

# ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19 October 2011 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall

**Present:** Terry Sadler (Chairman), Lewis Duke, Michael Robinson, Tim Pavelin, Liz Goddard, Sheila Birch, Liz Gibson, Kern Roberts, Jocelyn Flitton (Parish Clerk) and Cllr Mick Martin (District)

**174/11 Apologies for absence:** Sian Wombwell, Cllr Tim Stone (County)

**175/11 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2011:** The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**176/11 Adjournment for questions from members of the public:** None

## **177/11 Matters Arising:**

028/07 Tennis Courts – Lewis Duke said there was nothing further to report.

**Action: LD**

028/11 CCC Winter Snow Clearance inc. meeting 27/09/11(LD) – Lewis Duke reported on the volunteer winter maintenance for footways session that he attended. It was felt that the time, manpower and implements to be used would not be practical to put in use around the village. Whilst there, he took the opportunity to talk about the salting of Grange Road. Together with Peter Wombwell they have been looking at equipment, with possible funds coming from RAGT. It is still a bit tricky and quite expensive to do it properly. It was decided after discussion to await further feedback from Lewis Duke and Peter Wombwell.

**Action: LD**

Protected Road Verges – Nothing further to report.

**Action: SW**

069/11 Training Courses – A list of training courses had been received from CPALC but it was disappointing that there was very little notice of when the training would take place and the location on offer was inconvenient. The Clerk will ask if they have any courses planned for next year.

**Action: Clerk**

078/11 Emergency Plan – Lewis Duke and the Clerk had submitted the draft plan to Lawrence Green at SCDC. Mr Green had replied that we were very much on the right lines and made some suggestions, which would be adopted.

**Action: LD/Clerk**

100/11 Broadband – The Chairman reported he still had received no response from Virgin. Kern Roberts stated that he had a Virgin box outside his house and would make further enquiries about its use.

**Action: KR**

117/11 Broken seat at Cemetery Corner – this repair was still outstanding with C Frankau.

**Action: Clerk**

125/11 Village Information Leaflet – this was still outstanding with the Clerk.

**Action: Clerk**

161/11 Pedestrian Gatepost at Mill Lane Railway Crossing – The Clerk had reported this to Network Rail and had rung today to obtain an update. She was told that it would be repaired tomorrow (20 Oct) and was asked to check that it had been done.

**Action: Clerk**

168/11 Queen Elizabeth II Fields – Our request to sign up for this project had been acknowledged by Cambridgeshire Acre.

**Action: Clerk**

171/11 Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012 – Nothing further to report.

**Action: MR/LGibson**

**178/11 Youth Representation:** None

## **179/11 Reports from District and County Councillors:**

**District Councillor's report** – Cllr Martin reported on the grants now available from SCDC. An interactive map showing the SHLAA sites was available on the SCDC website [www.scamb.gov.uk](http://www.scamb.gov.uk). The nearest to Ickleton were the proposals for Hanley Grange and the ring road around Duxford, although the latter could not happen as currently planned.

**Appendix 1 - County Councillor's report** – received after the meeting.

Cllr Mick Martin left the meeting.

**180/11 Correspondence received:**

SCDC (Paul Quigley)	-	Proposed changes to Footway Lighting Maint. Arrangements
SCDC (LDF)	-	Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment – List of sites
SCDC	-	Planning Policy Month Update October 2011
SCDC (L Green)	-	Emergency Parish Plan
CCC (Richard Preston)	-	Heavy Commercial Vehicle (HCV) Strategy meeting
CCC (N Dawe)	-	Consultation on budget
CCC (CST)	-	Parish Path's Partnership / P3 Coordinator
CPALC	-	The Localism Bill / Courses /AGM / Newsletters
Cambs. Acre	-	Village SOS / News Digest Oct. 2011
Came & Co.	-	Parish Council Insurance
Barclays Bank plc	-	Bank Mandate
Imperial War Museum	-	Neighbours Forum
Stop Stansted Expansion	-	Industry pressure on government is growing
Hinxton Parish Clerk	-	Heavy Vehicles in village
Soc. of Local Council	-	Membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks
Wellcome Trust (J Watson)	-	Fireworks Display 2011
Various e-mails	-	Distributed to Councillors during the month
Norfolk China	-	Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012
Malcolm Hall	-	Remembrance Sunday Wreath
Cambs. Horizons/Amy Jones	-	Cambs. Renewables Infrastructure Framework
CPRE	-	How to responds to planning applications guide
P & C Cocks	-	Copy of letter to SCDC re. land adj. 20 Church St.
CRIF	-	Energy
SMP Playgrounds	-	Autumn 2011 deals
PageantMaster	-	Queen's Diamond Jubilee – Beacons
Luminus Group	-	Annual Report
Sherriff Amenity	-	Brochure

**Correspondence sent:**

SCDC (P Quigley)	-	Proposed changes to Footway Lighting Maint. Arrangements
NPPF	-	Response by Chairman
Hinxton Parish Clerk	-	Concrete rubble on side of road / Heavy Vehicles in village
Malcolm Hall	-	Remembrance Sunday Wreath
C Frankau	-	Footpath 6
R Coulson	-	Footpath 3
Parish Councillors	-	Fly Tipping of tyres (01/10/11)

**181/11 Planning application(s) received from SCDC: None**Declarations of Interest to be declared.**182/11 Reports from Councillors:**

Liz Goddard said a parishioner was worried about the state of the Notice board; it was thought that this could impinge on Dilip Odedra, who makes a small charge for advertising in the shop. It was felt the board should be used to advertise Charity and Community based events and not trades. The Clerk replied that she regularly tidies the board and removes old notices. It was agreed all trade notices would be removed.

**Action: Clerk**

Sheila Birch wished to congratulate those Councillors who painted the Play Area. A manhole cover outside 33 Abbey Street makes a noise when cars drive over it and the tarmac surrounding it is breaking up. The Clerk will report this to CCC (M Cooper).

**Action: Clerk**

Liz Gibson gave a poster advertising the Firework Display at Wellcome Trust to the Clerk to put on the notice board. Tickets (for a free drink for Ickleton and Hinxton residents) will be obtainable from Cost cutters, Ickleton Lion and in the porch of No. 14 Birds Close.

Michael Robinson said a resident in The Stackyard was worried about cars speeding down Coploe Road. Another resident had expressed concern about the possibility of travellers coming onto local fields.

Lewis Duke asked that a reminder be put in Icene asking pet owners to take extra care of their pets from November 3 – 5<sup>th</sup>. He also asked the Clerk to report to CCC Highways the numerous potholes along Grange Road. **Action: Clerk**

Terry Sadler reported on a Parish Training session at SCDC, which he had attended. He mentioned that Emily Ip had left the Planning Department and Barbara Clark had left the Conservation section.

He asked if there were any comments to be made on the Government consultation on the Aviation policy as the deadline was tomorrow (Oct 20). No suggestions were made. Mention was made of a meeting at SCDC on 15 November relating to Water Management Briefing, which Lewis Duke will attend.

**Action: LD**

**183/11 Finance (Bank Balances) including payments to:**

Ickleton Village Hall (Hire of Hall) - £45.00

Harts (August Icene - £72.45 / Stationery - £15.27 = £87.72 + £17.54 VAT = £109.26 Total

R Coulson (Footpath 3 - Water Lane) - £37.50                      Sheffiff Amenity (Spraying Rec. Grnd) - £395.42

J A Flitton (3 months salary + expenses) - £662.03              HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE) - £125.29

Balfour Beatty (Street Lighting) - £433.08

**Money Received:** SCDC (Precept – second payment) - £10,500              J Ridlington (Icene Adv.) - £20.00

**Bank Balances:**

Community Account    -              £552.39

Business Base Rate Tracker Account                      -              £35,855.57

**Precept v Budget:** The Clerk had circulated the figures for the past six months, which were noted.

**Bank Mandate:** Barclays Bank plc have confirmed that the new Bank Mandate is now in place.

**184/11 Recreation Field and Play Area:**

Whittlesford Warriors FC – Match Fees – The fees are still outstanding.

Spraying of Football pitches and Cricket Square to kill off weeds/Use of Village Hall water – The spraying of the two football pitches and the cricket square had now been done. A vote of thanks was recorded to Pam Fearn and David Whitaker for their help in obtaining and using water from the Village Hall.

**Action: Clerk**

Wicksteed Inspection report inc. Aerial Runway, Working Party – 24 September – Trevor Silk had now repaired the Aerial Runway. The working party had painted the wooden sections in the Play Area with the exception of the surrounding fence, and square border around the bark. It was agreed to paint (weather permitting) the remaining parts and order some bark in the Spring. It is hoped to get this done before next April when the annual inspection is due.

**Action: Clerk**

Key holders – The Clerk had now compiled a list, which would be circulated to the Councillors and included in the Emergency Plan.

Broken seat in Play Area – This was still outstanding with C Frankau.

**Action: Clerk**

**185/11 Cemetery - Chapel** – Condition to be kept under Review – Nothing to report.

**186/11 Churchyard:** C Frankau still had some work to complete in the Churchyard.

**187/11 Flooding**

Land adj. Stumps Cross – Infilling site Extension application from 30 September 2011 to 30 September 2013 – No response had been received. **Action: TS**

Drain top of Mill Lane - No response from Network Rail. Tim Pavelin reported that leaves were now blocking the gutters and drain. SCDC sweep the road twice a year but it cannot be guaranteed when they come there will be no cars parked to enable them to sweep up the leaves. Tim Pavelin will try to clear some away.

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

**188/11 Footway Lighting Maintenance Agreements changes:** Following an e-mail from Paul Quigley (SCDC) informing us they were taking over from CCC the maintenance agreement, Lewis Duke proposed, Sheila Birch seconded and all were in favour that we accepted the proposal from SCDC. **Action: Clerk**

**189/11 SCDC Liaison Meeting 28 September 2011 (TS/Clerk):** The Chairman reported on this meeting where the main topic was a list of sites relating to Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). South Cambridgeshire District Council grants were also discussed. Both these documents will be circulated.

**190/11 Wellcome Trust Liaison Meeting 23 September 2011 (TS/SB):** Minutes of the meeting were taken for the first time and these would be circulated. Items discussed were Flooding and the proposed plans for a Wind Turbine.

**191/11 Sawston Neighbourhood Panel Meeting 3 October 2011 (Clerk/LGibson):** Liz Gibson reported that 3 speakers were heard at the meeting relating to: Domestic Abuse, Cambridgeshire Police Authority - the Local Policing Plan can be viewed on [www.cambspa.gov.uk](http://www.cambspa.gov.uk) - and BT Openreach (Cable thefts). For non-emergency calls, callers can now ring 101.

**192/11 East Anglian Region Tree Warden Forum 8 October 2011 (SW):** This item will be carried over to the next meeting when Sian Wombwell will be able to report on the day. **Action: SW**

**193/11 IWM Neighbours Forum 19 October 2011 (LD):** Lewis Duke attended the meeting this afternoon and said the recent accidents were discussed; financially they were on target and seemed to be weathering the recession reasonably well. The Formula 1 testing will go up to 8 days next year. The dates for next years Air Shows have now been fixed. Concern was raised about people walking down the fields from Grange Road, Duxford towards the runway. The noise created by the F15 plane was noted and the possibility of a housing development (SHLAA).

**194/11 CCC Parish Council HCV Strategy meeting 29 November 2011:** The Chairman will attend this meeting. **Action: TS**

**195/11 CCC Clearance of grips in the road before winter:** The Clerk would e-mail CCC (M Cooper) asking for these to be cleared out. **Action: Clerk**

**196/11 Clerk's Membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks:** The Chairman proposed that we renew our subscription (£15.50 per annum) to the NALC/LCR magazine, as it could be beneficial to the Clerk and Chairman. Lewis Duke seconded this proposal, which was agreed by all Councillors. **Action: Clerk**

**197/11 Adjournment for questions from members of the public:** None

**198/11 Date and time of next meeting - 16/11/2011. Note: December's meeting - 14 December 2011**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55pm

**Chairman**

**Date**

### **Street Lighting**

We now have improving clarity on street lighting after Paul Quigley wrote to all parish councils, as he had promised me. We now await a firm decision from South Cambs. but meanwhile it is clear that parish councils do not have to insure "their" lights. Please let me know if there is anything further I can do to help.

### **Buses**

I am encouraging everyone with an interest in buses to complete the County's questionnaire. Responses have to be sent in by 9<sup>th</sup> December. I have a quantity of paper questionnaires but the County would prefer to receive them by Internet on:

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/around/buses/busconsultation.htm>

The County wants to get a new pilot up and running in the Duxford area by Christmas. The idea is that a minibus would be provided and branded by the County, leaving the operator to use the minibus for other purposes throughout the day. The theory is that in the early morning up to 7 am and later evening after 6.30 pm the minibus could be used to ferry commuters to and from Whittlesford Parkway station. It would be used as a school bus to take children with special educational needs to and from the Granta School at Linton and villages around Linton at school times between 7.00 in the morning and from 3.30 to 6.30 in the afternoon. During the middle of the day it could be used to take people to their destination of choice – possibly supermarkets or Trumpington Park & Ride. In the very late evening it could supply an "extension to the core network."

In the case of the Duxford area all this would happen before the Citi7 subsidy is withdrawn and therefore would not meet the needs of many of the Citi7's current passengers. That would be another hurdle when subsidies are withdrawn.

The rules for running public service transport are very complex. The theory seems to be that the minibus franchise would not be a bus, so those with bus passes would have to pay, but it wouldn't be Community Transport either, so the County wouldn't subsidise 50% of the fare. But the County does seem to want a say in the fare structure.

Then, of course, there is the matter of finding potential franchisees. As I see it they will have to be people already in the public transport business.

### **Development plans**

The District Council has asked landowners and developers which pieces of South Cambridgeshire they would like to develop. This "Call for Sites" forms the basis of a Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). The SHLAA is a technical assessment that will identify sites that are potentially suitable for housing.

You can see the map of the sites, which developers have proposed on:

<http://scams.jdi-consult.net/ldf/readdoc.php?docid=215&view=map>

It is clear from the map that there are far too many sites locally for any natural local demand. The now defunct East of England Plan was for some 18,000 houses to be built, of which sites for at least 10,000 have been identified. The "Call for Sites" elicited 270 further sites with an estimated 70,000 houses. Some of these sites have already been rejected – either through the planning process or through local outcry. The District Council has to review the sites to remove those, which should not be built on for technical reasons, such as being in the flood plain. Then it will be a question of selecting some of the remaining sites. That will be subject to public consultation in June next year with a final decision being taken in 2013.

In Ickleton there are no sites proposed. But there is concern about the 850 new houses proposed for Duxford, which would inevitably have an effect on Ickleton's roads. And Hanley Grange is back with 5,000 houses proposed.

There is no cause for immediate alarm. The East of England Plan proposed that the concentration of new housing in South Cambridgeshire should be north of Cambridge and there is no reason to suppose that South Cambridgeshire District Council will change that view. One challenge is that all villages have a need for affordable housing in small clusters. Many of the mega-plans, which are proposed, completely alter the nature of our villages. They may well deliver affordable housing because of the District's rule requiring 40% of all new developments to be affordable. But we probably don't need the hundreds of commercial houses making up the 60%.

### **Wind Farms**

Although it doesn't affect Ickleton directly you may like to know that the County had proposed that no wind farms should be allowed on its own County Farms estates.

Cambridgeshire County Council's 35,000 acres (13,500 ha) with 250 farm tenants is the largest in England and Wales.

The Estate provides important financial returns for the County Council. It is important as the first rung on the ladder for new entrants to farming, for protecting biodiversity, and providing leisure opportunities in the countryside.

The Estate's rent roll is £2.4m. Since 1990 more than £40m has been raised through the judicious sale of surplus property. The money raised is used to pay for Council services and to keep the Council tax low.

Tenants have complained that this blanket rejection is perverse, in terms both of carbon reduction and loss of revenue. It is estimated that the County, which already owns a wind farm, could generate £900,000 a year from renewable wind energy.

The Liberal Democrats have forced a re-think of the policy: success has been fairly modest: the County has now lifted the blanket ban but says it prefers small individual turbines rather than larger arrays. Our view is that planning applications should be allowed to come forward and approved or rejected according to perfectly satisfactory planning rules, which have seen far more applications being rejected than have been approved. You can be sure that I shall continue to oppose any wind farms in our area, which could have a negative effect on the operations of the Imperial War Museum.

### **Protected Road Verges**

You will recall that this year the County has dealt a blow to our countryside by withdrawing its special cutting regime for its Protected Road Verges. I put a motion to Full Council on Tuesday asking the County to maintain its Protected Road Verges according to the protocol already agreed with the Wildlife Trust. I quite expected it to be defeated – and it was. The fig leaf of an excuse was that the County is already consulting the Wildlife Trust and it was too early to come to a conclusion. That was poppycock because the protocol already exists and all the County is trying to do is weasel out of it. I knew from the Wildlife Trust that this was happening and they are just trying to rescue what they can from a very unsatisfactory situation.