

Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 07 December 09 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: RH Chapman (chair) PS Badley JE Coston GA Covell R Day M Ellwood RJ Farrington
SC Humphreys B Jefferson IF May HM Smith RT Summerfield RLE Waters
Councillor M Williamson
The clerk and assistant clerk

1 Apologies for absence - AJ Campbell TA Drummond.

2 Declarations of Interest – personal and/or prejudicial

RHC explained that he wished to negotiate with Helical to purchase an old building from the EDF site. He left the room while Council discussed this. **AGREED** that this was completely acceptable [especially as the planning application had now been approved].

Personal: IFM - land update agenda 7 – chairman of colts football club.

HMS - planning agenda 6 – member of SCDC planning committee.

Prejudicial: JEC – agenda item 8.

3 Minutes - the minutes of the meeting of 02 November 2009 were approved and signed as a true record

4 Public Participation – no members of the public present.

5 Clerk's/Chairman's report

Policies (PC6/9-09) – the following Policies would be considered by the F&S Committee in January: recommendations to be made to Council's February meeting.

- Dignity at Work
- Disability Discrimination and Disability Access
- Lone Worker
- Recruitment

Archaeology (PC5/9-09) – **AGREED** to pay D Booth £170, the remainder of the money allocated for the production of reports on his field walking projects at Long Meadow and Hill Close off Fen Road.

The Oxford Archaeology East whose facilities at Bar Hill will be used to produce copies of the report, hopefully before the end of the year.

Minutes (PC11/10-09) – the minutes from 1953 – 1998 had been scanned in – on CD. Copies to be kept in the safe and off site at the clerk's home and MCC. The clerk's office hoped to put all of these records on the web site.

Milton to Impington cycle route (PC5/11-09) - from the officer responsible for transport policy and strategy

“A review of the walking route takes place after completion of a new cycle/walk way. This review assesses the route against the legal definition of an 'available route' which is: 'a route along which a child, accompanied as necessary, can walk, and walk with reasonable safety, to school'. If the conclusion reached is that the route does not meet this definition, students who use this route are entitled to free transport. However, if the conclusion is that it meets the definition, parents would be informed of this, at least a term in advance of any change to entitlement, and would be granted the opportunity of an appeal. Any changes to entitlement take place at the beginning of a new school year. Therefore, given the likely timing of construction work in 2010, the earliest that transport might be withdrawn would be September 2011.

No secondary-aged pupils in Cambridgeshire, living on a route of less than three miles that has been agreed as safe, receive free home to school transport. The Milton / Impington Village College route will, therefore, need to be subject to the same, rigorous assessment processes.

I am unable to give you the 'cast iron assurances' which you seek regarding the provision of free home to school transport if the proposed cycleway is built, but hope that the above satisfactorily answers your questions with regard to the process and time-scales.”

Training (PC5/11-09) – final session dealt with the planning process and S106 Agreements.

Total cost of 3 sessions - £350 x 3 = £1050. Milton's contribution was 9/33 = £286.35.

AGREED to pay CPALC the total and request each council to reimburse MPC.

Remembrance Day (PC5/11-09) – well attended. Thanks from the school for the invite.

AGREED to make a donation of £30 to the British Legion for the wreath.

A14 widening (PC13/11-09) - notes from the *Ad Hoc* Group considering A14 Widening issues on Tuesday 10 November 2009 were received. Meeting scheduled for 9 December with John Clarke Public Liaison officer and his sound engineer, Philippa Noon Cam Conservators, Mick Woolhouse and Richard Davies from Friends of the Country Park.

Cemetery path (M7/9-09) – the Charities would consider request towards the cost of the cemetery path at its March 2010 meeting so long as the clerk sent estimates to the Trustees. **Action: RHC and clerk**

Office – **AGREED to allow JEC and the clerk up to £1800 to replace the defunct (10 year old) photocopier, scanner, printer and computer. Action: JEC**

Budget 2010/11 – items (especially from Maintenance Committee) to be sent to the clerk. JEC requested that Council consider having a Grants Policy. F&S committee to discuss.

Meeting dates 2010 – now confirmed.

Workshops / Meetings – recent meetings attended:
Cambridge Council for Voluntary Services - workshop (min CC3.4/11-09) about quality and funding.

Liaison – report of meeting:

S106 payments – SCDC are introducing a scheme whereby developers will pay the Parish Council approximately £3000 per 3 bedroom house to be use specifically for recreation use (this includes play equipment). A standard formula is used to calculate payment. Developers cannot be expected to make greater contributions in High cost areas such as Milton –might put them off developing.

David Bard agreed that there is a strong argument that decision notices should not be issued until S106 Agreements are in place.

Housing and Grounds Maintenance – budget is being severely cut. I have asked again whether we can take on the areas near Recreation Close and Walkling Way

Recycling and Refuse – SCDC is a Beacon Authority. In Oct 2010 a 3rd (blue) bin will be introduced in place of the two green boxes.

Gypsy and Travellers Sites – further sites have been identified. A second consultation therefore will take place.

Finances – c £2 million savings have been identified. Reserves will be used to maintain essential services and by 2014/15 will decrease from £7 million to £2.25. They are looking at ways of sharing resources with other public bodies such as Fire and Police Authorities, PCT, other councils etc. Over a six year period the Employers' contributions to the Local Government Pension Scheme will rise from 21% to 33% adding about £2 million pounds per year on to the budget. SCDC is 12th lowest Council Tax charging council in the country.

The budget will be cut by about 10% in 2010.

Council seal – the S106 Agreement with Urban Renaissance Villages was recently signed.

AGREED that it was not necessary to have a Parish Council seal for such documents and to amend Standing Order 13 a & b accordingly. Action: the clerk

Emergency Plan – Milton School had adopted an Emergency Plan which involves using the school as an emergency centre.

AGREED that JEC could discuss with the school on behalf of the Parish Council if there could possibly be some joint work so the Village / Parish Council has access / details of the Emergency Plan and contacts in case of a village emergency.
(JEC is the community link associate governor at the school).

6 Planning

Decisions received:

Mr and Mrs Parkins Meadow Farm Ely Road (PC10/4-09) – extension and conversion of garage into annexe and link to main dwelling - **approved. External materials to be identical to existing.**

Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust (PC6/11-09) - extension to visitor centre and addition of velux roof lights – amendments to fenestration on ground floor eastern elevation **approved.**

J Hammond 53 Cambridge Road (PC6/10-09) - erection of dwelling following demolition of existing bungalow - **refused. Harmful to amenities of number 51 – contrary to Policy DP/3 of LDF 2007.**

Mr Libby Saunders 27 and 28 Newfields Chesterton Fe Road (PC6/10-09) – erection of utility/day room - **approved. For Mr Saunders and immediate family; no overnight accommodation; within 6 months existing dayroom to cease, building to be demolished and rebuilt and scheme for foul water drainage to be approved.**

Milton Primary School (S/1067/09) – sun canopy - **approved**.

Cambridge Regional College (PC6/11-09) – variation of Condition 1 of pp S/1561/7 to extend permission for temporary construction building for a further 3 years (until 30 Nov 2012) - **approved**.

Cambridge Regional College (PC6/11-09) – removal of condition 1 of pp S/1018/08 to allow permanent erection of sun canopy - **refused**. **Contrary to Policy DP/2 - all new development should be of high quality design and compatible with its location and appropriate in terms of design and use of materials, texture and colour in relation to the surrounding area.**

New applications:

S/1243/09 Gemmix SGB Storage and Distribution Cambridge Road (PC6/10 & 11-09)) – concrete batching plant – amendments: vehicle tracking plan and car parking spaces – **for information only**.

S/1621/09 Mr Luke Edwards 49 Cambridge Road – alterations and extension to form a one bedroom flat and two bedsits - **refuse**.

Although the alterations to the building were considered to be an improvement it was agreed to refuse the application on the following grounds:

- **reduction in car parking spaces for customers and staff of the hairdressing salon**
- **the refuse / cycle store is out of character with the street scene.**

7 Land Group update (PC7/11-09)

Minutes of the confidential business held on 19 November 09 were received.

[As the minutes of 2 November had not been circulated these would be considered for approval at January meeting].

RHC and RTS signed the S106 Agreement for the proposed retirement village on the former EDF site. Urban Renaissance Villages (URV) has just submitted the Reserved Matters planning application. The next issue facing the parish is whether to accept the land/lease for the playing fields or instead to accept the Recreation Sum (£200,000). A decision would have to be made within three months after URV has given the parish notice of Implementation (according to URV, the parish should receive notice of Implementation in the April-May 2010 time frame).

Council would consult with clubs affiliated to MCC. To be discussed fully in January.

Decision notice (16/1-09) Helical (Milton) Ltd - Former EDF Depot and Training Centre Ely Road Milton – outline planning application for the demolition of existing buildings, removal of existing pylons/mast etc from training grounds & construction of 101 retirement units (including restoration of north lodge for use as a retirement dwelling) 1 warden's unit, visitor accommodation, central facilities building, provision of formal & informal open space, associated landscaping & improvements to the existing access - **approved**. [Conditions attached to minutes].

Landbeach Road land: Council's Planning Application S/1600/09 for change of use from agricultural to recreation land (to extend the time limit for implementation) – land south of Stanton Farm. Application for the sports pavilion not yet processed as Design and Access Statements were needed.

Further land issues

AGREED at 8.33pm [Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960] to exclude members of the public to this item as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

The meeting re-opened at 8.37pm.

8 Historical Milton / Archives (PC5/11-09)

JEC had recently travelled to Eire solely to bring back photographs and slides of old Milton (PC5/11-09). She was scanning in copies and was keeping them and other historical documents on behalf of the village. It was hoped that these could eventually be stored in the office archive room. JEC intended to organise meetings to share the pictures with the village. It was the intention of JEC and the clerk's office to put some of the photographs on the web.

JEC left the room.

AGREED to use the History/ Millennium Fund to:

- 1 reimburse JEC for travelling expenses to retrieve photographs and slides of old Milton.**
[The cost of the flights was £89.26 & the bus across Ireland £26.27].
- 2 give the clerk and JEC the authority to spend up to £100 on artefacts / scanning documents and related activities.**
- 3 scan in Parish Council (photocopied) minutes from 1894 -1950 at 12 pence per sheet.**

[JEC photocopied these some years ago and the copies are in the safe. The originals are at Shire Hall].

The chairman expressed Council's thanks to JEC for making the huge effort to secure the photographs and to bring them back to Milton as they were important for the history of the village.

9 Community Care – the minutes of the Community Care meeting held on 19 November 09 were received.

The clerk understood that the Charities had approved a grant of £2000 toward the Community Care scheme.

10 Parish Plan update (PC14/11-09)

Neighbourhood Watch – 19 attended the re-launch of the scheme at a meeting held on 13 November.

Website: www.milton-neighbourhood-watch.org.uk. Link to this website was on the Council website

Communications Group – continuing to look at the style and content of the website. It was hoped that the group would have examples to show at the February meeting.

11 Milton Community Centre [MCC] update (PC15/11-09)

Grant application to WREN had been submitted. RJF and members of staff were due to meet a representative of WREN to discuss further issues. Decision would be made by mid March.

Grant applications to Donarbon and SCDC would be made.

JEC offered to help with searching possible grant funders.

12 County Councillor’s report

Stagecoach bus service changes - postponed because of the delay in the opening of the Guided Bus.

Guided bus – there was an overrun on the contract price. CCC would have to pay only a small percentage of the increase.

Park & Ride lighting - the new extension has now been equipped with proper lighting. MW would find out if the number of lights could be reduced or turned off late at night.

County Council Budget - the situation looks extremely serious in terms of many County Council services in 2010-2011 and subsequent years.

Community Engagement Strategy - the finalised plan will be completed in the New Year and MW will advise Council of the content. Meanwhile, he is happy to help with the Community Engagement Strategy for Milton as required for re-accreditation for Quality status.

Traffic calming (PC5/11-09) – Girton had rejected the experimental scheme which would now take place in Melbourn.

Signing Butt Lane (PC14/6-09) – MW would report to the clerk about the additional signs promised for Butt Lane.

13 District Councillors’ reports

Sewage Chesterton Fen (PC16/10-09) – HMS and RTS were due to meet with representatives of AWA on 8 December. HMS had been informed that AWA would reject the application as the dwellings were caravans and not permanent buildings. SCDC Planning department would provide legal help to fight an appeal if necessary.

Budget – Cabinet had proposed cuts to the sheltered housing scheme wardens service. Full Council voted against making any warden redundant.

Planning – wind turbine farm at Wadlow West Wrating had been granted on appeal. Another wind turbine project at Linton was going to appeal also.

Guided bus – lights at stations throughout the night were shining into houses. Members felt that this set a poor example. Contractors must shield the lights. Noted that once the bus is running the lights would be switched off at 11pm.

S106 Rowing Lake (PC6/11-09) – no response to Council’s letter yet received. Land Drainage bye laws received.

Community Care Grants – Age Concern had expressed concern that these grants would be reduced from 2011. Age Concern may have to pay half.

Donarbon – district councillors had visited the site. Donarbon would welcome visits from Parish Councils. Suggested that a visit is considered in about six months.

14 Bills for Payment and Money Received

CONFIRMED AND AGREED payment of cheques 100148 – 100168 and minibus 300004. (1 abstention).

15 Correspondence

CCC - review the Cambridge Core Traffic Scheme - Stage 4. For more information see website

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/projects/cambridge/core4perception>.

Comments to Core4@cambridgeshire.gov.uk 11 December 2009.

NHS - Keeping in Touch (newsletter)

CPALC - Autumn 2009 Bulletin and details of Big Lottery Fund – grants available

16 Dates of Next Meetings

Planning – cancelled; Maintenance - 14 December; Council - 4 January.

17 Items and Reports for January agenda (to be received by Tuesday 22 December)

Seasons greetings to all.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm

Signed.....Date.....