

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

SWAVESEY BYE-WAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

TUESDAY 28 JANUARY 2014 AT 7.30 PM

Present:

Councillor Mrs Ellington	South Cambridgeshire District Council
Councillor Robert Turner	South Cambridgeshire District Council
Mr J Dodson	Charge-payers' Representative
Mr G Wedd	Charge-payers' Representative
Mr J Johnson	Charge-payers' Representative
Mr A Day	Charge-payers' Representative
Mr K Wilderspin	Charge-payers' Representative
Ms Lisa Boyes	Parish Council Representative
Ms S Rogers	Parish Council Representative
Ms H Parish	Parish Representative

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

Apologies: Mr J Shepperson and Mr D Morgan

1. Introduction and Election of Chairman

1.1. It was agreed that C'llr Turner should act as chairman for the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

2.1. The minutes of the previous meeting of 24 January 2013 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 2013/14 (to 28 January 2014).

3.2. The Executive Director had shown, in his report, that there would be a balance of £5685 in the contingency account at the end of 2013/14 and suggested that £1,100 is added to the contingency account in 2014-2015.

3.3. If £2,400 was allowed for maintenance in 2014/15, then a rate of 90p per hectare could be levied. The Drainage Manager again indicated that the contingency figure is at 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, 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 Wedd and seconded by Mr Johnson that the above rate should be levied for the coming year and this was unanimously agreed by the meeting.
- 4.3. It was reported that Councillor Ellington, Councillor Turner and the Drainage Manager carried out an inspection of all byeways on 28 January 2014 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 Ms Rogers that the above byeways should be allocated materials and this was unanimously agreed by the meeting.
- 4.5. Detailed discussions took place on the condition of Middle Fen drove. The drove has deteriorated to the extent that large holes exist and works using heavy plant will be required to reinstate the surface. It was agreed that the Council should approach some of the landowners with a view to undertaking works on a voluntary basis in order to restore the drove to more useable condition.

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 Johnson 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 on possible works related to the Northstowe development and new sewer laying close to the byeways. Mr Wilderspin cautioned against contractors' plant and equipment using the droves and causing excessive damage. It was agreed this situation would be closely monitored.

6.2 The meeting closed at 21.10