

ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21 September 2011 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall

Present: Terry Sadler (Chairman), Lewis Duke, Michael Robinson, Tim Pavelin, Sian Wombwell, Liz Gibson, Sheila Birch, Jocelyn Flitton (Parish Clerk), Cllr Mick Martin (District), Cllr Tim Stone (County) and Lynn Parsons

153/11 Apologies for absence: Kern Roberts, Liz Goddard

154/11 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 17 August 2011: The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

155/11 Adjournment for questions from members of the public: None

156/11 Matters Arising:

028/07 Tennis Courts – Lewis Duke reported that the momentum had lapsed due to a member of the Tennis Court Committee leaving the village. However, the baton is now being picked up again and a draft lease should be available in the next few weeks. **Action: LD/TS**

009/11 Advertising in Icene – Invoice procedure – Our first advertisement appeared in the September Icene. It was agreed that the costs would be as follows: £5 per eighth of a page per month, £10 per quarter of a page per month and £20 per half page per month. Tim Pavelin proposed and it was agreed that these prices should be reviewed annually. The Clerk will send out the relevant invoices when a new advertisement first appears in Icene.

028/11 CCC Winter Snow Clearance of roads – Lewis Duke reported that he is now going to push ahead with this now that the busy summer period is over and hopes to get an applicator. He also reported that he is going on a CCC Pavement course next week, which will also provide information on what other parishes do. **Action: LD**

Sheila Birch joined the meeting.

Protected Road Verges – The Chairman thanked Peter & Sian Wombwell for volunteering to look after the verges, although this had gone ‘pear shaped’ last week when CCC Highways contractors cut the verges, despite us being told by CCC that there was no money in the budget and that they welcomed Peter & Sian Wombwell cutting the verges. An e-mail had been received from Michael Oakman (CCC) explaining the situation. Sian Wombwell expressed her disappointment and commented that the equipment they used left arisings in a state, which rendered their removal difficult. Cllr Stone has drafted a motion for their next Council meeting. It was agreed that the Wombwells are not required, at the moment, to cut the verges (which they would do free of charge). Sian Wombwell requested clarification by the CCC. It was agreed by all that maintenance of protected verges should be done properly, as at present CCC was causing harm to them. **Action: Cllr Stone/SW**

069/11 Training Courses – Due to CPALC moving offices, it had not been possible to get a list of courses. The Clerk/Chairman will continue to pursue this. **Action: Clerk/TS**

078/11 Emergency Plan – Following the circulation of the draft plan, comments had been received back. Lewis Duke and the Clerk will meet to produce the second draft. **Action: LD/Clerk**

100/11 Broadband – No concrete response had been received by the Chairman from Virgin. **Action: TS**

103/11 SCDC Speed Sticker Initiative – Distribution – The Clerk was now in receipt of the stickers and would be distributing them to residents who live at the entrance roads in the village. **Action: Clerk**

117/11 Footpath sign repair – Lewis Duke had now had the sign repaired and will pass it on to Tim Pavelin who will reinstate the sign.

Broken seat at Cemetery Corner – This is still outstanding with C Frankau. **Action: Clerk**

125/11 Village Information Leaflet – This is still outstanding with the Clerk. **Action: Clerk**

147/11 CCC Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981-Application for a Definitive Map Modification Order to alter to line of Public Footpaths Nos. 8 Duxford & 4 Hinxton (also affecting the parish of Ickleton) – A

letter (dated 02/09/11) had been received from CCC (Camilla Haggett) stating that the County had decided the footpath should be modified to run along the Ickleton side of the railway line. It is anticipated the formal Order will be made around the end of September and published in October.

157/11 Youth Representation: None

158/11 Reports from District and County Councillors:

Appendix I - County Councillor's Report

Appendix II - District Councillor's Report

The Chairman brought the next item forward

160/11 Planning application(s) received from SCDC: Declarations of Interest to be declared.

S/1685/11 – Instrument Kiosk – Gas Compressor Station, Ickleton Road, Duxford – National Grid plc –

Approve

S/1725/11 – Dwelling – Land to the West of Gurner House, 20 Church Street – Heddon Management Ltd. – Tim Pavelin declared an interest and did not take part in the discussions/voting.

The Chairman went round the table inviting Councillors to give their views. The following comments were made:

- Gross over-development of the site.
- It is in the conservation area and surrounded by 5 listed buildings
- Serious issues about the privacy and amenity in and around the dwelling
- In particular, the amenity of No. 28 Church Street would be very badly affected
- Car Parking next to an Electricity sub-station
- Access onto Church Street
- Massive excavation works would be involved which could have consequences to the surrounding flint walls
- Roof would be visible from Butcher's Hill
- It would be overlooked and overheard.
- 'Bunkerish' impression.

To sum up: By virtue of the scale, design and form of the proposed dwelling the development would intrude upon the open and natural setting of the listed Gurner House, and it would therefore adversely affect the setting of this listed building. In addition it would adversely affect the special character and appearance of the Conservation area.

By invitation, Lynn Parsons briefly addressed the Council.

The Councillors voted unanimously against this application and their recommendation was to: Refuse

Action: TS/Clerk (2)

Lynn Parsons left the meeting

Planning application(s) refused by SCDC:

S/0704/11 Dwelling and garage – site r/o Norman Hall, Church Street – Mr & Mrs P Owen.

Application(s) to carry out Tree works subject to a Tree Preservation Order or situated within a Conservation Area: Fell Ash Tree outside Boundary Wall in Recreation Ground – 50 Frogge Street – Mr and Mrs Malone - Approve **Action: Clerk**

Consultation on Draft National Planning Policy Framework (closing date 17/10/11) -

The Chairman initiated a discussion about the Draft National Planning Policy Framework. It was agreed that the Parish Council's concerns would be sent to the DCLG with a copy to our MP Andrew Lansley. The Chairman will draft and circulate a letter for comment. **Action: TS**

159/11 Correspondence received:

SCDC - Mr & Mrs Malone, 50 Frogge Street
SCDC (L Browne) - Parish Liaison Meeting 28/09/11
SCDC (B Fairley) - South Cambs Crime & Disorder Survey
SCDC (G Anderton) - Disability Forum
SCDC - Planning Policy Monthly Update (Sept '11)

SCDC (C Collison)	-	Parish Training & Inf. Sessions – 11/10/11
SCDC	-	Open Day 7 October 2011/ Callout arrangements over Bank Holidays & Weekends
SCDC	-	Community Transport leaflets
CCC (M Oakman&D Marchant)-	-	Management of Protected Road Verges
CCC (P Stewart)	-	RECAP Waste Management Design Guide
CCC (A Warburton)	-	Cambs. Older People's Newsletter
CCC (Passenger Transport)	-	Consultation on Review of removal Subsidised Bus Serv. Funding
CCC	-	Local Involvement Network
CCC (C Haggett)	-	Definitive Map-Alteration of Public Footpaths No. 8 & 4
CPALC	-	Change of Address / Boundary Commission Letter/Newsletter August / Outreach Training Courses
NALC	-	Development of the Sector
Mt & Mrs Malone	-	50 Frogge Street – Removal of Ash Tree
Rosemary McKillen	-	Churchyard – Thanks to R Coulson & C Frankau
S Shaw	-	Proposal to empower Parish & Town Councils
K McKillen	-	Use of Recreation Ground
Planning Resolved Ltd.	-	Localism Bill
Seedlings Children's Centre	-	Programme of Sessions September- December
Victim Support	-	Donation request
Navigus Planning	-	Draft National Planning Policy Framework
Various E-mails	-	Circulated to Councillors during the month
D Isaac	-	Aircraft Noise 02/09/11

Cllr Martin said IWM apologised for the noise on this occasion, but he also confirmed that the IWM continued to operate within the constraints set by SCDC. They recognised the F15 was noisy and the noise was spread over the area. The aircraft came over from USA and was flying under their rules, which stated they had to practise on Thursday and Friday before the air show, which meant more flying than would usually be the case. The F15's visit was on a particular anniversary and this means a repeat visit may not occur. Complaints could be made to Environmental Health at SCDC, who could take measurements and if they felt it excessive they could prevent the aircraft flying. Cllr Martin will be putting an article in village magazines, which will include Icene.

Barston	-	Better for the Environment
Cambs. Acre	-	News Digest September 2011/NHS Focus Groups/ Parish Planning
Anne-Marie Hoare	-	Use of Recreation Ground for Bouncy Castle
Karen Geddes	-	Recreation Ground
Adams Harrison (A Marris)	-	Copy of Deed of Variation (for IVH)/Newsletter Summer '11
Hayden's	-	Abroricultural Consultants Ltd.
Kompani	-	Playgrounds catalogue
SMP	-	Playground leaflet
Clerks & Councils Direct	-	Magazine September 2011
CPRE	-	Countryside Voice Summer 2011
Barcham	-	Tree Specialists brochure
Agrovista	-	Quotation for Spraying Recreation Ground (part)
Lesley Read	-	Request for Memorial in Cemetery (M Barber-Lomax)
SEEARO	-	Copy of Extension Application
K Denman-Johnson/C Driver	-	Diamond Jubilee 2012
Mr & Mrs R Herbert	-	Thank You letter re. use of Recreation Ground
Correspondence sent:		
Karen Geddes	-	Recreation Ground
Balfour Beatty	-	Street Lighting
Bike Events	-	Request to reroute the London to Cambridge Bike Ride
Mr C Frankau	-	Broken Seat on Cemetery Corner
		Thank You letter re. Football Pitches
Crocus FC (L Jenkins)	-	Thank you letter following football pitch move

Mr C Collinson

- Thank you letter re London to Cambridge Bike Ride

161/11 Reports from Councillors:

Liz Gibson reported that Wellcome Trust would be holding their annual Firework Display on 3 November and she will let us have further details when available.

Michael Robinson apologised to Sheila Birch and said he would be fixing the latch on the Play Area gate on Saturday.

Lewis Duke reported that he had attended a SCDC Decision making meeting, which explained the process of SCDC on how it produced and decides on its policies and how the Parish Council might help with interaction. He asked the Clerk to check that we are signed up to the right notification system, which is outlined on the brochure he gave for inclusion in the Correspondence file. Overall, he felt it was worthwhile attending.

Jocelyn Flitton reported that a resident had said dog fouling was still taking place in Back Lane. Tim Pavelin mention that as we now had a Youth team playing on the Recreation Ground, another notice in Icene would not go amiss including both of these points. **Action: Clerk**

Terry Sadler wished to thank on behalf of the Parish Council, the organisers and helpers of the Sizzler event, at which everyone had an enjoyable time.

David Lilley and he had attended a Bus Meeting in Whittlesford and would be putting an article in Icene.

The pedestrian gate on the Wetlands side of the Railway crossing in Mill Lane is loose. The Clerk will report this to Network Rail. **Action: Clerk**

162/11 Finance (Bank Balances) including payments to:

Harts (August Icene) - £53.82 Moore Stephens (Annual Audit) - £219.60

Money Received: CCC (P3 Footpath Grant) - £87.50 Park Vehicle Services (Icene) - £60.00

Bank Balances:

Community Account - £835.97

Business Base Rate Tracker Account - £26,852.13

Year-end Accounts: Moore Stephens have now completed the external audit for the year ending 31/03/2011.

Bank Mandate: The relevant Councillors signed the form, which the Clerk will take to Barclays Bank in Saffron Walden, where Michael Robinson has left his form. **Action: Clerk**

163/11 Recreation Field and Play Area:

Whittlesford Warriors FC – Match Fees – These are still outstanding

Use of White Line Paint – Crocus FC thought all the clubs were possibly using their paint. Tim Pavelin reported that Ickleton Football Club always give a contribution to Crocus. Whittlesford Warriors were using their own line marking machine and paint.

Spraying the Football side of the Recreation Ground to kill off weeds – A ballpark quotation had been received as follows: Application @ £250.00 (depends on access and water availability) plus mileage. Chemical ballpark @ £60.50/ha (depends on weed spectrum to be controlled).

The Councillors would like to know:

- Is it too late and will it work?
- What Health & Safety issues are involved that may affect users (including dog walkers) of the Recreation Ground, particularly now the football season has started.
- Would notices be displayed
- How much water would be required

If acceptable replies were received (which would be circulated), then it was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman could give the go ahead. **Action: Clerk**

Wicksteed Inspection report - Aerial Runway – Trevor Silk had given a quotation of £125 + VAT which excluded any work on the big adjuster which he could not tell until he was carrying out the work, which he intended to do on Thursday 22 September. The Chairman had met with Mr Silk and given him the go ahead to carry out the work.

Working Party – 24 September – It was agreed to meet at 9.30 am.

Key holders – The Clerk felt we should compile a list key-holders; this should then be appended to the Risk Assessment and Emergency Plan. Councillors were requested to let the Clerk know which keys they held

and she would compile a spreadsheet.

Action: ALL

164/11 Cemetery - Chapel – Condition to be kept under Review

Memorial in memory of the late Simon Martin Barber-Lomax – The Clerk had received a request from Lesley Read (Dignity Funerals Ltd.) to erect a red granite headstone and kerb set. No objections were made.

165/11 Churchyard

Wildlife Garden – The Clerk had met with Catherine Cocks to go through the next step of the maintenance required. The Clerk had subsequently met with Ron Coulson and Charlie Frankau who will carry out the work in due course. The next step should happen in March 2012.

Cambridge Lichen Society are surveying in the Churchyard on Saturday 24 September 2011.

166/11 Flooding

Land adj. Stumps Cross – Infilling site Extension application from 30 September 2011 to 30 September 2013 – The Chairman had been invited to an Extraordinary Meeting of Gt Chesterford Parish Council to discuss the situation. He was invited to speak and said he had no personal objection as the site operator had no control over the availability of material. He requested that a condition be put in place to have the drainage of surface water attended to within 6 months. He therefore proposed to the Councillors that no objection was made but add the condition regarding drainage. All Councillors agreed this. The Chairman will draft and circulate a letter as soon as possible, with copies being sent to Uttlesford District Council and Essex County Council.

Action: TS

Drain top of Mill Lane – The Clerk had e-mail Network Rail again. Sallie McKenna-Bates had acknowledged that she had read the e-mail, but no response has yet been received.

Action: Clerk

Abbey Street opp. Methodist Chapel – nothing further to report.

Action: LD

167/11 Footpaths 3 & 6 – Strimming (as per Grant) – It was agreed to arrange for these footpaths to be strimmed in accordance with the grant received.

Action: Clerk

168/11 Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge (by 25/09/11) – Michael Robinson proposed, Tim Pavelin seconded and all were in agreement to sign up for this project.

Action: TS/Clerk

169/11 Remembrance Sunday – Wreath – It was agreed to order a wreath via Malcolm Hall and ask that it is delivered to Gerry and Sheila Birch.

Action: Clerk

170/11 Village Shop and other burglaries in the village – The Parish Council were obviously concerned about recent ‘happenings’ in the village and felt that the police were doing all they reasonably could in trying to solve and hopefully prevent further crimes in the village.

171/11 Queen’s Diamond Jubilee 2012 – An E-mail had been received from Katherine Denman-Johnson (and Claire Driver) saying we should hold a village event with as many village organisations being involved as possible. The Parish Council thought it was a good idea that all groups should join in. Michael Robinson and Liz Gibson volunteered to represent the Parish Council and provide feedback as to how we could be involved. The Parish Council is minded to consider a contribution in due course. The Clerk will inform Katherine Denman-Johnson.

Action: Clerk

172/11 Adjournment for questions from members of the public: None

173/11 Date of next meeting - 19 October 2011 at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm

Chairman

Date

High Speed Broadband

The County has announced that it is prepared to borrow up to £20 million to ensure that everyone in Cambridgeshire has access to high-speed broadband. The minimum proposed is 25 mbps but apparently any substantial up-grade would allow for 80 mbps. The government has offered £6.75 million to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to cope with the 40.5% of homes, which are estimated to be eligible for the subsidy. The County has also earmarked £4 million of money originally destined for social projects. The government requires the County to draw up delivery plans so that the scheme is operating by 2015. It also requires the County to find outside funding to make up the difference between the government's contribution and the real cost, which is estimated to be in the order of £70 million. European money should be available to help.

I have made the point to the leader of the council that areas of South Cambridgeshire have a very patchy service at the moment, with parts of villages and even individual houses with very sub-standard speeds. These should not be forgotten as "desert areas" in the north of the county are dealt with.

It remains unclear where the money is coming from to repay the County's borrowing.

Household Recycling

The inspector who is reviewing the Site Specific detail of the County's Minerals and Waste Plan has said that he is minded to remove from the plan the proposed Household Recycling Centre off the Addenbrooke's relief road. Although it is sited in the Green Belt I remain in favour of it, especially for those of our residents who find the Thriplow site inconvenient. Statutory consultees have apparently already received notice of this and have been asked for their views. Whether or not Ickleton has received any advice it is now too late to comment but I understand from his assistant that the inspector is impressed by the case the County has now made to retain the site.

Street Lighting

Some parish councils are not clear as to the residual responsibilities of the District Council with regard to those lights, which were transferred to parishes. Balfour Beatty has no knowledge of any involvement with the District Council. The County has no information, either.

I therefore asked Paul Quigley of the District Council to give parish councils a written statement of the District Council's retained duties with regard to insurance, replacement and repair of parish council lights. He tells me that there are various new initiatives with regard to the District and street lighting but none has yet been approved by the District Council. Last week he promised me a "form of words" which I could distribute but I haven't received anything yet.

Meanwhile Paul Quigley confirms that he wrote to parish councils in 2006 informing them that the District Council is responsible for replacing parish council lamp standards, which fail either from old age or from collision; so parish councils have no need to insure them for replacement.

Constituency boundaries

The coalition has decided to reduce the number of parliamentary seats from 650 to 600. Last week the Boundary Commission for England published its draft proposals for parliamentary constituency boundaries in England. The plans show a radical change in the South Cambridgeshire constituency with the centre of gravity moving east. So it could be welcome to Linton and a number of villages from Histon south.

There will be an official consultation period of 12 weeks before the Boundary Commission decides whether or not to change its plans.

You will be able to submit your views on the proposals either:

- a) in writing at any time during that 12-week period; or
- b) orally at one of the public hearings that will take place at the Gonville Hotel, Gonville Place in

Cambridge on Thursday 10th or Friday 11th November.

In Spring 2012 the Boundary Commission will publish all the responses to the initial consultation (including transcripts of the public hearings). There will then be a further four-week period when you can send in writing your views about any of those initial representations.

If the Boundary Commission revises any of their proposals following these two consultation periods, there will be a further 8-week period when you will be able to send them your views in writing on the revised proposals.

Buses

Our bus meeting took place at Whittlesford Memorial Hall last Tuesday. Apart from learning that it's all very complex and that the idea is to merge transport provision of the health service and school transport we didn't get too far.

We are now promised that the planned October bus cuts will not take place and the earliest any further changes will happen is April 2012.

A questionnaire has been compiled to gather people's views, which can be found at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/busreview.

If you do not wish to complete this questionnaire online, paper copies are available by using one of the following means.

By email: bus.tenders@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

By telephone: 0345 045 0675

By post: Cambridgeshire County Council, CC1301, Castle Court, Shire Hall, Cambridge, CB3 0AP

I have asked for 100 paper copies but I've been told that they will be available only later this week.

The closing date for responses to the questionnaire is 16:00 on Friday 9th December 2011.

Last month I went to March to see how East Cambridgeshire is dealing with the challenge. They seem to be rather more advanced than South Cambridgeshire with both specific transport for young people and pinpointing where users of bus passes live so that bus routes and bus stops can be designed around them.

The County has now taken over running the bus pass scheme from Districts. Bus pass holders should not notice any difference except that renewals will be staggered to avoid any potential logjams.

Affordable Rents.....OR NOT.

Only one topic this month, but potentially a very important issue for our villages.

Until now affordable housing built on exemption sites have been paid for by grants from Central Government thus allowing Housing Associations to deliver an excellent product rented for what is referred to as "Social Rent". In future the government grant will cease but housing associations will be permitted to charge an "Affordable Rent" and thus recoup their investment over a number of years.

"Affordable Rent" is defined as up 80% of the private "market rent".

By way of example a 3-bed semi in South Cambs has: a "market rent" of £875 per month.

a "Social Rent of £350-400 per month

BUT an "Affordable Rent" of £700 per month.

Using the accepted 30% of earnings funding your house in future you would need to have earnings of £40,000 to rent an affordable home.

Current social housing will not be affected but the change will come in with all future new developments on exemption sites. Current houses are vulnerable on change of occupancy or renewal of rental agreement if not on a lifetime occupancy agreement.

Mixed developments within the village framework should not be affected because the social housing is funded through the profits from full market sales.

SCDC are actively working to develop partnerships with housing associations and charities to ensure that we are protected but be careful, challenge any housing association or developer that seeks your support for affordable housing development outside the village framework.