

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL** HELD  
IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE  
**19TH JUNE 2012 AT 7.30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr P Flynn, Cllr O'Regan, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllr Tim Stone

		<b>Actions</b>
1.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</b> Apologies were received from Cllr N Webb	
2.	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS:</b> No items were declared.	
3.	<b>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 22ND MAY 2012:</b> The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record, with a couple of numerical amendments.	
4.	<b>MATTERS ARISING:</b> Thriplow Triangle - Cllr Roberts reported that Schuyler Newstead at SCDC responded that the money is not available to support more purely rental units unfortunately. Cllr Wragg would like her to provide a breakdown of the available sources of funding, to support this situation. Clerk to approach.  Travellers in Fowlmere - Cllr Roberts reported that the travellers moved from Fowlmere to Newton and then returned to the Wilkinson's land at the Thriplow Triangle in Fowlmere. The Clerk made Mr Wilkinson aware of the situation and shared all contact details of SCDC / bailiffs etc. The Wilkinsons kindly allowed the travellers to stay over the jubilee weekend to avoid spoiling any village arrangements on public spaces etc. There is now another group of travellers of 8-10 caravans in Haslingfield and this has alerted the PC to the fact that the Butts is very vulnerable to further incursions. Mrs Scrimshaw, a Butts resident said she felt let-down by the PC as we have not secured the Butts, despite this situation never having occurred before. This needs further discussion and will be on the agenda for the Finance meeting in two weeks. In the meantime, the Clerk to approach Royston Fencing at Meldreth and Meads for alternative quotes for securing The Butts, and say time is of the essence. One quote already in from Dave Salmons.	Clerk  Clerk
5.	<b>COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS:</b> Cllr Stone gave the following report:  <i>"Buses A good meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> May about the future of transport. Many initiatives and surveys now happening. Though not directly applicable to Fowlmere, 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</i>	

questionnaire can be found at [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/tscsc](http://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.*

#### *Footpath Stile*

*For several months the County's Rights of Way and Access team have been dealing with a report that a stile has been placed on Fowlmere's Footpath 1. Having discussed the problem with the landowner and explained to him that the County only allows kissing gates an application has now been received for a stile. The application has the support of the Parish Council.*

*As a result of the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 the County Council is required to carry out reasonable adjustments to the highway network to make it more accessible to the less able user. That is incorporated within the Cambridgeshire County Council Rights of way Improvement Plan. The County Council is now obliged to remove any unauthorised stiles, but where possible is offering free kissing gates to replace them.*

*The Department for Food and Rural Affairs has also issued guidance to landowners to install kissing gates. Because of this the County intends to decline the application and in the near future will seek to remove the stiles.*

#### *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.*

*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*

	<p><i>cookies on websites without giving visitors clear guidance as to 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.</i></p> <p><i>Timebanking</i>  <i>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.</i></p> <p><i>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 <a href="mailto:wendy.lansdowne@cambridgeshire.gov.uk">wendy.lansdowne@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</a>. She has been involved in setting up timebanks across the county. You can find more details at <a href="http://www.timebanking.org">www.timebanking.org</a>"</i></p> <p>Protected Road Verges - Cllr Stone reported how the County is now going to pay for those villages who have said they will not do so. Cllr Stone reported that there is now a village warden for verges, but the warden is unaware that the county is not supporting the protected verges - they are essentially being de-commissioned. Cllr Stone has asked which ones have been de-commissioned.</p>	
6.	<p><b>PLANNING COMMITTEE:</b>  <b>a) MINUTES FROM 22ND and 29TH MAY 2012</b></p> <p><b>MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORM CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE, FOWLMERE ON TUESDAY 22ND MAY 2012 AT 7:15PM</b></p> <p>PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr P Flynn, Cllr E O'Regan, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr N Webb and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)</p> <p>APOLOGIES: There were apologies from Cllr T Bearpark and Cllr Wragg.</p> <p>IN ATTENDANCE: Several members of the public</p> <p><b>1. Declarations of interest (if any)</b>  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. S/0894/12/FL  Chimney to East Elevation  <b>Cambridge Road, Fowlmere, SG8 7QN</b>  <b>Dr S and Dr T Steele</b></p>	

The Parish Council have no objections and support this application as it is in no way going to be detrimental to the house or the surrounding area.

3. S/0731/12/FL

Erection of Car Port

**Perks Close, 4 Chapel Lane, Fowlmere, SG8 7SA**

**Mr Mike Maddin**

The Parish Council support this application as long as it maintains the present entrance as the PC would not want any of the hedge removed as the house has a protected frontage. The PC would also want a condition to say that it cannot be used as overflow accommodation for the main house.

4. S/0594/FL/12

Erection of single storey dwelling and associated works

**Land to r/o 80-86 Chapel Lane, Fowlmere, SG8 7SD**

**Mr Stewart McGinty**

The Parish Council are still objecting to this application as it has not satisfied any of the concerns which have been addressed in the previous planning feedback. It has only *apparently* sorted out one of the objections (glass lantern) and the PC would like to see a proper *full* set of plans to make a decision on, not one document, which is not annotated. The Clerk to contact Matthew Hare at SCDC to ask for a full set of documents and to say this is a waste of time for councillors and residents - Cllr Roberts is at SCDC on Thursday and could pick up the documentation if necessary in order to have an additional planning meeting on 29th May. The PC's objections are therefore still outstanding.

Mrs Fletcher of Ryecroft Way was concerned about the allocation of car parking spaces because a previous application had been refused for 5 dwellings (because they were outside of the village envelope) but this is only for one dwelling so the parking shouldn't be a consideration.

5. S/0512/12/FL - **For Information Only - Permission Granted**

Rear Single Storey Extension

**Larksmead, Long Lane, Fowlmere, SG8 7TG**

**Mrs Elizabeth Williams**

The Parish Council noted the decision

6. S/0436/12/LD - **For Information Only - Certificate removed from property**

Lawful Development Certificate for the occupation of the dwelling not by persons in agriculture work as per SC/72/1244

**Lanacre, 86, Chrishall Road, Fowlmere, SG8 7RY**

**Mr Philip Rogers**

The Parish Council noted the decision

**7. Other Matters and Updates**

Other Matters and Updates *(for information only)*

An additional meeting will need to be held as an additional planning application has been received. next Tuesday 29th May at St Marys at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 7:35pm

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE DOROTHY PLUCK ROOM, ST MARY'S CHURCH, FOWLMERE ON TUESDAY 29TH MAY 2012 AT 7:30PM**

PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr P Flynn, Cllr E O'Regan, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr N Webb, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: There were apologies from Cllr Bearpark and Cllr Sunderland. Cllr Flynn had to leave the meeting at 8:10pm

IN ATTENDANCE: Several members of the public

**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/0594/FL/12**

Erection of single storey dwelling and associated works

**Land to r/o 80-86 Chapel Lane, Fowlmere, SG8 7SD**

**Mr Stewart McGinty**

The Parish Council has reviewed the application and the plans submitted, and is pleased to see the removal of the lantern and a small reduction in the height of the building compared with the earlier application. However the PC still feels that this building needs to be moved into a position where it is not overlooking and dominating the other neighbouring properties. If it were moved to the position of the present outbuildings on the site (next to the East boundary) this would provide an effective solution - it would still retain everything that the application appears to want and would result in the garden being back to back with the present gardens. This would be greatly beneficial to both the present and prospective residents.

It is unacceptable to suggest that neighbouring properties should have the height of their fences raised which will certainly have a very claustrophobic and overbearing effect. This is not a solution and will diminish the quality of life for present residents, which is wholly unreasonable.

The proposed building is extremely large in relation to the size of the plot. It is also significantly larger than the footprint of the existing neighbouring dwellings. The PC would find this application easier to approve if the overall footprint were made smaller, which would be more appropriate for the site and the context of the neighbouring dwellings.

Unless the proposed building is moved back and becomes less oppressive to the

neighbouring dwellings, Fowlmere Parish Council will oppose the application. In addition, the access to the area behind containing a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Crow's Parlour) must be shown clearly and it must be a condition of any eventual planning consent that access to this site is entirely satisfactory. On the basis of the plans submitted to it, the Parish Council opposes this application. If Fowlmere Parish Council's view is contrary to the SCDC officers' recommendations, the PC will ask for a site visit by the SCDC Planning Committee and that the application should go to the SCDC full planning committee for decision.

3. S/0866/12/FL

Proposed conversion of building (B1 use) to poultry, pet and equestrian store (A1 Use)

**Deans Farm, Long Lane, Fowlmere, Royston, SG8 7TG**

**Mr and Mrs T Dean**

Cllr Roberts declared a personal interest as she lives close to the applicant, further up the same road, but she does not socialise with, or overlook or hear anything from the applicant's site, so it is not a prejudicial interest.

Cllr Roberts reported that this application has already been seen by the SCDC Planning Committee and was spoken strongly against by members of that committee, voicing concerns that it would set a precedent for others as it is outside the village envelope and is against SCDC planning policy, including the fact that the majority of goods must be produced on the farm (hay is not believed to be grown locally in Fowlmere). Cllr Wragg said the application is completely contrary to established planning policy and this supersedes other arguments. Mr Deans said there are hay and straw fields in the village and that there is also only one business proposed here and not several and the changes in the sourcing of hay are only applicable if the conditions change.

Cllr Webb commented that her family use the wholesale business in its present form.

Cllrs were asked to vote for or against the application: There were 4 votes in favour of recommending refusal, 2 abstentions and 0 votes for approval. If the Parish Council's view of refusal is contrary to that of SCDC, Fowlmere PC would wish the application go to the full SCDC Planning Committee, although no site visit would be needed as this has already occurred in respect of the previous application.

The Parish Council feels that there is no change to this application, when compared to the previous application (S/2521/11) which the SCDC Planning Committee refused when it was considered in February. It would be extremely detrimental to set a precedent by approving this application because it is clearly against SCDC Planning Policy and is outside the village envelope.

4. S/0753/12/FL - For information only - Permission granted

Extension to Dwelling

**24 Pipers Close, Fowlmere, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 7RT**

**Mr Steve Beales**

The Parish Council noted the decision.

**5. Other Matters and Updates**

Other Matters and Updates (*for information only*)

a) Re-siting of the Post Box from the shop

	<p>It was agreed that the proposed site for moving the post-box from the shop to the edge of The Butts, opposite the school was acceptable.</p> <p>b) Retrospective application re stiles on footpath, views sought. The PC have no objections to this retrospective proposal re the footpath from Fowlmere to Foxton.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts updated the PC that the travellers had moved to the Thriplow Triangle field, which is private land, owned by the Wilkinson family. The Clerk has passed on the details needed for the Bailiff and they have negotiated a stay until the Wednesday after the Bank Holiday, as CCC have asked for that, to avoid a village's celebrations for the jubilee being spoilt. The meeting closed at 9:00pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>The minutes were duly agreed and signed.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts updated on the land at the rear of 80-86 Chapel Lane. SCDC won't refuse this application but it will go to full Planning Committee with a site visit. Matt Hare at SCDC has asked the applicant to move the building, as he knows the PC are not in principal opposed, other than on the location - it will go to the 4th July SCDC Meeting. Mr Mulholland will speak at the meeting on behalf of the residents. It would be good for Vice-Chair of PC or Planning could attend to speak on behalf of the PC.</p> <p><b>The Meeting was then opened and closed to members of the public</b></p>	Cllr Wragg and Cllr Peacock
7.	<p><b>BURIAL BOARD:</b> There were no issues re the cemetery.</p>	
8.	<p><b>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES:</b> <b>a) TRAVELLERS</b> This item had been previously discussed.</p> <p><b>b) BC TRUST - MOAT</b> The PC need an update from Mr Bates as they need to work out the finances and the BC Trust are keen to take on the work again. Clerk to ask Mr Bates to update us of find out who we approach.</p> <p>The trees at the mouth of Johns Close do need cutting back off the road, all the way along Ryecroft Lane. Clerk to ask Chris Wall for advice.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts viewed the area along the boundary of the Green in Savile Way. This does not need maintaining at present. They are not causing an obstruction - the PC will look again in the autumn.</p> <p>Cllr Flynn reported that there is a dead tree on the Green by Savile Way - Clerk to ask Chris Wall's advice.</p>	Clerk  Clerk  Clerk
9.	<p><b>FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES:</b> The Clerk reported that there were a couple of pieces needed to repair play equipment but this will go formally via the Finance meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk to send grant funding information from Ameycespa to Cllr Wragg and Cllr O'Regan -</p>	Clerk  Clerk

	the PC needs to move quickly to apply within the timescale.	
10.	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b></p> <p>Cllr Roberts spoke about the two complaints about the PC not providing enough entertainment over the jubilee celebrations, or decorating the war memorial or providing funding for celebrations. Decorating the war memorial with bunting would be disrespectful and in answer to the other complaints about the lack of events, the PC asked for ideas and volunteers and none were forthcoming. Despite this, the PC organised the best dressed house and the winners have been awarded their prizes and it will be reported in the Fowlmere news. Clerk to formally thank Rev Linda Church for judging the competition.</p> <p>Cllrs were asked to think of any nominations for the Pride and Local Heroes Awards run by SCDC.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>All Cllrs</p>
11.	<p><b>ACTION LIST UPDATE:</b></p> <p>The Action List was updated accordingly.</p> <p>Cllr Bottrill and Cllr Flynn attended the jubilee celebrations at Burghley House, near Stamford, which was very enjoyable, despite some wet weather. Cllr Bottrill to share photos on the PC web-site.</p>	Cllr Bottrill
12.	<p><b>OTHER MATTERS:</b></p> <p><b>a) MR BATES TREE DEDICATION</b></p> <p>This is planned for 5pm on Sunday 24th June, at The Butts, Cllr Flynn sends her apologies. Cllr Bottrill to take photos.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts reported that the Queen's Head has had some of its planning application approved but not all, the Conservation Officer is objecting to the movement of a doorway. These will come back to the PC as a planning amendment.</p> <p>Mrs Flynn has requested a Seniorlink pendant. The PC agreed to proceed with this request. The Clerk to process.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts reported very briefly on a SCDC complaint, concerning a previous planning application. The Clerk has been sent copies of all correspondence.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9:00pm</p>	<p>Cllr Bottrill</p> <p>Clerk</p>