

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOXTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY, 3rd JULY 2006, AT 7.45 p.m.

PRESENT

Mr Pusey, Mr Hockley, Mr Barnes, Mr Brooksbank,
Dr Grindley, Mr Kennedy, Miss Thake

County Councillor David McCraith

District Councillor Mrs Roberts

IN ATTENDANCE

4 members of the public

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr Chilton and Dr
McKeown

Mr Pusey welcomed all to the meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Three amendments were necessary.

- i) Miss Thake should have been recorded as absent (*not as present*)
- ii) On page 23, under the Recreation and Amenities Committee report, 2nd complete paragraph, Mr Chilton's name was mis-spelt as Mr Chiltern.
- iii) On page 23, under the Recreation and Amenities Committee report, all references to Andrew Cambridge should be changed to Ian Cambridge.

Mr Brooksbank proposed that, with these amendments, the Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 5th June 2006, should be signed as a true record. Mr Kennedy seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Correspondence

- i) *SCDC consultation event on Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision (item 7)*

Mrs Roberts reported that it had been a disappointing meeting in that very few parish councillors were present: about 30 had attended and these were mainly councillors from parishes already affected.

A travellers' needs assessment indicated that about 100 further pitches were needed – a pitch being one traveller caravan and one static caravan used as a day-room. Most

people (*sic*) were looking for 10-15 pitches per site, thus 8-10 more sites were needed in the district.

Mrs Roberts said that as the majority of the existing sites were in the north of the district, there was every possibility that consultants would recommend that new sites be found in the south of the district. As South Cambridgeshire had already provided a lot of sites there were inherent growth problems. She added that normally travellers' sites were situated outside village envelopes.

ii) Puddle in front of 63 High Street

Mr Pusey reported that Mr Cooper of CCC South Highways Department was arranging for a new surface water drain outside Mr Boreham's house.

Visitor's Questions – Village Pumps

The clerk confirmed that she had written to the SCDC Conservation Department and had received a grant application form. However, before it could be completed, a quotation for the restoration of the pump at the top of Mortimers Lane was needed. As there would be no meeting in August, Mr Pusey requested that delegated powers be granted for the clerk to fill in the application form when the information needed was to hand. All were agreed.

Any Other Business – Overgrown hedges

There had been no response to the item in "The Laurentian" about overgrown hedges, and it was agreed that situation at the High Street location was not acceptable and that the clerk should write to the owners of 36 High Street and 1 The Green to ask them to cut back their hedges so that the footways were fully usable. If, after four weeks from the present meeting, the hedges had not been cut back, it would be appropriate to contact the County Council.

REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEES

RECREATION AND AMENITIES

Mr Chilton was not present, but he had e-mailed the clerk saying that the first spraying of the Recreation Ground had been carried out by Herald Contract Services, and that a resident had complained about the hedge encroaching on the footway near the shop.

The clerk was asked to contact Herald about the second spray. Action on overhanging hedges had already been agreed under "Matters Arising".

FINANCE

Mr Hockley gave details of the bank accounts as follows:

Deposit Account	£25,424.67
(This included interest for the period 6/3/06-4/7/06 of £65.05 and a transfer of £877.10 being the CCC contribution for grass cutting in 2006)	
Current Account	£277.46
(This included an SCDC recycling credit for October 2005- March 2006 of £226.76)	
Cambridge Building Society	£13,401.13

Planning applications considered at the meeting:

Mr and Mrs T Williams	Application No.S/1100/06/F for an extension at 16 Hillfield No recommendation
Mr and Mrs Boreham	Application No.S/1202/06/F for extensions at 63 High Street No recommendation although the council requested that planning permission, if granted, would include conditions about the parking of contractors' vehicles due to the proximity of the sharp bend at Vicarage Corner
J Welch	Application No.S/1239/06/F for use of Unit 5 as an M O T test bay Approved

Mr Barnes then turned to the matter of information received from SCDC that showed two representations had been made objecting to two sites (both owned by Mr Tony Shelford) not having been included in the village envelope for potential development, and asking for the Local Development Framework Inspector to consider them for inclusion. At a subsequent meeting on 27th June for councillors to familiarise themselves with the documents, it had been decided to alert Foxton residents by including an information slip in "The Laurentian".

At present, Foxton has the status of a "Group village", which means that developments should be for no more than 8 (exceptionally 15 houses on any one site). The initial reaction at the informal meeting on 27th June had been that the developments (for about 300 homes) for which planning consent would be sought should these two sites be included in the village envelope would have a major impact on the village. It had therefore been decided to arrange a public meeting to discuss the matter on Monday, 10th July at 8pm in the Village Hall. Responses to the representations had to be received by the District Council by 12 noon on Friday, 28 July 2006.

Discussion turned to the best method for making the information available to residents. Mr Pusey suggested that the response forms be made available at the village shop, as the form was difficult to find on the Internet.

Mr Barnes said that the SCDC documents relating to the matter were available in public libraries.

Dr Grindley said that there was a process involved: Foxton Parish Council had been consulted about the Local Development Framework when it was in draft form, and was therefore entitled to be represented at any public examination. He queried whether individuals could make representations but Mr Hockley said it was clear from the website that they could.

Mr Bore (in the visitors' seats) asked whether the council would be taking professional advice. Mrs Roberts advised against employing anyone from the village in this role, as an objective point of view was needed.

Dr Grindley proposed that the council obtain professional advice on the matter, Mr Brooksbank seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

The council then considered what sum should be initially earmarked for professional advice. Mr Hockley proposed a limit of £1000, but this was felt to be too restrictive an amount. Mr Kennedy proposed that the council allot £1,500 and Mr Pusey amended this to £2000. Miss Thake seconded the amended proposal, which was agreed with five members in favour.

Mr Pusey outlined the problems with the SCDC web site, and Mrs Roberts said she would chase up this matter.

Mr Barnes mentioned that there was a further objection site at Fowlmere, which would, if developed, impact on Foxton.

Mr McCraith pointed out that the CCC Highways Department would know about surplus water drainage in Foxton.

POLICE LIAISON

Miss Thake said that the only thing she had to report were some stolen hanging baskets.

RECREATION GROUND TRUST AND COMMUNITY BUILDING PROJECT

Mr McCraith said that Bill Tarling (the CCC clerk of works) had now left the County Council. He had spoken to Gerald Browning (CCC) who had sent him an update by e-mail on the outstanding issues relating to the Community Building in time for tonight's meeting.

Mr McCraith reported as follows:

Water supply to the allotments

CCC was ordering direct from Anglian Water and Mr Browning was checking on the time-scale for installation. *(Mr Pusey suggested e-mailing GB with the correction that the supply should be ordered from Cambridge Water.)*

Gas Meter

Mr Browning said that this would be replaced and that again he would check the time-scale

Car park reinstatement

Mr Browning said that he had been advised by Mills and Douglas that some work had been carried out to one area by their tarmac subcontractor but that this had not yet been satisfactorily completed. There were three areas to be attended to.

External Lights

Some work had been carried out, and Mr Browning was seeking clarification.

Pavilion doorways

Reinstatement work had been completed.

There had been a faulty light in the main hall, but it was not known whether this had been dealt with.

It was apparent that the streetlamp at the corner of the Sports Pavilion was still not functioning. The clerk was asked to chase up this matter.

Mr McCraith reported that Ringway had lost its contract with the County Council so that there might be some delays in effecting such work.

Recreation Ground Extension Committee

Mr Brooksbank reported that at the last meeting of the committee, once the weedkiller had taken effect, the Recreation Ground extension would be harrowed. He said the Allotment Management Committee had not yet met.

There had been a good response to the questionnaire about the extension (1 in 4 households responding) with all projects receiving support. The least popular project was the Skateboard/BMX Park. Regarding the erection of sheds on the allotments, over 80% were in favour of allowing them and allowing individual designs, albeit with guidelines.

Two issues arose from the consultation:

- 1) There was concern about the possibility of allotment users parking in Illingworth Way. However this problem should be covered by the tenancy agreement with the management Committee, which would stipulate that allotment users parked by the village hall.
- 2) There was concern that there might be an increase in the precept to cover the expenses of the extension. However, it was not thought that the precept would be affected unduly.

Mr Brooksbank said that he was preparing an article for “The Laurentian”.

He also said that an application to the Lottery Breathing Spaces Fund would be submitted to cover the water link to the site.

Mr Pusey said that he had received the first draft of an agreement with Foxton Gardens Association from the council’s solicitors. However he was still waiting for a valuation about the cricket nets project.

DOVECOTE/MEADOW PROJECT

Mr Pusey reported that the builders were due to begin work this month and that 14th October had been “pencilled in” as the Opening Day. The plaque had been restored and the colour would be applied at a later stage as a separate job.

An access gate was needed from the High Street and he suggested making this from the left hand side of the meadow. Mr Pusey asked for delegated approval for the provision of the following items:

- An access gate, subject to competitive tenders
- An information board subject to competitive tenders
- An information booklet (a condition of the Local Heritage Initiative grant is that publicity material is produced). *(Mr Pusey said that Ian Sanderson had*

produced a 1st draft of the booklet and suggested that there should be one for every household in the village.)

Mr Brooksbank proposed that delegated powers should be given to Mr Pusey to expedite these items. Mr Hockley seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) Letter dated 5th June from the SCDC Democratic Services Officer with ballot paper for election of parish council member to the Standards committee.
(Circulated to councillors prior to the meeting of July: majority choice, Councillor David Kelleway, Teversham PC and ballot paper returned accordingly)
- 2) Letter dated 5th June from Julie Fletcher, SCDC Housing Services Officer, enclosing a copy of the latest version of the standard housing needs questionnaire and a summary of proposed charges.
- 3) Letter dated 12th June from CCC Flows Project Team enclosing a booklet entitled “Is your business at risk of flooding” and inviting comments.
- 4) Letter dated 14th June acknowledging receipt of the council’s letter asking whether grant funding might be available for the two listed pumps in Foxton.
- 5) Letter dated 16th June from the South Cambridgeshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership expressing regret that the partnership will not be able to fund any of the applications received for revenue funding for the footway lights in villages.
- 6) Letter dated 20th June on behalf of the SCDC Conservation and Design Manager enclosing a grant application form in respect of the two listed pumps in Foxton and asking for further information.
- 7) Letter dated 20th June from CCC Street Lighting Section (Chris Sproston) clarifying the agreement between the FPC and the County Council on street lighting maintenance.
- 8) Letter received 26th June from GO-East re proposed revisions to the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England (East of England Plan) – publication of Panel Report.
- 9) Letter received 26th June from South Cambs Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership re its Community Safety event to be held on 20th September 2006 at Marshall airport from 5.30pm-8.30pm including buffet supper: enclosing acceptance slip. (Responses by 30th August, places limited)
- 10) Letter dated 23rd June from CCC Cambridge Projects Manager re St Andrew’s Street/Hobson Street consultation with reference to the Cambridge Core Traffic Scheme.
- 11) Letter dated 27th June from English Heritage confirming that the Burlington Press is not a listed building.

- 12) Agenda for the next meeting of the Cemex Liaison Group on Thursday, 6th July. (*Passed to RB*)
- 13) Information from CALC including:
 - Report on Association of Burial Authorities Conference held on 16th May in London
 - New CILCA training schedule with application form for clerk's training bursary scheme
 - Details of Councillors' and clerk's training courses
- 14) Information for Cambridgeshire ACRE including:
 - "Community Action" magazine, Summer 2006
- 15) Leaflet from Age Partnership Group entitled "Be Ready – practical information on age issues for employers".
- 16) Poster from Citizens' Advice Bureau for "Carers' Week" (displayed).
- 17) "Clerks and Councils Direct" magazine, July 2006.
- 18) Publicity material from Matta Products (safety surfaces); BAGO (hand tools for litter); Fitzpatrick Woolmer (notice boards); and Eibe and Miracle (play equipment).

Mr Hockley had also received a letter (with no contact address) complaining about the lack of bus shelters, bus stop flags and information about bus services. The clerk was asked to pass the letter to the bus companies for their attention.

VISITORS' QUESTIONS

Mr Bore said it used to be customary for the excess loose chippings to be swept up some time after roads had been resurfaced in this way.

Mr McCraith said he would follow this matter up.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr McCraith reported that the government would be providing 93.5 million pounds towards the cost of the guided bus service into Cambridge, running from the Trumpington Park and Ride site. The service should commence towards the end of the year. Mr McCraith also said that the County Council was trying to get districts that were overfunded for their concessionary fares schemes to help districts whose concessionary fare schemes were underfunded. Unfortunately, money for these schemes was not ring-fenced, so that districts could spend any excess as they pleased.

Mr Barnes said that 70 Station Road, where he believed unauthorised building work had been undertaken, was now up for sale.

The clerk, through the chair, asked Mrs Roberts whether she had followed up her request to find out what was happening about planning permission for the owner of the former Q8 garage to sell vehicles. Mrs Roberts said that the council would need to write to the Planning Department. There was some confusion about what had previously been said about this matter, and Mr Pusey asked for discussion to be deferred and be made an agenda item for the September meeting.

Mr Kennedy said that he had received no response from Mills and Douglas, or anyone else, about the adoption of Hardman Road and Edis Way. He also said that exterior decoration of the Community Building would commence either on the week beginning 24th July or that of the 31st July.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that there would be a very short meeting after the public meeting on 10th July to deal with urgent matters and to approve payment of outstanding invoices.

The next full meeting of the parish council would be held on **Monday, 4th September 2006 at 7.45pm** in the **Meeting Room** of the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.05pm.