

Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 5 February 2007 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: JE Coston (chair) PK Oldham PS Badley (from min 84/2-07– apologies for lateness) RH Chapman
IL Davis R Day M Ellwood RJ Farrington B Jefferson IF May HM Smith RT Summerfield
RLE Waters
The clerk, County Councillor M Williamson and 3 members of the public

Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak

A member of the public raised three issues:

1 Dangers caused by parked vehicles at Fen Road / Coles Road junction. **Action: Agenda item for March meeting.**

2 Hazel trees at allotments. **Action: RHC would investigate.**

3 Country Park. RTS was able to answer the queries.

Thank you to the member of public for attending.

AGENDA**1 Apologies for absence – AJ Campbell J Payne****64/2-07 2 Declarations of Interest – personal and/or prejudicial**

JEC item 7 personal (involved in ‘Save Country Park campaign’); ILD item 5 (application S/0077/07) prejudicial; RLEW item 7 personal (involved in ‘Save Country Park campaign’); HMS item 7 & 9 personal (involved in ‘Save Country Park campaign’); RTS items 7 & 9 personal (involved in ‘Save Country Park campaign’); IFM item 9 (Colts football) prejudicial; PKO items 7 & 9 personal (involved in ‘Save Country Park campaign’).

65/2-07 **3 Minutes** - the minutes of the meeting of 8 January 2007 were approved and signed as a true record.

4 Clerk’s/Chairman’s report

66/2-07 Field adjacent A14/A10 - Noted that the Enforcement officer SCDC had given Balfour Beatty 28 days from 11
(5/1-07) January “to clear the site and revert it to its former state”.

The chairman, RTS and clerk had met with January’s. Mrs Turner and Mrs Wilson still owned the land and Turnstone Ltd had first option on the purchase of the site. January’s suggest a hotel and car retail showroom for the site (if Green Belt protection is removed).

67/2-07 Crime – nothing to report.

68/2-07 Bus shelter – the clerk had contacted Bob Howard again in response to another letter from a resident about
(9/1-07) improving the area by the bus shelter at Landbeach Road.

69/2-07 Standing Orders – would be ready for adoption at the March meeting.

(10/1-07)

70/02-07 Meeting at Chesterton – no minutes had yet been received. Mostly planning issues were discussed. RTS and
(15/10-7) HMS were able to answer the queries.

71/2-07 Minibus – RJF and members of the minibus committee had met with the Cottenham Village College Bus users
(573/96) and agreed conditions of hire for the group. A report of the meeting was received and noted.

72/2-07 **5 Planning** – the minutes of the Planning meeting of 22 January 2007 were received and noted.

- **EAST OF ENGLAND PLAN**

73/2-07 The Secretary of State is proposing changes to the East of England Plan. The County Council had produced a
briefing note summarising the proposed changes as they affect Cambridgeshire. Consultation period ends 9
March.

- **PLANNING REPORT**

Decisions received:

74/2-07 Mrs SM and MR GJ Turner – Chesterton Auto Repairs Services Chesterton Fen Road – dwelling - **approved.**
(584/08)

Details of new entrance gates, materials for external walls and roofs and surface water drainage to be approved.

Structure Plan: **P1/2 (Environmental Restrictions on Development); P1/3 (Sustainable Design in Built Development).**

South Cambs Local Plan: **SE8 Dwellings – (Village Frameworks); CS5 (Flood Protection); CNF5 (Residential Development in Chesterton Fen).**

75/2-07 Dr J Wilson New House Ely Road – display of sign – **approved for 5 years.** Structure Plan: **(P1/3**
(585/06)

Sustainable Design in Built Development).

South Cambs Local Plan: **EN30 (Development in Conservation Areas); EN39 (Advertisements in Conservation Areas and on Listed Buildings).**

76/2-07 Mr & Mrs D Cousins 23 Goding Way – conservatory - **approved. External materials to be identical to those**
(25/1-07) **used for existing building.**

Structure Plan: **P1/3 (Sustainable Design in Built Development);**

South Cambs Local Plan: **HG12 (Extensions and Alterations to Dwellings within Frameworks).**

New applications:

- 77/2-07 S/0071/07 J&H Orlander Trust 3-4 Cambridge Road Industrial Estate – erection of building for B1 (C), B2 and B8 uses with associated car parking, revised access to serve new building and news access – **no recommendation**.
- 78/2-07 S/0077/07 Mr C Carter 5 Pearson Close – single storey front and rear extensions – **no recommendation**. **Three high level windows should have obscure glass.** ILD left the room for this item.
- 79/2-07 S/0082/07 Mr & Mrs Fella 64 Fen Road demolition of existing bungalow and replacement with sustainable chalet style bungalow – **no recommendation**.
- 80/2-07 S/0089/07 A Webb Lomas Farm Chesterton Fen Road – change of use of dairy to day room (retrospective application) – **no recommendations**.
- 81/2-07 S/0105/06 Mrs G Humphreys 39 Willow Crescent – conservatory – **no recommendation**.
- 82/2-07 S/0116/06 MPC and MCC – addition of brick cladding and alterations to fenestration at Milton Community Centre - **approve**.
- 83/2-07 Conservation Area – concerns were raised about the number and type of signs in front of the Jolly Brewers public house. The clerk would seek SCDC’s advice. **Action: the clerk** PKO declared a personal interest (neighbour).
- 84/2-07 **6 Youth** – the minutes of the Youth Committee meeting of 25 January 2007 were received.
- Youth Centre
- (63/1-07) – Arrangement with MCC - MCC had agreed to take on the bookings and administration. MPC (through HMS and LH) would continue to oversee all other matters relating to the building. HMS, as a member of MCC, was advertising for a caretaker / cleaner in the Village View.
- E Belcher would do any maintenance work. MPC to reimburse MCC for the costs.
- Council had an obligation to P Adams, the present cleaner of the youth building. The clerk reported that R Adams was retiring at the end of June from his litter picking duties and that Philip was keen to take on this work. The clerk would report in detail at the March Maintenance committee meeting.
- HMS had calculated that recurring annual maintenance costs of the building would be £3,500 - to be taken from the youth budget and available to offset MCC’s costs.
- CCTV - policy document needed for users of the equipment. PKO would look at Data Protection implications.
- Action: PKO**
- Snagging items – meeting set for Tuesday 6 February. One issue to be resolved: the water (for washing hands) was heated by an immersion heater and large tank and had no time switch.
- Youth club – parents should be informed that youngsters could sign in and out at the youth club at any time during the evening. It was suggested that Andrea Cramp, the youth leader, write an article for the Village View.
- Action: HMS to arrange**
- The club was for all age groups. MPC was putting no money into the club. Noted that Histon PC paid £9,000 per year for 4 nights of youth club per week.
- Chris Farmer, the church youth worker would be paid by CCC to work at the youth club. The church youth group would pay MCC to use the building once a month.
- Other users – Young Carers were keen to use the building. Kids ‘R’ us had decided not to move from the Annexe.
- HMS had completed a risk assessment of the building.
- 85/2-07 **11 MCC update** (brought forward)
- MCC had budgeted £3,000 to replace the toddlers’ play area fence with a brightly painted metal hooped fence and £1,000 to tarmac area between MCC and Annexe. MCC had agreed to put £2,000 towards the bowls club ditch surrounds.
- New car park sign had been erected. Car park usage was being monitored.
- 86/2-07 **7 Country Park**
- (29/1-07) Report on events since last meeting – 7,800 had now signed the petition. PKO, HMS, RTS and Stephen Bennett had had meetings with various organisations. The motion proposed by HMS and RTS at full SCDC meeting to “deplete” the cabinet decision to close the Park was amended “to remove the section deploring the decision”.
- The recent Country Park Advisory Group had lasted 4 hours.
- Proposal to support the creation of a charitable trust - one and a “half” organisations were interested in taking over the management of the Park. The clerk circulated copies of an appraisal and suggested costings to manage the Park sent by the chief executive of BC Group Trust.
- The clerk would inform S McIntosh, SCDC of the minimum requirements MPC considered necessary to run Milton Country Park:
- o All accesses should be retained
 - o There should be free public use
 - o Milton Parish Council should be consulted on the management of the Park
 - o Dog walking off lead north of the 13th Public Drain should be retained
 - o Toilet facilities should be retained. **Action: the clerk**
- Retention of the play area could be considered at a later stage.

If no other solution could be found then in principle MPC would support the setting up of a Trust. It was suggested that £10,000 should be raised through the precept as Council's share of the running costs of any solution that may arise, including a Trust, so long as Council were happy with that solution. This would be an annual cost if MPC were an integral part of the solution.

The chairman felt that the public should be consulted about any long term commitment.

It was **AGREED**

to budget £10,000 for 2007-08 as a contingency fund towards keeping the Country Park open or coping with its closure; Council to decide a later stage how the money should be spent.

Council would be prepared to close meetings if sensitive issues are to be discussed.

Negotiations for the Swallows Café were taking place.

PKO was scheduled to speak (as vice chairman of MPC) on Radio Cambridgeshire on 6 February.

87/2-07

8 Land update

IFM agreed to attend Landbeach PC meeting 5 March to give an update on the proposed football pitches between Milton and Landbeach.

88/2-07

9 Finance - the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 22 January 2007 were received.

It was **AGREED** to confirm the following recommendations:

- (52/1-07) **Horse grazing land rental rates: rates in 2007-08 to be £400 and in 2008-09 £500.** [1 abstention]. If the tenancy becomes vacant then Council would advertise on the open market. RHC declared a personal interest (tenant is a regular customer);
- (56/1-07) **Internal auditor: appointment of Steve Wilson of Manea as internal auditor.** Rates £25 per hour + 40 pence per mile travelling. (S Wilson was one of a list of auditors supplied by CALC);
- (61/1-07) **To pay the clerk to work 18 hours per week as from 1 April.** (The clerk's working patterns had changed since the opening of the office. J Daniels would cease to be paid secretarial expenses).
- (61/1-07) **To grant MCC £27,000 in 2007-08;**
- (61/1-07) **To grant £1,000 from 2006-07 youth budget to Colts Football Club to cover expenses of playing outside the village;** noted that an extra £1,000 was put in the youth budget for 2007-08 to cover a possible recurrence.
- (61/1-07) **To budget £10,000 towards setting up Country Park Trust;** (already agreed - see min 86/2-07 above)
- (61/1-07) **To budget £2,000 for election;**
- (61/1-07) **To budget £1,500 for double yellow lines;**
- (61/1-07) **To budget for meeting room chairs and tables £1,400 and cycle racks £300 -**

AGREED to accept quotation for Cycle Racks from Burdens:

7 Sheffield Style galvanised steel cycle stands – root fixed + delivery = £322.60 + VAT

[2 for the office and 5 for the youth building/sports pavilion. Tom Nicholls estimated a maximum of £150 to fit them].

- (62/1-07) **To accept the budget and to precept for £101,000.**

Council were reminded that £40,000 had been set aside from the Barnabas Court land sale towards the purchase of land for junior football pitches. The provision of facilities for junior football was a high priority. £1,000 had been set aside for legal costs.

Thanks to RTS.

89/2-07

10 Revised Code of Conduct consultation

(473/06)

Noted that in the revised Code Councillors would be allowed to discuss planning applications by neighbours but not to vote. The revised code could come into force in May.

90/2-07

12 County Councillor's report

Mobile Libraries – a 25% cut in services was being proposed. The clerk would write to the County Council expressing disappointment and suggesting that, if cuts were necessary, the library comes to Milton once a fortnight on the same weekday and finishing at 4.15pm to allow use by school children. (The present system does cause difficulties – people could not always remember which day the library van is coming to Milton).

Action: the clerk

Sport Lakes Trust – application was due to be considered on 7 February. MW was concerned about traffic issues. (See DC report below).

Park & Ride – a different plan had been drawn up as a result of Council's comments. MW would speak at the CCC Development Control committee meeting on 19 February. RJF and HMS would liaise with MW. (Min 34/1-07 refers).

Cycle path – the cycle path near Cowley Road was damaged and not safe for cyclists. MW would discuss with A Frost.

Fen Road – the clerk had already written to Bob Howard about the poor state of Fen Road.

91/2-07 **13 District Councillors' reports**

- (28/1-07) Bus services – to date Stagecoach had not felt that there was a case for a commercially viable service for Milton on Sundays. The CCC would discuss further with Stagecoach.
- (44/1-07) Sport Lakes – the application was likely to be passed on 7 February although further information on the drainage scheme had still not been received. Full Planning committee would discuss drainage and other issues.
- Tesco – HMS with others was meeting with the Tesco manager of Friday 9 February.
- Chesterton Fen Road – Old Chesterton Residents' Association has suggested that Chesterton Fen Road should be on the main sewer.
- Post Offices reorganisation – post offices near to other post offices are in danger of closing. Mr Lakhani was confident that Milton's Post Office would not close as it is relatively well used.

92/2-07 **14 Bills for Payment and Money Received**

- CONFIRMED** payment of cheques 3424 – 3428
- AGREED** payment of cheques 3429 – 3446
- Noted that HC Roper had handed over cleaning of bus shelters to H Woodruff (cheque 3443).

93/2-07 **15 Correspondence**

- CPALC - Bulletin
- Guided Busway Forum - notes

16 Dates of Next Meetings

- Planning - 19 February
- Council - 5 March

Chairman.....

Date.....