

ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20 July 2016 at 19h.30 in the Gordon Woolhouse Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall.

Present: Terry Sadler (Chairman), Jess Bloomfield, Simon Cheney, Lucy Davidson, Lewis Duke, Owen McGuire, Tim Pavelin, Peta Stevens (Parish Clerk), Cllr. Mick Martin (District), Cllr. Peter Topping (County) and David Lilley

121/16 Apologies for absence: Michael Robinson. Other absence: Sian Wombwell

122/16 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2016: The minutes were approved and accordingly signed by the Chairman.

123/16 Adjournment for questions from the public. David Lilley thanked the Parish Council for arranging for the overhanging vegetation by Stoney Arch to be cut back. However, there was one hazardous branch remaining which required a chain saw. Owen McGuire offered to do this and would liaise with the Clerk. **Action: OM, Clerk**

124/16 Matters Arising:

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**

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

169/14 Ickleton Information Guide. The Chairman would arrange a meeting with Elaine Statham on her return in September. **Action: TS**

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

045/15 Token of appreciation for former Clerk. The Chairman was having difficulties with positioning a plaque. Councillors agreed to investigate. **Action: All**

086/15 Landscaping project: Boundaries of Howey's Yard. Work was needed to restore Back Lane with a number of potholes needing attention. However, construction vehicles were still using the track as the development was ongoing. The Chairman would ask for an update. **Action: TS**

094/15 Local Government Transparency Code. This was still a concern as the absence of volunteers with the necessary IT expertise meant the Village website was not compliant. **Action: TS, Clerk**

144/15 Resolution of an SCDC Planning decision concerning Permitted Development. Cllr. Martin reported that his recent conversation with SCDC Officers had confirmed that despite indications to the contrary, the case would not be closed at this stage. He undertook to investigate further on his next visit to SCDC. **Action: TS, Cllr. Martin**

181/15 Uttlesford Planning Policy Working Group: Proposed sites for new developments. The Chairman reported that the Working Group had decided the target for Uttlesford (4800 houses), would be met through a mixture of options, including a new settlement and additions to existing settlements. No decision on locations of the building projects had been announced. **Action: TS**

193/15 Bid for an agri-tech hub at Hinxtan: Exhibition (response required by 22 July). Lewis Duke had attended the recent SmithsonHill exhibition which, in his view, had been very professional in its presentation but included little new substantive information on plans for development of the agri-tech hub site. The "wish list" of transport proposals included two small railway stations to serve the Wellcome Genome Campus, a by-pass for Ickleton and turning Junction 9 of the M11 into dual-access, with no indication as to how any of this might be paid for. Cllr. Martin commented that, since development of the Hinxtan site was not part of the Local plan, and there was no shortage of sites planned for commercial development, the project was unlikely to be supported by SCDC if an application were made. The transport hub element for land west of the A1301 and north of the A505 might win some support. However, the work SmithsonHill had undertaken in support of transport proposals might well be useful as no work had yet been done by anyone else on the traffic problems associated with the A1301/A505. SCDC had been given an indicative figure for potential new jobs at the Agri-tech hub of 4,000. Responding to a question, Cllr Martin expressed the view that, if the Wellcome Genome Campus were to submit an application, it was probable that that SCDC would support the first stage which fell within the existing footprint for the Campus. Campus expansion beyond that could be dependent upon ministerial intervention.

The Parish Council considered whether to respond to the present Agri-tech consultation. There were

concerns that the exercise was designed to draw out objections so that they could be countered before an actual application went in, and that responses could be spun as evidence of community engagement when there was considerable disquiet about the project. It was agreed therefore that Ickleton PC would not submit any comments.

Action: TS

201/15 Compilation of a project priority list for highways improvements. The Chairman would approach Duxford Parish Council to seek its support for a joint approach to CCC Highways about the introduction of a 50mph limit on the Duxford-Ickleton road.

Action: TS

205/15 Local Highways Improvement Scheme 2016-17. Consideration of alternative plans drawn up by CCC Highways for roundels. At the last meeting Councillors had discussed two options for the location of roundels and it had been agreed, subject to the necessary corrections, to approve the option showing a lower density of roundels. It was agreed on reflection that there should be a set of roundels on Church Street at the approach to the Village Green since a significant amount of speeding was being encountered here. It was also agreed that there should be a single roundel on Coploe Road and a third pair on Abbey Street at the 300m point on the plan. These additional 5 roundels would bring the cost to around £2,150. Concerning the possibility of establishing a Village Speedwatch Team the Clerk confirmed that there were now six expressions of interest. The Chairman had e-mailed to register with the Police having waited for the vacant Speedwatch liaison post to be filled.

Action: TS, Clerk

218/15 Availability of super-fast broadband within the Village. There had been no developments since the last meeting.

Action: TS Clerk

218/15 Proposal for change to traffic arrangements: low bridge on the road towards Great Chesterford. Jess Bloomfield, who could not attend the previous meeting, was concerned at the Council's decision to remove this item from the agenda. She commented on the number of accidents, albeit minor, occurring at this site. In order to scope the problem, she volunteered to keep a record of incidents which she would report at the time but use the information also to compile a database. The Parish Council agreed to support this, as Jess was willing to undertake the work, and an item would be placed in Icene asking residents to contact her about any incidents of which they were aware.

Action: JB, Clerk

239/15 Wellcome Genome Campus (WGC): Expansion Plans. There was nothing to report since the last meeting, but the Chairman and Deputy Chairman would request an update at their next liaison meeting, scheduled for 11 August 2016.

Action: TS

269/15 Grass Verges in Abbey Street. It was likely that there would be nothing to report until the verge posts had been installed and grass seeding had taken place. This would not occur until September at the earliest when the weather was likely to be more suitable.

Action: TS

37/16 Emergency Plan/Risk Assessment. Nothing to report at this stage.

Action: Lewis D, Clerk

41/16 Roles and Responsibilities of Councillors. An ongoing problem was the Village website since the only areas updated regularly were the events column and the Parish Council's publication of agendas and minutes. This was a serious issue as the Parish Council had a legal obligation to publish certain items of information, e.g. financial details, in the public domain, including this website. Furthermore, transparency requirements were increasingly prescriptive (See Minute 124/16 (094/15) above). Simon Cheney and Lucy Davidson had investigated the problem, they had met with Andrew Shepperd, who had oversight of the Village website, and subsequently worked on an update of website information. This clear-up led them to suggest that there was no need to display a list of previous agendas. This was agreed, as was their suggestion to provide web links to the Facebook homepages of local services featured on the Village website. Lucy and Simon were thanked for undertaking this work and their offer to take it forward together with Andrew Sheppard was accepted gratefully.

Action: SC, Lucy D, Clerk

47/16 Implementation of the Wellcome Genome Campus offer to meet the printing costs of Icene At the last meeting Councillors had agreed unanimously to proceed with this arrangement. Accordingly, the Chairman and Clerk had reviewed the financial statements for the last three years and had concluded that a Wellcome Genome Campus contribution of £1,000 would be sufficient to cover the reproduction costs for Icene (less recoverable VAT) together with other small ancillary costs. The Chairman had contacted Duncan Parsley accordingly.

Action: TS, Clerk

103/16 Overhanging vegetation by Stoney Arch See Minute 123/16 above).

106/16 Application to the SCDC Community Chest Fund Lucy Davison reported that an amended application had been submitted and she had been informed that this would be considered on 19 July. However, she had yet to be told the outcome.

117/16 City-deal-A1307, Three Campuses to Cambridge Consultation Exercise. . The Clerk had received pamphlets and survey leaflets that she had distributed throughout the Village. The various options were at some distance from Ickleton and it was agreed the Parish Council will not make a response.

118/16 CCC Highways Open Day Whittlesford Monday 27 June. It had proved impossible for any Parish Councillor to attend this meeting.

125/16 Youth Representation: None.

126/16 Reports from District and County Councillors:

i. District Councillor's report

Cllr. Martin reported on the SCDC/Parish Councillors Liaison Meeting held on 13 July at which the Chairman had been present. Although it might have appeared that there was a considerable amount of activity at present, much of this comprised work out for consultation or awaiting response from bodies such as the Boundary Commission. A major topic had been the traffic congestion facing Cambridge, which had been attributed for some considerable time to the effects of the school run although the reduction during school holidays was only around 8%. Since this lower volume appeared to provide an acceptable traffic flow, work would concentrate on reducing traffic to this level, either by encouraging members of the public to transfer to Park and Ride or through prohibiting access to certain roads at peak times through use of number plate recognition technology. City businesses will be taxed on their car parks with the £7m raised being used to support Park and Ride improvements. Another traffic concern identified was the number of villages within SCDC suffering from rat running and speeding. Additional traffic congestion might well result from SCDC's inability to resist speculative planning applications e.g. the recent failure of the Greenacres appeal at Duxford, while the number of announcements of significant new local employment opportunities could be expected to exacerbate traffic problems.

Cllr. Martin left the meeting.

ii. County Councillor's report

Cllr. Topping reported on a recent Government grant to CCC for road repairs, remarking that it would be a good time to report any significant potholes etc. He commented also on complaints he had received from other Parish Councils about overgrown vegetation obscuring drivers' vision at junctions at major roads.

Cllr. Topping then turned to the present survey on the proposed Cambridgeshire and Peterborough devolution deal, which had replaced the proposed East Anglian deal. In his view this provided the best opportunity for some considerable time to obtain a serious injection of Government funding as the deal offered a payment of £100m to fund new housing across the area, but with most of the funds coming to South Cambs, plus £70m to fund new council houses in Cambridge. It was estimated that this could provide some 1600 additional council houses, with a consequent significant reduction in the waiting list. Acceptance of devolution would also generate a guaranteed payment of £20m p.a. for 20 years in Infrastructure Funding as well as an enhanced chance of success for bids submitted under the Government's growth agenda. It was his view that devolution did not necessarily imply an additional layer of bureaucracy as the functions presently undertaken by CCC would be subsumed within the new structures. He acknowledged that the issue of the requirement for an elected mayor was proving contentious but it was highly likely that this arrangement would carry more weight with Government than the present fragmented CCC/SCDC arrangements. The downside of devolution was that the region would receive fewer grants from Government, but on the other hand, we would retain a higher proportion of Business Rates generated. This was an important consideration in South Cambs, which is presently a major contributor to Government through this source.

Finally, Cllr Topping confirmed Cllr Martin's comments about the possibility of success at present for a SmithsonHill planning application.

127/16 Correspondence received

Heidi Allen MP

Notice of a meeting to discuss outcome of EU Referendum.

Heidi Allen's Office

Applications to the Big Lottery Fund to support events or activities which promote community interaction.

SCDC (P Adams)	Vodafone scheme to give indoor mobile coverage to up to 100 rural community hubs.
SCDC-LDF	Agenda for Weekly Bulletin
	Planning Policy Monthly Updates-July2016
	Local Plan: hearings schedule update.
SCDC (G Bell)	May parish e-bulletin
CCC (A Davies)	MCA & DoLS Summer newsletter
	Transforming Lives Briefing-June
CCC Transport	Changes to certain bus services (including Citi7)
CAPALC (T Webb)	DIS <i>Extra</i> : Issue 888
	Essex Replacement Waste Management Plan Submission
	Transparency Fund Application process and closing date
	Information sharing and networking event for older people.
	Bulletin on national developments and meetings
CPRE	July-bulletin
Anglian Water Private Pumping Stations Campaign Team	Transfer of responsibility for these to Anglian Water
Local Council Public Advisory Service	
	New course: Land Management
	Legal update on UK leaving the EU
	Clerks and Councillors networking event
	Devolution consultation: Cambs & Peterborough
Highways England	Cash for local projects as A14 scheme gears up.
Greater Cambridge City Deal	Tackling Peak-time Congestion in Cambridge survey
Engagement (NHS)	Various e-newsletters, including news of imminent changes to certain NHS Pharmacy Services.
PRS for Music	Consultation on requirements for PRS for Music licences for use of copyright music in owned/managed premises
	Weekly digest
Rural Services Network	Spotlight on older people in rural areas.
	Rural Opportunities Bulletin
Rural Vulnerability Service	Fuel Poverty-May 2016
	Rural Transport-June 2016
	Weekly e-bulletin news digest
Public Sector Executive on-line	Various emails.
Stop Stansted Expansion	Guidance for departure route changes at Stansted.
	Campaign Update July 2016.
John and Christina Taylor	Comments on the Planning Application for 3 Church Street.
Mr I Keable	Proposal for fundraising with a Victorian Magic Show.
K & M Lighting	Conversion of Street lights to LED
Other various e-mails	Circulated to Councillors during the month.
E-Cops Daily updates.	Including news of
Neighbourhood Alert	Various e-mails.
HM Revenue & Customs	Various e-mails.
	128/16 <u>Planning application received from SCDC:</u> Declarations of Interest to be declared.
	Application for tree works:
	CA 351 Reduce height of 2 ash trees to clear garage roof, remove major crown lift over lawn, target prune branches over river to increase view. Remove lower branch over river from a sycamore and a 2 metre crown reduction, 2 metre crown lift on another, clearing BT wires by 1 metre and remove ivy. The River House, Church Street, Ickleton (Mrs C Freebairn).

Councillors agreed to offer no comment.

129/16 Reports from Councillors

- i Tim Pavelin commented that a number of footpaths were very overgrown. **Action: Clerk**
- ii. Simon Cheney was concerned at the large potholes on Brookhampton Street. It was confirmed that the largest of these had been reported to CCC Highways. He advised that he was still in discussion with the Social Club about putting forward a bid to the Community Fund. He also alerted Councillors to the letter received from Highways England - Cash for local projects as A14 scheme gears up. Ickleton fell within the area eligible to make applications for these awards which could be up to £10,000 in value. Lucy Davidson would look into the possibility of submitting a bid for the Play Area. **Action: Lucy D**
- iii. Owen McGuire was concerned at the substantial amount of surface water in Frogge Street, near Chapel House, particularly after the recent cloudburst. It was agreed to ascertain whether the drains were blocked. Owen would investigate. **Action: OM**
- iv. Lucy Davidson commented on the significant bindweed growing through the bark on the children's Play Area. The Clerk explained that the contractor had been unable to spray all of the Play Area as he could not get his vehicle in. She would investigate. **Action: Clerk**
- v. The Chairman reinforced the points made by Cllrs. Martin and Topping concerning the proposal for devolution.
- vi. The Clerk advised that she had been told by two contractors that the Parish Notice Board outside the Village Shop was in a very poor state and not worth repairing. She was concerned at the safety hazard this presented as the door was hanging off its hinges. If it was to break away, there was a significant risk of injury from broken glass by the School Bus stop. It seemed from an on-line search that an oak notice board, with reinforced glass would cost around £1,000. The Clerk was asked to contact Ben Boatman to obtain another repair estimate. If this was also unfavourable, she would obtain an estimate from him for a new notice board. **Action: Clerk**

130/16 Finance

i. Payments made:

Harts (June Icene) **£128.34**; A Pavelin (Emptying Litter Bins) **£100**; Ickleton Village Hall (room hire) **£80**; Sherriff Amenity (Chemicals for spraying Recreation Field) **£95.42**; HMRC PAYE **£182.87** Clerk's 3 months pay and Expenses. **£963.11**; Landmark Restoration (repairs to Cemetery Chapel) **£775**.

ii Money received: Cambridge CC grass cutting contribution **£801.43**; PLMS (Howey's Yard) contribution of £100 pm for disturbance during building operations, **£1,000**; M and R Plumb (purchase burial plot) **£73**; D and J Whitaker (purchase of a burial plot) **£73**.

Icene: Ben Boatman **£60**; Gt Chesterford Primary School **£10**; S Reynolds, **£40**;

iii. Bank Balances: Community Account: £13,728.55. Business Base Rate Tracker Account: £25,849.75

iv. 2015-16 Accounts-The completed document has been sent to the External Auditors and the advisory notice displayed on the Parish website and notice board.

v. Financial statement 2016-17 First quarter progress report. No comments were made

vi. VAT reclaim - A claim for a VAT refund of **£2,036.24** had been submitted to HMRC

131/16 Cemetery/ Chapel

- i. Chapel repairs. The Chairman reported that the repairs had been completed to Shane Cahill's normal standard of excellence. It appeared that there was still a minor leak in the Chapel roof and the Clerk would find the specialist roofing contractor who had last repaired it. **Action: Clerk**
- ii. Fallen tree and leaning tree by cemetery wall. The Clerk was seeking quotes. **Action: TS Clerk**

132/16 Recreation Field and Play Area:

Update on play area refurbishment project. Lucy Davidson reported that she should know in the very near future the outcome of her bid for a Community Chest grant towards the cost of a small piece of equipment. A group of mothers had raised £62 selling tea and cakes to cyclists during the London-Cambridge bike ride. Discussions were also underway for another Winter Warmer event, to be held either before Christmas or in January/February 2017. Any suggestions were very welcome. In the meantime, local fundraising efforts would continue. **Action: Lucy D**

Maintenance of football pitches The Clerk would follow up with Charles Frankau. **Action: Clerk**

Dog fouling campaign A resident had forwarded details of the Keep Britain Tidy "we are watching you" campaign, which used high visibility posters .showing a pair of "scary eyes". While they fully supported

measures which addressed this ongoing problem, Councillors thought that the posters were probably more suited to a more urban setting, particularly given the minimum cost was £250 for 10 posters.

133/16 Churchyard. A tree in the churchyard, backing onto Mowbrays had a large number of dead limbs. The Chairman would contact the PCC with a view to including this with the work required at the Cemetery. (See Minute 111.16)

Action: TS

134/16 Affordable Housing. The Housing and Planning Act had received Royal Assent but it was still unclear what the implications would be. One major area requiring clarification was the position regarding the extension of "Right to Buy" to Housing Association tenants on properties built on rural exception sites. Cllr. Topping would investigate

Action: Cllr. Topping, TS, Lewis D

135/16 Public consultation on a proposed Cambridgeshire and Peterborough devolution deal. The deadline was 23 August. Accordingly, the Chairman asked Councillors to try to ascertain opinion around the Village in order to inform our response which would be discussed at the next meeting. **Action: All**

136/16 Village bus hubs A City Deal letter outlining this proposal had been circulated. Although this was somewhat obscure on what was intended for the hubs, David Lilley pointed out that as underlying premise of a maximum 15 minute bus waiting time would go a long way to encouraging more people to use the bus, this should be the first stage in any implementation of the scheme. It might be useful to Ickleton residents if the present Citi7 route could be extended from its present Sawston terminus to a hub at Whittlesford, since Sawston enjoyed a 15 minute service, However the present journey time to central Cambridge from Ickleton was about 90 minutes: far too long. A response would be discussed at the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

David Lilley left the meeting

137/16 SCDC training sessions on new planning procedures. The dates for these sessions had been changed with the initial session, planned for July, being postponed until September. The sessions would be open to Councillors interested in understanding recent changes to planning procedures

138/16 Cambridge Police- Sawston Area Meeting 15 June 2016. Councillors had no comments to offer on Jos Flitton's report on this meeting.

139/16 Adjournment for questions from members of the public. None

140/16 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 17 August 2016 at 7.30pm.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21.45 pm.

Chairman

Date