

**Minutes of Swaffham Prior Parish Council Meeting held on
Thursday, 14th July 2011 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

Present: Mr John Covill (Chairman), Mr Andrew Camps, Mr Eric Day, Mrs Sandra Gynn, Mr Peter Hart (Vice-Chairman), Mr Steve Kent-Phillips, Mr P Latchford & Mr G Woollard plus 1 member of the public.

931. In Attendance:

Cllr David Brown – CCC
Cllr Allen Alderson – ECDC
Karen King - Clerk

932. Apologies for Absence:

Mr David Almond (*family commitment*)

933. Members' Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda:

None.

934. Public Participation:

Cllr Allen Alderson was asked for an update about the Newmarket Recycling Centre. He replied that this was included in his report.

935. Approve and Sign Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – 9th June 2011:

Re.Min.ref.919: Geoffrey Woollard recollected that when discussing and agreeing the detail of the ECDC 'Village Vision' questionnaire, the sites for possible development were considered individually and a vote taken on each but the minutes did not record this. Everyone agreed with Geoffrey and the minutes were corrected to list the sites and votes taken. The Clerk amended the minutes. *Proposed: Geoffrey Woollard. Seconded: Steve Kent-Phillips.*

936. Reports:

CCC Matters – Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting:

- *Cabinet Member for Children & Young People:* June was largely been taken up with portfolio as Cabinet Member. The wide range of issues and responsibilities has taken up considerable time in formal and informal briefing meetings as well as visits.
- *Budget for 2012/13:* June saw the start of discussions for the budget proposals. This is very early stages and more details will follow as proposals are worked up.
- *Sale of CCC land to National Trust:* The County Council reached agreement over the sale of around 24 acres of County Farms land in Reach to the National Trust. The intention was for land to be used by the people of Reach for a variety of community activities, details of which would become apparent over time. The Project was being carried out in partnership between Reach Parish Council and the National Trust.

Geoffrey Woollard referred to the sale of County Farms land at Reach to the National Trust, asking Cllr David Brown the size of area sold and at what cost. Cllr Brown replied that the area was some 24 acres at a cost of £115,000.

There followed discussion about CC's policy for disposal of County land deemed surplus to County requirements. The Parish Council members were of the opinion that the land could have been sold for much more in an open sale and requested that this was reviewed by CCC's Scrutiny Committee particularly taking into account the current financial restraints on CCC. Cllr Brown replied that he would raise this with the Scrutiny Committee as requested by the Parish Council.

Peter Hart again asked Cllr Brown why highway verges continued to be cut in areas that do not need it. He considered that verges should only be cut for safety reasons and any further cutting was an unnecessary expense to CCC. Cllr Brown replied that CCC had reduced cuts from 3 to 2 but would follow up on point raised.

ECDC Matters: (Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting).

- *Travellers at Forty Acre Drove:* The travellers that were illegally camped have moved on following a Court Order. Creating new incentives to build authorized sites – councils will be given financial incentives through the New Homes Bonus Scheme to encourage the provision of new authorised traveller sites where they are needed. Presently there are such sites at Burwell and Earith. The Government has established an independent commission to investigate the creation of a U.K. Bill of Rights to replace the Human Rights Act, which often seemed to work in favour of travellers who are camping illegally.
- *Newmarket Recycling Centre:* After closing on 31st July the centre will reopen on 22nd August and will be run by Newmarket Open Door. Its opening hours will be 9am-5pm Monday to Saturday and 10am-4pm on Sundays. Further information awaited but it is understood that Open Door will deal with all recyclable materials and Suffolk County Council will continue with landfill waste. There will be a charge of £3 - £12 depending on size of vehicle. The site will not accept wood or garden waste due to the cost of disposal. Newmarket Town Council is contributing £15,000 towards running/start up costs. FHDC are contributing £40,300 and as owners of the site will only be charging a peppercorn rent. ECDC will not be making any contribution.
- *Meetings attended:* South Area Neighbourhood Panel meeting, Licensing Committee meeting, Licensing Hearing and two Development and Transport Committee meetings.
- *Polling Stations:* ECDC carrying out review of these. The recommendation for the three in the Swaffhams Ward is no change.

Geoffrey Woollard was concerned that the restrictions on the type of waste/recycling allowed at the Newmarket Recycling Centre would inevitably lead to the return and increase of fly-tipping in the District.

Min.ref.927: Steve Kent-Phillips asked what the £100 uncontested election costs included. Cllr Alderson said he would check.

937. Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration (see Appendix 1 for correspondence received)
 CCC – Street Lighting PFI Project – Cambridgeshire. *Await further details before discussion further.*
 CCC – Speed Limit Policy. Richard Preston, Head of Road Safety and Parking Services, referred to the adoption by Cabinet of a more flexible speed limit policy to provide opportunities for local communities to determine speed limits in their parishes.
 (This prompted Peter Hart to ask if CCC had completed the speed survey. *Cllr Brown replied that this had been done and was waiting to be collated and reported.*)
 Geoffrey Woollard asked if under this policy the speed limit could be reduced from 40 to 30 on Mill Hill. Following discussion it was agreed to ask Richard Preston of CCC to attend the September meeting to explain the detail of the policy with a view to reducing speed limits.
Proposed: Geoffrey Woollard. Seconded: Peter Hart. All in favour.

Cllr David Brown left the meeting at 8.40pm.

938. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes (for information only):
 Min.ref.926: Steve Kent-Phillips confirmed that the ‘picnic table’ at the play area had now been repaired and painted.
939. ECDC’s ‘Village Vision’ Questionnaire – circulation:
 The Clerk had collected copies of the questionnaire from ECDC’s offices. These were shared out between Parish Councillors for circulation to all households in the Parish.

Cllr Allen Alderson left the meeting at 8.50pm

940. Accounts for Approval including:*Payments*

a) Karen King – <i>Clerk's salary</i>	£ 355-20
b) Inland Revenue – <i>Clerk's tax</i>	£ 88-80
c) Karen King – <i>Clerk's expenses</i>	£ 44-98
d) Kim Sheldrick Building Services – <i>repairs to play area equipment</i>	£ 294-00
e) Anglian Water – <i>cemetery water supply</i>	£ 91-89
f) Swaffham Prior Parochial Charities – <i>annual rent for Town Close</i>	£ 30-00
g) K H Services – <i>grass cutting</i>	£ 491-72
Total	£1,396-59

The above payments were agreed. *Proposed: Steve Kent-Phillips. Seconded: Peter Hart.*
Transfer of £2,000 was agreed. *Proposed: Steve Kent-Phillips. Seconded: Peter Hart.*

*Receipts:**Bus.Acc:*

CCC – *agency services* £480-34

Comm.Acc:

VHMC – *annual rent* £ 1-00

Julian Luttrell – *allotment rent* £ 5-00

BT – *wayleave* £ 8-82

941. Clerk's Report:

- *Dog bins:* These are emptied once a week but if anyone notices that they are full, contact ECDC or complete online form. Dog poop bags no longer supplied due to cutbacks.
- *Litter bins:* It was confirmed with Cllr Alderson that a new litter bin was installed at the Bus Shelter but the new one for Coopers Green was still outstanding.
- *Clerk's holiday:* 27th August – 10th September inclusive
- *Tidying of Pound:* It was suggested that the Scouts might be able to help with this. Geoffrey Woollard offered to dispose of waste.
- *Accounts:* Books to be passed to Steve Kent-Phillips for reconciliation.

942. Parish Councillors' Reports:

- Sandra Gynn gave her apologies for the August meeting as she would be on holiday.
- John Covill showed photographs of newly planted trees in White Fen referring to the lack of care by the National Trust.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

943. Open Question Time:

Alastair Everitt asked for a copy of the Speed Limit Policy – Clerk to forward.

Alastair Everitt asked if there would be a follow up once the 'Village Vision' questionnaires had been circulated. *The Clerk said she would put reminder in the Crier.*

Appendix 1:**CCC**

Amanda Davies – New Adult Social Care Website for Cambridgeshire

Jackie Marriott – Trading Standards information

Kate Day – Local Access Forum and CCC Rights of Way Annual Reports 2010-11 + changes to grass cutting schedule

Hannah Barrett - Join the Cambridgeshire Localism Community of Practice

Cambridgeshire Older Persons' Newsletter

ECDC

Lynne Smart – Chairman's Weekly Highlights

NHP – Newsletter + details of next meeting

Masterplan Team – Newsletter – Growth Delivery in East Cambridgeshire

Darren Hughes – recycling centre can bank removal

Planning

Planning Permission/LBC – The Smock Tower, Mill Hill

Planning Permission – Windmill Cottage, 34 Mill Hill

Planning Permission – Swaffham Prior House, 86 High Street

General

Care & Repair East Cambridgeshire Ltd – Handy Person Service

School – Summer Newsletter

Official Royal Wedding Street Party Album

CPALC – “Aspects of Localism”

CPALC/Cambs ACRE – Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge