

ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17 January 2018 at 19h.30 in the Gordon Woolhouse Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall.

Present: Terry Sadler (Chairman), Simon Cheney, Lucy Davidson, Owen McGuire, Tim Pavelin, Michael Robinson, Sian Wombwell, District Councillor Tony Orgee, David Lilley, Jocelyn Flitton, Simon Burson, Penny and Martin Woodhead.

01/18 Apologies for absence. Peta Stevens, Jess Bloomfield, Lewis Duke.

02/18 Approval of minutes of the meeting 13 December 2017. Approved by all, signed by the Chairman. The Chairman suggested bringing forward the following agenda items. This was agreed.

05/18.2 Abbey Street Bus Stop and LHII Funding Bid 2018/19

Simon Burson and another resident had emailed the Parish Council objecting to proposals that the Council had received for safety measures near the bus stop. His view was that the area could become less safe. The proposals did not address the issue of speeding or that the bus stop was in an unsuitable position. The location of the bus stop had in fact been looked at by CCC Highways. The Chairman said speeding had been a concern for years, and some traffic calming had been introduced as had a 20 mph speed limit. Ickleton now also had a Community Speedwatch Team.

Recently the Project Engineer appointed by CCC Highways had made recommendations that suggested the original proposals were unlikely to go ahead. His idea was to mark where the bus should stop and replace the barrier with posts. A meeting to discuss his suggestions had been set for 22nd January.

Simon Burson left the meeting.

09/18.1iii. Planning application: S/0068/18/FL Mr & Mrs Woodhead. Construction of new 3 bedroom dwelling house on land to the rear of The Old Vicarage, Butchers Hill (outside development framework). Formation of a new access from Butchers Hill to serve The Old Vicarage together with the construction of a garage for use by The Old Vicarage and associated landscaping.

Martin Woodhead outlined the background to the application and its aims. Lucy Davidson declared a financial interest and did not take part in the discussion or vote. Three Councillors abstained. Three voted to object owing to the site for the proposed new dwelling being outside the village development framework. Concerns were expressed about this being a backland development. The pattern of development within the conservation area was also strongly linear in nature, and this proposal could be viewed as having an adverse impact on the conservation area.

Decision: Object

Penny and Martin Woodhead left the meeting.

03/18 Adjournment for questions from members of the public. No questions.

04/18 Matters Arising:

094/15 Local Government Transparency Code. No progress.

Action: TS, Clerk

181/15 Uttlesford Draft Local Plan, including proposed North Uttlesford Garden Community. No news.

193/15. Bid by SmithsonHill for an agri-tech hub at Hinxton Planning ref: S/4099/17/OL. The Chairman had drafted a submission to SCDC. This was warmly supported by those present.

Action: TS

218/15 Availability within the Village of Superfast Broadband. The exchange-only residents of Frogge Street had been given a target connection date of December 2018. To be monitored by the residents from now on. PC to take up again in future if needs be.

239/15 Wellcome Genome Campus: regular liaison and expansion plans. Campus had announced workshops on Saturday 27th January 10.30am – 2pm and Tuesday 30th January 4pm – 8pm for local people to drop in and speak to Campus about their plans for expansion. To be mentioned in Icene.

Action: TS

37/16 Emergency Plan/ Risk Assessment Review. No progress.

Action Lewis D, Clerk

127/16 Conversion of certain street lights to LED. No news.

129/16 State of Village Footpaths and an offer of funding towards clearing vegetation in Tin Alley. Awaiting tree surgeon. Liaison with adjacent landowners was ongoing.

Action: TS, Clerk

235/16 Proposal for motorway services off Junction 10 of the M11. No news

69/17 Sawston Campus: Update. SCDC had approved the application.

90/17 Development at Howey's yard, front and rear gates. No response from SCDC. The Chairman was

asked to pursue.

Action: TS

148/17 Home to School transport. The original timetable had been reinstated pending a review by CCC.

159/17 Parish Planning Forum held on 12 September. Reply to question raised. Cllr Orgee reported this was being looked at. The Planning Portfolio Holder had been made aware.

220/17 South Cambridgeshire Community Awards: Nominations close 19 January 2018. SC would submit a nomination.

Action: SC

238/17 Feedback from Neighbours' Forum IWM Duxford 23/11/17. As previously agreed, TS had passed on the Parish Council's views about the membership scheme for neighbouring residents.

241/17 03 May 2018 District and Parish Council Elections. A timetable had been published, and an election pack would arrive soon. The Chairman advised the other Councillors that he intended to seek election as a Parish Councillor, but would not accept any nomination to be Chairman if re-elected.

05/18 Traffic issues

Items brought forward by the Traffic Sub-Committee.

1. Local Highways Improvement Scheme 2016-17: (Minute 205/15).

i. Village Speedwatch Team. Chairman's update: sessions had resumed, with some cancellations owing to rain.

ii. Vehicle-activated speed sign. Projected cost £3,500. Still awaiting delivery.

2. Abbey Street School Bus Stop (Minute 69/17). See above.

3. Traffic problems associated with the low bridge at Great Chesterford (Minute 69/17).

4. Roundel signs on Brookhampton and Abbey Streets (Minute 90/17). No news.

5. Upgrade of Hinxtton Level Crossing; monitoring of delays (Minute 208/17.7). The impression was that delays had lessened.

6 Air pollution measurement (Minute 208/17). No progress.

It was agreed that the Traffic Sub-Committee should meet again. OM to arrange.

Action: OM

06/18 Youth Representation. None.

07/18 Reports from District and County Councillors. District Cllr Orgee's report attached as Appendix A. SW referred to an email from Cllr Orgee reporting the decision of Sawston PC on the Smithson Hill application. Cllr Orgee explained that some Councillors did not vote because they were SCDC Planning Committee Members and did not want to be accused of being predetermined for or against an application. SW thought the Councillors concerned should not be members of both bodies.

TP asked what SCDC were doing with plastic following China's decision to stop importing plastic waste. SCDC collects plastic and other recyclable material, but the County Council is responsible for what happens to it, so they will be trying to address the issue.

08/18 Correspondence received and report on arrangements during Clerk's incapacity.

Jocelyn Flitton had volunteered to help the Clerk, who was recovering following her accident. The Chairman was receiving correspondence from SCDC. Access to emails on the Clerk's pc had been obtained. Lessons would need to be learnt about the Parish Council's resilience following unforeseeable events. The Chairman had not yet visited the Clerk, but hoped to do this very soon.

Correspondence had all been circulated or shortly would be. Significant items were:

i. Potholes in Back Lane reported by a resident. The Chairman had written in response. The resident had reported damage to the footpath surface to CCC. OM expressed support for the Chairman's reply to the resident, and disclosed that he had received a notice from CCC requiring that the surface be reinstated. He intended to establish whether other residents in the vicinity had received similar notice. The Chairman believed the residents in the locality affected should work together to bring about a practical resolution.

ii. Application to close Frogge Street to install gas supply. The diversion route via Butchers Hill was unacceptable. An environmental weight limit also applied on another section. The PC would ask why complete closure was required.

Action: TS

iii. Policing Precept Consultation. No increase was supported, Costs of Police and Crime Commissioner should be diverted to front line services.

Action: TS

09/18 Planning information received from SCDC Declarations of interest to be declared:

1. Applications:

i. **S/4543/17/LB** Peter Macdonald. Harlequin House 43 Abbey Street. Conversion of uninhabited barn into 3 bedroom dwelling over 3 storeys.

ii. **S/4447/17/VC** Peter Macdonald. Harlequin House 43 Abbey Street. Variation of condition of previously approved plans.

For both i. and ii. Above the PC decided to oppose the applications in line with its decision over previous applications to convert the barn, as the access arrangements were not acceptable in the PC's view.

iii. **S/0068/18/FL** Mr & Mrs Woodhead. See above.

2. Approvals by SCDC:

i. **S/3926/17/FL 14 Abbey Street** (Mr Barwood). Conversion of garage to form habitable accommodation. Application amended since previous PC Meeting. **Approved**

ii. **S/3688/17/FL 3 Abbey Street** (Dr J Stephenson) Removal of unused door and enlargement of window with alteration to glazing. **Approved**

3. S/0115/18/TC Tree Works in conservation area. 9 Southfield Mrs J Sutcliffe. Removal of walnut. The location in question was not within the conservation area, and no permission was needed.

4. Cambridge Local Plan and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan: Main Modifications Consultation

Forwarded 05/01/18. Consultation period 05/01/18 – 16/02/18. The modification affecting Ickleton is the removal of LGS status for Drivers Meadow. The Village Green retains LGS status.

Cllr Orgee recommended that confirmation should be sought that the frontage of Driver's Meadow will retain its existing protection as this was not clear from the consultation drawings.

10/18 Reports from Councillors.

SC had reported verge damage on Butchers Hill and is pursuing poor response from CCC Highways.

SW raised issue of crematorium being illuminated at night. She agreed to establish ownership and make contact. TS would complain to Uttlesford about light pollution. **Action: TS, SW**

SWS also drew attention to a column in Farmers Weekly supporting the SmithsonHill proposals, and to another article indicating vast numbers of houses projected to be built between Cambridge and Oxford.

11/18 Finance.

i. Payments:

A Pavelin **£100**; Stop Stansted Expansion subscription renewal) **£30**; Village Hall room hire **£60**;

Dominic Pallett grass cutting etc. April – November 2017 **£2082.50**;

Reimbursement of Chairman relating to purchase of Speedwatch items **£87.85**

Cambridge Conservation Volunteers **£40** (Exps £26.80+ Donation).

ii. Money received £4.54 interest on Premium a/c.

iii. Bank Balances report. 31/12/2017 Community a/c £44,782.00 Business Premium a/c £25,860.72

iv. Meeting of the Finance Committee: recommendation and discussion of 2018-19 Precept.

The Chairman explained that owing to the Clerk's incapacity information available to the Finance Committee and the Parish Council was not as comprehensive as it otherwise would have been. The Council had comfortable reserves, but it would be prudent to have a small increase in the precept in order not to fall completely behind inflation. Unanimously agreed to increase the precept from £24,000 to £24,500, an increase of around 2%.

12/18 Cemetery/ Chapel – Condition to be kept under Review.

- Cemetery Chapel: internal plaster repairs. Awaiting warmer season.
- Dying conifers. Awaiting tree surgeon.
- Culling of rabbits in cemetery. MR's usual contact no longer available. He will try to source someone else.

13/18 Recreation Field and Recreation Area.

- Update: play area refurbishment project. Lucy D waiting to hear from Amey Cespa.
- Damage to skate park surface: painting and repairs. A quote from David Coulson for repairs £3,848 (ex vat) was accepted. Contingency £900 noted and agreed.

- Weeds in bark on playground area. Awaiting progress on Refurbishment Project.
- 14/18 Churchyard:** Potentially dangerous headstone. David Coulson quote £275 (ex vat) accepted.
- 15/18 Affordable housing.** The Chairman and Lewis D had yet to meet to discuss.
- 16/18 Annual Litter Pick 2018.** 18 March (date changed to avoid Mothering Sunday).
- 17/18 Ickleton Mini-Steam-up.** Sunday 6th May 2018. Permission was granted to access the Recreation Field in respect of this and the preceding event.
- 18/18 Cambridgeshire Local Council Development Plan 2017 – 2022** (email forwarded 09/01/18). To be included in February agenda.
- 19/18 Cleaner Communities Pilot Scheme** (email forwarded 09/01/18). TP volunteered to register an interest.
- 20/18 General Data Protection Regulations: legislation w.e.f. 25 May 2018** (email circulated 21/11/17). To be included in February agenda.
- 21/18 Adjournment for questions from members of the public.** None.
- 22/18 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 21st February 2018 at 7.30pm.**
The meeting closed at 22h00.

Chairman

Date

APPENDIX A

Ickleton Parish Council

Report from District Councillor

17 January 2018

Agritech Technology Park

The deadline for responding to the planning application for an Agritech Technology Park (ref S/4099/17/OL) to the east of Hinxton village has been extended to 26 January. The planning documentation for this application is extensive but is all on the SCDC website.

South Cambridgeshire Local Plan update

The planning inspectors carrying out the examination-in-public into the draft South Cambridgeshire Local Plan have now agreed the main modifications they require the District Council to consult on. These main modifications include updates to the draft Plan to bring it into line with changes in national policies since the draft plan was submitted in March 2014, the designation of certain sites as ‘Local Green Spaces’ and a change to the planning framework at Pampisford.

These modifications are now out for consultation and responses have to be submitted by 5 pm on Friday 16 February. Details of the consultation are on the SCDC website. The inspectors have made it very clear that comments will only be accepted in relation to the specific modifications they have identified.

Local Green Spaces, Protected Village Amenity Areas and Important Countryside Frontages Protected Village Amenity Areas (PVAAs)

These are designated areas in villages where development will not be permitted within or adjacent to these areas if it would have an adverse impact on the character, amenity, tranquillity or function of the village. Protected Village Amenity Areas (PVAAs) have been designated on sites within village frameworks in order to safeguard those areas of undeveloped land within villages which are important to retain. Some may have important functions for a village, such as allotments, recreation grounds and playing fields whilst others have an important amenity role in providing a setting for buildings or offer tranquil areas where there is minimum activity.

Important Countryside Frontages (ICFs)

These are areas where land has a strong countryside character that either:

- Penetrates or sweeps into the built-up area providing a significant connection between the street scene and the surrounding rural area, or
- Provides an important rural break between two nearby but detached parts of a development framework. Such land enhances the setting, character and appearance of the village by retaining a sense of connection between the village and its rural origins and surroundings. In most cases it is land which adjoins the village, but in some cases it separates parts of a village (for example, in Brewery Road, Pampisford).

Local Green Spaces (LGSs)

Whilst Protected Village Amenity Area and Important Countryside Frontage designations have been in existence for many years, Local Green Spaces is a relatively new designation introduced by national government in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

The Local Green Space designation was introduced to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to a local community. The NPPF states that “the designation should only be used: where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves; where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land. Local Green Space status has been described as giving as much protection within villages as a Green Belt designation does to land outside development frameworks.

Ickleton and the Local Plan Main Modifications

The Local Plan Main Modifications documentation is extensive and a number of local residents have found it hard to find relevant information.

I have focussed on Chapter 6 which details all the Main Modifications. The Main Modifications are set out here in numerical order. The most important modifications relating to Ickleton or nearby are, in my view, the following:

SC – MM 144 this is about the wording of the Local Green Spaces policy. Changes are indicated in green and deletions in red, See below

'Local Green Space identified on the Policies Map will be protected from development that would adversely impact on the character and particular local significance placed on such green areas which make them valued by their local community. INSERTED: Inappropriate development, as defined in the National Planning Policy Framework, would not be approved except in very special DELETED: Only in exceptional circumstances and in discussion with the local community DELETED: would development be permitted.'

SC – MM 190, 191 and 192 which relate to the Imperial War Museum, Duxford

SC – MM 234 Aerodrome Safeguarding Area, Duxford (map)

SC – MM 240 sets out changes to the Local Green Space allocations in the Local Plan as submitted to national government

SC – MM 284 Ickleton Village Map (shows changes from Submitted Local Plan)

The key changes for Ickleton in relation to Local Green Space status is that the Village Green (opposite the

Church) is given Local Green Space status whilst Driver's Meadow is no longer given that status.

Driver's Meadow was designated as an Important Countryside Frontage in the 2008 South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. This status was changed to Local Green Space by the District Council in its Plan submitted in 2014. The inspectors did not agree with this designation and have therefore required the District Council to include this change (removing Local Green Space status from this site) in this Main Modifications consultation.

In my view, the situation regarding Driver's Meadow needs some clarification. The location map in the Plan submitted in 2014 showed Driver's Meadow with Local Green Space status but also with symbols showing it also having an Important Countryside Frontage. The location map in the present consultation (SC - MM 284) still appears to show the Important Countryside Frontage designation, but the caption to the map simply states 'delete Local Green Space site'.

It is my understanding that when the inspectors made it clear to the District Council that they did not agree with some of the Local Green Space designations in the 2014 submitted Plan, that all such sites would revert back to their previous designation, that is, in the case of Driver's Meadow back to having an Important Countryside Frontage. I think it best to check that this is everyone's understanding. If Driver's Meadow retains the Important Countryside Frontage designation then this is no change from its current status – it will not have lost any protection it currently enjoys.

Rural Travel Hubs

A report on Rural Travel Hubs is going to the Greater Cambridge Partnership's Joint Assembly on 18 January 2018. The report examines 10 possible locations for such hubs, and scored each based on a number of criteria. The sites scoring the highest were at Comberton, Whittlesford and Sawston. A site at Linton was the lowest scoring of the 10 sites. The agenda papers recommend further work involving drawing up business cases for the sites at Comberton, Whittlesford and Sawston.

The Whittlesford and Sawston sites selected for investigation were located respectively at:

- at Royston Road, Whittlesford;
- close to the junction of Cambridge Road Sawston and the Sawston Bypass;

I would query whether these were the most appropriate sites to consider in these villages.

Wellcome Genome Campus

Local residents are invited to two community workshops, one on Saturday 27 January between 10:30 am to 2 pm and the other on Tuesday 30 January between 4 pm and 8pm.

Wellcome, in their own words, are 'exploring the potential for future development at Hall Farm.' They are 'exploring what future development could look like and how this could best serve the existing research community, companies and staff already operating on site and the surrounding villages, as well as any future users of the Campus. By consulting early in the process, before we have fixed plans, we hope local knowledge can help.'

Local residents can drop in any time during the sessions and no booking is necessary.

Uttlesford Local Plan (2011 – 2033)

As I have stated in previous reports, the first stage consultation on the draft Uttlesford Local Plan ended on 4 September 2017. A number of local South Cambridgeshire villages submitted views opposing the inclusion in the draft plan of a new settlement of about 5,000 houses in North Uttlesford (close to Great Chesterford) In all, over 6,000 responses were received and Uttlesford District Council is continuing to carry out further work before a second round of consultation is organised.

Tony Orgee, District Councillor for The Abingtons ward