

**Minutes of Swaffham Prior Parish Council Meeting held on
Thursday, 11th August 2011 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

Present: Mr John Covill (Chairman), Mr Andrew Camps, Mr Eric Day, Mr Peter Hart (Vice-Chairman), Mr P Latchford & Mr G Woollard plus 3 members of the public.

944. In Attendance:

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

945. Apologies for Absence:

Mr David Almond (*work commitment*)
Mr Steve Kent-Phillips (*personal commitment*)
Mrs Sandra Gynn (*holiday*)

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

None.

947. Public Participation:

Petanque: The Chairman invited Roger Connan to address the meeting. Roger explained the proposal led by a village resident, Serge Raja, was to form a club in Swaffham Prior with the aim of applying for permission to join the Newmarket League. There were already residents playing regularly with interest being expressed by others in nearby villages. Roger stressed that the aim was to create a family club involving all ages. The request was to install a Petanque 'pitch' at the far end of the Village Car Park – size approximately 50sq.m.

Discussion followed with Parish Councillors, although it was noted that there could be no formal decision by the Parish Council as this was not an agenda item. It was suggested that perhaps the best location would be at the front of the Village Hall so as not to limit the use of the car park or perhaps on Town Close. It was suggested that Roger & Serge consult with the VHM.

Roger Connan & Serge Raja said they would investigate further the suggestions made and come back to the Parish Council.

948. Approve and Sign Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – 14th July 2011:

The minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record. *Proposed: Geoffrey Woollard.*
Seconded: Peter Hart.

949. Reports:

CCC Matters - Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting:

- *Full Council met on 19th July - 2 petitions; the first opposing cuts to the local output on BBC radio Cambridgeshire and the second about cuts to bus subsidies. Council then debated and adopted 3 policy papers – Minerals and Waste Core Strategy; a new Flexible Retirement Policy; and moving IT and Facilities Management into LGSS.*
- *There was a lengthy debate surrounding the financial problems surrounding Southern Cross Care Homes, and Council is carefully reviewing the position regarding care providers in the County. Motions calling for an independent review of cuts to bus subsidies; calling for political support for Councils to have to institute a policy for independent retailers on high streets; and to come forward with a plan to upgrade the A14 were all defeated after long debates.*
- *At Cabinet on 5th July it was agreed to purchase land on the site of the Shirley Primary School in Cambridge and to retain the site of an old school in Cambridge for potential future use as a school. It was also agreed to move forward with the Cambridgeshire Future Transport Initiative and agreed to start 3 pathfinder projects to test different models for providing transport in the County. These should start in October, with the aim of rolling out more widely in 2012. In light of the difficult construction situation at Northstowe it was agreed to put back the proposed*

opening date for the new primary school at Northstowe until September 2016 or the occupation of the hundredth dwelling.

- Visited a number of schools – primary, secondary and special, in role as Cabinet member to gain more experience of the issues facing different schools. Also had the pleasure of speaking at an awards event for School Governors and Clerks. Also as Cabinet member took part in a stakeholder workshop considering how Cambridgeshire should develop a Health and Wellbeing Board in the run up to the county Council taking on responsibility for public health in 2013.

Geoffrey Woollard asked about the cost of loaning Police from the County to London during the recent riots and whether the County would be reimbursed. Cllr Brown said he would research costs to the County.

ECDC Matters - Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting:

- *Newmarket Recycling Centre:* To re-open on 22nd August and will be run by Open Door. The opening times will be 9am-5pm Mon to Sat and 10am-4pm on Sundays. Suffolk County Council will have no involvement with the site. Open Door to dispose of any un-recyclable waste at their expense and a covering charge of £3-£12 will be made depending on size of vehicle. They will not accept wood or garden waste due to cost of disposal. Newmarket Town Council contributing £15,000 towards start up costs. FHDC contributing £40,300 and only charging ‘peppercorn’ rent for site.
- *Neighbourhood Panel Meeting venues for 2011/12:* 2 at Burwell, 1 at Kirtling and 1 at Stetchworth.
- *Waste Recycling and Street Cleansing Services:* Present contract with Veolia (April 2008-31st March 2015). A working party set up to look at all future options and cost savings.
- *Ely Rail Crossing:* On 9th July 2011 a meeting was hosted by City of Ely Council in partnership with CCC and ECDC to discuss the progress that was being made. The County Council has identified the Ely Rail Crossing Project as one of its key transport priorities and is leading the way with the Greater Cambridge/Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership to develop a funding package.
- *Allotments – Vicarage Close:* The erection of a shed on the allotments was reported noting that a past covenant on the allotments did not allow for this. It was confirmed that the allotment holder had obtained permission from Sanctuary Hereward who were unaware of the covenant but said they would investigate and if this was the case, would ask allotment holder to remove shed.
- *Min.ref.927: In response to the Steve Kent-Phillip’s query raised at the last meeting about the £100 uncontested election costs, Cllr Alderson said this was the minimum cost payable. Geoffrey Woollard asked if the cost was decided by ECDC or Government. Cllr Alderson thought it was ECDC but was to check.*

Peter Hart asked for clarification on what could be recycled free-of-charge at the Newmarket Recycling Centre. Cllr Alderson to find out and report back.

950. ECDC’s ‘Village Vision’ Questionnaire: *(item brought forward)*

It was brought to the Clerk’s attention that when the questionnaire was completed on line, if a ‘No’ response was given to Question 5, due to the set up using ‘question logic’, Questions 6 & 7 would cancel out. This was raised with Abigail Taylor of ECDC who confirmed that this had been requested by the Parish Council but did raise concerns that those completing online were not being given the same response opportunities as those completing a paper copy. Abigail suggested two options to rectify the issue:

Option 1: Keep the online questionnaire the same and disregard responses from the paper copies where people may have selection no growth but then gone on to provide an opinion on the sites, or,

Option 2: Remove the question logic on the online questionnaire and contact the 6 respondents to date who fall into the 'No' category to inform them of the 'extra' question. We would then record all responses to the sites questions from the paper copies, regardless of whether they had selection 'no growth'.

Following discussion Option 2 was agreed. *Proposed: Paul Latchford. Seconded: Geoffrey Woollard. All in favour.*

951. Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration (see Appendix 1 for correspondence received)
 CCC – Preparation for the coming winter season 2011/12: *This offered training and guidance for those parishes interested in treating more of their footway network, gave guidance on liabilities and a reminder that CCC could provide grit bins at a reduced price of £95. It was considered that the reference to liabilities was particularly unclear but the advice notes given were quite helpful.*
 CCC – Sale of Parish Council land in Reach to the National Trust: *Min.ref.936: Geoffrey Woollard thanked Cllr Brown for his help in referring this to the Scrutiny Committee which resulted in a formal response from Cllr Fred Brown.*
 ECDC – Proposed Draft Revisions to Supplementary Planning Document – *Noted.*
 General - The Clerk reported a letter received from Mrs Monteiro of Green Head informing the Parish Council that the business at No.30 Green Head Road was relocating.

952. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes (for information only):
 Min.ref.936: Cllr Brown gave more detail noting that rural verges were cut 3 times per annum but that this was limited to a single swathe.
 Min.ref.937: The Clerk contacted Richard Preston about attending a Parish Council meeting to discuss the detail of the Speed Limit Policy and its relevance to lowering the speed limit on Mill Hill. He replied that this issue would be covered by John Richards, Area Manager responsible for traffic management in the area and he had asked him to contact the PC about attending a meeting as soon as possible.
 Min.ref.937: Cllr Brown reported that the results of the speed survey were being checked and would hopefully be available by the end of the month.

Cllr David Brown & Cllr Allen Alderson left the meeting at 9pm.

- 953 Consideration of Planning Application for Lavender Cottage, 62 High Street – single storey rear extension with lean-to roof. Ref: 11/00658/FUL.
 There were no objections or comments.

954. Accounts for Approval including:

Payments

a) Karen King – Clerk's salary	£336-00
b) Inland Revenue – Clerk's tax	£ 84-00
c) K H Services – grass cutting	<u>£491-72</u>
Total	<u>£911-72</u>

The above payments were agreed. *Proposed: Peter Hart. Seconded: Paul Latchford.*
 Transfer of £1,000 was agreed. *Proposed: Peter Hart. Seconded: Andrew Camps.*

Receipts:

Bus.Acc:

CCC – agency services £480-34

Comm.Acc:

Southgates F.S. – (burial-Symonds 329) £ 47-00

955. Clerk's Report:

- *Housing Survey by Cambridgeshire ACRE:* Over 100 responses received. Outcome to be reported in the near future once details checked.
- *Phone Box – High Street:* This had been re-painted by BT.
- *Litter Bins:* Full bins at Coopers Green and Play Area reported to ECDC/Veolia for emptying.

956. Parish Councillors' Reports:

- Geoffrey Woollard reported that the surface of Great Drove/High Fen Road was getting very bad. *Clerk to report to Paul Butcher.*
- John Covill reported the amount of litter being left on the National Trust Cycle Route. He contacted the NT and asked for litter bins but they were reluctant to supply them as this meant they would need someone to empty them.
- Peter Hart reported on footpath items;
 - kissing gates were now in place on Pulpit Corner – Devils Dyke (FP6).
 - footpath from village car park to Station Road needed cutting back – *Clerk to contact Mr & Mrs Cazenove.*
 - footpath on Station Road needed clearing and overhanging hedges cut back – *Clerk to contact Paul Butcher and Mr & Mrs Cazenove.*
- Peter Hart said he had reported fly-tipping (Lleylandi cuttings) on Barston Drove to Mark Mahaffey
- *Playground:* It was reported that some of the pigeon scaring strip was missing on the swings and needed replacing.
- Andrew Camps reported details of “The Big Tree Plant”. *This was discussed and the Clerk was to send copies to interested parties.*

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

957. Open Question Time:

Michael Limb thanked Peter Hart for reporting the fly-tipping on Barston Drove.

Appendix 1:

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework.....

Richard Preston – HCV Strategy

Street Works – County HAUC Coordination July 2011

Hannah Barrett – ‘Cambridgeshire Localism’ Community of Practice

Amanda Warburton - Cambridgeshire Older People's Newsletter

Amanda Davies – New Adult Social Care Website

Michael Oakman – Maintenance of protected road verges in your parish

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan – Suggested Changes to the Site Specific Proposals Plan

ECDC

Lynne Smart – Chairman's Weekly Highlights

Brendan Troy - Proposed Draft Revisions to Supplementary Planning Document

Planning

Withdrawal of application – Goodwin Manor

General

CPALC/Cambs ACRE – Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge

Fields in Trust (FIT) – The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge

Balfour Beatty – Parish Council Annual Street Lighting Maintenance Contract