

Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 06 February 2012 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: RT Summerfield (chair) JE Coston M Ellwood RJ Farrington G Heaney M Hersom IF May
J Mowatt MC Perkins HM Smith I Tyes.
Councillor M Williamson
The clerk and assistant clerk

1 Apologies for absence – AJ Campbell DJ Chamberlin TA Drummond A Winnington.

2 Declarations of Interest – personal and/or prejudicial

HMS agenda 8 (personal) - member of SCDC Planning Committee; agenda 9 – grant to MCC – (personal) - member of MCC and MCC Finance Committee.

RJF agenda 9 – grant to MCC – (personal) – chairman of MCC Committee and member of MCC Finance Committee.

RTS agenda 9 – grant to MCC – (personal) - member of MCC and chairman of MCC Finance Committee.

MH agenda 9 – grant to MCC - grant to MCC – (personal) member of MCC Committee.

JEC – agenda 9 – grant to Milton cricket club – (personal) – husband a member of the cricket club.

3 Minutes - the minutes of the meeting of 09 January 2012 were approved and signed as a true record.

4 Overview of Progress at Milton Country Park – M Woolhouse, Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust (CSLT)

MW reported on the condition of the park (managing water quality, play areas etc), the content (what goes on) and the commercial viability. CSLT had been managing the park for four years.

His report detailed over fifty users, partners and stakeholders of the Park, Charities and sponsored walks and Wild Place users.

He also reported on the planned improvements and aspirational improvements eg bird hide in Tomkins Mead. Council would be consulted if MW decided to proceed with this.

MW suggested that the most efficient way for members of the community to support the Country Park was through Gift Aid donations and that the Trust was now nearly ready to promote the use of this for the Country Park. He asked that the principle of Gift Aid donations be supported and promoted to residents as a means by which the operation of the Country Park could continue to succeed.

In response to questions:

On behalf of a resident JM raised a concern about ragwort which is dangerous to horses. MW suggested that the resident speak to him.

Cafe was open every day, except Christmas Day.

The Cambridge Park Run contributed to the park eg refurbishing bridges.

The Finance & Administration Committee had put £750 in the budget for work in Tomkins Mead. (To be considered agenda 9).

He hoped to continue the (annual in April?) walk through Tomkins Mead with councillors. Roger Day and Bob Waters had carried out this task with MW on previous occasions.

5 Public Participation – no members of the public were present.

6 Casual vacancy – to consider co-option of Gary Heaney

Having received Gary Heaney's application Council voted to co-opt him as a Parish Councillor. The chairman welcomed him and expressed the hope that he would have a long stay. GH then signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

7 Clerk's report

Impington Village College – Academy status (6/07-11) – report received from Robert Campbell, Principal and Martin Rigby, Chairman of Governors that Impington Village College was now fully set to convert to Academy Status from 1 February 2012

Donation (9/12-11) – thanks received from MA4Y to the Parish Council (and the anonymous benefactor) for the generous grant of £507.80 to be used for purchasing an XBOX-360, controllers and games for that and the Wii as well as a number of items for the kitchen. "On behalf of the young people and youth workers, we are all extremely grateful and will supply a summary of the items purchased shortly after consultation with the young people as to which games they would like."

A10 speed limit review (13/12-11) - the county's Enterprise, Growth and Community Infrastructure Overview & Scrutiny Committee felt that for much of the day, vehicle speeds were self-regulated along the A10 and during the evenings and night there were concerns expressed that a speed limit of 50 mph would be unenforceable. Feedback from parish councils and local people to local councillors had indicated opposition to a blanket change along the whole route.

Two sections of the route were identified as being in need of local changes being preferred, possibly in the Landbeach/Waterbeach and Little Thetford areas.

It had been decided that the original proposals should be reduced and following further discussions with local county councillors, it was now intended to proceed with the formal advertisement of a 50 mph speed limit on two sections of the review length, as follows:

- 1) From the A14 interchange at Milton to a point north of the Slap-Up junction at Waterbeach
- 2) On a section either side of the Little Thetford junction. (See County Councillor's report below).

Golf Course update (5/01-12) – County Council officers have completed their casework and will pass on the file to their legal team by the end of this month with a recommendation as to the Enforcement Notice.

Housing Strategy (5/01-12) – response had been sent to SCDC.

Grant (9/01-12) – letter received from Colts Football Club thanking Council for the £500 grant.

Localism Bill: Council would need to adopt a Code of Conduct. SCDC was in the process of agreeing on the wording to go into the Code, which can be used by all councils. Register of Interests to be published on the web. These procedures would need to be in place by 1st July 2012. More guidance to come from SCDC in due course.

College of West Anglia – it had been noted by residents of Knights Way that the litter from students at CWA both in Knights Way and in the bus shelter was becoming problematic. The clerk had recently witnessed a young people letting off a firework and discarding litter and had written to both the principal of CWA and PCSO John Mason.

Litter on Pond Green and War Memorial Green was also a problem. JEC and the chairman would discuss this with CWA if necessary.

In the meantime these areas would be monitored.

8 Planning - the minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2012 were received and noted.

Appeal - S/01016/11 Mr & Mrs R Witt - site at 17 Pearson Close against refusal of planning permission for a dwelling (P5/10-11) – **dismissed. Cramped and congested form of development, incongruous and inappropriate. Harmful to the character and appearance of the area, contrary to the aims of the relevant Development Control Policies including DP/2.**

Decisions received:

S/1524/11 Dr A Miede 31 Willow Crescent – amendments to rear dormer windows linking them with external cladding (7/11-11) – **accepted. The amendments are sufficiently minor not to require a further planning application.**

New applications:

S/0102/12 Mr James Hammond 53 Cambridge Road – dwelling. As there were concerns about possible damage to the walnut tree, the access and original conditions relating to Barnabas Court this was adjourned to the planning meeting 20 February to allow the clerk to undertake further research.

S/0010/12FL Mrs Wesson - 27 Fen Road - conversion of a garage into a habitable room – adjourned to the planning meeting 20 February.

13 County Councillor's report (brought forward - attached)

Slap Up (aka Bollywood Spice) junction

A10 junction with Landbeach Road

A10 speed limit (see clerk's report above) – suggestions and comments put forward to improve the safety on the stretch of the A10 from Milton to Denny End Road junction, Waterbeach:

Traffic lights at Humphries Way / Landbeach Road junction (cost £200,000 +); prevent, or reduce number of, right turns off A10; extend 50mph limit to beyond Denny End junction; increase time of amber lights at Denny End junction; extend length of slip roads on to A10; would 50mph limit result in a constant stream of traffic thus reducing the opportunities for vehicles to get on to the A10?

MW felt that a meeting with Landbeach, Milton, Waterbeach Parish Councils and County Council officers would be beneficial.

It was suggested that a County Council officer could attend the Annual Parish Meeting.

Council Tax – an increase of 2.95% was being proposed.

Funding for Local Minor Highway Improvements (10/12-11) – to be discussed by the area committee shortly.

County Councillors' allowances - an independent remuneration panel was being formed to report to the County Council.

CPALC - the name was changing to CAPALC.

9 Finance - the minutes of the Finance & Administration meeting held on 23 January were received.

The F&A Committee had reviewed a spreadsheet detailing the actual income and expenditure for 2010/11, the budget for 2011/12, the revised forecast for 2011/12 as at 31/12/11 and the budget forecast for 2012/13.

This spreadsheet had been circulated to Council.

As a result Council **AGREED to**

grant £500 to the cricket club (to pay towards 3rd team playing home away games outside the village) (F&A13/1-12) (JEC did not vote)

approve the grant to MCC of £32,000 (F&A10/1-12) (RJF,MH,HMS and RTS did not vote)
(The chairman confirmed that MCC submitted its request in writing)

approve the budget forecast for 2012/13 as detailed in the spreadsheet (F&A13/1-12)
precept for £125,000 for 2012/13 (F&A14/1-12).

The chairman was confident that keeping the precept at the same rate would not pressure Council to raise the precept by more in 2013.

10 Community Care – the minutes of the Community Care meeting held on 26 January were received.

Council confirmed that the following Policies were reviewed and adopted:

Aims of the Scheme

CRB Policy

Protection of Vulnerable Adults Policy.

The Women's Institute had written offering to volunteer to help with village projects. IFM and the clerk had scheduled a meeting with representatives of the WI (1st March) to discuss whether WI members would be happy to complete tasks for clients eg shopping during the warden's holidays (min CC4/01-12).

The clerk had also suggested that they may wish to help co-ordinate an extension to the Beaches Car scheme (See min PC 6/11-11).

11 Staffing – to receive report from the Staffing Committee and to approve appointment of new clerk as from 1st May 2012

The interview panel interviewed on 16th and 17th January and unanimously agreed to appoint Sue Humphreys as Clerk to Milton Parish Council to start on Tuesday May 1st 2012. The salary would be Spinal Column Point 29 on the National Joint Council Scale.

References had been received and circulated.

AGREED to confirm the appointment of Sue Humphreys as from 1st May 2012.

Thanks to the members of the interview panel and especially JEC for the preparation of the whole interview exercise.

12 MCC report – February 2012 – Andy Gray, manager

Maintenance/Improvements: The children's toilets in the Annexe had been refurbished and the floor throughout the building was due to be replaced during February half term.

The storage heaters in the Sycamores Pavilion were in the process of being replaced with new, more efficient electric heaters.

Bookings: These continued very much as before, with no new groups to report. However, a new netball league had recently started, which had led to an increase in netball court bookings.

Youth Building: Nothing new to report.

Vandalism: Nothing of any relevance to report.

14 District Councillor's report (attached)

Northstowe

Council tax - the ruling group at South Cambs had decided to keep the Council Tax at the same rate.

Feed-in tariff

Chesterton Fen

Planning

Youth and Community project

Meeting with Jim Paice

Chesterton Station and Fen Road improvements meeting - the Police Panel had made tackling anti-social driving a priority. New road south of A14 was not discussed at the meeting. Chesterton railway station would be discussed at next meeting.

Litter picking – it was evident that there had been no litter picking for some time at Chesterton Fen.

15 Land Group - update

The minutes of the meeting of the Land Group held on Friday 20 January 2012 were received. Another meeting with Iwan Jones was being arranged.

16 New Fitness Equipment

The assistant clerk had sent in an Expression of Interest to the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF) for an AmeyCespa (previously known as Donarbon) grant. CCF approved the Expression of Interest and sent a formal application which needs to be in by the end of February. Letters of support from community groups, Milton Colts, Milton Football Club, the Chairman of the MCC Outdoor Recreation Committee and Milton Action for Youth had been received. The assistant clerk was in contact with LivingSport to set up some facilitated sessions to kick start use of the equipment.

Council would need to pay 10% of the grant towards the equipment. It was noted that the play budget had not been fully used in previous years. In addition S106 money £1373.77 was also available for such projects.

Five quotations were discussed. It was suggested that grants could be available from WREN and the LONDON OLYMPICS.

As Wicksteed was a long established company who had supplied Cambridge City Council recently with fitness equipment it was **AGREED**

to submit the Wicksteed quotation of £12,301 to CCF and to reconsider if necessary if there was a shortfall on the grant. Action: assistant clerk

17 Bills for Payment and money received

CONFIRMED and AGREED payment of cheques 100621-100635

Cheque 100628 to Glasdon for dog bin. The clerk had bought a larger bin (7/01-12) as the cost was an extra £10 only. HMS reported that SCDC would pay for 'authorised' dog bins. The clerk was waiting to hear from Heidi Duffet of SCDC about this.

18 Correspondence

SCDC - Local Leaders, a London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games programme.

SCDC - Invitation for up to two councillors to attend the next liaison meeting that the District Council's Cabinet will be hosting to discuss topics of mutual interest on Thursday 29 March 2012 from 7.00pm - 8.30pm at South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne

The meeting ended at 9.55pm.

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