for at least two years. Mrs Roberts said that although the 15-16 year-old children were not criminals, they were described as having very troubled backgrounds and having "challenging" behaviour.

Mr Pusey confirmed Mrs Robert's remarks. He said he had spoken to a member of Girton PC, who said that the parish had not experienced any problems from these children (although they were accommodated further from the village than would be the case in Foxton). It was also reported that there had been problems in retaining staff to supervise this group. Mr Pusey said that, at full capacity, there had been 50 children at Littleton House giving an average of 8 children in each year.

Mr Pusey said he had also spoken to Stephanie Brittan (Mencap) about the type of children at Littleton House. She had also said that their behaviour was not criminal but that they were disturbed and difficult to teach.

Mrs Roberts said that the situation gave her great concern, and that the lack of information showed that Foxton had not been ruled out as accommodation for this group. She said that the County Council could not have many alternative sites to consider, and that there was not much time left to decide the matter. She thought that

a letter should be sent to the County Council asking whether Foxton had been ruled out or not.

Mrs Roberts had discussed with Mr Barnes what sum of money would be needed to bring the old school premises back into use and it was thought this would be in the region of £40,000.

Mr Blakesley suggested writing to the Director of Education, Ramon Wilkinson, and Mr Pusey undertook to do this. He said that Professor Milton had spoken to Kevin Manley, assistant director in the Education Department who had told him that Foxton was not the favourite solution, but only a remote possibility.

Dr Grindley said that he was more concerned that at the meeting in May the County Council had appeared to give a commitment to move forward jointly with the District and Parish councils and we were now seeing a lack of will on the part of the County Council, and that the District and Parish Councils had therefore been misled. No long-term solution for the future of the site had been arrived at. He also expressed disbelief that the County Council had not been able to find suitably qualified counsel to advise on the question of ownership of the site in all the time that had elapsed since the May 2003 meeting.

Mrs Roberts suggested that the council write separately on the matter to Professor Milton.

#### Road surface, Hardman Road

Mr Pusey said that he and Mr Broadley had met with Richard Hodgson and Geoff Barnes from the County Council. There had been problems over the ownership of the strips of land forming the vision splay at the junction with High Street, but a resolution was in sight. Representatives of Meldire (the developers) and CCC South Highways Division were due to visit the site to determine what work might be needed to the base course before the finishing course is added.

#### Wheelie bins for the Sports Pavilion

It was reported that these had still not been delivered.

#### CCTV Cameras at the Community Building

Mr Barnes said that the claim for a grant for CCTV cameras had been submitted a few days ago.

#### Councillors' Training Day

Mr Pusey had discussed with the clerk how to approach the question of issues arising from study of the "Standing Orders and Chairmanship" publication recently distributed to all councillors, and it had been agreed that they would both go through this and highlight matters for discussion. Mr Pusey proposed that a sub-committee be formed to work on the national Code for Parish Councils. It was agreed that Mr Pusey, Dr Grindley, Mr Hockley and the Clerk form the sub-committee and report back to the full council.

#### Minor Road Improvements

Mr Hockley said he had not yet received an answer from Phil Sharp (South Highways) about alternative funding for minor road improvements.

Correspondence – Item 5 (Sawston Sector Meeting)

It was confirmed that no one had been able to attend the Cambridgeshire Constabulary Sawston Sector meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February.

Correspondence – Item 8 (Ramblers' Association offer to work on Footpaths)

Mr Pusey and Mr Hockley had investigated the Foxton footpaths. No extra markers were needed at the Foxton end of the path from Foxton to Fowlmere, but a marker was needed at the Fowlmere end. The Clerk was asked to write to Fowlmere PC to ask them to follow this up. The clerk was also asked to write to Network Rail to find out who is responsible for the maintenance of the gate where the footpath from High Street reaches the Railway Station. The gate was reported as being in a dangerous condition.

Visitors' Questions – Parking in Fowlmere Road

Mr Blakesley said he had received an e-mail from PC Sutton that said he was not willing to be involved in parking problems in Fowlmere Road. He had once issued a parking ticket for obstructive parking that had subsequently been contested in court. The court had found there had been no offence. Mr Blakesley said the only way that parking could be prevented was to have yellow lines.

**NATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT**

This item had already been covered under “Matters Arising”.

**REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEES****RECREATION AND AMENITIES**

Mr Pusey reported, in the absence of Mr Chilton, as follows:

- Mr Chilton was planning to hold a meeting about all kinds of signs needed for the village.
- Guttering at the Community Building also needed to be considered, as there were problems with blockages.

Mrs Thake said she had heard that the hedging was ready for collection. However, collection would have to wait, as the ground had not yet been prepared. Mr Pusey asked the Recreation and Amenities Committee to assess the work required.

Skateboard/BMX Park

Mr Broadley said he was writing to interested parties, including St Laurence PCC and the sports clubs, inviting comments. Plans for the Skateboard/BMX Park would be on display on 1<sup>st</sup> May, together with information about the Dovecote/Meadow project and the extension to the Recreation Ground.

**FINANCE**

Mr Hockley gave details of the Bank Accounts as follows:

Current Account	£50.74
Deposit Account	£8810.63
(This included the following credits:	

Recreation Ground Trust	£3700.00	
Cambridgeshire CC contribution to grass cutting 2003	1014.82	
South Cambridgeshire DC recycling payment	<u>326.48</u>	
TOTAL	5041.30	)

Mr Hockley proposed that the following cheques be approved:

Foxton Village Hall Trust (Hire of Meeting Room 2/2/04 and Lounge 26/2/04)	£20.50
J E Burns (Salary February and March)	£414.07
J E Burns (Expenses January and February)	£51.98
V W Mead (refuse collection, January)	£20.34

Mr Hockley read out a letter from Philip Fawcett, writing on behalf of St Laurence PCC, asking whether the council would agree once again to make a contribution towards the upkeep of the churchyard this year. £450 had been allotted for this in the estimated expenditure for 2003/04, and he proposed that a cheque for this amount be approved.

Mr Broadley seconded both proposals and all were agreed that these payments, totalling £956.89, be made, and that £957 be transferred from the Deposit Account to the Current Account.

### **PLANNING**

Mr Broadley gave details of the planning matters that would be considered at the Planning Meeting in the Village Hall on 8<sup>th</sup> March at 8.30 pm as follows:

#### **Applications to be considered:**

Mr and Mrs Broadbent	Application No. S/0237.04/F for the erection of a dwelling following demolition of existing bungalow at Orchard End, 31 Shepreth Road.
J Welch	Application No. S/0292/04/F for erection of light industrial and storage units at 27 Royston Road.

#### **Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness:**

A Miller	Application No. S/0343/04/LDC for use as coach depot for up to 15 coaches including shed and 2 portable buildings for coach preparation/maintenance and parts/office at 22 Cambridge Road.
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Mrs Roberts said she would try to get more information on the last application.

### **RECREATION GROUND TRUST REPORT**

Mr Pusey reported that there had been no further meeting of the Trustees and nothing further to report on the Heads of Terms. Mr Pusey said he had reminded Mr Hodgson about outstanding matters.

Mr Pusey said that a plan of the Recreation Ground was needed giving precise details, and said that Jon Eggar (CCC) would provide one.

The value of the sinking fund was needed for this year's accounts.

### **DOVECOTE/MEADOW PROJECT**

Mr Pusey said that there had been agreement on the Heads of Terms but the Friends of the Dovecote had failed to persuade the County Council to consider the site (because) a local nature reserve as they wished to protect their longer-term interest in the site. Mr Pusey said he hoped the project would soon move forward. A grant application would be made to Local Heritage Initiative. Planning Permission would also be needed for the Dovecote.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

- 1) Letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> January from Duxford Museum informing the council that the museum is unable to offer concessionary tickets.
- 2) Letter dated January 2004 from Cambridgeshire & Hertfordshire Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) re the Cam Catchment Sustainable Farming Project
- 3) Letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> February from CCC department of Environment and Transport re its scheme to improve bus stop flags and timetable cases.
- 4) Letter dated 11<sup>th</sup> February re the adoption of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2004.
- 5) Letter dated 13<sup>th</sup> February from SCDC Environmental Health Department re an application for Street Trading Consent on the A10 Foxton opposite Q8 Garage.
- 6) Copy letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> February from Pauline Fawcett (12 Cambridge Road) to SCDC Environmental Health Department expressing her concerns about the kebab van on the A10.
- 7) Joint letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> February from Cambridgeshire County Council/Peterborough City Council informing that the two councils have resolved to adopt the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Local Plan.
- 8) Letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> February from Hereward Housing with a questionnaire to assist them with monitoring contractors' performance.
- 9) Copy letter dated 19<sup>th</sup> February from Andrew Lansley to Meldreth PC enclosing copy letter from WAGN offering an additional stopping service (late night) for a trial period between 29<sup>th</sup> March and 22<sup>nd</sup> May.
- 10) Letter from Mr Cambridge asking permission to install a seat on the Recreation Ground and asking for brochures.
- 11) Letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February from residents of Maltings Lane advising of a large hole in the road.
- 12) Letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> February from the Standards Board for England enclosing copies of consultation papers which set out proposals to issue Regulations and guidance relating to the arrangements by which local authority monitoring

officers may investigate allegations of misconduct by members referred to them by ethical standards officers.

- 13) Letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> February from the Old Flying machine company offering a village flypast on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2004 (60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day) at a cost of £650 plus VAT.
- 14) Letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> February from CCC enclosing a poster re the periodic electoral review of Cambridgeshire. Draft recommendations may be seen on the given website. Comments to be received by 26<sup>th</sup> April.
- 15) Letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> February from Meldreth PC enclosing a poster re the late night stopping train for a trial period
- 16) Information from CALC including:
  - Bulletin, February 2004
  - Memo from the Boundary Commission re periodic electoral review of Cambridgeshire county Council – draft recommendations, with poster
  - “NALC Legal Note on Private Access to Council’s Recreation Ground
  - Details and booking form for seminar on law and meeting Procedures to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2004
  - Booklet giving information on attaining Quality Council Status
  - “Vital Villages Update” a publication of The Countryside Agency
  - Memo re VAT on Village Hall Building Works
  - Details of parish council training courses
- 17) Guided Bus Newsletter 3
- 18) Sawston Newsletter, January 2004 and memo on Neighbourhood Watch
- 19) Poster re Thriplow Daffodil Weekend (displayed)
- 20) Publicity material from Kensington Specialities (laser engraved pens) and Record Playground Equipment Ltd.

#### Renewal of License for Kebab Van on the A10 – items 5 & 6

There was a long discussion about items 5 and 6, which were both read out to the meeting. Mrs Fawcett, in the visitors’ seats, described the problems caused by the kebab van. These included lights shining in her bedroom window because the van parked opposite her house, instead of where it should be. The kebab van was also operating well outside the hours permitted by the license with resultant noise nuisance. A litterbin had not been provided, as the license required, and rats were in evidence. In addition customers were urinating on the site.

Mr Barnes said that the site used by the kebab van was not a proper lay-by. Mrs Roberts said that if the license were renewed, this should be on a temporary basis. Mr Grindley said that the van was causing a loss of amenity in a residential area and proposed that the council should recommend that the license should not be renewed. Mrs Thake seconded the motion and all were agreed. The Clerk was asked to write to Juli Stallabrass at the District Council setting out its reasons for objecting to renewal of the license.

#### Hole in Maltings Lane – item 11

The Clerk was asked to inform Mike Cooper at south Highways about holes in the road outside the village shop.

### **VISITORS' QUESTIONS**

Mrs Howell said that there would be a meeting of the Village Hall Management committee on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> March at 8 pm. She mentioned that the pavement round the War Memorial was in a poor condition. Mrs Howell also asked whether there had been any progress on the faulty streetlamp on the access road.

*The Clerk was asked to include the problem with the pavement when she contacted Mr Cooper about holes in the road. Mrs Thake said she would chase the matter of the streetlamp again.*

Mrs Howell pointed out that another month had gone by without any action on outstanding issues with the Community Building

*It was agreed that Mrs Howell and Mr Pusey would liase in writing to the County Council*

Mr Challis said he was glad that progress was being made with the surfacing of Hardman Road.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr Grindley said that the taps in the sports pavilion were failing and that the shower floor and doors had not been attended to.

Mrs Roberts said that South Cambridgeshire District Council had decided on a new logo. Initially, this would only be applied to stationery - letter headings etc – that would be needed when the council moved to its new premises.

Mrs Roberts also reported that it had been decided to put up Council House rents by 50p per week. There had been some disagreement in council about the level of the increase: Mrs Roberts would have preferred an increase of £1.25 per week, so that the increase necessary the following year would not be as great.

Mrs Thake said that the paper-recycling bin in the gravel car park was overflowing and rubbish was being thrown over the Recreation Ground. The Clerk said she had been chasing this matter up during the past month, as well as the non-emptying of the dog litterbin at the end of the Illingworth way footpath to the Recreation Ground and would continue her efforts by writing a formal letter.

Mr Barnes said that the road sign for Barrington Road had been damaged. Mrs Roberts said she would chase this up.

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

It was confirmed that this would beheld on **Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2004,at 7.45 pm in the Meeting Room.**



Mr Barnes offered his apologies in advance for this meeting. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10 pm.

**NB Annual Parish Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> April 2004 at 7.45 pm in the Meeting Room**