

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

SWAVESEY BYE-WAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

TUESDAY 26 JANUARY 2016 AT 7.30 PM

Present:

Councillor Mrs Ellington

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Mr J Dodson

Charge-payers' Representative

Mr G Wedd

Charge-payers' Representative

Mr D Morgan

Charge-payers' Representative

Mr A Day

Charge-payers' Representative

Mr K Wilderspin

Charge-payers' Representative

M Lisa Boyes

Parish Council Representative

Ms H Parish

Parish Representative

Mr J Shepperson

In Attendance

Mr P C Matthews – South Cambridgeshire District Council's Drainage Manager and Mr Rob Mungovan, SCDC Ecology Officer

Apologies: C'llr Robert Turner, Ms Sue Rogers and Mr John Johnson

1. Introduction and Election of Chairman

1.1. In the absence of C'llr Turner, it was agreed that the Council's Drainage Manager should act as chairman for the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

2.1. The minutes of the previous meeting of 10 February 2015 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 Executive Director – Corporate Services

3.1. The meeting received a report on expenditure for the year 2015/16 (to 26 January 2016).

3.2. The Executive Director had shown, in his report, that there would be a balance of £5780 in the contingency account at the end of 2015/16 and suggested that £135 should be added to the contingency account in 2016-2017.

- 3.3. If £2,500 was allowed for maintenance in 2016/17, then a rate of £1.00 per hectare could be levied.
- 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, 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. Detailed discussions took place regarding the current levels of expenditure and the potential for a shortage of future funds due to increases in materials cost. It was noted that the chargepayers’ rate had been increased to £1.00 for the current year and it was unanimously agreed that a further increase to £1.10 should be recommended to South Cambs DC for the year 2016/17.
- 4.3. It was reported that Councillor Ellington and the Drainage Manager carried out an inspection of the byeways on 18 January 2016 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/Lairstall Drove
- ❖ Hale Road
- ❖ Mow Fen
- ❖ Uttons/Tipplers Drove
- ❖ Middle Fen

- 4.4. It was proposed by Mr Wilderspin and seconded by Mr Wedd that the above byeways should be allocated materials 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/Lairstall	Mr Wilderspin
Hale/Mow Fen	Mr Johnson
Scotland Drove	Under review
Uttons/Tipplers Drove	Mr Wedd and Mr Kerley
Middle/River Fen	Ms Rogers

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

6. **Any Other Business**

- 6.1 Discussions took place again on the proposed laying of the new sewer along Uttons Drove Byeway that will be associated with the Northstowe development. Great concern was expressed that the proposed sewer would cause long-term damage to the fabric of both the drove itself and the adjacent award drain. The Drainage Manager confirmed that no start date had been confirmed for these works. However, members of the committee agreed that the committee should undertake a condition survey (photographs) of the relevant byeway before any works commence - SCDC to monitor.

The meeting closed at 20.50