

ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17 February 2016 at 7 30 pm in the Gordon Woolhouse Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall.

Present: Terry Sadler (Chairman), Jess Bloomfield, Simon Cheney, Owen McGuire, Tim Pavelin, Sian Wombwell, Peta Stevens (Parish Clerk), Cllr. Mick Martin, Cllr. Peter Topping, David Lilley and John Williams.

22/16 Apologies for absence: Lucy Davidson, Lewis Duke and Michael Robinson.

23/16 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2016: The minutes were approved and accordingly signed by the Chairman.

24/16 Adjournment for questions from members of the public. David Lilley reported that he had arranged for the real-time information system facing towards Saffron Walden to be removed for repair. It was hoped it would be reinstalled by the end of the week.

25/16 Matters Arising:

The Chairman brought forward the following two items:

239/15 Wellcome Trust offer to reimburse costs of producing Icene: Editor's request that the Council's decision be reversed. John Williams attended for this item as Editor of Icene. He expanded on his concern at the Parish Council's agreement at its last meeting to accept the Wellcome Genome Campus's offer to reimburse the costs of printing Icene. In his view, given the Campus's ambitious expansion plans, which could have adverse consequences for Ickleton, it would be unfortunate if a perception of closeness between the Campus and the Council were allowed to develop as the latter would be considering any future planning applications. Icene was a Parish Council publication, and one that was self-funding at present as a result of its successful advertising section. Councillors respected his view but felt that acceptance of a relatively small amount of funding support would not sway any future decisions (likely to be 3 to 4 years in the future). They also felt it would be unfortunate to reverse a decision so swiftly, but agreed that Councillors would be free to air their concerns at any point and the situation could be reviewed later in the year. The Chairman and Councillors thanked John Williams for his invaluable voluntary support in editing the Icene and agreed that he was doing a splendid job. They hoped that this difference of opinion would not affect a good working relationship.

John Williams expressed his disappointment at this outcome and, due to a prior commitment, then left the meeting

33/16 Cemetery /Chapel – Condition to be kept under Review.

i. Annual Cemetery headstone review. The Chairman thanked David Lilley for undertaking this review which had not identified any problems.

ii Repairs to the side extension of the Cemetery Chapel. The Chairman had circulated a quotation he had received from Shane Cahill of Landmark Restoration for this work. It was agreed unanimously to approve the quote for this work using plain circle end plates, at a cost of £520. This excluded the cost of a generator and Councillors were asked to let the Chairman or Clerk know if they were aware of anyone who could help with this.

Action: All

iii. Ickleton Burial Board Charges Since inflation was at a low rate, it was agreed to leave charges at their present level but to introduce a charge of £56 for the right to install an additional memorial plaque, e.g. to denote a subsequent interment of ashes. The Funeral Directors' version of Ickleton Parish Council's Cemetery Grave and Memorial Conditions was also approved.

Action: Clerk

019/14 Ickleton Village Hall – Supplementary Trust Deed –Nothing had been received from the Charity Commission concerning the amendment of the Village Hall deed. **Action: Clerk**

043/14 Ickleton Post Office –Dilip Odedra was considering an alternative proposal recently received from the Post Office.

026/12 Proposed 20mph Speed Limit and HCV's. Nothing to report at this point. **Action: TS**

169/14 Ickleton Information Guide To be completed in the near future. **Action: J Flitton, C Driver**

197/14 Defibrillator The date for the third training session had yet to be confirmed **Action: Lewis D**

010/15 Parking on pavements. In the absence of Michael Robinson, this item was held over until next month. **Action: MR, Clerk**

045/15 Token of appreciation for former Clerk. The Chairman reported that he had not received any

suggestions for the wording of the plaque to be attached to the seat. **Action: TS, Clerk**
086/15 Landscaping project: Boundaries of Howey's Yard. Sian Wombwell had visited the site. She reported that, as the new house occupied most of the site, there was little scope for any significant landscaping, particularly as the layout would preclude any machinery being used. This was a disappointing outcome but, given the imminent completion of this stage of building, she would re-assess the situation before the next Parish Council meeting. **Action: SW**

094/15 Local Government Transparency Code. The Chairman and Clerk still had to consider how information available to residents via the Village website could be improved. **Action: TS, Clerk**

095/15. Recognition of achievement from Parish Council (residents or groups). The Clerk had now received six nominations. The deadline for submissions was 31 March 2016, allowing for a further mention of the scheme to be included in the March Issue. Owen McGuire offered to replace Susan Clew on the Committee. It was agreed that the Terms and Conditions of award should be clarified so that individuals winning were given the opportunity to donate their prize to a charity of their choice, if they so wished. **Action: OM, TP, MR, TS, Clerk**

116/15 Issues with the local road network. Heidi Allen had not yet responded although there was some awareness that she was promoting the improvement of the A505. **Action: TS**

144/15 Resolution of an SCDC Planning decision concerning Permitted Development. Cllr. Martin clarified that SCDC Planning officers had recognised that an earlier decision that the structure in question was permitted development had been made on entirely wrong grounds. SCDC had requested the submission of a new planning application.

150/15 New advertising sign overlooking the M11. The Chairman reported on recent interactions with the company dealing with this matter. It had established that the sign had been erected without permission, and was now investigating ownership of the land on which it was situated. **Action: TS**

181/15 Uttlesford Planning Policy Working Group: Proposed sites for new developments. An e-mail from the Chairman of the Great Chesterford Parish Council had been circulated. UDC would not be having a formal public consultation on its recent "call for sites" process. They were not required to do this, although it had been anticipated that they would. Councillors thought that this was very unsatisfactory, particularly given the implications if any one of the three sites adjacent to Ickleton were to go ahead. The Chairman would be in touch with the Great Chesterford Chairman. **Action: TS**

193/15 Bid for an agri-tech hub at Hinxton. The Chairman had received an e-mail from a resident suggesting that a representative of the proposed agri-tech hub be invited to attend the special meeting organised for 24th February when Martin Dougherty from the Wellcome Genome Campus would present its 25-year vision for the Campus. It was agreed that it was preferable to keep the 24th for the Campus plans alone. Since SmithsonHill was being pro-active in promoting interaction with science and business enterprises to discuss traffic improvements, it would be useful if Mrs Fletcher could attend next month's meeting to give an update on her work in this area. It was noted from Cllr. Topping's report (see Appendix A) that A505 congestion would be discussed at the end of the month when the County Council and the SCDC Planning Director met major local employers with considerable growth plans (the Babraham Institute, Wellcome Genome Campus and Granta Park) and SmithsonHill, to see what might be achieved by a joint transport plan, and the financial implications. **Action: TS, Clerk**

196/15 Unsatisfactory state of certain grips, gullies and drains. Most of the items on the CCC Highways website map were now cleared. The Wombwells were thanked for having dug out the grips along Grange Road at their own expense as this would preserve the grass verges as well as keeping the road clear of water.

205/15 Local Highways Improvement Scheme 2016-17. The Chairman had presented the case supporting the Parish Council's bid for a mobile interactive speed indicating sign and had been questioned as to whether any neighbourhood speed-watch initiative had been instigated. The outcome was expected in early March. **Action: TS**

201/15 Compilation of a project priority list for highways improvements. This would be held over until a number of standing items could be removed from the agenda. **Action: Clerk**

218/15 Availability of super-fast broadband within the Village. The Chairman was in direct contact with the Project Director of Connecting Cambridgeshire and had established that two distinct problems had contributed to Frogge Street residents being unable to access super-fast broadband. The problem of a tree

damaging telephone wires appeared to have been resolved. Connecting Cambridgeshire had advised that the problems affecting Frogge Street residents (between Nos.60 and 111) arose from their houses being connected to the Great Chesterford exchange rather than routed via the new green cabinet. Simon Cheney offered to explore an informal means of resolving this. **Action: TS, JB, SC, Clerk**

218/15 Proposal for change to traffic arrangements: low bridge on the road towards Great Chesterford The Chairman had sent a letter to CCC Highways expressing the Council's concern about accidents at the bridge but had received a brusque reply to the effect that this was an Essex CC matter. It was noted, however, that the incidents witnessed had occurred on that part of the road which fell under CCC Highways' responsibility. A possibility raised was for some form of warning mechanism to be installed before the entrance to the bridge. Given the serious situation that might arise if there was a direct collision, and the increase in traffic, it was agreed that the Chairman should raise this issue at the proposed meeting with Cllr. Topping and Evan Laughlin of CCC Highways. **Action: TS**

232 & 244/15 Request for removal of personal information from the website version of Icene This was in hand. **Action: TS**

239/15 Wellcome Genome Campus: Expansion Plans The Genome Campus Chief Operating Officer, Martin Dougherty, would address Ickleton residents at a meeting to be held at 7.30p.m. Wednesday February 24th in the Gordon Woolhouse Meeting Room in the Village Hall. **Action: TS, Clerk**

255/25 SCDC Community Award Scheme The awards meeting would be held at SCDC in Cambourne on the evening of 10th March. **Action: TS**

269/15 Grass Verges in Abbey Street. Cllr. Topping would set up a site meeting with the Chairman, Mr Evan Laughlin from CCC Highways and himself. **Action: Cllr. Topping, TS**

09/16 Disturbance from quad bike noise. The Clerk had written to the resident concerned and had received a detailed response. This would be circulated and anyone with concerns was requested to contact the Chairman in the first instance.

14/16 Construction of a BMX Track The Chairman had contacted the owner of the land where this activity was taking place. He had confirmed that this was operating without his knowledge/permission and he would take steps to ensure that this use of the site stopped.

26/16 Youth Representation: None.

27/16 Reports from District and County Councillors:

District Councillor's Report

1. Budget Cllr. Martin reported that further clarification of the Chancellor's Autumn Statement had revealed the need for even greater savings. Although there would be a small amount of transitional funding over the next two financial years, SCDC would need to find an additional £1m since by 2019 it would no longer be in receipt of any Government funding. This would necessitate implementing the maximum increase of £5 in Council tax, which represented 10p/week for Band D properties.

2. Devolution Following recent high-level Government-led discussions in Cambridge involving representatives from Norfolk, Suffolk, Peterborough, Cambridge City and SCDC, it appeared an announcement was imminent of an "East Anglian Power House". It was uncertain what this would involve, but it was likely that the proposed consortium would request the removal of the five-year housing land supply requirement and would also seek an overturn of present starter home regulations to provide an enhanced supply of affordable housing. It was unclear how this proposal would interact with existing plans e.g. the City Deal.

Cllr. Martin left the meeting

County Councillor's Report

A copy of Cllr. Topping's report is attached as Annex A.

Cllr. Topping commented on the prolonged consultations to finalise the budget. The outcome had been a 2% increase in social care expenditure but with all other costs being frozen. In effect, this would result in major spending constraints in areas such as roads, libraries etc. although the position was likely to be alleviated by savings efficiencies. Cllr. Topping also drew attention to the County's recent recognition that the A505 required improvement. Heidi Allen MP was involved in these discussions.

28/16/ Correspondence received

SCDC (P Adams) Agenda for Weekly Bulletin
SCDC (K Laws) Ickleton textile recycling bank.

SCDC (C Hunt)	Local Plan skeleton programme published.
SCDC (H Duffett)	Street cleaning in Ickleton
CCC (Alex Hinds)	Electoral Review of Cambridgeshire-final recommendations
CCC (J Cantwell)	Future arrangements for school crossing patrols.
CCC (N Godfrey)	Ickleton residents unable to receive high-speed broadband.
CAPALC (T Webb)	DIS <i>Extra</i> : Issue877
	2016 Good Councillor Guide
	Improvement Bulletin February 2016.
	Public Sector Mapping Agreement: Annual Conference
	Draft Minutes - CAPALC AGM
	Local Council Award Scheme-applications review.
Chairman, Gt Chesterford Parish Council	Update
T Bristowe	Exchange of e-mails re illegal BMX track.
Mrs E Baker	Response to Clerk's letter about quad bike noise.
Cambridgeshire ACRE	Cambridge Community Fair 2016
	Survey on the organisation's future funding provision
	Invitation to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Neighbourhood Plan Show 21 March.
Cambridge Council for Voluntary Services Parish Council	update January 2016
CPRE	January e-bulletin
Local Council Public Advisory Service: Public Nuisance and bylaws course	
	Rights of way and byways course
Engagement (NHS)	Various e-newsletters.
Rural Services Network	Weekly rural newsletters
	Rural opportunities bulletin
Rural Vulnerability Service	Rural Transport February 2016
Stop Stansted Expansion	Review of 2015
Wicksteed Leisure	Lead and cadmium paint statement
Public Sector Executive on-line	Various emails.
Other various e-mails	Circulated to Councillors during the month.
E-Cops	Daily updates.
Neighbourhood Alert	Various e-mails.
Sir Graham Bright	Monthly update.
HM Revenue & Customs	Various e-mails.

29/16 Planning applications received from SCDC Declarations of interest to be declared

i. **S/3085/15/FL, Single storey extension, 20 Brookhampton Street, Ickleton (M. Waters)**

Recommendation: Approval

ii **S/3180/15/FL Retrospective planning permission for demolition of existing agricultural storage unit and planning permission for erection of new agricultural storage unit and associated welfare and office facilities 11, Mill Lane, Ickleton.** (Graham Wallis). The Parish Council considered there was little justification to support this proposal to replace a single-storey agricultural storage unit by a two-storey building which was intended to be situated towards the middle of the site. This would place it in proximity to the main dwelling and with more an appearance of a unit functioning as an annexe to the nearby dwelling than an agricultural building. This would have an adverse impact on the conservation area.

The Parish Council felt that if there was a requirement for a unit to serve the applicant's activities and to perform the functions outlined in the application, this could be more sustainably done via a conversion of one of the other buildings or part building in the yard, which could – without an increase in height - be capable of enhancing the conservation area. However, if the Local Planning Authority was minded to approve this application, the Parish Council would wish to see a condition attached which prevented the proposed building being used as an annexe to the dwelling house, or its

subsequent conversion to an independent residential unit, without appropriate planning permission being sought beforehand.

Recommendation: Refusal

Amendment to Planning Application

S/2619/15/FL: Installation of Two Electricity Substations and Cable Route to Solar Farms, Land at Church Street, Thriplow -revised siting of cable route, drainage report and ecological report.(Push Energy Ltd.).

Recommendation: No Comment

Correspondence received: Notices of amendment relating to planting arrangements at the proposed solar farms at:

1. Rectory Farm

2. Abbey Farm

Recommendation: Approve both

(Sian Wombwell left the meeting before the remaining Councillors considered the solar farms applications, returning after the recommendations had been made in her absence.)

Notification of applications to carry out tree works (comments only if desired).

i. CA054-5-2-16. Reduce a 25ft yew tree by approx. by 1/3rd as touching the roof of the property. 21 Church Street (Mrs S Fawcett).

Decision: No comment

ii. CA054-5-2-16 1458 Fell conifer as too big for garden, will not be replaced but adjacent plum tree will be allowed to flourish. Frogge Hall,37 Frogge Street.(Mr J Ward)

Decision: No comment

For information only

Removal Dead or dangerous tree, River House, Church Street.

Cllr. Topping left the meeting.

30/16 Reports from Councillors.

Terry Sadler had received a report from a Frogge Street resident about Anglian Water having to be called to clear a sewer blockage from Frogge Street. This was caused by wet wipes/baby wipes which the visiting engineer stated had also been the cause of a much larger blockage which occurred at the end of 2015 at the corner of Frogge St/Abbey St. Having noted that all Ickleton residents bore the cost of such blockages through payments to Anglian Water on their water bills, it was agreed to include an item in Icene advising residents that blockages were occurring.

Sian Wombwell commented on the unsanitary state of the area near to the electricity sub-station on Church Street. It appeared that the gate lock had been broken and that the land inside was being used as a general dumping area. The Clerk would investigate.

Action: Clerk

31/16 Finance (Bank Balances) including payments to:

Harts (January Icene) £97.98; C.J Murfitt (replacement cheque for material to repair path in field beyond Tin Alley) £87.60; A Pavelin (emptying litter bins) £100.

Money received: S Maynard (purchase double burial plot) £146; A Deptford (refund part cost of child defibrillator pads) £48. The Wildlife Trust (Contribution to Coploe Pit costs) £337.50. Walden Ladies (hire football pitches) £50.

Icene Received: S Reynolds £25.00. Brian and Carol Girling (Moncraft) £40.

Bank Balances: Community Account:£18,779.19. Business Base Rate Tracker Account: £25,843.31.

Precept 2016/17. A request for a £500 increase in the Precept to £24,000 had been submitted to SCDC.

VAT reclaim A claim for £1,132.36 had been submitted.

32/16 Recreation Field and Play Area

i Update on play area refurbishment project. In Lucy Davidson's absence, this was held over until next month.

Action: Lucy D

ii. Dog fouling in the Playground. Tom Dazey would embed paving stones under the gates where soil erosion had left a space big enough for dogs to get in. As nothing further could be done, this item would be removed from the agenda.

Action: Clerk

iii Grass cutting quotes. These would be brought to the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

iv Play area inspection The annual reminder had been received. Unaccompanied inspections of the playground and skate park at a cost of £45 per area were approved.

Action: Clerk

v State of Back Lane The Chairman had received a complaint about the state of Back Lane due to its use by contractors working at Howey's Yard. The developer had given an undertaking to make good. Better weather conditions would help. The project was scheduled for completion in June. A further area of concern was the muddiness of the Recreation Field around the Back Lane entrance. A suggestion that

Section 106 funds be used to install a track from here to the Village Hall was discussed. Following changes in Government legislation, the proposed funding source was no longer available. The proposal would be left on the table, but was unlikely to be received further consideration until the Play Area refurbishment project had been completed.

33/16 Cemetery /Chapel – Condition to be kept under Review.

i. Rabbit damage and fence requiring repair. In Michael Robinson's absence, this was held over to the next meeting. **Action: MR, Clerk**

ii. Headstone check, Cemetery Chapel and Burial charges. See Minute 25/16 above.

iii. Fallen tree & leaning tree by Cemetery wall. The Clerk would seek quotations. **Action: Clerk**

34/16 Churchyard.

Repair to pedestrian gate. The Clerk would chase this up. **Action: Clerk**

Clean-up party. This would be held on Saturday March 12th, start time 09h30.

35/16 Delay in Road/Path sweeping. The Chairman had been in contact with the SCDC Streets Cleansing Supervisor to ascertain the reason for the lack of street/path cleaning in Ickleton. She had advised that a shortage of drivers had forced the redeployment of staff to rubbish collection duties but that it was hoped that the position would improve soon following the recruitment of additional staff.

36/16 Publication of Local Plan skeleton programme. This information had been released earlier in the month. It was disturbing to note that the revised timetable was likely to lead to an extension of the period of uncertainty by at least a further 3 to 4 months.

37/16 Emergency Plan/Risk Assessment Review. This was for information only at this stage but was to alert Councillors that these reviews were imminent. **Action: Clerk**

38/16 Affordable Housing. As the relevant legislation had yet to be approved by Parliament, it was agreed to delay writing to Cambridge Housing Society for the time being. **Action: TS, Lewis D**

39/16 Wellcome Genome Campus Liaison Meeting; 2pm 24th February. It was noted that it was unfortunate that this meeting would take place on the same day as that organised for the CEO of the Campus to address Ickleton residents. However, this was a quarterly meeting, attended by the Chairman and Deputy Chairman and proved a useful forum for an exchange of views on lower level issues. The Liaison Meeting date had been arranged several weeks ago and it would be discourteous to cancel or postpone at this late stage.

40/16 South Cambs Police Area Meeting Thursday 25th February Lewis Duke and Jos Flitton would attend. The Chairman had asked that they try to establish the Police position on enforcing the 20mph speed limit in the Village. **Action: Lewis D, JF**

41/16 Roles and Responsibilities of Councillors. Minor amendments were agreed to fill previously vacant slots as well as those which had fallen vacant on Susan Clew's resignation. **Action: Clerk**

42/16 Adjournment for questions from members of the public: None.

43/16 Date and time of next meeting –Wednesday 16th March 2016 at 7.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 22h10.

Chairman

Date

County Council report for Ickleton Parish Council

February 2016

From county councillor Peter Topping

Budget setting at the county

This was settled yesterday after over 12 hours of debate and negotiation at Shire Hall. The final decision is to increase spend on social care by 2% and to freeze all other council expenditure. Some councillors wanted to increase the budget by 3.99% (ie the 2% on social care plus an across the board increase of 1.99%, which would be the maximum allowed without the requirement to hold a referendum.) Some wanted no increase at all. Some proposed a middle ground of 1.99%-2%. The local health sector wrote to the county council formally to warn of the risks if social care budgets were not protected, but even with this 2% (or about £4m) there will still be cuts to the social care budget, as there will be to other budgets, such as roads, libraries and so on. The government did recently increase the county's grant allocation by about £4m, although the county maintains that it's grants from government do not reflect the speed at which the county is growing, and the costs of the associated infrastructure (schools, roads etc).

Not all the cuts are a bad thing. On the health committee, on which I sit, we discovered that the county was paying a fee to an American firm for use of their licensed healthcare programme, whereas we can use a non-licenced programme developed in the UK.

Cereals 2016

I met with the organisers and they took me through their extensive traffic management plans for the period leading up to, and including the event itself, on 15-16 June. Some 26,000 farmers are expected to be there, with expected attendance by Defra Ministers (probably George Eustace) on the first day. It is clear that the offer of access to roads across private land by Ickleton landowners has assisted the drafting of a sensible set of arrangements. The plans for the flows of traffic in and out of the site seem well thought through. I can see - having looked at their plans - that a route making use of north Essex would have created a ripple effect of road closures and one-way systems that would have been logistically very challenging, so it does seem that the only way is Ickleton, as opposed to Essex. (joke)

Verges in High Street and 20mph queries

I have asked Evan Laughlin at the County council for times and dates when he can come out to discuss both a reasonable price for the posts to protect the grass verges in the High St, and the remaining issues re roundels and repeater signs for the 20MPH speed zone. It is likely to be early March now. His assistant, Peter Taylor, should be the person to contact for minor repairs, drain problems, holes in the road etc, but Evan is better placed to deal with these issues.

A505

I met with Bob Menzies, the transport and infrastructure director and the County Council. We discussed that proposals put forward to do with the A1307 from Haverhill to Cambridge, and where the analysis and modelling that has been carried suggests that the more ambitious plans such as a rail route or a bus lane do not offer much in terms of a return on investment. The proposals for a park and ride near fourwentsays are open to consultation. We also discussed the A505 congestion. The county council is meeting at the end of February with those major local employers who appear to have considerable growth plans (Babraham Inst, Welcome Trust and Granta Parks, principally) together with the district council's planning director, and SmithsonHill, to see what might be achieved by a joint transport plan, and what financial contributions might be sought, so that the amount needed from government to improve the A505 could be assessed. The county intends to commission a survey projecting the growth in the area and the impact on roads and other infrastructure. There is also growth on other sites as well as these big names – there are 150 people now working at the business centre in the Officers Mess Building at Duxford.

I have made the point that there needs to be an early opportunity for local people to comment on the proposals and ideas that the local businesses come up with, but this is a start, and a different message from the county from a few months ago when the view seemed to be that the A505 would just have to cope.

And finally...

Credible reports were made to police of children seen on the rail tracks south of Whittlesford station. As a result, BBC Radio Cambs ran a theme of railway danger in their morning show last Weds, 10 Feb, and I was interviewed at the station. The story was also covered in the Cambridge News.

Please contact me if there are county council matters that you think I can help you with

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