

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON MONDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2006, AT 7.45 p.m.**

**PRESENT**

Mr Pusey, Mr Barnes, Mr Brooksbank, Mr Chilton, Dr  
Grindley, Mr Kennedy, Dr McKeown  
County Councillor David McCraith  
District Councillor Deborah Roberts

**IN ATTENDANCE**

1 member of the public

**APOLOGIES**

Mr Hockley and Miss Thake

Mr Pusey welcomed all to the meeting.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Two amendments were necessary:

1. On page 12 under “(Election to) Other Positions, Dr McKeown had not expressed an interest (as stated) in Police Liaison.
2. On page 21 under “Date and Time of Next Meeting”, due to a typographical error, the date of the next meeting had been given as 5<sup>th</sup> June 20056 and needed to be amended to 5<sup>th</sup> June 2006.

Mr Brooksbank proposed that, with these amendments, the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2006 be signed as a true record. Mr Barnes seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising.

**REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEES**

**RECREATION AND AMENITIES**

Mr Chilton reported as follows:

All the new seats were now in place. A letter had been received from Mr Phillips that said he and Mr Looker had now completed an old-fashioned metal/wood seat that had been bought from the residue of the money raised in the appeal for funds for the replacement David Mead seat. Mr Phillips said they would like to site the seat by the

large Ash tree at the entrance to the footpath from the Recreation Ground to Illingworth Way (the seat was at present at 30 Station Road).

*Mr Pusey said that a decision should be delayed as it was planned to have seats on the new extension to the Recreation Ground close to the proposed site. The clerk was asked to write a holding letter to Mr Philips.*

Mr Chiltern said that he had received a quotation last year from Cleanaway for spraying the Recreation Ground in the sum of £800. As this was very expensive, he had asked both Herald Contract Services and Ian Cambridge to supply a quotation.

Herald had advised two applications be made, for which they had quoted £350 and £250 (net of VAT). Ian Cambridge had quoted £600 by telephone. However, as there were concerns that Ian Cambridge might not have public liability insurance, and as Herald had quoted for two applications for the same price, Mr Chilton proposed accepting the quotation from Herald Contract Services. Mr Barnes seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

### Pump on The Green

Mr Chilton read out the detailed quotation from Eastern Counties Pumps Ltd for the restoration of this pump in the sum of £2418.00 excluding VAT.

*This was much more expensive than the council had expected. The clerk said that the pump was classified as a Listed Building. It was agreed that the clerk should contact the SCDC Conservation department to see whether a grant towards the cost of repair might be available.*

Eastern Counties Pumps Ltd had also offered to quote for the repair of the pump at the top of Mortimers Lane. *It was agreed that the clerk should invite the firm to quote for this as well.*

In conclusion, Mr Chilton reported that the base of the Foxton Sign had been damaged at one corner.

### FINANCE

In the absence of Mr Hockley, the clerk, Mrs Burns, gave details of the Bank Accounts as follows:

Deposit Account	£26,950.52
Current Account (This included £409.17 in payment for the David Mead seat)	£459.41
Cambridge Building Society	£13,401.13

The clerk read out the list of cheques for approval as follows:

Foxton Village Hall Trust (hire of meeting room 3 & 24/4 and Lounge 18/4)	£34.50
Glasdon Manufacturing Ltd (Phoenix seat and ground-fix)	£480.77
Serviceteam Ltd (grass-cutting, April)	£645.16
Simon R War (architectural services & reimbursement for planning fee)	£1,536.25
D Salmons Fencing Services (installation of 3 seats)	£30.00
Viking Direct (envelopes, folders & labels)	£31.42

Viking Direct (pack 50 suspension files with labels) £23.93

V W Mead (refuse collection, ground maintenance, repairs and expenses, May) £94.68

A transfer of £2468 from the Deposit Account to the Current Account would be needed to cover these payments.

Mr Pusey proposed that these payments be approved and that the transfer of £2468 be made from the Deposit Account to the Current Account. Mr Kennedy seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

### **PLANNING**

Mr Barnes reported as follows:

#### **Planning permission refused:**

Mr and Mrs Gray	Application No. S/0238/06/LB for the demolition of outbuildings, and internal and external alterations at 1 High Street The proposed conversion of a listed barn would be detrimental to its character
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#### **Planning permission granted:**

Mr and Mrs M Kendall	Application No. S/2375/05/F for an extension at 22 Barrington Road Usual conditions
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S C Frewin	Application No. S/0388/06/F for alterations to outbuilding and erection of garden wall and gate at 65 High Street Usual conditions
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Mr and Mrs M Matthews	ApplicationNo. S/0572/06/F for a bay window at 11 Caxton Lane Usual condition
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#### **Planning application considered at the meeting:**

Mr and Mrs Gray	ApplicationNo. S/0896/06/F for extension and carport at 1 High Street
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This application was discussed extensively. Mrs Roberts summarised the previous applications. The first application for alterations to the barn had been refused and was being appealed. There were two further applications for internal changes to the cottage and the present one, which would involve the demolition of the barn.

Mrs Roberts said that at a delegation meeting a fortnight ago, it had been mentioned that internal works being carried out on the cottage were a cause for concern to the neighbours. Planning officers had paid a second visit and confirmed that the internal works were purely repair work. Conservation officers at the meeting felt that proposed changes to the cottage were acceptable, but thought that both back doors should be retained, even if one were left for external show only and not for use. This

application for changes to the cottage was likely to be given delegated approval. She said that planning officers were against demolition of the barn.

Mr Barnes proposed that the council recommend refusal of the application for the same reason as for the first application and because the council objects to the demolition of the barn. Mr Brooksbank seconded the proposal and all were agreed. The clerk was asked to return the consultation form expressing these views.

Mr Barnes said that there had been consideration of further recommendations regarding the tree application (11A The Green, first discussed at the FPC meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> May) after the last Recreation Ground Trust meeting. The clerk had been asked to contact Mr Hellingsworth to say that the council were in agreement with his recommendations.

Mr Challis (in the visitors' seats) said that he had always thought that 1 High Street was the perfect small cottage and that it would be difficult to know what to do with it when it changed hands. He thought it would be a great pity to do anything to the cottage that would spoil its charm.

### **POLICE LIAISON REPORT**

There was no report from Miss Thake. However, Mr Pusey said that he had received a report of paint having been sprayed on the seats on the Recreation Ground.

### **RECREATION GROUND TRUST/COMMUNITY PROJECT**

Mr McCraith said that he had not had an opportunity to talk to Bill Tarling (CCC) about the outstanding snagging issues relating to the Community Building.

Mr Pusey said that Stuart Benham (School Governor) had been in touch with the funders about the security cameras. Mr Pusey asked whether anyone had noticed whether the defective light at the corner of the pavilion had been repaired, but no one had noticed.

Mr Kennedy said the repainting of the exterior of the Community Building was scheduled for mid-July.

Mr Pusey reported that the extension to the Recreation Ground had been registered.

The Trust had been in correspondence with the Charity Commission about the sub-projects for the extension and now had an understanding of the type of lease required. The Charity Commission was insisting on a lease for the Cricket Club and John Callin had agreed to do a valuation.

Finally, Mr Pusey said that the County Council had accepted liability for the provision of a water supply to the extension and had placed an order with the Cambridge Water Company.

### **Recreation Ground Extension Committee**

Mr Brooksbank said the main issue had been the resolution by the Charity Commission of the terms of occupation agreements that the Trustees were legally permitted to offer each sub-project, the already commented on. Foxton Gardens Association had said it anticipated the area would be sprayed by the end of May. As it appeared the spraying had not been carried out, Mr Brooksbank said he would follow

this matter up. The committee had prepared and distributed a questionnaire throughout the village designed to establish the degree of support for the proposed utilisation of the area.

Mr Kennedy said that he was pursuing Meldre, Mills and Douglas and Mr Barnes at the County Council about the adoption of Hardman Road and Edis Way.

### **DOVECOTE/MEADOW PROJECT**

Mr Pusey said that work had begun on restoring the plaque and the firm carrying out the work would be returning in a few weeks' time.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The clerk summarised the correspondence received in the past month, which is given in full below:

- 1) Letter dated 10<sup>th</sup> May from East of England Regional Assembly re update of Planning and Transport Database.
- 2) Letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> May from CCC South Highways Division to inform that CCC proposes to resurface the footways in West Hill Road.
- 3) Memorandum dated 18<sup>th</sup> May from Cambridgeshire Constabulary warning of an increase in burglaries targeted at older people.
- 4) Letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> May from CCC Office of Environment and Community Services on tackling the growing challenge of congestion in Cambridgeshire: FPC representative invited to briefing at Shire Hall on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> June from 5.45pm–7.45pm.
- 5) Letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> May from CCC Office of Environment and Community Services in response to FPC's complaint about the implementation of the concessionary fares scheme in South Cambridgeshire.
- 6) Letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> May from the Energy Saving Trust to introduce the services the organisation provides and enclosing article for publication in parish magazines.
- 7) Letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> May enclosing an invitation to attend a consultation event at SCDC on Gypsy and Traveller site provision in South Cambs on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> June.
- 8) Letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> May from Tony Hull, CCC Environment and Community Services Area Lighting engineer, confirming that his department has obtained details of the lighting at the Community Building (7 units including a double-arm column) and that the information has been passed to Mr Sproston, who will be able to advise on maintenance costs.
- 9) Notes of the meeting of the Barrington Liaison Group held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2006 (notes received May 2006).
- 10) Letter received 2<sup>nd</sup> June from CCC Office of Environment and Community Services re the development in heavy commercial vehicle controls and the introduction of a new online HCV Route map.

- 11) Letter received May 2006 (dated 7/4/06) enclosing a Refuse Duty of Care document for 2006-07 and a form for completion.
- 12) Letter received May 2006 from Charter 88 requesting support for its campaign for a modern democracy empowering citizens and local councils: enclosing newsletter.
- 13) Information from CALC including:
  - Memo and details re a working lunch on registering parish and town council land to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> July
  - Bulletin, April
- 14) Letter dated 19<sup>th</sup> May from Citizens Advice Bureau requesting help in displaying poster for “Carers’ Week”, 12-17 June.
- 15) “Local Works” (Campaign for Sustainable Communities Bill) newsletter, Spring 2006.
- 16) Memo from SCDC enclosing information relating to Arts events and activities in the district over the coming month.
- 17) Copy of South Cambridgeshire directory of services for helping those affected by domestic abuse.
- 18) South Cambs magazine, Summer 2006 and leaflet on water.
- 19) Publicity material from Bank of Ireland and Adventure Playgrounds Ltd.

There was some discussion about item 7, and Mrs Roberts urged the parish council to be represented at the event.

Dr McKeown raised the matter of an e-mail from Mr Howard that had been circulated to all councillors about the maintenance of the wooded area to the rear of the Illingworth Way houses bordering the Play Area. It was felt that some valid points had been raised and that the recreation and Amenities Committee should review the maintenance of this area, and that, in the meanwhile, the clerk should write to Mr Howard to say the matter was under review.

Mr Pusey said that the road by Vicarage Corner had been resurfaced and that he had received a complaint from Mr Boreham about a puddle in front of his property. Mr Cooper (CCC South Highways Department had offered to meet Mr Pusey and Mr Boreham to discuss the quality of the work. It was thought that a drain had been covered by tarmac.

Mr Pusey had also heard from Mr Lloyd about which land in the area of The Green it was the parish council’s responsibility to maintain. Mrs Roberts had researched this matter and Mr Lloyd had sent Mr Pusey some more correspondence on the subject.

### **VISITORS’ QUESTIONS**

Mr Challis said that although he was usually against large expenditure by the council, and £2000 was a lot of money, in the case of the village pump he would put in a plea for the parish council seriously to consider its restoration

*It was agreed that the clerk would make enquiries about possible grant money towards the restoration from the District Council.*

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Dr McKeown said that he had been heartened to see in “The Laurentian” Mr Challis’s attempt to raise awareness in the village of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Mr Kennedy said that the hedge near the shop in the High Street was so overgrown that it was preventing passage along the footway. It was agreed that there were a number of places in the village where overgrown hedges were a problem and Mr Challis was asked if he would include an item on this in his report of the meeting in the next “Laurentian”.

The clerk reported on her site meeting with Mr Cooper last Friday. They had met Mr Kendall near the A10/Barrington Road junction to discuss the siting of the 30mph signs. Mr Kendall had suggested that motorists would heed these signs better if they were moved further from the junction to give drivers more time to see them. Mr Cooper pointed out the difficulties of doing this, for instance the need for an electricity supply to the signs. However, he said he could recommend that “repeaters” (smaller versions of the 30mph signs) be placed along the approach to the houses and possibly a red patch in the road with a painted 30mph sign like that at the junction of the A10 and Station Road. The clerk had then gone with Mr Cooper to look at the problems outside the village shop and was joined by Colin Black. It was agreed that some resurfacing work was needed at this site, and that in order to do a proper job cones would be needed to prevent parking at the shop on the day the work was carried out. Mr Cooper commented that drainage in the High Street was “on the edge”.

Mr Barnes said that the drainage in the High Street was in need of an upgrade. He also said that the planks of the bus-stop seat opposite 7 High Street were rotting through.

Finally, Mrs Roberts reported on changes at the district council following the recent local elections. Liberal Democrat councillors would no longer be taking up places on the cabinet and had adopted a stance of official opposition: they were also demanding proportionality on committees. The changes meant that the cabinet now had only seven members.

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

It was confirmed that this would be held on **Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2006 at 7.45pm** in the **Meeting Room** of the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.