

**Minutes of Swaffham Prior Parish Council Meeting held on
Thursday, 10th November 2011 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

Present: Mr John Covill-Chairman (JC), Mr Peter Hart-Vice-Chairman(PH), Mr David Almond(DA), Mr Andrew Camps(AC), Mr. Eric Day(ED), Mrs Sandra Gynn(SG), Mr. Steve Kent-Phillips(SKP) & Mr. Geoffrey Woollard(GW) plus three members of the public.

987. In Attendance:

CCC - Cllr David Brown

ECDC - Cllr Allen Alderson

ECDC – Katie Child, Principal Forward Planning Officer

ECDC – Abigail Taylor, Forward Planning Officer

Karen King - Clerk

988. Apologies for Absence:

Mr Paul Latchford (*work commitments*)

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

None.

990. Public Participation:

- David Greenfield expressed his concern that the Parish Council appeared, from a report in a previous Crier, not to be aware of the criteria for the use of the Newmarket Recycling Centre. He was assured that this was not the case.
- Alastair Everitt asked how many Parish Councillors had monitored the High Street parking issue. The reply was a show of several hands.

991. Results of 'Village Vision' Questionnaire:

Katie Child, Principle Forward Planning Officer and Abigail Taylor, Forward Planning Officer, for ECDC attended the meeting to present and discuss the results of the questionnaire. They started by thanking the Parish Council for its efforts in ensuring questionnaires were delivered to all households as this had resulted in a high number of questionnaires completed and returned (5th highest). Below is a summary of the results:

- 63% of respondents were supportive of allowing new housing development to take place on the edge of the village outside of the Development Envelope. The preferred housing option was Land off Rogers Road.

Following discussion, David Almond proposed that the Parish Council should follow the lead given by residents and support the principle of small – medium scale housing on this site. Seconded: Steve Kent-Phillips. All in favour.

To clarify 'small-medium scale housing', Steve Kent Phillips proposed that this equates to 10-20 mixed units. Seconded: Peter Hart. All agreed.

Katie Child and Abigail Taylor said they would discuss options with the landowners and report back to the Parish Council.

- Respondents were split over whether they would like to see more opportunities for small businesses in the village/parish (50% for, 38% against). The preferred employment location was Land East of Goodwin Farm. *Following some discussion, Geoffrey Woollard proposed support for potential businesses. Seconded: Steve Kent-Phillips. Peter Hart abstained. The motion was carried.*
- Key infrastructure priorities were identified as the need for traffic calming/highway improvements, more school places and improvements to the community/village hall. *GW suggested that another priority would be a Village Shop/Post Office.*

The Chairman thanked Katie Child and Abigail Taylor for their attendance and report. KC & AT left the meeting at 8.20pm.

992. Approve and Sign Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – 13th October 2011:

Min.ref.976 (following ECDC report): GW noted the omission of his report that he had attended the Neighbourhood Panel meeting referred to and had found it deeply disappointing and that he would not attend further meetings.

Min.ref.978(1st item): PH changed to PL.

The above amendments were agreed and the minutes approved and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Peter Hart. Seconded: Geoffrey Woollard. All agreed.

993. Reports:

CCC Matters – Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting - A copy of Cllr Brown's report was circulated prior to meeting.

- With reference to the report from the independent remuneration panel – this was reviewed by the Standards Committee and found to be flawed and no longer exists.

There were no questions for Cllr Brown.

ECDC Matters - Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting.

- *Newmarket Recycling Centre:* Met with Recycling Centre's Manager to check on progress. Weekends very good but weekday use is a lot lighter. Considering extending opening hours but closing on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- *Ely Rail Crossing:* CCC is running a pre-planning public consultation until 11th November which suggests 4 options. Earliest start date for preferred route would be April 2014.
- *Village Vision:* Over 1000 people came forward with their ideas for their village and community. The majority of people preferred small scale growth.
- *Downing Court Refuse Collection:* Meeting held with two residents at the far end of Downing Court to discuss their concerns. Inappropriate items are regularly being left for collection and being ignored by Veolia. Alan Saville at Sanctuary Hereward and Darren Hughes, Environmental Officer at ECDC to find a way of resolving the issue.
- *Wicken Fen Vision:* ECDC were not previously committed but following meeting of Development and Transport Committee ECDC are now supporting the Wicken Fen Vision.

GW commented that he was astonished that the above decision had been taken by such a small number of Councillors (6). He thanked Cllr Alderson for standing up for local opinion.

PH asked for Cllr Alderson's help and support to Mark Mahaffey to get green waste removed from Barston Drove. It was reported that the tyres from the Reach end had gone.

JC asked about recent repairs to Little Fen Drove saying that they were of poor quality. Cllr Brown confirmed that this was more a County issue and he would chase up.

Cllr Allen Alderson left the meeting at 8.50pm.

994. Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration (see Appendix 1 for correspondence received)

- CCC – Parish Council's Heavy Commercial Vehicle (HCV) Strategy Meeting – *Noted.*
- CCC – Street Lighting Maintenance 2010/11 – *Noted.*
- CCC – Damage to Byway following County Works – *no information forthcoming. Clerk to reply.*
- CPALC – *Localism Update.*

The Clerk asked if there were any comments, etc., for correspondence circulated after October meeting. There were none. GW apologised for inadvertently keeping back the planning booklet.

995. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes (for information only):

- Min.ref.976: Cllr Brown had spoken with Richard Preston about the speed survey and confirmed that the results would be available shortly.
- Min.ref.982: The Clerk confirmed that she was waiting to hear from the Probation Service.

996. Exclusive Grant of Burial (Pumfrey – Plot 869):

This was approved. *Proposed: Eric Day. Seconded: Steve Kent-Phillips.*

The Clerk had received a request from a former resident of the village to purchase a burial plot. There were no objections.

997. Report on Monitoring following Concerns raised about High Street Parking:

Before discussion on this item, Steve Kent-Phillips confirmed that he had attended the Highways Warden Induction and was now the single point of contact for highway matters. He had spoken with CCC officers on several issues. Councillors thanked SKP for his efforts.

Adam Cobb, CCC Traffic Engineer, replied by email to the Clerk's request for advice saying that he did not feel it was necessary for a site visit. He felt there were a number of issues that could be solved via enforcement from the local Police/PCSO's – cars speeding, cars parking in an obstructive manner preventing access to the Highway. He explained the costs involved in putting in lines and with budget restraints that was something that CCC would not be able to do and as such this would need to be third party funded.

Following further discussion, it was agreed that no further action could be taken by the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to send a copy of Adam Cobb's email to Dr Davey.

Proposed: Geoffrey Woollard. Seconded: Steve Kent-Phillips.

998. Reduction of speed limit on Mill Hill:

A written estimate of costs from CCC was reported to meeting. The detail of the estimate was again considered to be inadequate and the costings incorrect. SKP confirmed that he had spoken with Kevin Hall on both the costs involved and the consultation process required. David Almond suggested that the Parish Council wait until the speed survey results are available before considering further. *Agreed by all.*

Cllr David Brown left the meeting at 9.20pm

999. Request to Rent Lower Allotment Field:

Following the receipt of a written request, It was agreed to rent the land to Alastair Lee on an annual review basis with the proviso that if a request for an allotment was received from a village resident this would take priority and an area of the land must be kept for this purpose. GW added that if any fencing was erected by the allotment holder this did not give him any land rights. The rent of £50/annum was agreed. *Proposed: Steve Kent-Phillips. Seconded: Peter Hart.*

1001. Consideration of Quotation for Maintenance of Village & Cemetery:

Following detailed consideration it was decided not to accept the quotation submitted by K H Services. All agreed.

1002. Consideration of Draft Budget/Precept for 2012-2013:

SKP reported on the budget confirming reserves of £26,000 which included special reserve of £10,000 for traffic calming measures on Mill Hill. *Summary of Budget attached.*

A draft Precept figure of £14,500 was agreed subject to final confirmation at January 2012 meeting. *Proposed: Geoffrey Woollard. Seconded: Peter Hart. All agreed.*

1003. Accounts for Approval including:*Payments*

a) Karen King – Clerk's salary	£ 326-40
b) Inland Revenue – Clerk's tax	£ 81-60
c) K H Services – grass cutting	£ 491-72
<u>Total</u>	<u>£ 899-72</u>

The above payments were agreed. *Proposed: Steve Kent-Phillips. Seconded: Peter Hart. Passed unanimously.*

Transfer of £1,000 was agreed. *Proposed: Steve Kent-Phillips. Seconded: Peter Hart. Passed unanimously.*

Receipts:

Comm.Acc:

Cemetery fees – *Pumfrey (Plot 869)* £224.001004. Clerk's Report:

ECDC made aware of the failure of Veolia to empty regularly the litter bins on Coopers Green, in the bus shelter and outside the play ground.

1005. Parish Councillors' Reports:

Peter Hart asked about repairs to the footpath on Station Road. Steve Kent-Phillips said he had discussed this with Paul Butcher and was hoping for some resurfacing work but this was subject to funds being available at the end of the budget year.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

1006. Open Question Time:

Concerns were raised about the pile of hedge cuttings, etc., at the front of properties on Cage Hill. *Steve Kent-Phillips to follow up.*

The Parish Council was thanked for its work on the 'Village Vision' questionnaire.

Appendix 1:**CCC**

Speed Limit Along Mill Hill, Swaffham Prior

Cambridgeshire Renewable Infrastructure Framework – invite

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Minerals & Waste ... final inspector's report

Amy Jones - New Community's Pathway Website

ECDCParish Precepts – Year Ending 31st March 2013

Darren Hughes – details of Witchford HRWC

Darren Hughes – Grafitti kits

Suzanne Goff – Grants for Green Projects

Chairman's Weekly Highlights

Planning

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General

Cambridgeshire Playing Fields Association Newsletter

Suffolk ACRE – Confirmation of Annual Insurance Cover

CPALC – Localism Update

CPALC – 2012 Small Grants Scheme

Cambridgeshire ACRE – News Digest