

CAXTON PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall
on Thursday 11 September 2014 at 7.45 pm**

Present: Councillors: K Howard (Chairman), K Human, E Blair, R Millard, L Post and J Molloy.

In attendance: District Cllr A Elcox and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary. LGS Services)

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

None. Cllr Blair arrived at 7.50 pm.

1.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda

None.

1.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests

Dispensations for Cllrs Howard and Blair had already been granted. Cllr Human submitted an application for a dispensation as a resident of Ermine Street. The Chairman outlined the dispensation procedure.

1.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None.

Comments & observations from members of the public and reports from District & County Councillors

None at this point.

2. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 10 July 2014

RESOLVED that the minutes of 10 July be approved and signed by the Chairman at the end of the meeting ^(Prop EB, 2nd RM), after the alteration of the word “registrations” under Item 5.1 to “resignations”.

3. To consider applications for co-option to fill vacancies resulting from insufficient candidates at election

RESOLVED that Laurence Post be co-opted as a member of the Parish Council ^(Prop EB, 2nd RM) He signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

RESOLVED that Janet Molloy be co-opted as a member of the Parish Council ^(Prop EB, 2nd KHu) She signed the declaration of acceptance of office..

Cllr Post gave his apologies for the next meeting as he will be on holiday.

A third application for co-option had been received, but as the Parish Council wished to meet the applicant, who was not present, and the a section of the application form needed to be completed consideration of this application was deferred to the next meeting. ^(Prop KHo, 2nd EB)

4. Matters arising from the last meeting**4.1 (5.1) Village Hall Committee and Village Hall internal refurbishment**

The Chairman reported on the recent Village Hall Committee (VHC) meeting he had attended on 30 July. Refurbishment cannot take place until the building has been given the chance to dry out, when it can be seen whether there is a residual problem.

RESOLVED to note that the Parish Council had paid £48 for Cambridgeshire ACRE membership for the VHC to benefit from their help and advice as agreed at the last meeting.

(8.1) Following the Parish Council’s complaint Mr Gawn’s professional body is convening a panel meeting, and the Council will be kept informed of the outcome.

4.2 (8.2) CCC request for contribution towards works to the watercourse - update

RESOLVED to note that the ditch work had been carried out but debris had since accumulated again.

RESOLVED to pay the £500 towards the watercourse work as this was within the limit agreed by the Parish Council at its last meeting.

4.3 (8.4) CCC Minor Highways Improvements bid update

RESOLVED as a bid for reducing the speed limit to 20 mph was not feasible on the grounds of cost and enforceability to submit a new bid for improving the narrow pavements in Ermine Street, by increasing the width to 2 metres along the length of the village.

RESOLVED that costings for chicanes and parking bays to deter on-pavement parking, and for a raised junction at Ermine Street, will be investigated and that Cllr Blair would draft the revised bid and discuss this with the Chairman and the Clerk before submitting it.

RESOLVED as that vegetation was still overgrowing the pavements, and causing problems for residents when using the pavements in Brockholt Road, especially wheelchair users that the Parish Council should investigate approaching charities to see whether financial support was available for improvements, to enhance the mobility of the elderly and wheelchair users. ^(Prop JM, 2nd EB)

(6.3) Sewage smell in Ermine Street

RESOLVED that as the smell affecting Ermine Street from Brockholt Road to 176 Ermine Street had worsened recently, believed to be due to a problem at the pumping station, a letter be sent to Anglian Water asking them to investigate the smell and rectify the matter. ^(Prop EB, 2nd RM)

(7.3) Play equipment and the RoSPA report

The swing seat had arrived and was waiting to be installed. Algar Signcraft will install the sign tomorrow

(8.3) Cllr Steve Jones, Bourn Parish Council – Proposal for coalition of Parish Councils to oppose the Local Plan

The Chairman reported that a copy of the consultant's report for the first two days' work was being obtained from Bourn Parish Council. A further two days' work had been contracted. It was stressed that Caxton Parish Council's contribution was contingent on receiving a copy of the reports, which should include West Cambourne.

The Chairman reported on his attendance at the Examination in Public pre-hearing at the Guildhall. A timetable had been drawn up for the hearings, lasting from November to Easter. The Inspector had indicated that she would examine the 15 year plan as presented. The procedure for the hearings was outlined. It was understood that no new arguments could be introduced, but as transport had already been covered in the Parish Council's response, reference to information from the transport report could be included.

District Cllr Elcox arrived at 8.50 pm. She reported that she had been granted two slots to speak at the Examination hearing.

RESOLVED to contact District Cllr Morgan to enquire whether he had been able to contact the Police about putting notices on cars parked on the pavements.

Cllr Elcox reported that Cambourne Parish Council was trying to have West Cambourne included within its parish boundaries, to gain the status of a town so that shops could be built. The Parish Council expressed the hope that Cambourne Parish Council would keep it updated.

5. Local matters and members items for info only unless stated

5.1 Report of vermin in Brockholt Road

RESOLVED in view of the complaints from residents to the residents of Brockholt Road stating that it understands there has been a problem with rats and that under no

circumstances should anyone put foodstuffs near or on the banks of the brook, or into the brook, near their properties. ^(Prop KHo, 2nd KHu) The Chairman will distribute the letters.

5.2 Footpaths and hedges

RESOLVED that as overgrown hedges were restricting passage along narrow footpaths in Brockholt Road and along the main road an article be placed in the newsletter and a letter to residents prepared pointing out that it was their responsibility to cut back hedges and bushes on their properties, and that if this was not done, the County Council could enforce action, with the costs to be borne by residents.

RESOLVED that items on topics such as hedges and dog fouling should appear separately in the newsletter.

The pond at the top of Tate's field adjacent to the footpath is overgrown with rushes and reeds, and quotations for clearing it are to be obtained. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

It was noted that BT were consulting on the removal of the telephone box at the corner of Brockholt Road and had asked if the Parish Council wished to take on responsibility for the box, or it would be taken away.

The Chairman reported that he had been approached by a film producer enquiring about the provision of space for tents. This had been referred to the Newsletter Editor.

6. Planning and Tree Works

6.1 Applications received since the last meeting

6.1.1 S/1574/14/FL – Kartsport, Royston Road – Change of use of land and buildings to include use Class A1 and B2 with associated storage and B8 self-storage – to note response made between meetings.

RESOLVED to note that the Parish Council had recommended approval.

6.2 SCDC notifications - to note any received

6.2.1 S/1259/14/FL – 31 Bourn Road – Two storey rear extension, re-roofing of porch and utility room and rendering of all masonry external walls, part retrospective – Permission granted by SCDC – Noted.

6.3 Tree works applications – to consider any received – None.

7. Finance and procedure

7.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills

RESOLVED to receive the financial report, and that the invoices and bank statements be checked at the end of the meeting, before the cheques are signed.

RESOLVED that the payments as listed, plus Buchans (Grass cutting) £384.00, be approved for payment. ^(Prop KHu, 2nd EB)

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| FLP (Swing seat) | £88.80 |
| LGS Services (Admin support) | £886.31 |
| Salaries | £240.14 |
| HMRC (PAYE/NIC) | £87.60 |
| Buchans (Grass cutting) | £384.00 |

Credits including the SCDC Notice Board Grant, the S106 agreement money for the land at the rear of the Cross Keys, and the CCC Verges Grant, were noted.

7.2 To consider any quotes for urgent works required because of risk – None.

7.3 To consider quotations for insurance cover

RESOLVED that the three quotations received should be circulated to all members for consideration and that they should let the Clerk know which quotation should be accepted. The exemplary service provided to date by Came and Company was

acknowledged. RESOLVED to check that the new playground equipment is covered. RESOLVED to insure the wall around the fountain in addition to the fountain itself, which is already covered. (Prop EB, 2nd RM)

7.4 To consider the requirements of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014

RESOLVED that updated details of members' names and addresses and up to date agendas and minutes be sent to SCDC for inclusion on their website, and also on the Parish Council's website which is hosted by SCDC. Draft minutes are to be received within two weeks of meetings.

8. To consider matters arising out of correspondence received including

8.1 Cambridgeshire ACRE Housing Needs Survey – to consider the report and request from SCDC for a meeting

The survey had indicated a need for ten affordable homes in the village. RESOLVED that local occupancy should be maximised and that if people have a connection to Caxton, there should be housing available to them. RESOLVED that the Parish Council support the findings of the Housing Needs Survey (Prop KHo, 2nd EB, carried with 2 abstentions) and acknowledge that there was a need within Caxton, and the Council should work to secure this need in any new development coming forward. There should be a means of facilitating shared ownership based on what local people could afford, and it would be reasonable to return to the individuals concerned to check their views on the affordability of the three bedroom bungalows proposed by the survey.

RESOLVED that to argue strongly against the inclusion of a MIP clause, as it wished to guarantee housing in perpetuity.

RESOLVED that the Chairman, together with Cllr Blair, should attend any informal meeting with SCDC, but if a formal meeting was required, SCDC should come to a Parish Council meeting.

8.2 Eltisley Parish Council proposal for shared purchase of mobile speed warning sign and request for financial contribution

RESOLVED that members should study the equipment on the website and to reply to Eltisley Parish Council asking how it envisaged the scheme working, and who would be responsible for the equipment.

Deferred to the next meeting pending a response.

District Cllr Elcox left the meeting at 10.00 pm.

8.3 CCC Flooding questionnaire

RESOLVED that members should review the questionnaire and complete it individually if possible.

8.4 Cambridge City Council consultation on the future of Park Street Car Park

RESOLVED to respond that the Parish Council supports Option 3 because it is self-funding. (Prop KHo, 2nd LP)

8.5 SCDC notes from Planning Forum meeting on 21 July – Noted.

9. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 10.11 pm.

SignedChairmandate.