

ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16 February at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall.

Present: Terry Sadler (Chairman), Jane Hurst, Tim Pavelin, Sheila Birch, Liz Goddard, Lewis Duke, Liz Gibson, Peter Wombwell, Jocelyn Flitton (Parish Clerk), Cllr John Williams (District), Cllr Tim Stone (County), Mrs Fiona MacGregor, and 3 other members of the public.

023/11 Apologies for absence: None

024/11 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2011: The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

025/11 Adjournment for questions from members of the public: None

026/11 Matters Arising:

028/07 Tennis Courts - The Chairman had sent a letter to the Tennis Courts Committee members via Mrs Catherine Cocks. The Clerk had received an e-mail from the Valuation Office detailing the rateable values relating to different types of courts and stating that if any floodlights were to be installed this would increase the rateable value. The Clerk will contact the Billing Authority at SCDC to obtain a figure that would be payable in rates.

Action: LD/TS/Clerk

094/10 Grass cutting protected grass verges – This item is outstanding with Peter Wombwell. **Action: PW**

143/10 CCC re. Signage for Allotments – We are awaiting CCC to install the sign. **Action: Clerk**

202/10 Village seats – A quotation had been received from C Frankau to repair the seat in front of Coploe Pit, in front of the allotments and cemetery corner and to remove the wooden slats on the seat in Duxford Road at a total cost of £200 + VAT. The Councillors unanimously agreed to accept this quotation.

Action: Clerk

218/10 Website – The Clerk will contact Andrew Shepperd.

Action: Clerk

Potholes - Most of the potholes reported had now been repaired, with the exception of those in Grange Road. The Clerk will contact CCC Highways to remind them and to report potholes on the corner of Abbey Street with the junction of Butcher's Hill.

Action: Clerk

Section 106 Agreements – The Chairman had contacted SCDC and had been told that three properties would attract a contribution of several thousand pounds. The Section 106 had not yet been signed on two and the other property (Grange Road) was on hold.

Action: TS

008/11 Access to River past Nos. 33 & 35 Church Street – Mike Cooper of CCC Highways had consulted the records at Shire Hall in Cambridge but could come up with no conclusive answer. He suggested we could take it up with the River Authority (Environment Agency) and other local authorities but the Councillors agreed to leave matters at they were.

009/11 Dog Fouling – An article had been put in Icene. Peter Wombwell will speak to the resident to see if there is any improvement.

Action: PW

Grass Verges Abbey Street – Building work is still ongoing.

Action: JH/Clerk

Advertising in Icene – It was agreed that the Chairman would speak with David and Monica Lilley regarding the possibility of advertising in the village magazine.

Action: TS

038/11 Proposed installation of solar panels in fields – Lewis Duke and Peter Wombwell declared an interest. Lewis Duke reported that the Public Consultation held on Thursday 27 January 2011 from 3 – 7pm had received a steady stream of visitors. He felt as an exercise it was a good example of what consultations should be. Progress appears to be going very slowly and they are no closer to getting a planning application submitted.

Action: LD/PW

028/11 Reports from District and County Councillors:

Appendix I - District Councillor's report

Appendix II - County Councillor's report

A meeting is being held on 9 March at 10.30am at the Highways Department, Whittlesford to talk about the bus cuts. Preferably one person from each village, but two could possibly be accommodated. It was agreed that Ickleton would be represented.

Action: TS/Clerk

Lewis Duke asked Cllr Stone if he could make further enquiries about farmers helping with winter gritting as nothing further had been heard by either farmer since they received a letter enquiring what equipment they had.

Action: Cllr Stone

Cllr Stone left the meeting.

029/11 Correspondence received:

SCDC (K Laws)	-	Review of Recycling Banks
SCDC (T Mann)	-	SCDC Children & Young People's Plan Consultation
SCDC (L Green)	-	Emergency Parish Plans
SCDC (J Sayers)	-	SCDC Planning Service – inviting feedback
SCDC (L Browne)	-	Parish Council Liaison Meeting 29 March 2011
SCDC	-	Planning Policy Monthly Update
CCC (Traffic Managers)	-	Meeting to Plan a New Lorry Strategy
CCC (T Stone)	-	Bus cuts
CCC (J Stephens)	-	Highways reporting system
CCC (M Lloyd)	-	Message from Chief Executive
CCC (M Oakman)	-	Village Maintenance grant
CCC (M Cooper)	-	Potholes
CCC (C May)	-	Cambs. Library Service Review
Valuation Office	-	Rates on proposed Tennis Courts
CPALC	-	Diabetes Research project/Newsletter/Bulletin
Volkswind	-	Wind Energy Development – Heydon Grange
NALC	-	On Line news / Abolition of the default retirement age
T Pavelin	-	Under 7 Football
Came & Company	-	Leaflet
J Bloomfield	-	Enquiry about Cottage Lane & adjacent field
Zurich TAP	-	Parish Council Insurance Team
Various e-mails	-	Circulated to Councillors during the month
Local Works	-	Sustainable Communities Act update
D Whitaker	-	Copy of letter re. Joe Bibby
Imperial War Museum	-	HistoricDuxford exhibition
Thriplow	-	43 rd Daffodil Weekend
Harts	-	Catalogue
Cambs. Playing Fields Assoc.	-	The Playing Field magazine
Mrs C Cocks	-	Proposed Tennis Courts
C Willmott	-	Proposed solar panel sites

Correspondence sent:

Wicksteed Playscapes	-	Annual Playground inspection – new contract
Playsafety Ltd.	-	Cancellation of Annual Playground inspection
Mr A Court	-	Thank you Letter re. Icene
Crocus FC (L Jenkins)	-	Football Pitch
K Worthing	-	Notice of Precept for next year

030/11 Planning application(s) received from SCDC: Declarations of Interest to be declared.

S/2013/10 – Erection of Buildings for Research & Development, Landscaping & Associated Infrastructure (The Technical Hub) (Phase 2 Reserved Matters following Outline Approval reference S/1204/09/O – South Field Phase 2, Wellcome Trust Genome Campus, Hinxton – Applicant: EMBL-EBI. Liz Gibson declared an interest – **Approve** (1 abstention) with points about light pollution and visibility from Ickleton.
S/2260/10 – Alterations – Relocate ground floor wc compartment, remove internal block wall, form new internal openings, install new studwork partition, remove window and single external door and replace with a pair of French doors – Craftsman Barn, Butcher's Hill – Mr & Mrs MacGregor - **Approve**

S/0104/11 – Erection of Studio Building following demolition of Existing Outbuilding – 8 Coploe Road – Mr & Mrs Nigel Bennett . Lewis Duke declared an interest - **Approve** **Action: Clerk(3)**
Application to carry out Tree Works subject to a tree preservation order or situated within a Conservation area: Reduce height of Ash Tree at rear of property and branches to be trimmed due to shortage of light - Mr J Puffett – 72 Abbey Street. Lewis Duke declared an interest – **Approve** **Action: Clerk**

031/11 Reports from Councillors:

Lewis Duke reported that the plans for the Methodist Chapel were coming along, and he would give the Planning Committee a copy of the final version when it was available. He was unsure when it will be received from SCDC.

Jocelyn Flitton reported Ron Coulson was making good progress. Ray Plumb had kindly offered to empty the bins whilst Ron Coulson recovers from his operation. The Clerk will send a letter of thanks to Mr Plumb. **Action: Clerk**

Rosemary McKillen would like to have a joint working party in the Churchyard on Saturday 26th March. It was agreed that as many Councillors that could would attend. The Clerk will find out the start time. **Action: Clerk**

Terry Sadler had sent a copy of a letter he had drafted to Andrew Lansley, CBE MP and asked if there were any comments. As there were no comments; the Chairman will now send the letter. **Action: TS**
Mrs F MacGregor left the meeting.

032/11 Finance (Bank Balances) including payments to:

Harts (Jan Icene) - £53.82 + (A4 Copier Paper – Parish Clerk) - £17.70 = £71.52

CCC - £731.88 (Street Lighting)

Cambs. Conservation Volunteers (Coploe Pit) - £41.74 + Donation = £55.00

Money Received: HM Revenue & Customs - £517.11 (VAT Repayment Jun-Dec10)

Bank Balances:

Community Account - £715.98

Business Base Rate Tracker Account - £17,846.72

Risk Assessment Review – This is still outstanding with Lewis Duke and the Clerk. **Action: LD/Clerk**

033/11 Recreation Field and Play Area

Aerial Runway – seat - Peter Wombwell had asked for this to be done and will check that it has. **Action: PW**

Skate park – painting update – C Frankau to complete when weather permits. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk reported that C Frankau had carried out two jobs (removed hedge debris and rolled football pitch) for which he had not charged the Parish Council.

Grass cutting quotations + strimming + servicing of Mower:

The Clerk had obtained various quotations and prepared a spreadsheet, which had been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting. The various items were discussed as follows:

Servicing of Countax C600H Tractor/Mower – It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the contract be awarded to Duxford Hire & Supply this year instead of Wrights Mower Centre. **Action: Clerk**

Football Pitch maintenance – It was proposed, seconded and agreed that this contract should be awarded to C Frankau. **Action: Clerk**

Cemetery – Terry Sadler proposed, Sheila Birch seconded that C Frankau be given the contract. Tim Pavelin proposed, Liz Gibson seconded that MD Landscapes be given the contract. The first proposal received 5 votes and the second proposal 3 votes. The contract was therefore awarded to C Frankau. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Williams left the meeting.

Recreation Field and Play area - after much discussion it was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk would speak to C Frankau to see if he could reduce his price and if possible submit a quote per cut as other firms had done. It was also agreed that the Clerk would contact MD Landscapes to ask for references and if they would be doing any hand trimming (e.g. around trees) in the price they quoted. Both will report back at the next meeting when a decision will be made. **Action: TS/Clerk**

Village Green & Churchyard – Tim Pavelin proposed that this be given to MD Landscapes but there was no seconder. Terry Sadler proposed, Peter Wombwell seconded that the contract be awarded to Ron Coulson, which was agreed by the majority of Councillors. **Action: Clerk**

Verges – It was agreed by all the Councillors to award this contract to Ron Coulson. **Action: Clerk**

Strimming – a quotation had been received for £12 per hour + fuel.

034/11 Cemetery - Chapel – Condition to be kept under Review

Repair of roof by Regal Roofing – the Clerk will make contact to see when the work is expected to be done. **Action: Clerk**

Headstone check – Jane Hurst had carried out a check this morning and everything looked in good shape. The Clerk will update the spreadsheet. Jane Hurst reported that following the recent burial, there was spoil/turf left in a corner in the cemetery. The Clerk will speak to David Skeates. **Action: Clerk**

Ickleton Burial Board charges – The Chairman proposed that the fees be increased in line with inflation. This proposal was agreed with 1 abstention. **Action: Clerk**

035/11 Churchyard Wall – Quotation for repair by A Hoare – Andy Hoare will supply a quotation once the weather has improved. **Action: Clerk**

Two members of the public left the meeting.

Quinquennial Inspection Report:

Quotations for Tree works – The Chairman had mentioned at the recent liaison meeting with Wellcome the Quinquennial report and the various expenditures proposed in it. Wellcome are willing to assist but have asked him to send a letter outlining the various expenditures especially the proposed tree works. The Chairman also felt we should include another tree stump (growing through a tombstone) to be ground out. It was agreed to accept the quotation from Eastern Tree Surgery but for them to hold the work until we had confirmed the funding available. **Action: TS/Clerk**

Jonas Memorial – Nothing further had been heard from the Jonas family. **Action: Clerk**

036/11 Flooding:

Land adj. Stumps Cross – The Chairman will contact Essex County Council for an update. **Action: TS**

Drain top of Mill Lane – The Clerk will contact CCC (M Cooper) to see if there is any further update. **Action: Clerk**

Abbey Street opp. Methodist Chapel – nothing further to report. **Action: LD**

Emergency Flooding Plan – It was agreed to combine this with the General Emergency Plan Review.

037/11 Street Lighting Maintenance & Energy April 2011 onwards:

We are still waiting to hear from CCC. The Clerk had obtained a quotation from MHB Services. **Action: TS/Clerk**

038/11 Wellcome Trust Meeting 4 February 2011:

Terry Sadler and Sheila Birch met with Duncan Parsley. They discussed Flooding – Wellcome have an electronic monitoring system in place re. the height of the river and have contact with Audley End. They discussed financial assistance towards the backlog of maintenance in the Churchyard. The Wellcome Trust continue to review their future energy strategy. The proposed Wind Turbine costs are escalating, and plans for a smaller turbine combined with a small solar farm are being considered. The work along the side of the A1301 relates to the installation of an additional electricity cable on behalf of EDF.

039/11 Date and time of next meeting - 16 March 2011 at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15 pm

Chairman

Date

Appendix I

From: John Williams

February 2011

IWM- Formula 1 testing

SCDC has agreed with the IWM the plans for 2011, with certain changes from 2010:

Maximum 5 sessions (no change)

Monday to Friday 8 am – 6 pm (no change)

At IWM's request: To allow 2 of the sessions to be in any one month. Changed from max 1 in any one month, and min 3 weeks apart.

Notice: IWM to give minimum of 2 weeks (*) notice to Parish clerks of Duxford, Whittlesford and Thriplow, and to any other member of the public living or working within these parishes who wishes to be informed.

* Generally the notice period will be longer. But this is a change from minimum 5 weeks notice agreed for 2010.

Concerning informing the public:

I understand that the public can ask to be notified automatically of when the next sessions are by advising their interest to a specific person at the IWM - name and tel number/E-mail will be available. I will ask that IWM to ensure that the information about this procedure goes into village magazines for issues in the potential testing season. I am asking that villages should also include Fowlmere, Hinxton and Ickleton.

Speed limit changes on the A.1301

These have now been agreed. I attended the joint committee decision meeting and spoke about the need for 40 mph between Stapleford bridge and the cycle crossing from Sawston. This had other support and was agreed. The whole of the rest of the Sawston by-pass to the BP roundabout and from there to Stumps Cross will be 50 mph. The need for 50 mph on the Sawston by-pass section was proposed by CCC and supported because there will be a new "cycle crossing" to Sawston at the Spicers turn-off emanating from the new cycle path (C.C.C. £350.000) from Whittlesford.

Buses

This will be doubtless by covered by Tim Stone. Meanwhile, attending a liaison meeting last week, I asked for whatever figures are available for the number of subsidised and non-subsidised journeys on the Ickleton/Saffron Walden extension of the Citi 7 route (as well as the Duxford extension).

Appendix II

Report to Ickleton Parish Council – Tim Stone

16th February 2011

County Budget

The County voted on its 2011/12 Budget yesterday. Cuts are everywhere. You may have seen in the media that there were unprecedented disturbances in and around Shire Hall. Sadly some people just don't understand how democracy works in this country.

Bus subsidies

Cambridgeshire County Council intends to phase out all bus subsidies (£2.7M) completely over the next four years, starting with cuts of approximately 25% in year one. For Ickleton this affects:

Citi 7 Sawston – Saffron Walden	Annual Subsidy	£56,028
101 Whittlesford - Duxford - Saffron Walden	Annual Subsidy	£4,288
139 Foxton - Sawston - Royston	Annual Subsidy	£4,407

As yet we do not know when these services will lose their subsidy. But for the cuts to phase in without a massive application of the brakes at the end of the year it will be necessary to start cutting early.

We shall therefore have to start thinking as soon as possible about what can be done to rescue public transport for those residents who rely on it. I have therefore arranged a meeting at 10.30 am on Wednesday 9th March at Whittlesford Highways depot to talk about what is likely to happen and the possible solutions. All six of the affected parish councils in the Duxford Division are invited. Paul Nelson from the County will be there, Andy Campbell from Stagecoach, Royston and District Community Council, the Imperial War Museum and Cambridgeshire ACRE. I very much hope that Ickleton can be represented. There are a couple of sources of funding available to help get replacement services off the ground and I should like to get as much as possible of it for our part of the world.

Other Budget items

Other areas, which are affected, include roads, where the maintenance and grass cutting budgets are being cut. Roads are expected to deteriorate still further. Mike Cooper still does his best to have potholes mended. The libraries in Sawston and Great Shelford are on a list of those where volunteers will be looked for to keep services open. This is all going to be a great test of the concept of the Big Society.

The Liberal Democrats' proposed alternative budget, which as usual, goes through a scrutiny process to ensure that it makes sense. But, as predicted, it did not stand a chance of success.

Street Lights

The county has been very slow in letting parish councils know about the introduction of the streetlight Private Finance Initiative. I hope you now have enough information to take a decision on maintenance and power. I see this forms an agenda item later in the meeting.