

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL

**HELD ON MONDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008, AT 7.45 p.m.**

### **PRESENT**

Dr Grindley, Mr Allars, Mr Barnes, Mr Bentinck, Mrs Macintyre, Dr McKeown,  
District Councillor Mrs Roberts

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

3 members of the public

### **APOLOGIES**

Dr Oakley

Dr Grindley welcomed all to the meeting.

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

As District Councillor Deborah Roberts was unable to stay for very long, Dr Grindley asked her to give the council an update on matters she had been asked to follow up, before commencing the main agenda.

#### **Former Q8 Garage**

Dr Roberts had pointed out the 15 Lotus cars on the garage forecourt to SCDC members during the course of their visit to view the site relating to the High Street application and asked David Rush to speak to Saffron Garner, the planning officer concerned with this matter. She had also spoken to Ms Garner herself and said that this matter had been allowed to go on unresolved for too long a period.

#### **36 High Street**

Having seen the site where an extension was proposed at 36 High Street, SCDC elected members could not support the application, despite planning officers' recommended approval, as it was felt to be detrimental to neighbouring properties, particularly the Post Office. The application was refused by eight votes to three.

#### **Foxton Dynamos**

Mrs Roberts had spoken to both Jane Thompson and Jane Lampshire about the possibility of grant funding for Foxton Dynamos, but had been told there was no longer any funding for this sort of project within the SCDC budget.

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Referring to the former Q8 garage, Mr Barnes said that he understood, from a letter sent by Gareth Jones in July last year, that the garage had been served with a Notice of contravention of Planning.

He also mentioned demolition of a building at College Farm. Mrs Roberts said she had not yet followed this up but would do so.

## **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

There was one typographical error on page 21, in the last sentence of the Planning Committee Report where the word, “let” should be replaced by the word “left”. With this amendment, Dr Grindley proposed that the Minutes of the previous Meeting, held on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008, be signed as a true record. Mrs Macintyre seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### *Overgrown Hedges*

Mr Challis (in the visitors’ seats) confirmed that he had submitted an item about overgrown hedges to “The Laurentian”.

### *R & A Report - Youth Initiative*

Dr McKeown reiterated that, as Mrs Roberts had said, there would be no funding forthcoming from the District Council. Marcus Kohler had suggested that the Parish Council might like to provide the funds for either a set of football shirts or for half of the cost of new goal posts. Dr McKeown proposed that the council donate £250 (as an S137 payment) to Foxton Dynamos. Mr Allars seconded the proposal and all were agreed. Dr Grindley offered to add £100 to this as a personal donation.

## **PARISH PLAN**

Mr Allars reported that both leaflets and questionnaires had now been printed. A copy of the 10-page questionnaire was circulated for councillors to see. He said the software previously purchased had proved very helpful in the preparation of the questionnaire. The next big task would be the collection and analysis of the responses. There had been an item in “The Laurentian” and another was planned for August.

## **REPORTS FROM THE WORKING PARTIES**

### ***RECREATION AND AMENITIES (R &A)***

Mr Bentinck said that the R & A Working Party had held an outdoor meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> June, starting at Foxton Bottom, with himself, Rachael Macintyre, David McKeown and David Allars in attendance.

#### **1. Grass cutting**

Veolia was unlikely to quote for the next contract, as it would not be viable without the Uttlesford contract, which they might lose this year. The firm see a possible 3 fold increase!

The number of cuts as at 6/6/08 were: 9 on the Recreation Ground, and 5 on the verges

*Mr Bentinck had checked with Mr Chilton but he had no maps showing grass cutting areas and frequency of cuts. It would seem there is no definitive copy of the current cutting schedule so that the working party would need to produce one from scratch.*

The Working Party walked the village whilst making considerations for cutting plans for 2009 onwards: it was building a list of parties interested in quoting for the next grass cutting contract.

**2. Village Warden Report**

In June, David Salmons had cut back the nettles and brambles on the path from the Dovecote to the school. (This should be done by Veolia according to the council's plans but they disagree.) Children were making water bombs with balloons and filling them in the churchyard. There had been further instances of graffiti. There were grass cuttings and fallen fence panels on the Recreation Ground to the rear of 38 Illingworth Way. The hedge at the property adjoining the Post Office was very overgrown and the owner's Porsche car was being parked at the junction of Station Road with the High Street.

*Mr Bentinck suggested that the council might send a letter. Mr Allars said he had left a polite note on the Porsche and since then it had not been parked at the junction.*

*It was agreed that the clerk would liaise with Mr Bentinck to write letters to residents whose hedges needed to be cut back*

Mr Salmons' latest invoice was for 2 months and was fully itemised.

**3. Trees**

The Limes in Foxton Bottom were becoming a problem and the R & A working party needed to find the best way to keep them under check. Chris Hindley expressed concern over the removal of the tree at the edge of the Recreation Ground car park. His e-mail was printed-out and passed to Mr Barnes who is dealing with that particular tree.

**4. RoSPA report/Play Area/Bike Park**

The double gates onto the Play Area had been padlocked: one key was in the shop he held the other.

Mr Bentinck requested the return of the Correspondence envelope with the RoSPA report.

**5 Signs**

Preparation of a sign or signs was needed for Bike Park/Allotments. Dr McKeown would liaise with Rob Brookesbank over the format.

**6. Letter re access to the Recreation Ground**

Non-respondents as at 29/05 were 38 & 46 Illingworth Way and 30,32,34 St Laurence Road. *It was agreed that these residents should be contacted again?*

**7. Any other business**

The syringe found by Mr Salmons on the Recreation Ground did not include the needle.

Mr Bentinck had visited Mr and Mrs Price in Fowlmere Rd and advised them that their verge had been used as a parking space for many years - hence its appearance - and that FPC would have no objection to them restoring it to a grass verge at their own cost.

Youth Shelter

It had not been possible to agree a date when all interested parties could meet and this was a priority. Following the meeting the working party would seek quotations from 3 suppliers, including the company at Gamlingay.

During the working party's walk through the village, members noticed a number of youths in the Bowls Club and moved them on. They claimed they had permission but the group didn't ask who had given this. Subsequently there had been damage reported to the benches in the Bowls Club.

**FINANCE**

Dr Grindley gave details of the Bank Accounts as follows:

Deposit Account	£11,291.01
(This included interest for the period 3/3/08-1/6/08 of £42)	
Current Account	£9,051.34
(This included the RGT payment of £9,000 to FPC for works on the Recreation Ground extension)	
Cambridge Building Society	£14,395.69

Dr Grindley proposed the following cheques for payment:

R Barnes (grass cutting around allotments 2007)	£60.00
S G Services (design & production of marketing material for Parish Plan)	£15.00
D Allars (reimbursement for printing 600 Foxton Parish Plan leaflets)	£91.55
daneTech Ltd (supply & delivery of 2 No. Fox standpipe enclosures)	£514.65
S Bentinck (reimbursement for rubber gloves, dog bags and padlock)	£12.78
FVHT (hire of Lounge on 12, 22 & 28 <sup>th</sup> May)	£28.50
Herald Contract Services (2 x spraying Recreation ground)	£763.75
D Salmons (Village Warden duties May/June)	£176.00
Lawrence Printers (printing of 500 Foxton Parish Plan questionnaires)	£854.23
J E Burns (salary June/July)	£634.64
J E Burns (expenses May/June)	£60.34
HMRC (tax on clerk's salary for 3 months to 5/7/08)	£141.20

Dr McKeown seconded the proposal and all were agreed that these payments, totalling £3,352.64, should be made and that £5,645 should be transferred from the Current Account to the Deposit Account.

**PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr Barnes said he was glad that Mrs Roberts had succeeded in getting consideration of the application for an extension at 36 High Street transferred to a full planning meeting.

Mr Barnes said that the committee had met on 17<sup>th</sup> June. Present were himself, Dr Grindley and Mrs Macintyre. No members of the public attended the meeting.

The committee had looked at details of the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan and had submitted a detailed response on behalf of the council.

The committee had also considered two planning applications as follows:

Mr M Bore	Application No. S/0828/08/F for an extension at 27 West Hill Road Approved
S & J Ausland	Application No. S/0905/08/F for an extension at 21 Edis Way No recommendation

Mr Barnes then reported as follows:

**Planning permission granted:**

Mr M Bore	Application No. S/0828/08/F for an extension at 27 West Hill Road Two conditions
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**Planning Applications considered at the present meeting:**

Mr Howell	Application No. S/1015/08/F for a conservatory at 25 Illingworth Way Approved
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Tree Application

Mrs B Black	Application ref. C/11/17/030/04 to remove branches from two silver Birch trees and cutting back others The council agreed
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A further planning application had been received for an extension and alteration at 5 Fowlmere Road. As this application had been received too late to be included in the agenda for the present meeting, it would be considered at a meeting of the Planning committee on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> July

Mr Barnes said a letter had been received from Gareth Jones, SCDC Planning Services, concerning public participation on South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework (LDF) Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD). The documents included:

- Development Affecting Conservation Areas SPD
- Open Space in new Developments SPD
- Public Art SPD
- Trees and Development Sites SPD

The documents would be considered at the next meeting of the Planning Committee and a response prepared to put before councillors at the next council meeting.

In conclusion, Mr Barnes mentioned that the Moore's Farm site for which planning permission had been granted for a housing development was again for sale.

## **POLICE LIAISON**

Mr Barnes had no incidents to report. He said that the next panel meeting would be held on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> July at Bassingbourn. He invited members of the public to let him know if they had any concerns that they would like to be aired at this meeting.

## **DOVECOTE/MEADOW PROJECT**

Mrs Macintyre reported that the Dovecote had been open to the public on Open Gardens Day manned by Mrs Cairns. Rob Mongovern was not sure whether the swift boxes were yet occupied.

## **RECREATION GROUND TRUST (RGT) REPORT**

Dr McKeown reported that there had been no meeting of the RGT since the last report to the FPC. Progress has been made on a number of issues.

Lease documents had been delivered to both Foxton Cricket Club (FCC) and Foxton Pre-School. The RGT Trustees had signed and returned their copy of the FCC lease to the solicitors. In a letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> June, the solicitor reported receipt of this but noted she had not received copies from the FCC. The copy of the Foxton Pre-School lease would be signed after the present meeting

The Recreation Ground Extension Committee (RGEC) had decided to wait for all sub-projects to be completed before having an Opening ceremony. A single board, recognising the contributions of all sponsors, would be erected at that time.

The standpipe for the Pre-School Garden had been fitted but was currently suffering from a leak in the delivery pipe. The pre-School Group had raised this with the Foxton Gardens Association as the leak is on the allotment site.

The “Awards for All” organisation accepted the explanation given to them of how their grant money had been spent.

The Trustees were in the process of opening savings accounts at NatWest and Abbey to receive the bulk of the Trust’s investment capital.

Dr McKeown said that the clerk had prepared an invoice to Foxton Pre-School for its contribution to the development of the Recreation Ground extension.

### **Foxton Community Building**

Dr Grindley reported that repairs to the pavilion roof had been carried out and had not yet been inspected. The main village hall roof would also be inspected for leaks. Dr Grindley had the invoice for the repairs to the pavilion roof and this would be passed to Dr Oakley, the RGT Treasurer.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

- 1) Letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> June from Gareth Jones, SCDC Planning Services, public participation on South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework (LDF) Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) including:
  - Development Affecting Conservation Areas SPD
  - Open Space in new Developments SPD
  - Public Art SPD
  - Trees and Development Sites SPD

*Documents passed to CG*
- 2) Letter dated 10<sup>th</sup> June from South Cambs Crime and Disorder Reduction partnership (CDRP) enclosing a questionnaire for completion before 29<sup>th</sup> August. *Passed to GB*
- 3) Letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> June from County Councillor Fred Yeulett (Chairman of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Post Office Network Change Group) re Post Office closures in Cambridgeshire enclosing a strategy document and guidance notes.
- 4) Letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> June from the Cambridge Cycling Campaign enclosing a copy of the publication “Cycling 2020”
- 5) Letter dated 1<sup>st</sup> July enclosing consultation documents from BT regarding consultation about closure of telephone boxes in south Cambridgeshire villages.
- 6) Agenda for meeting of the Cemex Barrington Cement Plant Liaison Group meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June.
- 7) CCC publications “Cambridgeshire’s Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2007-08 – a summary” and “The Childcare Picture – Bassingbourn, Melbourn, Comberton and Gamlingay Locality”
- 8) South Cambs magazine, Summer 2008.
- 9) “Local Council Review”, July 2008.
- 10) “Clerks and Councils Direct”, July 2008.
- 11) Information from CALC including:
  - Details of “Chairman’s professional Development Stages I and II” workshop to be held in June, July and August
- 12) Information from Cambridgeshire ACRE including:
  - “Community Action” magazine, Summer 2008
- 13) Invitation from Barcham Trees to attend seminars on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> July on the role of Local Authority Tree Officers.
- 14) Publicity material from AON (office insurance for clerks), Monsterplay (play equipment), Glasdon and J Parker (wholesale plants). *J Parker catalogue passed to RM*

A letter had been received from Mr Phillips shortly before the meeting complaining about the behaviour of young people on the Recreation Ground and this was passed to Mr Bentinck.

### **VISITORS' QUESTIONS**

Mr Challis asked how the youth shelter project would be taken forward.

*Mr Bentinck said the next step would be consultation with all the interested parties.*

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Referring to correspondence item 5 (re the closure of BT telephone kiosks), Dr McKeown asked how the council should alert parishioners to the proposal to remove the Fowlmere Road telephone kiosk near Hillfield. He proposed a letter be delivered to those households most likely to be affected and this was agreed.

Mr Allars then reported on the Barrington Liaison Group meeting he had attended at the Cemex plant on 26<sup>th</sup> June as follows:

Those attending included six Cemex employees, local environmental officers and twelve parish council representatives. There had been an incident in January when, due to the presence of a very small quantity of mercury in the emissions, two statutory reports had been required.

It was noted that although emissions were less in total when the fuel used contained a greater proportion of Climafuel, the smaller particulate size in the resulting emissions was more harmful to the lungs.

As a bridge at Haslingfield was due to be demolished, there would be an increased number of lorries going to the plant via Barrington Road.

Mr Allars said that Donarbon, the firm producing the fuel for Cemex and operating on the Cemex site, needed to enlarge its plant.

Mrs Macintyre said that the road surface in Barrington Road was appalling and the clerk was asked to contact Mr Cooper of CCC South Highways Department about this.

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

It was confirmed that this would be held on **Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.25 pm.