

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY, 4th APRIL 2011, AT 7.45 p.m.

PRESENT

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

County Councillor Susan van de Ven

District Councillor Deborah Roberts

IN ATTENDANCE

5 members of the public

APOLOGIES

Mr Allars, Dr McKeown

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 of interest.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

As no amendments were needed, Dr Oakley proposed that the Minutes of the previous Meeting, held on Monday, 4th April 2011, be signed as a true record. Dr Grindley seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

1. Youth Club meeting

Dr van de Ven said she had been unable to attend the local meeting last week but understood that it went well, and that the steering group, consisting of parish council representatives and County Youth Work coordinating officers, was in good shape. She thanked Mr Barnes for his support on behalf of Foxton Parish Council. The group would meet again on 4th May.

2. Fires and rubbish in Foxton Wood

Dr van de Ven said that the wood was on land owned by the County Council and the problems of fires being made and rubbish left there had been reported to CCC. She thought this would be an appropriate matter to take to the next Police Neighbourhood Panel meeting, later in the month.

3. City Centre free shuttle bus

A motion to council, on delaying for a year the discontinuation (due to commence on 17th April) of subsidies enabling the free Cambridge City Centre shuttle to run had been lost. The local county councillor for Cambridge City Centre is still working to try and get support from local businesses to enable a city centre shuttle but, if successful, this would not happen until later in the year.

4. Cemex application

Dr van de Ven said she would be attending the site visit on Friday and had asked to speak at the Development Control meeting next Monday. She had raised the parish council's concerns with planning officers, both on administrative oversights and substantive issues in the application itself. Dr van de Ven had also asked British Transport Police and Network Rail for data pertaining to level crossing violations by passing vehicles.

5. Station Birthday

Plans were developing well on the local history angle, but those working on this project were still looking for interested parties to help with garden-enhancement at the station - this would be a step toward station adoption, which would help strengthen the various rail campaigning issues. If a local business were to be interested, costs would be match-funded by First Capital Connect and there would be public recognition of the business sponsor. Dr van de Ven said she had some more ideas which she would be pursuing but would welcome input from other people.

6. County Local Transport Plan (LTP) to 2026

Dr van de Ven said that, astonishingly, the county council had adopted her request to include provision for prospective station adoption and Community Rail Partnerships at Foxton, Meldreth and Shepreth Station into this strategic plan. They had backed this up by a bid to the Sustainable Transport Fund for officer-support for such projects. All this helps towards the continuing rail campaigning issues. However, when the LTP came before council last week, she had felt forced to abstain on the vote as, whilst provision in principle was made for this and other good local transport initiatives, the provision of actual money went somewhere else – a £1million “Guided Bus Contribution.”

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

Mrs Roberts said that she would reserve most of her comments until planning matters were discussed later in the meeting. She reported that the possibility of a further council tenants' vote on housing transfers (raised by the tenant's participation group) had “been knocked on the head”.

PARISH PLAN UPDATE

Mr Hockley (from the visitors' seats) said that comments on the plan received from Dr Oakley and Dr Grindley had been incorporated. The clerk had received a call from Cambridgeshire ACRE offering support if needed.

REPORTS FROM THE WORKING PARTIES

RECREATION AND AMENITIES

Mr Bentinck reported as follows:

1. The annual letters sent to residents with properties adjoining the Recreation Ground (for renewal of permission to access the Recreation Ground from the rear of their properties) had been prepared and would be delivered.
2. Mr Bentinck said that he agreed that the Terms and Conditions document relating to the use of the Recreation Ground, drafted by Dr McKeown, would be best issued by Foxton Parish Council rather than the Recreation Ground Trust. *All were agreed on this and that a draft be sent to the clerk. It was also agreed that a less formal letter be sent this month to be followed by a letter setting out the Terms and Conditions.*
3. The Cricket Club had requested a contribution of £50 from the council towards the increased costs of the grass cutting it carried out on the Recreation ground. *This was agreed.*
4. Both the Cricket Club and the Football Club had put forward a request to apply fertiliser to the Recreation Ground. *The matter was referred to the R & A group. Mr Barnes strongly objected to the proposal to apply fertiliser.*
5. Matt Grey (Foxton Cricket Club) had expressed a wish to move the standpipe via underground piping so that it could be used to supply water to the cricket ground. *This was thought to be a bad idea.*
6. The “Rock on the Rec” event would be held on 4th September.
7. Mr Salmon’s invoice had been received for work carried out in March. This included painting of the Bowls Club fence, and dealing with the graffiti on the youth shelter. The graffiti artists had been identified and Melbourn Village College had been alerted. Staff at the college would talk to the pupils involved.
8. It was noted that Mrs Richardson’s memorial tree could now be planted at any time.

Dr Grindley then gave an update on the training lights project. He said that 90% of the SCDC grant money had been received. He also said that he now had quotations for the electricity supply and for the meter installation and had up to date information and application forms. Dr Grindley said he would like to submit an application form for a meter costing £92 per annum for a period of five years. *All were agreed.*

FINANCE

Mr Sutton reported as follows:

Moore Stephens had sent their annual letter regarding the audit for the current financial year. The payments and receipts ledger needed to be signed off and the accounts figures agreed for the Annual Return. Mr Sutton had circulated all councillors prior to the meeting with the relevant figures for the ledger and for the Annual Return document. All councillors were agreed that the ledger was correct and could be signed by the chairman and the clerk, and on the figures to be included in the Annual Return and that this document could also be signed. All documents relating to

the 2010/2011 financial year would be submitted to the Internal Auditor, Mike Matthews by mid-week.

Mr Sutton gave details of the Bank Accounts as follows:

Deposit Account	£1,000.96
Current Account	£8,105.87
(This included the RGT contribution to FPC of £1,340; the CCC contribution towards grass cutting for 2010 of £943.86 a VAT refund of £2,196.84 and £4,609 being 90% of the SCDC grant towards the training lights)	
Standard Life Bank	£30,344.92
(This included interest for the year of £344.92)	

Mr Sutton proposed the following cheques for payment:

St Laurence PCC (contribution to churchyard maintenance)	£650.00
Phillimore Garden Centre (paint & brushes)	£24.46
D Salmons Fencing Services (Village Warden duties, March, + extra work)	£346.00
British Telecommunications plc (adoption of kiosk)	£1.00
J E Burns (reimbursement for 5 reams printer/copier paper)	£23.95
Foxton Village Hall	
Re-issued and unpaid invoice 579 for hire of Meeting Room 4/1/10 and Lounge 26&27 1/10 (£34.00)	
& hire of Meeting Room 7/3/11 and Lounge 2, 21 & 23/3/11 (£46.00)	<u>80.00</u>

Dr Oakley seconded the proposal and all were agreed that these payments, totalling £1,125.41 should be made and that £6,925 be transferred from the Current Account to the Deposit Account.

HMRC's standard mileage allowance had been increased from 40p per mile to 45p per mile. All were agreed that the clerk's mileage allowance should be increased to 45p per mile.

Mr Sutton said that the S106 money relating to the Mortimers Lane development should be reinstated as a fund for general improvements in the village with the balance of the amount payable for the training lights project coming from the SCDC grant of £5,121, a further contribution of £4,910 from the Recreation Ground Trust and the balance, estimated at £2,817 depending on final contract figures, from FPC reserves.

Mrs Roberts pointed out that, as there was no need for an election for parish councillors this year in Foxton, there would be no election expenses.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr Grindley reported that the committee had met on 23rd March with six members of the public in attendance, when the following matters were considered:

1. Appeal by Amber Homes:

Amber Homes Ltd	Appeal against refusal of planning permission in respect of planning application No. S/1154/10/F
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The chairman explained in detail the history of the development at the site in Mortimers lane and the anomalies in the inspector's report on the earlier appeal. The committee had decided that in its view nothing had changed since the last application was considered by the parish council, and confirmed that the proposed single storey extension at No. 7 Mortimers Lane would be harmful to the setting of the listed buildings at No. 3 Mortimers Lane and its outlook. It had been agreed that the chairman would draft an appropriate response on this point for the clerk to submit.

(SCDC notified the council, in a letter dated 28th March, that planning application No.S/0045/11 for a revised design for a dwelling to include single storey and rear extensions at 7 Mortimers Lane would be considered by the full Planning Committee on 6th April following representations from Foxton PC and from Councillor Deborah Roberts.)

2. Chairman's report on the Power Garage, Cambridge Road:

The chairman had attended the SCDC Planning Enforcement sub-committee meeting on 16th March when the Power garage (formerly Q8) on Cambridge Road had been an agenda item. A report from officers set out the planning problems with this garage on the A10. Although the report had recommended no action, the head of Planning advised the sub-committee that this was not a feasible option. Activities on the site had been continuing for many years without planning permission and it was unacceptable that this situation should be allowed to go on in this way. A planning application had never materialised despite numerous requests and the issue of an enforcement notice some time ago. Dr Grindley advised the meeting that the parish council wished the business activities taking place on the site to be properly regulated and to have planning permission.

The meeting decided to instruct officers to request the proprietor to submit a planning application within 10 days from 16th March to regularise the car sales business currently being run from the site. Should no application be forthcoming, the Enforcement sub-committee would instruct officers to submit such an application as would relate to the land and facilitate the imposition of suitable conditions if approved.

3. Correspondence re the Burlington Press site:

The council had received a helpful letter from SCDC Executive Director, Steve Hampson, in response to the council's letter of 18th February, setting out its concerns about the new access and the basis on which SCDC had made its decisions. Mr Hampson said he would be happy to arrange a meeting with the relevant officers. Dr

DOVECOTE/MEADOW REPORT

There was no report this month.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

- 1) Letter dated 8th March from the CCC Head of Strategic Planning acknowledging the council's letter commenting on additional information regarding the Cemex proposal to partially infill the quarry void at Barrington Quarry Application No. S/1080/10/CW.
- 2) Letter dated 11th March from CCC enclosing documents re the Heavy Commercial Vehicles Strategy Consultation and inviting questions.
- 3) Letter dated 14th March from SCDC Executive Director, Steve Hampson, in response to FPC's letter of 18th February raising concerns about SCDC's response to its previous letter, which raised concerns in respect of SCDC's planning decisions re the new access to the Burlington Press.
- 4) Letter dated 17th March from D W Lighting offering its services for repair and replacement of streetlights.
- 5) Letter dated 21st March re Street Lighting maintenance and Energy – 1 July 2011 onwards setting out options for the FPC's street lighting.
- 6) Letter dated 25th March from the CCC Head of Transport Services re the outcome of the consultation regarding bus service changes for 17 April 2011: enclosing letter re changes to Stagecoach bus times effective from 17 April 2011.
- 7) Letter received 4th April from Mr Phillips re loss of wildlife on the Recreation Ground.
- 8) Information from CPALC including:
 - Memo re challenges for the parish and Town council sector as a consequence of the Government's Localism Agenda
 - Service level Agreement with members
 - Publications list, January 2011
- 9) "Local Council Review", Spring 2011 with Localism Bill special and article on audits.
- 10) Cambridgeshire ACRE "Community Action" magazine, Spring 2011
- 11) COPE newsletter, April 2011.
- 12) Cambridgeshire NHS Community Services "Keeping in Touch" magazine, Spring 2011.
- 13) Publicity material from Glasdon Direct and Barcham Trees (*to RM*).

VISITORS' QUESTIONS

Mr Challis asked about the fires that had been mentioned in Foxton Wood

Both Mr Bentink and Dr Oakley had been informed that fires had been lit there. Dr van de Ven had been informed and she, in turn, had contacted the relevant officer at the County Council who would look into the matter.

Mr Howard (referring to the letter mourning the loss of wildlife) said that the squirrel population had increased.

Mrs Roberts said there were now 96 deer in the neighbourhood.

Mr Manning warned that, on four separate occasions, juggernauts had difficulty entering Station Road from the A10 due to parked cars.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs Roberts thanked all councillors for their support during the past four years, with particular thanks to Mr Barnes and Dr Grindley on planning matters, and to the chairman and the clerk. Dr Oakley thanked Mrs Roberts.

Dr Oakley said that he was sorry that the council would be losing three members, Mr Bentinck, who had contributed four superb years in the demanding role of chairman of the Recreation and Amenities Group, Mr Allars, who had played a leading role in the formulation of the Parish Plan, and Dr McKeown who had made a valuable contribution as Correspondent for the Recreation Ground Trust.

The clerk made a plea to all councillors to return any outstanding circulating correspondence.

Mr Barnes said he would like to thank the departing councillors, District Councillor, Deborah Roberts, and County Councillor, Susan van de Ven for all their work in support of the council.

Mr Bentinck said it had been a pleasure and a privilege to work with the council.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the **Annual Parish Meeting** would be held on **Tuesday, 26th April 2011** and that the next meeting of the parish council would be the **Annual General Meeting** to be held on **Monday, 9th May 2011**. Both meetings would be held at **7.45pm** in the **Meeting Room** of the **Village Hall**.

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