

## Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 07 January 2013 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

**Present:** RT Summerfield (chair) AJ Campbell (arrived 8:05pm) JE Coston DJ Chamberlin  
M Ellwood RJ Farrington G Heaney M Hersom (arrived at 7:49pm) IF May J Mowatt  
MC Perkins HM Smith I Tyes  
Councillor M Williamson (arrived at 8:15pm, left at 9:45pm)  
The clerk and assistant clerk  
3 members of the public (2 left at 8:45pm)

- 1. Apologies for absence:** G Wynne-Jones (AJ Campbell apologised for arriving late)
- 2. Casual Vacancy:** No applications had been received.
- 3. Minutes:** the minutes of the meeting of 03 December 2012 were approved subject to the addition of 'Adrian Collen, Chair – Milton Colts, was also present' to item 6 (Bellway Site Visit) and signed as a true record.
- 4. Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak.**  
Chairman advised members of the public would be allowed to speak when the items they wished to comment on were discussed.
- 5. Declarations of interest and dispensations**
  - a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda.**  
HMS (non-disclosable pecuniary interest) Agenda item 7 – member of SCDC planning committee  
GH (disclosable pecuniary interest) Agenda item 8 – allotment holder
  - b) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any).**  
None received.
  - c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.**  
GH was granted a dispensation for Agenda Item 8 at when this item was reached in the agenda.
- 6. Clerk's report**

**SLCC Cambridgeshire Branch Meeting:** Clerk attended a CAPALC meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. Brief details about the new council tax support schemes being introduced for 2013-14 onwards were given. It was also noted that although no capping for Parish Councils is going to be introduced for 2013/14 (confirmed in Eric Pickles' speech to Parliament on 19<sup>th</sup> Dec) this could be introduced for Parish Councils from 2014/15.  
Some clerks present also asked for guidelines for granting dispensations. Under the new Localism Act 2011 clerks can be delegated the power to grant dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests. Guidelines are required for when it is appropriate to grant a dispensation and when the request for a dispensation should be refused.

**Police Panel Meetings 2013:** The quarterly Police Panel Meetings dates announced so far for the coming year are:

Tuesday Jan 8th 2013	Histon	Orchard Park School
Tuesday April 9th 2013	Histon	Histon Pavilion
Tuesday July 9th 2013	Histon	Cottenham Village College
Tuesday Oct 8th 2013	Histon	TBC

**Heavy Commercial Vehicle (HCV) Assessment:** The Traffic Managers' team at Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) have added a link for an exposure assessment to their webpage. If communities feel strongly enough about the situation then this will give them a framework for assessing the relative impact of HCVs on their environment. Asst. Clerk will prepare an item for the next issue of Village View to consult the village and ask if there are any volunteers willing to conduct an assessment and also forward details to Cecil Instruments, whose general manager has complained about lorries in the past.

**Action:  
Asst  
Clerk**

**Keith Fauch:** Keith Fauch has notified he will be taking voluntary redundancy from Cambs County Council in 2013. Details of his replacement, when available, have been requested.

**Trees:** The tree work agreed at the council meeting in November (min 12/11-12) is in the process of being carried out by Town & Country and will be completed in January.

**North Lodge Park Update:** the Asst Clerk emailed Richard Gardner of Bellway Homes to inquire about Implementation (which is the start of the parish's three month window to respond to the S106 land/recreation sum option). Mr Gardner's response: 'I can confirm that we have completed demolition and are still carrying out the archaeological investigation on the site. Both of these activities are not considered as implementation of the planning permission for the purposes of the Section 106 Agreement. Once we complete the archaeological investigation, we will be able to commence the development and this is anticipated to be mid to late January 2013.'

**BT Phone Book Listing:** From 30 Jan 2013 there will be a charge of £18.66 + VAT **per quarter** for a listing in the Classified section of the BT Phone Book (the entry in the A-Z section is still free). AGREED not to continue with a listing in the Classified section – contact details are available from other sources.

**Action:  
Clerk**

**Clayhithe Bridge Repairs:** provisionally scheduled to commence 15<sup>th</sup> January for approx. 8 weeks. Work to take place from 9:30am-3:30pm and is likely to include temporary 2-way traffic lights.

7. **Planning:** the minutes of the meeting held on 20 December 2012 were received and noted.

**Decisions:**

S/1412/12/FL FG Seal and Mark Seal Trust Black House, Chesterton Fen Road, Milton – two replacement dwellings (previous min P 05/11-12): **refused**.

S/2265/12/FL Mr Blackwell 14 The Sycamores – conservatory (previous min P 05/11-12): **approved**.

S/2273/12/FL CSR St Johns House, St Johns Innovation Park, Cowley Road – Compound Enclosure for Generator and Fuel Tank (previous min 07/12-12): **approved**.

S/2404/12/FL Mr J White 29 Landbeach Road – extension to form new garage and alterations (previous min 07/12-12): **approved**.

**New applications:**

S/23437/12/FL Mr Roger Blair, Bard Pharmaceuticals Ltd, 191 Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge – Extensions to existing building to provide approximately 5120 m<sup>2</sup> of a mix of B1, B2 and B8 floorspace; demolition of existing outbuildings and erection of replacement outbuildings to provide a mix of B1 and B8 use totalling 293 m<sup>2</sup> with open storage; alterations to existing car park, service road and vehicular access to the public highway; new landscaping and associated engineering works including bund and external lighting. This is an amendment to the previous application (previous min P 05/12-12) as the proposed floorspace given in the previous application was incorrect. **No recommendation**.

S/2519/12/FL Mr Mark Smith 4a High Street, Milton – erection of a detached one-and-a-half storey dwelling. **No recommendation**.

ME declared a disclosable pecuniary interest (this property is adjacent to his house) and left the room at 7:55pm.

S/2563/12/FL Mr & Mrs Luke Edwards 5 Shirley Close, Milton – single storey rear extension. **No recommendation**

ME returned to the meeting at 8pm.

S/2614/12/FL Mr T Owen 321 The Rowans, Milton – single storey rear extension. **No recommendation. As this application had only been received on 7<sup>th</sup> Jan the response would be held back for 1 week so neighbours had opportunity to notify any objections.**

**Pre-planning consultation:** CAPALC have sent the following advice regarding pre-application consultations:

Pre-application consultation is getting to be more common and is in fact part of the planning system now. It would be advisable to have this consultation as part of a formal meeting rather than a 'get together on the corner' as the questions and responses can be minuted. It is important that the Council ensures that the consultee is clear that any comments it makes is not a formal response and that they will consider it formally when presented as an application.

A pre-planning discussion does help both developers and the council as each has a better understanding of each others requirements and therefore reduces the opportunity for conflict.

The Clerk will contact CAPALC for further information and criteria for agreeing/refusing a pre-application consultation and report back at February meeting so a procedure for dealing with these requests can be agreed.

**Action:  
Clerk**

8. **Maintenance:** the minutes of the meeting held on 20 December 2012 were received and noted.

GH declared a disclosable pecuniary interest (he is an allotment holder) and was granted a dispensation for this item.

It was **AGREED to accept recommendations** (proposed ME, seconded IT):

- **That Cemetery fees and policy remain unchanged (size of headstone allowed added to information on fees for child headstone).**
- **Increase allotment rents from October 2013 as follows:**
  - Full-size (10 pole) allotment - £25 (unchanged)**
  - Half-size allotment – increase from £12.50 to £15 (other size allotments pro rata increase).**
- **That horse grazing fees remain the same for 2013/14.**
- **That Fenland Leisure Products conduct 6-monthly inspections of play equipment in 2013.**
- **To accept quote from Town & Country of £190 + VAT for tree work required in Tompkins Mead.**

9. **Consultations**

**Local Development Plan – Issues and Options (SCDC) – 2<sup>nd</sup> round consultation**

**Consultation Period: 7 January – 18 February 2013**

The Clerk would circulate the Local Plan questionnaire leaflet to councillors and ask them to bring suggestions for questions 1, 3 and 8 to the February meeting for discussion to prepare a formal response. HMS and IT would study the consultation document and bring any additional recommendations to the February meeting.

**Action:  
Clerk**

## 10. Minor Highways Improvement Scheme

The Clerk advised that Brian Stinton, Area Traffic Manager – Cambs County Council, felt a Zebra crossing could not be sited where the current crossing is at the top of Fen Road/High Street for a number of reasons including disruption to vehicular access to office car parking here and the close proximity to two busy road junctions. Two members of the public present spoke to request improved safety at the existing crossing point here and measures to slow down traffic. It was **AGREED** to pursue a bid for a safer crossing at the Fen Road/High Street site. A problem at this site has been identified and the bid should concentrate on making it safer for children to cross here. This might include other traffic calming measures. This has the support of residents.

## 11. MCC report: Andy Gray, Community Centre Manager

### Maintenance/Improvements:

The slabs between The Sycamores Rec and Tesco's path have been re-laid, so this no longer forms a trip hazard.

### Bookings:

No new classes to report and I expect all of our existing classes to continue into 2013.

The Bowls Club Brass Band Concert on the 8th is the only Saturday Night Booking during December. Nobody has booked us for New Years Eve, so we shall be closed from Saturday 22nd Dec to Wednesday 2nd January 2013.

Youth Building: Nothing to report.

Vandalism: Nothing to report.

## 12. County Councillor's report: Michael Williamson, County Councillor

[www.michaelwilliamson.org.uk](http://www.michaelwilliamson.org.uk)

MW drew attention to an email he had sent containing advice on information that should be included in any bid for Minor Highways Improvements funding. The Clerk advised this had been noted.

A10/Humphries Way – accident reports had been received. MW will chase any suggestions for improvements from county officers who were present at the meeting at this site in November (previous min 06/12-12). A meeting at this junction for parish councillors along with representatives from Landbeach Parish Council and the county officers will be arranged.

MW had spoken on Radio Cambridgeshire about proposed development in Waterbeach.

## 13. District Councillors' reports

### *Councillors Report – January 2013 – Hazel Smith*

#### **Traveller site for SCDC rental plots**

You may have read in the local news that following the public opposition, SCDC are now no longer intending to reopen the Mettle Hill site.

A FOI request has revealed the following, answered by Stephen Hills (Director, Affordable Housing, SCDC): "As far as I am aware, only one site has been formally proposed since the Mettle Hill issue began. This is not a new proposal but a request to reconsider a previous proposal for an extension to the provision at Fen Road. The agents sent a letter to a number of councillors and officers at SCDC and City. The local Member (Hazel Smith) is very familiar with the site and is aware of the proposal and the reasons it has been previously been rejected."

I do know what they're talking about, though I was not one of the "number of councillors and officers at SCDC and City" who the agents apparently contacted.

Stephen Hills is meeting with the land-owner and has promised to keep me informed.

This is not a submission to the local plan SHLAA at stage 2 (according to the portfolio holder), but has been proposed as a possible rental site after being turned down in the Local Plan process.

It will meet opposition locally as neighbouring Travellers feel they have enough development in that area, and 2 large unauthorised mobile homes have only within the last two years been moved off Camside Farm next door (after over 10 years of being there without permission), because that side of the road was not to be developed. They will be very angry and possibly develop their site further if this happens. The bottom half of the field is in the EA floodplain area.

What is needed is a rental site for Irish Travellers (viz court case we are defending), and Basildon has apparently just opened one specifically for Irish Travellers (link below). Chesterton Fen is not a site that would work for Irish Travellers.

<http://howe.co.uk/news/basildon-council-pass-irish-traveller-movement-britain%E2%80%99s-planning-application-innovative-new>

IT noted that Milton Parish already bore more than its fair share of travellers' sites. IFM reminded the council of its intention that no further development proceed in the Chesterton Fen area until problems with both drainage and sewage had been sorted out. JEC felt that immediate action was needed to strongly oppose this latest proposal and to ask residents of Chesterton Fen their views. **AGREED** that HMS will arrange a meeting with nominated parish councillors (RTS, HMS, MP, RJF and JEC) and Stephen Hills, SCDC, to discuss this proposal and a report will be given to council at the next meeting in February. JEC expressed concern that the next meeting was a month away and thought that more immediate action should be taken.

**Local plan consultation**

The Union Place proposal is in the consultation this time, as one of 11 sites from the City and South Cambs areas from which one will be chosen as a centre for 'sub-regional facilities'. The P&R site at Cowley Road is also in there. Consultation runs from 7 January to 18 February 2013.

**Budget cuts**

There is a new Head of Service of Environmental Health & Licensing, Myles Bebbington (previously the Licensing Officer). More appointments are coming, but there will be fewer officers than previously in this department.

**Chesterton Station**

More cycle parking is proposed on both sides of the new station.

**Fen Road, Chesterton**

The latest meetings have been initiated with Network Rail, after Ian Litterick and Clare Blair talked to them at the station consultation. They may be looking to improve safety at the Fen Road crossing, but any extra pavement would be outside their area of responsibility.

**Freecycle**

A resident is keen to start a Freecycle scheme in Milton. This is something we could take forward under the Environment Group.

**AGREED** (proposed JEC, seconded GH) that a link to a webpage can be added to the Parish Council website (it was noted that there is already a link to Freecycle, but this is the Cambridge-based scheme which is not very active at present).

**Local Police Panel Meeting**

HMS will attend the panel meeting on Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Jan in Histon. It was **AGREED** that a question should be raised about changes to the neighbourhood police team for Milton as no formal notification has been received.

**14. Bills for Payment and Money Received, Budget Figures**

Proposed by MH, seconded by MP

**CONFIRMED and AGREED** payment of cheques 100799□100819 (12 for, 1 abstention - RJF abstained from vote).

Budget figures were noted.

**15. Correspondence** (inc. urgent correspondence not on the agenda)

**LCR** – Winter 2012

**ESPO Energy Matters** – Winter 2012

**Prince's Trust** – letter requesting donation for Prince's Trust team at Clydebank College.

**Luminus News** – Winter 2012

**Email from Rob Cooke, Course Director, College of West Anglia** – My students are about to embark on an educational unit discussing Citizenship & Diversity. As part of the unit, they are required to take part in short-term volunteering activities, such as gardening or labouring tasks. I was hoping that you might be able to offer a few suggestions as to where my students could assist the community, or put me in touch with an appropriate person that can help. I have 12 students in all and would like to employ them all at the same time.

Clerk would reply to suggest students could fork over bark on all children's play areas and litter pick these areas and/or help with maintenance work on vehicle access tracks on the allotment site. Contact details for Andy Gray (MCC play areas) and Mark Ellwood (allotment site) will be sent to Rob Cooke.

**Action:  
Clerk**

**16. Dates of Next Meetings** – 10th January Community Care (11am); 28th January Planning Committee (7pm); 28th January Finance & Administration Committee (7:30pm); 4th February Parish Council.

**17. Items and Reports for February agenda** (to be received by Fri 25 January)

The meeting closed at 9:50pm

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