

ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16 November 2016 at 19h.30 in the Gordon Woolhouse Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall.

Present: Terry Sadler (Chairman), Jess Bloomfield, Simon Cheney, Lewis Duke, Owen McGuire, Tim Pavelin, Michael Robinson, Sian Wombwell, Peta Stevens (Parish Clerk).and David Lilley.

202/16 Apologies for absence: Lucy Davidson. Other absences: Cllrs Mick Martin and Peter Topping.

203/16 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 October 2016. Subject to the amendment of a reference number, the minutes were approved and accordingly signed by the Chairman.

204/16 Adjournment for questions from the public. David Lilley reported that the Saffron Walden-facing bus sign had not worked for over a month. There was apparently a power supply problem for which Balfour Beatty were responsible. The Clerk would progress this via CCC. **Action: Clerk**

205/16 Matters arising.

026/12 20mph Speed Limit / HCVs and issues with the local road network. See 204/15 below.

169/14 Ickleton Information Guide. The Chairman was working on this. **Action: TS**

045/15 Token of appreciation for former Clerk. An engraver contacted by the Chairman had outlined difficulties associated with producing a plaque of appropriate thickness and quality for attachment to a circular bench. Possibilities were suggested which the Chairman would pursue. **Action: TS**

086/15 Landscaping project: Boundaries of Howey's Yard. A resident had complained about the appearance of Back Lane. Councillors thought the contractor had made a reasonable job of the repairs which would quickly get dirty and blend in with the existing surface. **Action: TS, Clerk**

094/15 Local Government Transparency Code. The Clerk would meet with Simon Cheney and Lucy Davidson to progress posting of financial material to the Village website. **Action: SC, LD, Clerk**

144/15 Resolution of an SCDC Planning decision concerning Permitted Development. In the absence of Cllr. Martin this item was held over to next month. **Action: TS, Cllr. Martin**

181/15 Uttlesford Planning Policy Working Group: Proposed sites for new developments It now appeared that news of Great Chesterford being rejected as a site for a new settlement had been premature. The Chairman reported that several Uttlesford Councillors had called for an extraordinary meeting of UDC which was being held concurrently with this Ickleton PC Meeting. Hinxtton Parish Council Chairman was attending to ask two questions on behalf of South Cambs villages. The Chairman had tried to discover the substance of SCDC's letter to Uttlesford. Since it was important that points made by the SCDC Planning Director should not be contradicted, it was agreed that the Chairman should renew his request.

Action: TS

193/15 Bid for an agri-tech hub at Hinxtton. There was little news. The project's definition on the SmithsonHill website had been broadened to "a site for agri-tech and related sectors". **Action: TS**

201/15 Compilation of a project priority list for highways improvements. No new suggestions.

205/15 Local Highway Improvement Scheme 2016-17. CCC Highways plan for roundels.

i. Roundels The Chairman reported that CCC Highways had now ordered the roundels but they had no idea when the work would be undertaken. **Action: TS**

ii Village Speedwatch Team The group now had its own e-mail address. The Chairman was waiting for further contact from the Police Liaison Officer. **Action: TS, Clerk**

iii. Vehicle-activated speed sign The Chairman reported on his generally positive meeting with CCC Highways. It had been established that, provided suitable locations were identified, the sign could operate in both directions from single points on Abbey and Frogge Streets. Councillors were asked to think about other possible sites, taking into account the need to situate the sign above head-height. One issue was that residents might be disturbed by the flashing light. Great Chishill had obtained similar equipment and Lewis Duke would try to make contact with a Councillor there. **Action: All**

218/15 Availability of super-fast broadband within the Village. No developments. **Action: TS, Clerk**

239/15 Wellcome Genome Campus (WGC): Expansion Plans. The new Project Director had now been appointed. He would spend two or three days a week on Campus but would otherwise be London based. No further details on WGC plans had been forthcoming at the liaison meeting on 9 November which the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had attended. **Action: TS, Lewis D**

269/15 Grass Verges in Abbey Street. CCC Highways had confirmed that they were unable to repair the verges this season. Councillors queried where responsibility lay for this restoration work. However Dominic Pallett had suggested cutting back turf that had grown over the pavement and transplanting it onto the bare patches. The Clerk would follow this up. **Action: Clerk**

37/16 Emergency Plan/Risk Assessment. Lewis Duke reported that work on the Plan was progressing.

Action: Lewis D, Clerk

127/16 Conversion of certain street lights to LED. The Chairman had contacted CCC and SCDC to get a second opinion on potential cost savings if we were to convert our footway lamps to LED. He had also ascertained from SCDC that no financial benefit was on offer to encourage the reduction in maintenance costs that conversion should bring. It was agreed to wait for a response from Paul Quigley (SCDC) who was investigating the position on our behalf.

Action: TS

129/16 State of Village Footpaths. SCDC have approved our request for an additional dog bin inside the entrance to Tin Alley but there is no installation date yet. Dominic Pallett would be asked to cut back vegetation in Tin Alley as this was becoming rather overgrown.

Action: Clerk

129/16 Parish Notice Board A 3-door oak cabinet has been ordered from The Acorn Workshop, cost £1,435, delivery mid-December. Clerk to consider assembly/installation options.

Action: Clerk

149/16 Biofuel heap The company has agreed to remove the heap but a removal date is to be confirmed. Holes in the cover appeared to be caused by birds rather than rodents.

Action: TS, SW, Clerk

166/16 Potholes on Brookhampton Street These had been fixed, but the roadside edge opposite Ickleton Place is again full of water. The adjacent drain is still blocked.

Action: Clerk

175/16 Flood Awareness and Preparedness questionnaire. Lewis Duke had submitted the completed questionnaire but had not yet received any feedback.

Action: Lewis D

176/16 Purchase of Telephone Kiosk SCDC have approved our request to adopt the Frogge Street kiosk, which is the first stage of the process, but BT has been overwhelmed by the number of requests received. A further suggestion for use of the kiosk has been received; echoing an earlier suggestion. It was agreed that it would be sensible to check on progress with both SCDC and BT.

Action: Clerk

178/16 Local Highways Improvement Initiative 2017-18 The Chairman had reported on the reaction from CCC who would not support our proposal for the introduction of a 50mph limit, on the unrestricted stretches of the roads between Great Chesterford and the A505 beyond Duxford. The police were also unresponsive. It was agreed unanimously to shelve the bid for funding for the time being. The Chairman proposed taking up a suggestion of Peter Topping's to contact more senior CCC Highways officers to see what measures were possible to counter future traffic increase generated by significant future developments. It might also be worth taking up with the Wellcome Genome Campus whether there were measures they could take to limit staff using Ickleton as a rat run to work.

Action: TS

190/16(i) Community Highways Volunteering Scheme One expression of interest had been received from a resident answering an Icene item. The Chairman would meet with him to explain the bureaucracy associated with this scheme, and its limitations. He would report back.

Action: TS

190/16(ii) Reporting procedures for environmental health hazards. In the absence of Cllr. Topping, this item was held over to the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

190/16(iii) Inclusion of local roads information in the new Ordnance Survey database for satnav manufacturers. This was also for report by Cllr. Topping. It was agreed to e-mail Cllr. Topping about these two items if no response was received in the near future.

Action: Clerk

196/16 South Cambridgeshire Community Awards Scheme (closing date 20 January 2017). As no suggestions were put forward for consideration, Councillors were asked to give this some consideration as the next meeting would be their last opportunity to decide on a nomination.

Action: All

197/16 Ickleton Annual Awards Scheme As it had been agreed at the last meeting to run the Scheme again in 2017, the terms and conditions needed revision in the light of experience from the first year. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should revise these which, once approved, would be posted on the village website.

Action: TS

206/16 Youth Representation: None.

207/16 Reports from District and County Councillors. None in the absence of Cllrs Martin and Topping.

208/16 Correspondence received.

CCC Highways

CCC (A Davies)

CCC (D Jeakins)

CCC (Environment)

SCDC (P Adams)

SCDC-LDF

SCDC

SCDC (G Bell)

SCDC (I Loman)

SCDC (K Hawkes)

CAPALC (T Webb)

Engagement (NHS)

Fields in Trust

Rural Services Network

Rural Vulnerability Service

SSE

Local Council Public Advisory Service

Ordnance Survey

UK Power Network

Community Land Trust East

Arthur Rank Hospice

J Hawkins

Imperial War Museum

G Birch

J Green

Public Sector Executive on-line

e-Cops

Police and Crime Commissioner

Other various e-mails

Neighbourhood Alert

HM Revenue & Customs

With regard to the letter concerning fireworks and animal safety, the Parish feeling was that an item in the advance of next year's 5th November celebrations was appropriate.

209/16 Planning applications received from SCDC: Declarations of Interest to be declared.

i. S/2471/16/LB and S/2469/16/FL. Erection of link extensions to existing office buildings. Abbey Barns, Duxford Road, Ickleton (Mr I Small, Abbey 2000 Property Management). Lewis Duke declared an interest and left the room before the discussion and vote.

Gritting: Parishes wishing to undertake own gritting.
Confirmation: Church Street remains a priority route
Mental Capacity Act- Autumn Newsletter.
Consultation Plan on Enforcement Plan for Planning, Minerals and Waste.
Ouse Washes Public Drop-in.
Agenda for Weekly Bulletin.
Parish Planning Training.
Planning Policy Monthly Update November 2016.
Annual report on expenditure.
November parish e-bulletin.
Tree works application: New Application Procedures
BT consultation First notification re telephone kiosks.
Funding opportunities alert.
Invitation to join "My Community" Network.
DIS Extra 893
Improvement strategy for town & parish councils.
Maintenance and Repairs to Church Buildings.
Various e-newsletters.
Autumn/Winter update.
Weekly e-mail digests.
Free seminar - grants and funding.
Fuel Poverty November 2016.
November Newsletter.
Comments on Heathrow runway decision.
Health and Safety for Parish and Town Councils.
GIS launch newsletter.
Free Support available during power cuts.
Newsletter.
Winter Newsletter.
Fireworks and Animal safety.
Invitation to Neighbours Forum 5 December.
Further volunteer work at Coploe Pit.
Repairs to Back Lane.
Various emails.
Daily updates
Newsletter.
Circulated to Councillors during the month.
Various e-mails.
Various e-mails.

Agreed unanimously to support the applications

Application Approved: Construction of attached double garage, 27 Frogge Street S Wentzell
Tree works subject to a tree preservation order or situated within a conservation area.

i. 66 Abbey Street Ickleton (Mrs B Cooper) Raise crown all round to approx. 8 metres and retrim to restore original shape thereby removing present traffic obstruction in driveway.

Agreed unanimously to inform SCDC that we have no comments to make

Lewis Duke advised Councillors that, in response to a request from those working in Abbey Barns and in view of the traffic dangers to pedestrians at this part of Duxford Road, he had approached SCDC about making a 2m wide bark-covered permissive path, solely for the use of these employees. This would cross Abbey Farm land to join Abbey Street at the side of No. 72. Councillors had no objection in principle but would welcome a site visit for clarification of the siting of the path. **Action: Clerk**

210/16 Reports from Councillors

- i. Tim Pavelin congratulated the Wellcome Genome Campus on their splendid fireworks display. Councillors were informed that WGC had also undertaken to contribute to the cost of hiring the Village Hall to help the Ickleton Society put on the next Saffron Screen pop-up cinema event there.
- ii Jess Bloomfield reported that she had been approached by a resident whose wing mirror had been ripped off when she was parked on Abbey Street. The Parish Council were unable to help.
- iv Lewis Duke reported that he had received several complaints from residents about a significant influx of rats into their gardens. It appeared probable that this was associated with keeping poultry.

211/16 Finance

i. Payments made to:

Harts (October Icene) **£128.34**; A Pavelin (Litter Bins); British Legion (wreath & donation) **£80**

ii. Money received:

Peasgood and Skeates **£56** fee payable for a marble memorial tablet on the grave in Ickleton Cemetery of Barbara and Adrian Rule. Councillors **agreed unanimously** to approve the proposed layout and design.

Icene advertising income: Mr and Mrs B Girling **£30**

iii. Bank Balances as at 31 October 2016.

Community Account	£29,765.16
Business Premium Account	£25,852.97

212/16 Cemetery/Chapel

- i. Chapel repairs. The Clerk had finally made contact with the specialist roofing contractor who had last repaired the Chapel roof. He was unable to undertake any work until the New Year, but would meet with the Chairman and/or Clerk for a site visit. **Action: TS, Clerk**
- ii. Fallen tree and leaning tree by cemetery wall. The contactor would undertake the work in the near future. **Action: Clerk**

213/16 Recreation Field and Play Area:

- i. Update on play area refurbishment project. In Lucy Davidson's absence, Simon Cheney advised that they had met briefly to discuss strategy for making grant applications. **Action: Lucy D, SC**
- ii. Maintenance of football pitches Now that the ground had softened enough to allow the pitches to be rolled, the Clerk would speak to Mr Frankau. **Action: Clerk**
- iii. Weeds in bark on playground area. Nothing to report.
- iv. Repairs to Play Area gates. These had now been completed, and Councillors expressed their thanks to Ray Olds who had undertaken this work.

214/16 Churchyard.

- i. Tree in poor condition. The Clerk had spoken to the PCC Secretary about the need to remove dead wood from the lime tree in the Churchyard. **Action: Clerk**
- ii. Complaints about dog fouling. This would also be discussed at the next PCC. **Action: Clerk**

215/16 Affordable Housing. There was nothing further to report.

216/16 SCDC Parish Planning Training and Briefing Programme 2016-17. An introduction to planning for new councillors would be held in Sawston on 30 November. It appeared unlikely that any Councillor would attend.

217/16 BMX Track Activities on private land. Councillors were reminded that the landowner had been written to on two separate occasions. He had agreed initially to put up keep out signs and to remove the structures but had not responded on the second occasion. The Chairman had circulated a redacted version of a letter he had received which set out the significant risks associated with recent work on the site. This had involved enlargement of the structure and cutting down more trees but the deepening of the trench to enhance the drop was of particular concern as it had involved cutting through the roots of a tree which could fall at some point, probably across the power lines. The potential for injury had increased. Of greater concern was that the run had been extended and now passed under the 11,000 volt power line which traversed the site and a ramp had been constructed under the lines which inevitably brings bikers into

closer proximity to the cables than safe distances recommended by the Health and Safety Executive and other bodies. Councillors felt, having been alerted to the increased risks, that they had a responsibility to make these risks more widely known. Their ability to influence the situation was restricted because the BMX activities were taking place on private land. The identity of those involved remained unknown so parents could not be contacted. The power company had put up warning signs. Further information was being sought from them. Councillors were also concerned that further publicity about the site might well encourage others to join in. After a wide-ranging discussion it was agreed that the Chairman should again write to the landowner, emphasising the enhanced risk of a serious incident on the site as a result of these developments. An item would also be placed in Icene. Our PCSO would be approached for advice.

218/16 Adjournment for questions from members of the public. None

219/16 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 14 December 2016 at 7.30pm.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21.30pm.

Chairman

Date