

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL** HELD
IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE
16TH APRIL 2013 AT 7.30 PM

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Several members of the public

		Actions
1.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Peacock, Cllr N Webb, Cllr L Wragg and Cllr T Stone. Cllr Bearpark is expected to be delayed.</p>	
2.	<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS: No items were declared.</p>	
3.	<p>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 19TH MARCH 2013: The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.</p>	
4.	<p>MATTERS ARISING: Cllr Roberts pointed out that both the Queen's Head and the Chequers are now up for sale.</p>	
5.	<p>COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS: Cllr Stone was unable to attend the meeting and sent the following report:</p> <p>"Streetlights <i>Last month I mentioned the Private Finance Initiative which will replace or refurbish the county's streetlights. You may remember that I was trying to discover how the parish council could take over streetlights that were due for removal. I have now been told that there is a mechanism in place for parishes to be billed for maintenance and power. Insurance would apparently be for the parish council and so would replacement. You will find more information both in my latest Focus and in the Parish Council Information Pack.</i></p> <p>Minor Highway Improvements <i>The panel assessing the 49 Minor Highway Improvements bids has now completed its work. We have scored each project out of 10 in a thorough but less mechanistic way than we did in previous years. There was no bid from Fowlmere.</i></p> <p><i>The process has improved greatly, though we were rather left in the dark about how much money is available for the highway improvements. We started with £50,000, it then seemed it was going to be £100,000 and were then told that we shouldn't bother about the money because the county's cabinet would decide how much to allocate. Today the County's cabinet confirmed the £100,000 figure, which will mean more projects are likely to be agreed than last year.</i></p> <p><i>Cabinet is clearly interested in giving local people more of a say in highways matters, so if you can find a worthwhile project for next year I would encourage you to make a bid.</i></p> <p>Transport Delivery Plan 2013-14</p>	

The County has published its plan for delivering schemes for maintenance and improvements to the highways, cycleways and so on. The schemes detailed are for the first six months of the year. There is nothing for Fowlmere, though potholes will continue to be filled.

A505

Two recent developments have caused me to have another go with Highways officers about the increasing congestion on the A505. First the district council's planning committee's approval of the Welch's application and second an item in the Cambridge News clamouring for improvements to the A428. The latter was pretty well slapped down by Andrew Lansley as he seems to think that we should all be concentrating on the A14. In any case there is far more traffic on the A505 than on the A428.

We have known for some time that the A505 between Junction 10 of the M11 and the BP Sawston roundabout is expected to clog up utterly by 2021. But the County has missed two opportunities to reserve land to build a dual carriageway between those junctions. By permitting housebuilding on the north side and Welch's development on the south, the District has effectively made it impossible to widen the road adequately.

County Highways' response to both applications has focused entirely on the existing A505. There seems to have been no strategic thought about securing enough land for an improved road.

I have now stirred up the highway strategists to ask why this is. They were expecting to contribute to South Cambridgeshire's Local Plan to take us through to 2031 but maybe they've missed the boat. They have promised to study the stretch of road and investigate what – apart from too much traffic – is causing the problem: whether it's the roundabouts or the road width, for example. Southbound traffic backing up on the M11 at the morning rush hour is another issue which may have to be taken up with the Highways Agency.

I have put the County on notice that it needs to continue to work on how to make the A505 fit for purpose. This may be something for my successor to follow up. Please make sure he or she does.

Dottrell Hall

The County is continuing to deal with the waste tipped illegally at Dottrell Hall farm, on the verge near Dottrell Hall and at Bridgefoot Farm quarry. Chris Bradley at South Cambs DC is also involved will carry out any necessary investigation. A significant amount of waste wood materials is still required to be removed from the land. The landowner has until 24th May 2013 to remove all the waste material to ensure compliance with the enforcement notice.

The County, as Waste Planning Authority, will notify the landowner of this requirement in the near future should no further works be carried out at the site. The stockpile heights of the waste wood materials at Bridgefoot Farm Quarry appear to be excessive and at variance to the required stockpile height. There are also concerns over the amount of waste wood materials on site, in that the operator is required to concrete the floor area of the site, which would require an area to be free of waste materials. Accordingly the County has contacted the Environment Agency with a view to meeting and discussing (and resolving) the ongoing

	<i>issues."</i>	
6.	<p>PLANNING COMMITTEE:</p> <p>a) The Thriplow Triangle (Millennium tree, Section 106 Agreement, liaison with Shepreth PC) The tree is leaning because the weight should not be placed on the tap root and it will naturally straighten. Work should start asap on site.</p> <p>b) Planning Minutes from 19th March 2013</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, URC, CHAPEL LANE, FOWLMERE ON TUESDAY 19TH MARCH 2013 AT 7:15PM</p> <p>PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr P Flynn, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr N Webb, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Cllr, E O'Regan, Cllr J Peacock</p> <p>IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Ted Neal, resident</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>Cllr Wragg is a friend of Mrs Knight at item 2 and left the meeting at 7:17pm</p> <p>2. S/0406/13/FL Erection of front and rear first floor extension 6, Johns Close, Fowlmere, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 7TP Mr and Mrs Knight</p> <p>The Parish Council support approval for this application as they feel that it has no adverse effect on neighbouring properties or the area.</p> <p>Cllr Wragg returned to the meeting at 7:22pm</p> <p>3. APP/W0530/A/12/2181397 and (Ref S/2521/11,) - For information only - Notice of an Appeal (allowed) Deans Farm, Shepreth Road, Fowlmere, Royston SG8 7TG Mr T Deans</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the appeal</p> <p>4. Other Matters and Updates Other Matters and Updates <i>(for information only)</i></p>	

	<p>The Clerk raised the issue of the barbed wire on the far boundary perimeter of the Butts which the school has expressed concern about. The Clerk to contact Mr Sheldrick about the possibility of changing the wire to something more child-friendly.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 7:25pm</p> <p>c) Ion Science</p> <p>Cllr Roberts reported that there is nothing further to discuss on this matter until a formal planning application has been received.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed.</p> <p>Mr Neal has read the reports from SCDC re Deans Planning Application. He doesn't believe that tax payers should pay for SCDC mistakes. He asked if Cllr Roberts would take this forward but Cllr Roberts suggested it would be better for Mr Neal to take it forward himself. Cllr Roberts advised on the process - to contact Sarah Stephens as Head of Planning at SCDC, plus Jean Hunter as CEO. Mr Neal also confirmed his request for a breakdown of the Precept which he will receive from the Clerk after the meeting concludes.</p> <p>Mr Scrimshaw reported on the site at The Butts and its general state of welfare and is concerned it is operating outside of its planning consent and out of hours (but also wanted to stress he is in support of the local businesses and not wanting to cause undue unrest). Mr Jackson reported on the muddiness when the weather is poor. FPC have no powers in regard to this sort of situation, but it was agreed to contact the enforcement officers and pass on the concerns ask for them to look at it asap, especially in view of both Planning and Environmental Health (gas bottles) issues.</p> <p>Mr Deans reported that they were awarded £7000 from SCDC in regard to their planning appeal which is the amount Mr Neal had issue with. He also reported that one of the 30mph signs has been washed away but Cllr Roberts advised that it has already been reported to CCC via Cllr Stone.</p> <p>Mr Smeeton is concerned about the Ion Science proposal and worried about a 'loophole' which could be exploited ie the allowance for affordable housing - the exception policy. Cllr Roberts advised that commercial proposals do not fall within this policy. Cllr Roberts also said the feedback form would be revised by the planning consultant as the one given on the evening was not acceptable.</p> <p>Mr Jackson mentioned another document that was circulated in association about sites in the village submitted for development within the revised SCDC Local Plan, in his view he thought the document was prematurely written.</p> <p>Mrs Scrimshaw asked about the rear boundary fence on the Butts. Cllr Roberts explained this was being discussed with Mr Sheldrick and added SCDC may still have a fund for hedge planting.</p> <p>Chris Wall asked about the exception policy and thought the site had been offered 8 years</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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	ago for low cost housing but from memory Cllr Roberts though the fact that it was countryside frontage which made it unable to proceed.	
7.	<p>BURIAL BOARD:</p> <p>There was a burial last week for Mr Borley from Appleacre.</p> <p>There had been a query from Carol Pearl to ask about the rates of the cemetery for purchasing a burial plot. Cllr Sunderland proposed, Cllr Bottrill seconded and all agreed that in these circumstances, as someone who works for the village in a non-profit making basis, the local rate could be allowed (for one single grave only). Clerk to contact Mrs Pearl.</p>	Clerk
8.	<p>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES:</p> <p>a) Update on the Moat - resurvey to take place</p> <p>b) Village MOT - to arrange After the planning meeting on 30th April</p> <p>c) Village Tree surveying (Dovehouse Close and existing quotes) Path down the side of Jackson's Way is overgrown and needs the ivy thinning. Chris Wall reported that it isn't being mowed and Clerk to speak with Hardys to start the work and include it in their schedule.</p>	Clerk
9.	<p>FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES:</p> <p>a) Acceptance and signing of 2012-2013 Accounts This was done at the earlier Finance Meeting</p>	
10.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE The correspondence list was noted.</p> <p>Formula 1 testing days at Duxford as follows: Friday 26 April, Wednesday 1 May, Wednesday 15 May, Wednesday 19 June, Wednesday 28 August</p> <p>The trees to be left at John Close, Clerk to report back to Mrs Knight</p> <p>Clerk to acknowledge to Mr Nolasco and make sure it's progressed.</p>	Clerk Clerk
11.	<p>ACTION LIST UPDATE: The action list was updated accordingly.</p>	
12.	<p>OTHER MATTERS:</p> <p>Cllr Roberts received the Conservative candidate leaflet and comments negatively on the Post Office at St Marys. Our understanding is that the PO at the Church has progressed, Clerk to check with Lisa Turner.</p> <p>ROSPA report has been undertaken and Dave Salmons will undertake to quote for the work required.</p> <p>Village Meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th May at 7:30pm at the Church.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 8:45pm</p>	Clerk