

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

SWAVESEY BYE-WAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, SWAVESEY ON

TUESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2010 AT 7.30 PM

Present:

Councillor Topping	South Cambridgeshire District Council
Mr J Dodson	Charge-payers' Representative
Mr G Wedd	Charge-payers' Representative
Mr A Day	Charge-payers' Representative
Mr D Morgan	Charge-payers' Representative
Mr K Wilderspin	Charge-payers' Representative

In Attendance Mr P C Matthews – South Cambridgeshire District Council's Drainage Manager

Apologies: C'llr Ellington and Mr J W M Johnson

1. Introduction by Chairman

1.1. Councillor Topping agreed to act as chair for the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

2.1. The minutes of the previous meeting of 29 January 2009 had already been circulated. It was unanimously accepted that the contents should be confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. Report of the Chief Executive

3.1. The meeting received a report on expenditure for the year 2009/10 (to 2 February 2010).

3.2. The Council's Chief Executive had shown, in his report, that there would be a balance of £7612 in the contingency account at the end of 2009/10 and suggested that £455 should be added to the contingency account in 2010-2011.

3.3. If £2,400 was allowed for maintenance in 2010/11, then a rate of 90p per hectare could be levied. The Drainage Manager again indicated that the contingency figure had reached a reasonable level and it would, therefore, be possible to spend all of the £2,400 in the budget on "materials" throughout the coming year.

3.4. A continuation of the current levels of maintenance would, therefore, give a breakdown of income and expenditure as indicated in the report.

4. Report of the Corporate Manager for Health and Environmental Services

4.1. This report indicated the current year's expenditure and the last five years' average annual expenditure per byeway (see appendix 1).

4.2. The contents of the report were discussed and there was agreement among members that Charge-payers' costs should be limited to 90p per hectare for the forthcoming year. It was

proposed by Mr Wilderspin and seconded by Mr Wedd that the above rate should be levied for the coming year and this was formally agreed by the meeting.

- 4.3. It was reported that Councillor Ellington and the Drainage Manager carried out an inspection of all byeways on 22 January 2010 in order to assess their current condition and the likely level of maintenance for the forthcoming year. It was anticipated that the following bye-ways would require allocations of materials:

❖ Cow Fen	–
❖ Hale Road	–
❖ Mow Fen	–
❖ Uttons/Tiplers Drove	–
❖ Middle Fen/River Fen	–

- 4.4. It was proposed by Mr Morgan and seconded by Mr Dodson that the above allocations should be accepted and this was unanimously agreed by the meeting.

5. Voluntary Maintenance

- 5.1. Members were reminded that the voluntary arrangements whereby the Charge-payers provide labour and plant to spread materials enables the maximum amount to be spent on materials. All were in agreement that this approach has worked very well in the past and that the current voluntary arrangements should continue.

- 5.2. The Charge-payers' Representatives will undertake periodic monitoring of the Bye-ways and ordering and spreading of materials as follows:

Bye-way	Charge-payer responsible
Cow Fen	Mr Wilderspin
Hale/Mow Fen	Mr Johnson
Scotland Drove	Under review
Uttons/Tiplers Drove	Mr Wedd and Mr Dodson
Middle/River Fen	Mr Morgan (in conjunction with Messrs Cook and Johnson)

- 5.3. Discussion took place regarding the condition of all Byeways and areas/locations that require particular attention in Tiplers Drove, Utton's Drove and Cow Fen.

- 5.4. It was agreed that the use of a local contractor to carry out re-shaping works along Utton's Drove should be investigated and this should be funded from contingencies.

- 5.5. The condition of the Tiplers Drove Byeway was discussed in detail and the Drainage Manager agreed to inspect the location and, if possible, agree suitable repairs with the local landowner.

- 5.6. The meeting agreed that Brick Kiln, Lirstall and Turnbridge Bye-ways should continue to be maintained only on an "as required" basis.

- 5.7. It was proposed by Mr Morgan and seconded by Mr Dodson that the voluntary arrangements on the spreading of materials should continue while the District Council would allocate the materials.

6. Any Other Business

- 6.1 The condition of the hedgerows along the byeways was discussed in detail and Members requested that all ratepayers should be asked to trim back any hedgerows adjoining the

byeways. It was suggested that the request could be included as part of the annual rate demand in order to save on postage.

6.2 The meeting closed at 20.50