

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON THURSDAY, 9th AUGUST 2012, AT 7.45 p.m.

PRESENT

Dr Oakley, Dr Grindley, Mrs Macintyre, Mrs
McFadzean and Mr Sutton

District Councillor Deborah Roberts

IN ATTENDANCE

2 members of the public

APOLOGIES

Mr Barnes, Mr Bore, Mr McCreery and Mr Elliott

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

One amendment was needed:

Under the Planning Report (p 32 application from Mr Mervyn Manning) the decision on the application should read, "Approval recommended" – *not* "Approved".

With this amendment, Dr Oakley proposed that the Minutes of the previous Meeting, held on Monday, 2nd July 2012, should be signed as a true record. Mrs McFadzean seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

It was confirmed that a meeting with Keith Miles, SCDC Planning Policy Manager had been held the previous evening when Mr Miles had outlined the procedure for developing a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish and answered questions from councillors attending the meeting.

REPORTS FROM THE WORKING PARTIES

In the absence of Mr McCreery, Mrs Macintyre read out his report:

Play Area

The grant of £12,500 had been received from SCDC.

A proposal for a maintenance package with Kompan would be put to the September meeting.

Half Pipe

The survey of the Primary School classes, and the responses to the notice in the July Laurentian, were strongly in favour of the project. A fund-raising committee had been formed and an open meeting was planned for Tuesday, 11th September at 7.30pm.

Litter Pick

The litter pick was held on Sunday 15th July. Many thanks were due to all those who helped complete the job in under two hours.

Solar Lights

The new solar light for the Dovecote meadow had been ordered.

Trees

David Salmon would be carrying out various trimming and tidying up work during the month.

Cricket Club

It had been reported earlier this year that the Cricket Club was raising funds for a new roller. The club had now been successful with their grant application and had sufficient funds to complete the purchase through the Parish Council. Mr McCreery requested that the Parish Council purchase the roller on the Cricket Club's behalf on receipt of their funds (c. £6,000 plus VAT). An agreement would be drawn up to ensure that the Cricket Club would take on all liabilities for insurance, repair etc. of the roller.

These proposals were approved at the meeting subject to the agreement with the Cricket Club

Mrs Roberts asked whether the council had any plans for the telephone kiosk that it had acquired.

Dr Oakley said that it was intended to move the kiosk to another location before any plans for its use were decided. Although the telephone equipment had been removed there was the difficulty of removing the electrical connections. It appeared likely that the council would need to engage a firm of electricians for this task.

FINANCE

Mr Sutton said that, since the last meeting, the invoice in the sum of £51,599.90 for the new play area equipment had been paid and that with the receipt of the SCDC grant of £12,500 in addition to previous grants and donations of £21,400 and a further VAT refund of £8,600.25, it had been possible to rebuild the reserves. The difference of £9,099.65 represented the whole of the Section 106 monies spent on the Play Area improvement project plus a balance of £601.66. Mr Sutton said this was a very satisfactory result following the largest item of council expenditure for many years. Small penalties had been incurred on the 10-day Notice Account due to early withdrawals.

Mr Sutton gave details of the bank accounts as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Deposit Account | £13,482.80 |
|-----------------|------------|

| | | |
|---|-----------------|------------|
| Current Account | | £56.71 |
| Barclays Bank Premium 10-day Notice Account | | |
| | £30,808.44 | |
| Less: transfer to Current A/C 3/7/12 | (17,100.00) | |
| Less: transfer to Current A/C 4/7/12 | (600.00) | |
| Add: monthly interest | 12.29 | |
| Less: penalty for early withdrawal | (5.27) | |
| Add: transfer from Current A/C 6/8/12 | <u>9,400.00</u> | £22,515.46 |

Mr Sutton proposed the following cheques for payment:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Phillimore Garden Centre (Cuprinol, paint etc) | £94.98 |
| Peter Sutton (reimbursement for gift of wine to internal auditor) | £53.48 |
| CGM (Cambridge) Ltd (grass cutting, June) | £228.00 |
| Foxton Cricket Club (weed killing/spraying on RG@ £225 & 1 st instalment for grass cutting @ £300) | £525.00 |
| R McCreery (reimbursement for 12 Hi-viz waistcoats @ £24.81 + 2 solar lights @ £35.99) | £60.80 |
| Foxton Village Hall (Hire of Pavilion & Meeting Room [re Jubilee] 4/6 @ £126, Meeting Room 11/6 & 2/7, Foyer 26/6 and Lounge 11/7) | £168.75 |
| D Salmons (Village Warden duties June/July and extra work) | £255.00 |

Mrs Macintyre seconded the proposal and all were agreed that these payments, totalling £1,386.01 should be made and that £1,385 should be transferred from the Deposit Account to the Current Account.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr Grindley said that the committee had met on 11th July 2012. Four members were present together with District councillor, Deborah Roberts and one member of the public.

The following matters were considered:

Appeal APP/W0530/A/12/2168837 (Mr Brian Cooper, 2 Hall Close)

Dr Grindley read from the appeal decision by Planning Inspector, which was dismissed for three main reasons:

- The effect of the proposal on the character and appearance of its surroundings;
- The effect on protected trees;
- The effect of the proposal in relation to highway safety, with vehicular access onto the A10.

At this point in the proceedings the public was asked to leave the meeting.

Correspondence

- E-mail had been received from John Koch, Development Control Officer at SCDC, noting that Endurance Estates had asked for pre-application advice on the proposed development of land behind Station Road. The e-mail noted that

Endurance Estates had carried out consultations with local residents, but that the parish council had refused to enter into dialogue with them; Mr Koch suggested that the Planning Committee reconsider its decision not to involve them before a planning application had been submitted.

Dr Grindley had drafted an e-mail in response, noting the District Council's advice that the proposed development was contrary to planning policy, and then responding to its request for parish council advice on what community support there might be for such a development. The committee had decided that the wording should be strengthened to show that rather than not being involved in the process, as implied by Endurance Estates, the council had actively sought the views of residents (by reference to the public meeting and the questionnaire) which should be reported on and enclosed together with the results of analysis. Amendments to the draft were suggested t Dr Grindley undertook to do this and circulate the amended draft to committee members and to the clerk.

- E-mail from Mark Howell, SCDC Housing Portfolio holder, to District Councillor Deborah Roberts, had been forwarded to members of the Parish Council. This e-mail noted that Mr Howell had agreed to a private meeting with Mr Tim Holmes of Endurance Estates, at which Mr Howell had decided to grant an easement giving access over land between Station Road and the land behind the Press Cottages, if planning approval were granted for the proposed development behind the cottages. This was despite the earlier promise that the sale should not even be considered until planning approval had been granted, the fact that only one side of the argument had been heard, that the parish council request for the land had been ignored, and that the proposed development was outside the village framework and could not be considered an exception site scheme.

It was agreed that legal advice should be sought on this matter from NALC and CAPALC and that subsequently a letter should be sent to the SCDC Customer Experience Coordinator enclosing a copy of the council's letter of 24th July to the SCDC Lands Officer, Jenny Clark. This action would be the first stage of a formal complaint about the handling of the matter. In the event of an unsatisfactory response, the further stages of the complaint would be to the SCDC Chief Executive Officer and ultimately, if necessary to the Local Government Ombudsman.

Planning matters received since the above meeting:

Planning permission refused:

Mrs J Ward

Application No. S/0745/12/FL for construction of 1 No. 2-bed dwelling and 1 No. 3-bed dwelling following demolition of existing at 14 Fowlmere Road.

The application was refused on a number of grounds including suitability for the location and being considered to create and increase overlooking of its neighbouring properties.

Planning permission granted:

Mr Mervyn Manning

Application No. S/1213/12/FL for addition of pitched roof to freestanding garage at 65 Station Road
Several conditions

CORRESPONDENCE

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

- 1) Letter dated 6th July from the SCDC Planning Policy Manager re the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation (28 July-28 September): enclosing poster.
- 2) Letter dated 7th August from Cambridgeshire ACRE with invitation to AGM on Tuesday, 25th September at the Cambridge Golf and Conference Centre from 6pm onwards (buffet supper provided). The event will see the launch of seminars entitled “Localism Delivered: Opportunities and Challenges”.
- 3) Letters from CCC Transport Department giving details of changes to Stagecoach services
- 4) “Clerks and Councils Direct” magazine, July 2012.
- 5) Publicity material from Kompan (playground equipment).

VISITORS' QUESTIONS

Mr Challis expressed concern about the broken Wall at The Bury

It was confirmed that this was due to water damage and that no new entrance was planned.

Mrs Ward said she would be writing to the district council about the refusal of her planning application

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs McFadzean said that attendance figures showed that only two people from Foxton had attended the Melbourn Youth Club three times since its inception. However, when the club visited Foxton, ten youths had attended the first session and twelve the second at both of which she had been present. Mrs McFadzean also said that she had sent pictures of recent flooding in Foxton to County Councillor Susan van de Ven.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on **Monday, 3rd September 2012 at 7.45pm** in the **Meeting Room** of the **Village Hall**.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm.