

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD
IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE
21ST SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 7.00 PM**

PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr M Bates, Cllr A Eades, Cllr E O'Regan, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr N Webb, Cllr L Wragg, Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Tony Deans, Mrs Tamsin Goodfellow, Mrs Lamorna Thomas, Mr Kevin Thomas.

		Actions
1.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Roberts reported that unfortunately Cllr Schonken has tendered his resignation from the PC. He is very sorry to leave the Council and would perhaps like to rejoin at a later date but he has too many other commitments at present, especially following the birth of his daughter. The Clerk was asked to send a letter of thanks. Nico will kindly continue to put items on the web-site for the PC</p>	Clerk
2.	<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS: No items were declared.</p>	
3.	<p>SIGNING IN OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS: Cllr Sunderland completed the necessary paperwork, which will be sent to SCDC.</p>	Clerk
4.	<p>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 20TH JULY 2010: The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.</p>	
5.	<p>MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising that were not covered in the agenda.</p>	
6.	<p>UPDATE ON THE VILLAGE HALL (TAMSIN GOODFELLOW, JEANNIE GRISONI, LAMORNA THOMAS) Cllr Roberts thanked Mrs Goodfellow and Mrs Thomas for coming along (Mrs Grisoni is unfortunately unable to attend) and for providing the information prior to the meeting that they were asked for. Mrs Goodfellow gave an update on the current situation:</p> <p><i>“The support from the village since announcing the financial shortfall at the VH has been amazing and they have raised over £2000 since January. There have also been increased bookings (functions), a catering business and a dance weekend to name a few. A number of residents had suggested seeking a proportion from the precept to support revenue funding and this is why the VH canvassed views across the village (36 responses via the shop, roughly 17 for and 16 against and several e-mails.)</i></p> <p><i>We need to concentrate on a refurbishment programme, lottery funding is being sought for this. Perhaps further down the line, the VH will have costed and planned a programme and will come back to the PC for financial support.”</i></p> <p>Cllr Roberts commended the VH committee on the efforts made to bring the VH back onto an even keel and the PC appreciate a huge amount of enthusiasm has been put to good use.</p> <p>The feedback from the leaflet doesn't give a strong feeling of either 'for' or 'against' using precept money due to the low level of feedback (although it was a good level of</p>	

feedback compared to previous attempts to canvass opinion) and the VH acknowledge that.

Kevin Thomas was at this point asked to stop recording the meeting on a phone and then left the meeting.

Cllr Roberts mentioned how she had previously suggested a point of contact at SCDC and this hadn't been followed up. Mrs Goodfellow said the VH committee weren't ignoring the suggestion but circumstances prevented this option being proceeded at that stage. Cllr Roberts felt this was a shame as the Community budget had over £150,000 this financial year. It was also suggested getting in early to achieve a bid this current year and Cllr Roberts is disappointed there isn't an application in with SCDC. The PC would have then perhaps be able to support a project like the renewing of the windows in conjunction with an achieved bid from SCDC.

Cllr Bates asked if there was any funding left? Cllr Roberts said she would check as a matter of priority this week and report back, especially if the VH is seeking a more 'moderate' amount. The VH now has quotes in for loft insulation, windows etc.

Cllr Roberts said there is still seems to be very little money coming in from the football clubs, in relation to what they are currently using. The VH report acknowledges there is still some discrepancies (although not with the football clubs, Mrs Goodfellow added). Cllr Roberts asked how many teams play and how many are non-Fowlmere residents? Mr Deans said that there are 4 teams and the players are from around and about Fowlmere.

Mrs Goodfellow said that as part of the general price review, there was a lot of conversation surrounding this matter and the VH concluded to keep the status quo – they pay a similar contribution to the cricket club and they also maintain a lot of the grounds. Mrs Thomas added that the VH wouldn't want to take on the maintenance and cutting etc of the grounds as this would be counter-productive as they would need to find revenue to pay for it, as the football club take that on as their contribution (bringing the total to around £2000 pa). Cllr Bates added that the football teams do contribute a lot towards maintenance.

The VH pay for their own grass cutting. Mr Deans asked why the PC don't pay for the VH grass cutting? Cllr Roberts said that Fowlmere has 2 'grounds' which is unusual and the PC contribute to the Butts but not the VH as that is a revenue seeking enterprise (which currently doesn't pay a rent, albeit a peppercorn rent to the PC).

Cllr Roberts opened the discussion to colleagues.

Cllr Eades questioned who maintains the car park at the rear of the VH as he had seen drivers wheel-spinning and purposely skidding - sending up stones etc and this would have longer-term maintenance issues. Mrs Goodfellow noted this and said maintenance is jointly provided by the VH, Sports clubs etc.

Cllr Webb mentioned that the VH is comparatively very expensive to hire. Mrs Goodfellow replied saying it's very difficult to agree on the pricing and the VH Committee keep returning to it. Costs are higher than halls in villages like Thriplow so we have to charge a higher price. They are sympathetic to villagers and the bookings clerk can judge accordingly ie for a late booking. Cllr Webb asked if lottery funding could be used to split the hall? Mrs Thomas said this is potentially difficult and we need to know from the villagers what they want ie they may not wish to permanently halve it?

	<p>Cllr Roberts agrees with the concertina door idea to split the hall as an option and Cllr Peacock asked about the possibility of taking the height down. Mrs Goodfellow said it is still a USP though having a large area and losing the head height will lose some current bookings. Mr Deans reiterated that there is not the money to do these things. Cllr Roberts said the PC would try to help the VH finance these sorts of programmes and SCDC would look to see the PC support a project like that, which may work favourably for them. But the PC need to look at the precept in November, which the VH are aware of, so they need to go back to the village to see what they want to do.</p> <p>Cllr Wragg said it would help the PC to say what we could give the VH, to see something which sets out what is important in an order of priority. He added that the PC can't finance a revenue deficit but they've got that sorted that out. Cllr Bates can provide this information. Cllr Roberts suggested getting one project on the move such as replacement windows and she said they could just go to SCDC for funding for that, not necessarily Awards for All.</p> <p>Cllr Bates added that a business plan is nearing completion and is pleased to hear that SCDC could be available for funding possibilities. The VH would need at least a ballpark figure of £23,000 for replacement windows and roof insulation would be £2500-£3000. The look needs to be more attractive although Cllr Webb and several others thought it's more vital that they're new, well insulated and in keeping with our VH, which isn't a new building – it's a different type and age of hall. The insulation is the key factor. Cllr Wragg said that the replacement windows tick a lot of boxes, both environmentally and aesthetically and may form a successful application.</p> <p>Mrs Thomas asked when did Fowlmere last ask SCDC for any financial contributions and in the past they contributed to the outside sports area and the car park and some of the internal works. Awards for all, SCDC and FPC supported a small development 2 years ago (disabled ramps, new disabled toilet).</p> <p>Cllr Roberts asked the PC if they are in agreement to supporting such a project? All Councillors agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts concluded by once again thanking Mrs Goodfellow and Mrs Thomas for coming along to the meeting and reiterated that the PC really do strongly support the work the VH is trying to achieve and commented on how hard they have all worked on the revenue this year and the PC will support the VH where and when it can to get these projects underway. Cllr Roberts to ask Clerk to pass on funding information once she has been to SCDC this week to the PC and VH.</p> <p>Cllr Bates told the PC that the VH AGM is on 6th October. Cllr Roberts said she would represent the PC. Cllr Bates has in the past supported the VH as the official PC representative and they are looking for the nomination for the coming year. Cllr Bates said he would probably be involved in any case but he would look to other Councillors for their expertise and Cllr Wragg was asked to consider this.</p>	<p>Cllr Roberts / Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Bates / Cllr Wragg</p>
7.	<p>STANDING ORDERS UPDATE: The Standing Orders were agreed for another year</p>	
8.	<p>AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN FOWLMERE UPDATE Re the Thriplow Triangle - Cllr Webb was unable to attend the open meeting and had heard that 3 were to be part-rent, part-buy which the PC confirmed is the case, due to the need to the housing association needing to raise revenue to cover any shortfalls in the funding it achieves.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts saw Darren Blake (Circle Anglia) who said the planning application was</p>	

	<p>now in with SCDC. Residents have contacted the Clerk reference the possibility of purchasing a strip of land and the Clerk has passed them onto the Housing Association Circle Anglia to deal with that.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts was invited to go to a housing panel meeting re the London Road application. SCDC Housing and Planners didn't support it and asked for the Parish opinion and Cllr Roberts said the PC had held a planning meeting and their view was that they didn't support it, so in principal SCDC thought it would be refused.</p>	
9.	<p>COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS: Councillor Stone was unable to attend the meeting</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Stone and say Mr Tony Deans will come to the next meeting re the difficulty getting access from his property due to the speed of traffic.</p>	Clerk
10.	<p>PLANNING COMMITTEE a) MINUTES FROM 27TH JULY AND 24TH AUGUST 2010</p> <p>MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE DOROTHY PLUCK ROOM, ST MARY'S CHURCH, ON 27th JULY 2010 AT 7:15PM</p> <p>PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chair), Cllr M Bates, Cllr A Eades, Cllr, E O'Regan, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr N Webb, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)</p> <p>APOLOGIES: There were apologies from Cllr Schonken</p> <p>1. Declarations of interest (if any) Before discussion, Cllr Roberts declared that if an application is later placed before South Cambridgeshire District Council she will approach any new information afresh.</p> <p>2. C/11/17/029/01 Application to undertake work on trees situated within a TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 3 Butts View, Fowlmere Mrs R Scrimshaw</p> <p>The Parish Council will seek guidance from the SCDC Tree Officer as to whether the tree in question is dangerous, diseased or an interesting specimen. In general the Parish Council is not in favour of removing healthy trees.</p> <p>3. C/11/17/029/01 – For Information Only – Permission Granted Tree Preservation Order The Cemetery, Long Lane Mrs J Wright for Fowlmere Parish Council</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the decision and has required that EDF Energy take only a minimum clearance from the trees.</p> <p>4. Update on the Thriplow Triangle - Affordable Housing</p>	

A date has been suggested of the 24th August for an Information Sharing Evening, for residents who may be interested in seeing the plans etc. It was agreed to leaflet the whole village about it (Clerk to put together a flyer). Clerk to keep all Councillors informed of developments.

5. Other Matters and Updates

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:30pm

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, URC, CHAPEL LANE, FOWLMERE ON 24th AUGUST 2010 AT 7:00PM

PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chair), Cllr A Eades, Cllr, E O'Regan, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: There were apologies from Cllr Bates, Cllr Schonken and Cllr Webb

IN ATTENDANCE Mr Mike Sunderland (Cllr awaiting formal signing-in), Mr Aspin (resident)

1. Declarations of interest (if any)

Before discussion, Cllr Roberts declared that if an application is later placed before South Cambridgeshire District Council she will approach any new information afresh.

2. S/1236/10

Nine Dwellings

**Land rear of Pipers Close, Off London Road, Fowlmere, Royston, Herts
Mr Tony Squires, Chartism Housing Association**

The Council discussed the application and their response is as follows:
Fowlmere Parish Council **DO NOT** support this planning application and give the following two major reasons:

- The area is (a) within Green Belt land, and (b) outside the village envelope, and so is contrary to national planning policy and the local planning authority's policy.
- The proposed access junction has major visibility issues and possible ownership issues over the actual access road.

Other factors include:

- The applicant, to our knowledge, is not a **registered** Social Landlord.
- The design of the proposed dwellings is poor.
- Affected neighbours have previously raised concerns and objections to this development proposal, and one has made representations to the PC regarding possible flooding or subsidence if the access road was widened in the proposed location. We do not believe there is any local public support for this site.

To conclude, Fowlmere Parish Council is also well ahead in negotiations with a Registered Social Landlord about another, more suitable site within Fowlmere and would not wish to support this proposal in London Road.

	<p>3. Memorial stone at Fowlmere Cemetery The Councillors were shown a picture of a proposed memorial stone at the Cemetery for the late husband of Mrs J Accorsini who had requested a quick response if possible due to the lead-in time of the manufacturing. The Councillors agreed that the stone could be installed but requested reassurance that the stone would be very firmly fixed to the ground and that that central cavity be permanently sealed on the outside. The Clerk to respond to Mrs Accorsini.</p> <p>4. Other Matters and Updates Cllr Roberts informed Councillors that she would be contacting them via e-mail regarding the idea of an informal preliminary meeting with the representatives from the Village Hall, prior to the main PC meeting on 21st September and their views on the matter were sought.</p> <p>Following agreement at the previous meeting, the see-saw for the Butts had now been ordered and repairs to the play equipment were to be commissioned, following an acceptable quote for the works from Anglian Playgrounds – delegated to the Chair of Finance.</p> <p>There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:50pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Both sets of minutes were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The meeting was then opened to members of the public and press</p>	
11.	<p>BURIAL BOARD: There have been no burials this month.</p> <p>Cllr Bates reported Mr Ward met him at the Chapel last week and kindly donated a bench and some daffodil bulbs (Clerk to thank Mr Ward). He has a preferred location in mind (to one side of the rear Chapel door). It will need to be secured. The Clerk to ask Gardencare to quote for fixing (rub down, preserve, repair) all three existing benches, 2 in the cemetery and 1 on the churchyard which need maintenance and for fixing in the new one. A daffodil planting session should be planned.</p>	Clerk Clerk All
12.	<p>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES: SCDC came and cut the hedge in Westfield Road and the school cut their hedge.</p> <p>Cllr Webb asked if a tree at the rear of her garden could be pruned. Cllr Roberts replied that without a TPO, and with permission of the PC permission could be given for a tree to be tidied up as long as it doesn't become misbalanced as a result.</p>	
13.	<p>FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES: a) MINUTES FROM 27TH JULY 2010</p> <p>Minutes of the meeting of Fowlmere Parish Council Finance and General Purposes Committee held in the Dorothy Pluck Room, St Mary's Church, Fowlmere, Tuesday 27th July 2010 at 7:30pm.</p> <p>Present: Cllr O'Regan (Chair), Cllr M Bates, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr D Roberts, Cllr</p>	

N Schonken, Cllr N Webb, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence:

There were no apologies for absence

2. Minutes of the previous meeting / Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous Finance Meeting (29th June 2010) were verified at the PC Meeting on 20th July 2010

There were no matters arising, which would not be addressed in the agenda

3. Future Projects

a) Swings (funding)

Anglian Playgrounds have been sent all the information they need to produce a quote for the maintenance to the play equipment, following the ROSPA Report findings (Clerk to share information with the school re the goal posts). Most of the work is 'low risk'. Clerk to also ask Anglian Playgrounds to quote for replacing the swing seats at the Butts. Clerk to also ask Chris Wall to quote for the re-seeding work and cutting back the bushes at the basketball court at the Village Hall.

Following discussion and following the Chair's recommendation, Cllr Roberts proposed a new see-saw is purchased for the Butts area (at a cost of £3560) and Cllr Peacock seconded. All agreed – Cllr O'Regan to place order. The grant from SCDC would be used to cover some of the cost. It was also agreed to aim to precept for a roundabout next year, following all the completed maintenance work that is about to commence.

4. Other Matters

a) Rectory Lane Road Sign

It was agreed to give Cllr O'Regan and the Clark delegation on this item, to organise outside of the meeting. Cllr Bates proposed, Cllr Webb seconded and all agreed.

5. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Finance Meeting would be 7:30pm on Tuesday 5th October 2010 at St Mary's Church (Dorothy Pluck Room).

The meeting closed at 7:50pm

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

Cllr O'Regan will need to appoint a new Vice-Chairman following the resignation of Mr Schonken.

b) UPDATE ON PLAY EQUIPMENT

Cllr O'Regan reported the see-saw will be coming on the 4th October. Clerk to

Cllr
O'Regan
(Clerk)

Clerk

	<p>let the school know so as to avoid the Butts on that day as required.</p> <p>All the ROSPA repair work has now been completed.</p> <p>c) RECTORY LANE ROADSIGN</p> <p>Cllr Eades confirmed the size and type of sign for the Clerk to order – saying Unsuitable for HGV's – 50mm x height. David Lines at CCC (Whittlesford) is the contact. Cllr O'Regan happy for Clerk to order.</p>	Clerk
14.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE:</p> <p>Clerk to report areas for possible speeding checks (High St, London Rd / Pipers Close) and also to pass on information about parking from Mr Roskilly on the junction of Thriplow Road and the High Street (and let Mr Roskilly know).</p> <p>Clerk to report the badly timed flashing school signs to David Lines at CCC</p> <p>Clerk to report back to Mr Bearpark that measures have previously been taken to try to extend the 30mph zone further in the direction of Appleacre Park and this has not been successful.</p> <p>Clerk to seek 3 quotes for a tree consultant to assess the level of disease of the chestnut trees on the Butts.</p> <p>Clerk to report back to Jeannie Grisoni to say that in general advertising boards on the roadside aren't allowed by SCDC (re Rosemary Conley Club request for VH signage)</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
15.	<p>ACTION LIST UPDATE:</p> <p>The action list was updated accordingly</p>	
16.	<p>OTHER MATTERS:</p> <p>Cllr Bates reported that the Rural Payments Agency are taking a long time to get our registration number so we are looking for funding from Natural England from 1st April 2011. He has liaised with Mr Busby who is dealing with the paperwork on behalf of the PC.</p> <p>Horses are being walked around the Ryecroft Lane Estate and leaving their 'mark'. Whilst annoying it's not illegal.</p> <p>Cllr Bates reported a sign for Driving Lessons in Pipers Close. There have been no complaints about it.</p> <p>Cllr O'Regan is unable to attend the PC meeting in October. Cllr Webb and Cllr Peacock cannot make the Finance meeting on 5th Oct. Cllr Wragg cannot make the November PC Meeting</p> <p>It was confirmed that the 4 new Councillors would sit on both Planning and Finance Committees for the time being.</p> <p>The next meeting will be at 7:30pm on Tuesday 19th October 2010 at the URC in Chapel Lane. The meeting closed at 8:55pm</p>	