

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY, 6th DECEMBER 2010, AT 7.45 p.m.

PRESENT

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

County Councillor Susan van de Ven

IN ATTENDANCE

3 members of the public

APOLOGIES

Dr McKeown, Mr Sutton

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 OCTOBER MEETING

On the first page of the Minutes the second sentence of the paragraph preceding "Minutes of the Previous Meeting" should have read, "Mr Barnes said that he had been forced to stand down as chairman of the Planning Committee due to family illness. He would also have to withdraw from meetings if the major development at Moore's Farm, adjacent to his property, were to proceed".

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

As no amendments were needed, Dr Oakley proposed that the Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 1st November 2010, be signed as a true record. Dr Grindley seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Recreation and Amenities Report

i) *Removal of hardcore from the Recreation Ground – item 5*

Mrs Roberts had telephoned to say that Clive Onslow (Seearo) had been to assess what was needed regarding the removal of concrete from the Recreation Ground. Dr Grindley said the work needed to be completed before the electrical work required for the installation of the training lights began. He also commented that the Cricket Club's sightscreens had not been moved to the Sports Compound. The clerk was asked to contact Mrs Roberts for an update regarding Clive Onslow's contribution to the removal of the concrete.

ii) Proposed letter to the Sports Clubs – item 6

The letter was still being drafted.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Dr van de Ven reported as follows:

1. Extension of 50mph Speed Limit along the A10

A consultation on a 50 mph speed limit along the A10 between Cambridge Motel in Shepreth and Foxton Level Crossing was now taking place and if members of the public wished to contribute their views they should contact the CCC County Highways Department at Whittlesford (closing date 14th Dec) which would then be passed to the Area Joint Traffic Management Committee.

2. Addenbrooke's Access Road

Dialogue was continuing on access to the hospital for volunteer driver schemes though there was still no accommodation for these drivers.

3. Level Crossing Pedestrian gates

Dr van de Ven said that the Barrington side of the gates would be closed for a prolonged period of time due to a problem about spare parts. She had been in intensive conversation with Network Rail who said that there was no progress at present. The station-side gates were closed for a week, for testing after an incident in which a pedestrian came too close to a train. However, the testing period itself created a dangerous alternative route over the level crossing.

4. Youth Club

There had been a late January meeting of parish council representatives, youth work co-ordinators and Dr van de Ven, to work out details of proportional parish council financial contributions and arrangements for running the club in the first year.

5. Road Gritting

Dr van de Ven said that Shepreth Road should now be added to the precautionary gritting network on the basis that it is a scheduled bus route. Correction to the clerical error on the gritting list, which she had mentioned at the last meeting, had been accepted by the Highways Department.

6. Parish Precepts

Parish councils should have had a letter from Mark Lloyd, the County Council CEO, recommending that they take advantage of precepting freedoms that could disappear for various reasons.

Dr van de Ven said that Melbourn PC was going to look at the possibility of precept protection.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

There was no report from Mrs Roberts.

PARISH PLAN UPDATE

Mr Hockley (in the visitors seats) gave the update on the Parish Plan. He said that there had been considerable input to the planning section from Dr Grindley: some information from the County Council Archaeology Department was still needed. Dr

Grindley had received two maps from SCDC, one of the village and one of the parish, but these would probably have to be digitally copied in order to be included in the Parish Plan. The Police Liaison Report had not yet been received.

Mr Hockley said that the order of the plan had been revised and that the Action Plan section needed some additions. It was agreed that it would be helpful to have a letter of support from FPC's District Councillor, Deborah Roberts, and the clerk was asked to contact her about this.

The formatting of the document needed a critical review, and the clerk was asked to contact Ian Sanderson to ask whether he knew of someone who might be able to undertake this task.

Mr Hockley concluded by saying that he and Mr Allars would be holding a meeting on the Parish Plan on Thursday this week.

REPORTS FROM THE WORKING PARTIES

RECREATION AND AMENITIES

Mr Bentinck said that it had been a quiet period since the last FPC meeting. The salt bins had been installed. *Mr Barnes was not happy about the location of the bin at Foxton Bottom, which he said was in line for a crash from vehicles losing control on the bend of the road. There were problems with putting notices on the bins themselves saying that they were for public use, and the clerk was asked to put a notice on the FPC board saying that the salt was for public use on the roads and pavements in the vicinity of the bins.*

The water connection to the Sports C

ompound had been made, but the sports clubs were reluctant to use it. The matter of sharing the water bills would need to be worked out between Foxton Gardens Association and the sports clubs.

Mr Bentinck said that the usual annual letter about street lamps had been received and all the lighting columns would have to be counted.

The letter to the sports clubs was an ongoing matter.

Trees

Mrs Macintyre said that Eastern Tree Surgery would be coming on 6th January 2011 to undertake work on the Recreation Ground and at Vicarage Corner, where there would be traffic lights that day.

FINANCE

Dr Oakley gave details of the Bank Accounts as follows:

Deposit Account	£8,434.33
Current Account	£401.60
(This included a temporary deposit from the FGA in respect of the Play Area)	
Standard Life Bank	£30,000.00

Dr Oakley proposed the following cheques for payment:

2 nd ½ Chairman's Honorarium	£80.00
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Telopea Garden Design (grass cutting at the Dovecote meadow)	£30.00
Foxton VHT (hire of meeting Room on 4/10 and 1/11)	£29.00
Cambridgeshire County Council (annual rent re Dovecote)	£50.00

Dr Oakley also proposed that the clerk be allowed to arrange for the replacement of the drum on the council's printer/copier and that she be allowed to charge archiving hours for the overhaul of all planning documents.

Dr Grindley seconded all the proposals and all were agreed.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr Grindley reported as follows:

The committee had met on 16th November at 7.30pm. Present were Dr Grindley, Mr Sutton and Mrs Macintyre: Mr Barnes arrived later at 8.35pm. Dr Grindley declared a prejudicial interest in the Welch Group application and Mrs Macintyre declared an interest in the tree application at 6 Shepreth Road. It was agreed to re-order the agenda to postpone both these items pending the arrival of Mr Barnes, who was attending a governors' meeting at Foxton School.

1. Affordable Housing proposal from Circle Anglia

New plans had been received from Circle Anglia. The latest layout plan was examined and found to have dealt with most of the committee's previous concerns. Further work was outstanding to revise the external design of individual dwellings. It was decided to write to Circle Anglia advising them of this, and, after these revisions, to invite Circle Anglia to make a presentation of the scheme at a village public meeting, preferably before a planning application was made.

2. Conservation area appraisal

Dr Grindley had received a new schedule of listed buildings from the County Council with details of how these listings were merited, together with a schedule of data, maps of the archaeology within the parish, and extensive historic references. The District Council kindly produced the following maps:

- i) Foxton Parish Area.
- ii) Foxton Village area.
- iii) Foxton Village development framework.
- iv) Foxton existing conservation area.
- v) Foxton proposed new Countryside Views and conservation area extension showing the listed buildings.

It was decided that the above plans (i) to (iv) were complete and could be issued for use in the Parish Plan but it was decided to ask for plan (v) to be amended to show the curtilage of the listed building of Foxton House, and the medieval moat and site of the former Mortimers Manor within the proposed extension to the conservation area. Both these decisions would be reported to SCDC, and an appropriate amendment to plan (v) requested.

3. Parish Plan report

Dr Grindley had incorporated the previously agreed additional wording into the planning issues report, and had also revised the wording on listed buildings in conformity with the more accurate information now supplied by the County Council. These changes were agreed, subject to one amendment. Dr Grindley agreed to amend and forward the report and associated maps to Brian Hockley.

4. SCDC exception sites meeting debrief and draft of White Paper on Localism in Planning

Parish Councils could in future have increased status on planning decisions in their areas. The coalition government would present a White Paper to Parliament on 18th November 2010 with a view to receiving Royal Assent to a Bill scheduled for November 2011. The timetable might change but this proposed new legislation could result in joint commercial and affordable housing schemes on exception sites.

5. SCDC decision re the Burlington Press entrance on the High Street

The approval notices had been received from Gareth Jones, SCDC Senior Planning Officer for applications S/0756/10/F and S/0757/10/F, and were reviewed at the meeting. Various questions arose from these notices, and it was agreed that the clerk should write to Gareth Jones seeking answers to the queries raised.

Planning Applications considered at the meeting:

Mr F Charter	Application No S/1607/10 for alterations to demolish and rebuild rear extension to create enlarged bathroom and utility and the erection of new summerhouse at 34, High Street Approved
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Comments on this application were that the proposed bathroom and utility extension were of a higher standard than the existing structure that it would replace. The summerhouse location should not cause any problems, although the Council felt it was probably not the most appropriate location for this on the site within the setting of the listed building, and would also prefer the summerhouse to be of a more attractive design.

Mr Welch (Welch Group)	Application No. S/1740/10 for change of use of Unit 3 to MOT bay at Unit 3, 33 Royston Road Approved
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Dr Grindley vacated the room during discussion of this item)

Mrs R Macintyre	Tree application No. C/11/17/030/04 to fell two Beech trees and one Sycamore, and to carry out remedial work on a Holm Oak at 6 Shepreth Road
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Approval was recommended for the tree felling and the work on the Holm Oak. The response to the district council pointed out that that the adjoining landowner was willing for replacement trees to be planted on his land behind the rear boundary of the applicant's property.

Planning Application considered at the present meeting:

Amber Homes Ltd

Application No. S/1186/10 for dwelling (plot 5 revised design) at land between 3-11 Mortimers Lane

Councillors examined the plans and it was considered that this 3rd proposal was an improvement in that it more closely resembled the much earlier proposed building on this plot but that more parking spaces were needed. The council recommended approval subject to the provision of two parking spaces within the plot.

Planning permission granted:

Mr Welch (Welch group)

Application No.S1740/10 for change of use of Unit 3 to MOT bay at Unit 3, 33 Royston Road
2 conditions

A letter had been received from the University of Cambridge on recent developments relating to the University's proposals to create a new sustainable community at North West Cambridge.

Mr Barnes reported that work appeared to have begun at the eco-house site in Foxton. The clerk was asked to contact Mrs Roberts to ask whether the work was being carried out within building consent.

POLICE LIAISON

Dr Oakley had received an e-mail complaining of further noise problems in the Community Building car park and this had been passed to Mr Barnes.

Mr Barnes said that the last Police Liaison meeting had been held in October. He said there had been continued police presence in Station Road. Cars and bikes were causing a nuisance by entering the Community Building car park, going away and then coming back again. He said the that the more complaints made to the police the better in order to get police action. Mr Barnes also reported that a van had been broken into. There had also been a warning of a scam where homeowners were getting notes purporting to be from a parcel delivery service: If recipients telephoned the number given this resulted in a £300 addition to their telephone bill. This matter was being investigated by Trading Standards.

Mr Barnes said that anyone worried about this scam could telephone 0207 2396655 or the website crimestoppers.uk for details.

RECREATION GROUND TRUST REPORT

Dr McKeown had e-mailed the following report to be given to the meeting:

“There has been no formal meeting of the RGT since the last report but a number of pieces of business have been addressed with discussion taking place by email.

Steve Bentinck has kept the Council informed of the installation of containers in the compound on the extension area. Water is required by the sports clubs in this area and arrangements are being made directly between the clubs and the Foxton Gardens Association as managers of the water distribution system.

The Charity Assured Insurance Scheme falls due for renewal on December 17. We decided to continue with the existing insurer, Allianz, and a cheque has been sent to our agents for the renewal remittance.

Foxton Village Hall Trust informed the RGT that repairs were required to the roof above the main entrance. The Facilities Manager had obtained quotations and made a recommendation. RGT Trustees agreed to this recommendation and the Facilities Manager has been asked to commission the work with all speed.”

DOVECOTE/MEADOW REPORT

Mrs Macintyre said there was nothing to report.

CORRESPONDENCE

The clerk gave details of the correspondence received in the past month, which is given in full below:

- 1) Letter dated 3rd November from MHB Services Ltd offering a competitive quotation for Street Lighting Maintenance should CCC need to negotiate a new maintenance contract with Foxton parish.
- 2) Letter dated 4th November from CCC Environment Services re Public Rights of Way, Countryside Access and the Parish Paths Partnership.
- 3) Letter dated 8th November from Link (Cambridgeshire Local Involvement Network) enclosing poster.
- 4) Letter received 8th November from Vic Phillips re alleged damage to his wall bounding the Recreation Ground.
- 5) Letter dated 9th November from CCC Environment Services re the need for early application when requesting road closures for local events: enclosing a leaflet on holding events in Cambridgeshire.
- 6) Letter dated 12th November from SCDC Planning and New Communities Services Department (in partnership with Cambridgeshire ACRE) enclosing a Parish Pack to be used to update information on village services and facilities. *(To be returned by 17th December)*
- 7) Letter dated 22nd November from CCC Environment Services re A10 Speed Limit Review. *(Responses by 14th December)*
- 8) Letter dated 29th November from the CCC County Lighting Engineer re Street Lighting Maintenance and Energy 2010/2011 enclosing a letter from the CCC Head of Transport Management re Street Lighting Maintenance and Energy, April 2011 onwards.
- 9) Letter received November 2010 from Village and Urban enclosing their Village Sign brochure. *(Passed to SB)*
- 10) Letter dated 1st December from CCC Environment Services/Cambridgeshire Highways re review of the Winter Service Policy and the opportunity for local involvement in decision making: enclosing the resulting decision table and plans of which routes will be used for precautionary measures together with a form for registering an interest in becoming involved.
- 11) South Cambs magazine, Winter 2010.
- 12) “Keeping in Touch”, Cambridgeshire Community Services/NHS Trust magazine, Autumn 2010.

- 13) Luminus News, Winter 2010.
- 14) Publicity material from SMP Playgrounds, Glasdon and BTCV (wild flowers etc – *passed to RM*)

VISITORS' QUESTIONS

Mr Howard said that the gates to the Play Area were not being kept shut and that the larger gate used by grass cutters etc did not shut properly. He also said that parking in Illingworth Way was becoming a problem.

Dr Oakley said that dangerous and inconsiderate parking was a matter for the police.

Mrs Grove said that since the protective fence on the Recreation Ground had been removed (from the rear of her property in Illingworth Way and backing onto the Recreation Ground) she had had to go to the Football Club every Saturday to complain about balls entering her garden and destroying plants: she asked for FPC's help in this matter.

Dr Oakley said that this point could be included in the letter that was being written to the sports clubs.

Mrs Grove also asked for information about the training lights that would be installed on the Recreation Ground.

Dr Grindley was able to reassure Mrs Grove both about the siting of the lights and the times when they would be in operation.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Bentinck said he had been passing on all relevant information to the Play Area committee but he had the impression that the committee was "running out of steam".

Dr Grindley said he had received a letter from SCDC Planning Services in response to FPC's request for information about the manner in which the new access to the Burlington Press site had been approved.

The clerk had received an e-mail from the clerk of Haslingfield PC suggesting that FPC and Haslingfield make their Minutes available to each other. It was agreed that the clerk should refer Ms Goding to the Foxton website.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on **Monday, 10th January 2011** at **7.45pm** in the **Meeting Room** of the **Village Hall**.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm.