

ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20 June 2012 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall.

Present: Terry Sadler (Chairman), Lewis Duke, Liz Gibson, Tim Pavelin, Liz Goddard, Jocelyn Flitton (Parish Clerk), Cllr Mick Martin (District) and David Lilley

112/12 Apologies for absence: Michael Robinson, Kern Roberts, Sian Wombwell, Cllr Tim Stone (County)

113/12 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2012: The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

114/12 Adjournment for questions from members of the public: None

115/12 Matters Arising:

028/07 Tennis Court – Kern Roberts had notified the Clerk that he had had his first meeting with the Tennis Courts Committee and was waiting for some feedback from their discussions and possible action points.

Action: KR

168/11 Queen Elizabeth II Fields – Copy of map from Land Registry – The Clerk had obtained a map of the Recreation Field from the Land Registry and this had now been sent to Fields in Trust.

Action: Clerk

171/11 Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012 – The village had enjoyed a wonderful time at the well-organised events, which had been headed by Katherine Denman-Johnson and the Jubilee Committee. The Parish Council will send a letter of appreciation and thanks to the Committee together with some flowers to Katherine Denman-Johnson.

Action: TS/Clerk

008/12 Super fast Broadband – The CCC 'Get Cambridgeshire Connected' leaflets eventually arrived from Cambridgeshire Acre and were distributed around the village by Lewis Duke and the Clerk. It is hoped that this leaflet and the article in Icene (which will be repeated) will have prompted people to register.

Action: LD

026/12 Proposed 20mph Speed Limit – Residents who attended the Annual Parish Meeting were in favour of the proposal when it was discussed. The Chairman wished to appoint Kern Roberts (Highways) to head up a group outside the Parish Council, to consult with the whole village and further this project on. The Chairman said he was owed some information from Brian Stinton (CCC) and had also tried to contact the Chairman of Linton Parish Council. The Parish Council would need to decide where the reduced limits should be. It was agreed that consideration would be given to HCV management at the same time as the speed limits review. It had been noticeable in the past few days of less heavy traffic due to the level crossing at Gt Chesterford being closed. The Chairman invited David Lilley to express his views/opinion.

Action: TS/KR

033/12 Litter Pick – Purchase of equipment – The Chairman had sent an e-mail to Wellcome Trust requesting kit for twelve people and was awaiting a response.

Action: TS

039/12 Footway Lighting Maintenance Agreements – Refund due from SCDC/BB – The Clerk had received a letter from Balfour Beatty/CCC enclosing a cheque for £216.54 (yet to be paid in pending clarification) but at the same time saying they had yet to receive payment for the period 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2011 which was now overdue. The Clerk had no outstanding invoice to pay and notified them that a cheque for £433.08 had been sent to BB on 19/10/11 and a cheque for £476.28 had been sent on 18/01/12 to CCC. Cllr Tim Stone was attending a meeting this evening and it is hoped that he will be able to clarify the situation.

Action: TS/Clerk

095/12 Additional litterbins and dog fouling notices inc. no dog sign for Play Area – The seat near the football pitch had been repaired. The dog sign from the Churchyard had been removed and re-sited at the road entrance to the Village Hall. The Clerk was still in the process of obtaining costings for additional litter and dog bins. **Action: TS/Clerk**

082/12 CCC Definitive Map Modification Order 2011 (Footpaths 7, 4 and 12) – Nothing further to report. **Action: TS**

095/12 Protected Road Verges – Chrishall Grange – In the absence of Sian Wombwell it is not known if Robert Law is willing to cut the verge (full width) twice a year with arisings removed. **Action: SW**

105/12 Strimming Footpaths 3 (Water Lane) & 6 (Butcher's Hill) – These had both been done.

109/12 CCC Bus Subsidy Cuts/Citi7 – The changes seemed to have seen the buses running to time but problems were caused when the level crossing at Gt Chesterford was closed unexpectedly. This meant some buses did not come to Ickleton. A resident had contacted the Clerk after a driver had told them that there should be a bus stop flag in Abbey Street. The Clerk had e-mailed Stagecoach and suggested they move the one from the bottom of Butcher's Hill to Abbey Street. This item will be taken off the Agenda until September. The Clerk will contact the Clerk at Hinxtion and Wellcome Trust to ask their views on how they had been affected by the change.

116/12 Youth Representation: None

117/12 Reports from District and County Councillors:

Appendix I District Councillor's Report

Appendix II County Councillor's Report

Liz Goddard joined the meeting.

118/12 Correspondence received:

CCC (B Stinton)	-	Minor Highway Improvement
CCC (A Clarke)	-	Mobile Library Service
CCC (M Cooper)	-	Removal of dead tree outside 11 Coploe Road
SCDC (P Wilkinson)	-	Confirmation no election required, can co-opt
SCDC (L Browne)	-	Community Pride and Village Hero Awards
Stagecoach (A Campbell)	-	Bus stop sign for Abbey Street / Bus timetables for Citi 7
Oliver Thain	-	Planning application
Cambridge 105	-	Local volunteer community radio station
Whittlesford & Duxford Scout Group	-	Centenary Invitation to BBQ 6 July
Chris Hancock	-	Gas guns
Passenger Transport	-	Timetable for Sawston, Whittlesford, Heathfield & Hinxtion
Sawston Youth Drama	-	Annie/Kiss Me Kate productions
Cambs. Police	-	Notes of Neighbourhood Panel 2 April 12
CPRE	-	Annual Report 2011/12
Various e-mails	-	Circulated during the month
Cambs. Acre (A Brown)	-	Customer survey
LDF	-	Local Plan Parish Council Workshop notes
Vitalise	-	Request for donation
Luminus News	-	Booklet
Fields in Trust	-	Goodie box / AGM 22 June 12
IWM (E Blaine)	-	Formula One Test Days 3 July and 12 September 12
LCR	-	Summer magazine
Came & Co.	-	Annual insurance
Balfour Beatty	-	Street Lighting
CAPALC	-	Cheque signing
Audit Commission	-	Consultation on appointment of Littlejohn LLP – External auditors
Spartak FC	-	Cancellation of use of Recreation Ground on 9 June 12
J Macdonald	-	Insurance of Churchyard Wall

Uttlesford District Council - Consultation on proposals for a draft local plan

Correspondence sent:

CCC (C Tucker) - P 3 Completed Works form
SCDC (P Quigley) - Street Lighting
Stagecoach (A Campbell) - Bus stop sign for Abbey Street
C Frankau - Dog signs / Various repairs / quote for skate park
Citizens Advice Bureau - Response sent to: 'How can we improve our service?'
Crocus FC (L Jenkins) - Notify of Cricket Club using Recreation Ground
Barclays Bank plc - Amendment to Bank Mandate
Fields in Trust - Map of Recreation Ground
Came & Co. - Annual Insurance

David Lilley left the meeting.

119/12 Planning application(s) received from SCDC: Declarations of Interest to be declared.
S/1019/12/FL – Rear 2 Storey Extension & Side Single Storey Lean-to Extension – 64 Abbey Street – Mr Simon Day Approve
S/1153/12/CA – Two Storey Rear Extension & Single Storey side Extension, including demolition into the new rear structure. Extension of time for implementation – 64 Abbey Street – Mr Simon Day Approve
S/1068/12/FL – Rear Conservatory – 2 Southfield – Mr K Budd Approve
Action: Clerk

Planning application(s) granted by SCDC:

S/0588/12/FL – Construction of a detached Garage at the rear of the Dwelling – 33 Church Street – Mr K Thorn

Planning application(s) refused by SCDC:

S/0802/12/FL – Single Storey Rear Extension (Revised Design), Alterations and Replacement Gate/Fence – 1 Frogge Street – Mr Oliver Thain
S/0803/12/LB – Single Storey Rear Extension (Revised Design) and Internal and External Alterations – 1 Frogge Street – Mr Oliver Thain

120/12 Reports from Councillors:

Liz Goddard reported that she would cut down the shrubbery that is encroaching the footpath.
Lewis Duke reported due to all the rain shrubbery had grown and some was overhanging footpaths. An article would be put in Icene reminding residents to cut back overhanging shrubbery. **Action: Clerk**
Terry Sadler asked the Clerk to report to CCC (M Cooper) the roots that were protruding in the footpath between Abbey Street and Birds Close. It was felt these were a trip hazard especially in the dark.
Action: Clerk

Cllr Mick Martin left the meeting

121/12 Finance (Bank Balances) including payments to:

22 May 2012 - Broker Network Ltd. (Came & Co.-Annual Insurance Premium) - £1376.09 – The Clerk had stopped the cheque as it had never been received together with the letter sent.

Payment of Insurance Premium by Bank Transfer – Following confirmation that the cheque had been stopped; the Clerk did a Bank Transfer on 14 June for £1,307.29 to cover the 3-year long-term agreement from 1 June 2012. A new Business Declaration and Long Term Agreement form had been completed and sent to Came & Co.

Harts (May Icene) - £70.38 + A4 Copy Paper (Clerk) = £17.34 – Total = £87.72

Barcham (Jubilee Oak Tree + Plant kit) - £111.30

Wicksteed Leisure (2 Cradle Seats) - £255.19

Costcutter Express (Annual Parish Meeting refreshments) - £45.69

CS Cocks (Top soil/grass seed for Churchyard) - £7.75

M Grainger (Regal Roofing-Bell Tower Cemetery Chapel) - £200.00

Money Received: Amanda Maris (Icene Advert.) - £30.00

Peasgood & Skeates (Burial J Marshall dec'd) - £140.00

Bank Balances:

Community Account	-	£1,600.93
Business Base Rate Tracker Account	-	£37,868.00

Bank Mandate: A new Bank Mandate form had been received. Following an e-mail from CAPALC it was agreed that in future only two Councillor signatures would be required on cheques instead of three as had been the case in the past. It was agreed to ask Kern Roberts to become a signatory in place of Sheila Birch. **Action: Clerk**

Consultation on appointment of External Auditor for 2012/13 and future year: The Clerk had circulated the letter regarding the appointment of Littlejohn LLP to audit the annual return for five years from 2012/13. No objections were raised.

122/12 Recreation Field and Play Area:

Replacement of two cradle swing seats – The Clerk had obtained the seats from Wicksteed Leisure and Tim Pavelin and Kern Roberts had fitted them.

Suspended tyres on multi-play equipment – The Clerk was still waiting to hear from Michael Robinson regarding the size. Tim Pavelin had expressed concern as to whether we would be able to fit them.

Action: MR/Clerk

Basketball net – Tim Pavelin felt sure the size was 18". The Clerk will purchase a net this size.

Action: Clerk/KR/MR

Quotation from C Frankau to paint riding surfaces on Skate Park – This quotation has yet to be received from C Frankau.

Action: Clerk

Rubber Matting under swings – This was still outstanding with C Frankau.

Action: Clerk

Installation of Post and chain link fence - This was still outstanding with C Frankau.

Action: Clerk

Cancellation by Spartak YFC – Spartak YFC had cancelled the use of the Recreation Ground/Village Hall on 9 June.

Football Pitches – C Frankau was putting the summer dressing on the pitches this afternoon.

Tim Pavelin asked if we could put New Play Equipment on the next Agenda. A resident had suggested a roundabout.

Action: Clerk

123/12 Cemetery - Chapel – Condition to be kept under Review

Temporary repair of Bell Tower on Chapel roof by Regal Roofing and quotations (2) for tiling – An invoice for attending to the Bell Tower (twice) following the theft had been received from Regal Roofing. We had received a quotation from G A Woodcock for covering with a blue mineral felt to look like lead for £780.00 or to tile the roof using tiles to match existing £1,175.13. We were still trying to obtain a comparative quotation from Regal Roofing.

Action: Clerk

Insurance claim with AON – This was ongoing.

Action: TS/Clerk

124/12 Churchyard

Review of Churchyard wall – Meeting to be arranged with Churchwarden - The Clerk will arrange a meeting with representatives from the Church.

Action: Clerk

125/12 Flooding

Land adj. Stumps Cross - Extension granted until 30 September 2013 – Nothing to report.

Action: LD

Drain top of Mill Lane – John Eccles from Network Rail had left a message for the Clerk to say the work would be carried out this week. The Clerk will check to see if this is the case.

Action: Clerk

Abbey Street opp. Methodist Chapel – Nothing to report.

Action: LD

126/12 Tree Planting:

Planting of Jubilee Oak Tree (Quercus Palustris) + plaque on 3 June – This had taken place in the Recreation Ground during the Jubilee celebrations. A Treegator had been promised by Roz Richardson of SCDC, as these were very hard to obtain and could not be acquired when the tree was purchased. In the meantime C Frankau will move the treegator from the Ash to the Oak.

Action: Clerk

Planting in Back Lane – Nothing had been heard from the Human Trust.

127/12 Vacancy – Parish Councillor: Election called/Co-option – The Clerk had received confirmation from SCDC that having waited for the statutory period for ten electors of the Parish to request an by-election, they were now able to confirm that the vacancy can be filled by means of co-option. Due to being on holiday, the Chairman had been unable to speak to the one applicant that had so far shown interest in joining the Parish Council. It was agreed we would mention the vacancy again in the Icene saying there would be a ballot if more than one candidate applied. It was agreed to co-opt at the July meeting.

Action: TS/Clerk

128/12 SCDC Standards Committee – Localism Act 2011 – new arrangements to be in place by 1 July 2012 – No information had been received.

Action: TS

129/12 CiLCA Module on General Power of Competence training session – The Clerk will attend this half-day course 27 June 2012.

Action: Clerk

130/12 Neighbourhood Police Panel Meeting – 2 July 2012 – Liz Gibson will attend this meeting as Lewis Duke and the Clerk are unavailable.

Action: LGibson

131/12 Welcoming new residents/distribution of village leaflets – Sheila Birch had carried out this task but it was unclear as to whether this fell under the Parish Council umbrella. A suggestion that maybe it was advertised in Icene was made. The Chairman will speak to Sheila Birch first.

Action: TS

132/12 Village Website – Future plans – Andrew Shepperd is keen to ‘reposition’ the village website to make it more relevant. He would like to introduce the ability for people to put things on and for various organisations to add their own input/updates. The Chairman asked Liz Gibson to head up a group of village residents who have IT experience and knowledge to work with Andrew Shepperd on this project. The Chairman reported that the Ickleton Society currently owns the village website and some modest costs could be involved in this new project. Lewis Duke suggested that the Parish Council should own the village website (be the publishers) in future. These points should be considered when Liz Gibson meets with Andrew Shepperd.

Action: LGibson

133/12 Uttlesford Local Plan Consultation (8 June to 23 July) – A public exhibition will be held at Gt Chesterford Community Centre on Wednesday 27 June or you can visit the following website: www.uttlesford.gov.uk/developinguttlesford

134/12 Coploe Pit – Visit by L Osborne, Greenbelt Section of Wildlife Trust – 4 July – Sheila Birch had sent notification of the visit and that we should expect an invoice following the visit.

135/12 SCDC Community Pride & Village Hero Awards – Nominations to both awards have to be sent by the closing date of 31 July 2012. Names will be put forward for discussion at the July meeting.

Action: ALL

136/12 Parish Plan – This reminder is put on the Agenda annually as a reminder. The new Local Plan is likely to cater for smaller parishes that do not have their own neighbourhood plan. Provisions may also be made to cater for parishes favouring development in the absence of a neighbourhood plan. These topics are likely to come up in the forthcoming Planning Workshop, which the Chairman is attending on 16 July 2012 at Cambourne.

Action: TS/LD

137/12 Adjournment for questions from members of the public: None

138/12 Date and time of next meeting - 18 July 2012

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Chairman

Date

Affordable rents

Mick Martin gave a verbal report on affordable rents and how housing benefits could be reduced if properties were considered to be under occupied. He hoped to supply a written statement shortly.

He had hoped as District Councillor to attend the Church Fete on 30 June but is unable as he has an Air Show to run at the Imperial War Museum!

Appendix II**County Councillor's Report to Ickleton Parish Council****20th June 2012****Buses**

A good meeting on 30th May about the future of transport. Many initiatives and surveys now happening, though with a continuing Citi 7 bus, Ickleton is not as affected as other villages. We shall be conducting a survey in Sawston Medical Centre next Monday and another next Friday at Whittlesford station to see if people would be prepared to leave their cars at home if there was a public transport alternative.

Meanwhile the County has launched a general transport survey on a new Transport Strategy for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire. The idea is to seek views on the issues, which should be addressed by a new transport strategy and the types of transport improvements respondents would like to see included in the strategy.

Further information, including the consultation documents and a link to the online consultation questionnaire can be found at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/tscsc

I have completed the survey myself, which takes quite a bit of time if you think as slowly as I do. It seems to be full of motherhood and apple pie. Conspicuously there is no price tag. I should be interested to know what you think.

Broadband

The County has now received over 7,000 registrations from people who would like superfast broadband in their villages. This apparently represents a good number, though from chats I've had with people it seems pretty clear that many have still not registered. It would be very helpful if the parish council could continue to publicise the Connecting Cambridgeshire website, where people and businesses can register. It is: <http://www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk>

Minor Highway Improvements

We have now completed this year's task of allocating the £50,000, which the County has offered to build minor highway improvements in South Cambridgeshire. Most of the improvements involve speed limit reductions and better signage. Ickleton will receive an official notification shortly and meanwhile I may say nothing about the outcome except to thank your Chairman for his very useful explanation of what the parish is looking for.

Next year's process should be better handled and is expected to start in September. We have given up the mechanistic process of scoring criteria because it was weighted heavily in favour of main roads and safety. That meant that desirable improvements on less used roads never stood a chance. Our discussions were nevertheless thorough and the decision process can be robustly defended.

There is no limit to the amount a parish council can contribute to a Minor Highway Improvement proposal and you might like to start thinking already about anything you would like to have part funded by the County. The exact criteria in terms of amounts available per scheme and obligatory percentage contribution from parishes have yet to be decided.

Website cookies

New rules have been introduced about website cookies. It will no longer be legal to use cookies on websites without giving visitors notification of the purpose for which they are being used. I have asked the County Council if they will give guidance to parish councils as some may have websites, which contain cookies. They may also have community websites, which they know

about. The County says that all websites are different so there is no single set of rules. At least some guidance should soon be available.

Timebanking

Cambridgeshire is pioneering a concept called timebanking. The idea is very simple: People give time and talents to others in exchange for receiving time and talents from other members of the community. It helps avoid isolation, builds up community spirit and is good for everyone.

The key to the whole thing is to find someone in the village who is able to coordinate the programme and record hours given and received. There are also issues of CRB checks, health and safety, and all the usual modern rules and regulations. If Fowlmere is interested the contact point at the County is wendy.lansdowne@cambridgeshire.gov.uk. She has been involved in setting up timebanks across the county. You can find more details at www.timebanking.org

Protected Road Verges

In my continued efforts to get the County to take serious action about our Protected Road Verges I now discover that we have designated Verge Wardens. Sheila Birch is designated as Verge Warden for S51, which is supposedly on Grange Road. I have some doubts about that because if it is, then why not include S50, which is also on Grange Road, (Ickleton Grange)? S41 is at Chrishall Grange and appears to be both in Duxford and Ickleton. I am investigating.

Meanwhile the important bit is that many Protected Road Verges have lost their protection. I discovered that from a Verge Warden who had maps showing which verges he was monitoring. I had no inkling of their existence. On enquiry I was told they had been de-selected without the Verge Warden being informed. The reason for de-selection was that there was nothing left in the verges to be worth protecting. Nobody had bothered to make any announcement about this deterioration in our environment. We now have one very cross Verge Warden and one very cross County Councillor. I just wish there were more people equally upset.

Street Lighting

As you will by now know, I am attending a meeting on street lighting this evening as it will be relevant to all parish councils in the Duxford Division. I initially thought it would merely confirm everything we all knew already. It well may but County officers expect fireworks and in view of your recent correspondence I am not surprised. I shall raise the matter at the meeting and report back. Meanwhile I am sure I can be allowed to convey the County's apologies to you.