

Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 15 July 2013 at 7.00pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: RT Summerfield (chair) RJ Farrington G Heaney IF May J Mowatt MC Perkins
HM Smith I Tyes
The clerk and assistant clerk
2 members of the public (1 left at 8:57pm)

1. **Sgt Paul Rogerson** had telephoned on 15th July to apologise that an urgent work commitment meant he was unable to attend the meeting. He will be invited to attend the September meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were accepted and approved from: D Chamberlin (personal); JE Coston (personal); Mark Hersom (personal); G Wynne-Jones (personal)
3. **Casual Vacancies:** No applications have been received. IT reported that leaflets encouraging residents to consider becoming a parish councillor, prepared by the Assistant Clerk, had been handed out at the Summer Fayre.
4. **Minutes:** the minutes of the meeting of 03 June 2013 were approved and signed as a true record.

5. **Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak.**

Emma Holbrooke from Cambridgeshire Mencap gave an update on the fundraising for a new sunroom at their Rosewood property in Milton. This is going very well, lots of fundraising has taken place in Milton with future events planned. Another £6000 is required to fund the project and Mencap hope to commence building work in May 2014. A planning application will be submitted in the near future. RTS asked for a copy of the proposed plans to be sent to the Parish Council office.

6. **Declarations of interest and dispensations**

a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda.

HMS (non pecuniary interest) Agenda item 8 – member of SCDC planning committee

HMS (disclosable pecuniary interest) Agenda item 8 (2 Hall End) – neighbour

b) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any).

None received.

c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

7. **Clerk's report**

Long Acre Farm Waste Transfer Station, Chesterton Fen: Andrew Greenwood, Principal Enforcement and Monitoring Officer at Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) has advised that following complaints about out-of-hours operations an inspection was carried out and the owner has been advised he must adhere to the operating hours specified by the council. Non-compliance may result in enforcement action being taken by the Waste Planning Authority, if expedient to do so.

Highways Grass Cutting 2013/14: (previous min 6/06-13) Buchans have advised the cost for them to undertake the maintenance work for the verges that are the County Council's responsibility to maintain is £275 per cut (x 5 cuts = £1375). The amount to be paid for 2013/14 for Milton Parish Council to grass cut county council land in Milton is £888.86, a shortfall of £486. Clerk will write to CCC to ask for an increase in the grant paid.

**Action:
Clerk**

Summer Consultation on draft Local Plan: There will be a series of exhibitions across the area from 22 July-10 September during the summer consultation. Those closest to Milton are: Thurs 25 July, Waterbeach Primary School, High Street, Waterbeach and Thursday 5th September. Histon & Impington Recreation Ground, New Road, Impington. All events will be held from 2:30pm-7:30pm. A poster is displayed on the noticeboard.

Office Colour Printer: (previous min 8/06-13). The new printer has been installed. AGREED to dispose of the old printer (proposed IFM, seconded RTS). HMS will check to see if Emmaus would like it.

**Action:
HMS**

Training: (previous min 6/06-13) The CAPALC training course on allotments due to take place on 28th June was cancelled. CAPALC Councillor training sessions (3) are being held at Orchard Park on 12th Sept, 3rd Oct and 7th Nov, starting at 7pm. These are useful for any new councillors. GW-J has asked to attend sessions 2 & 3 Cost: £35 per session.

Local Highways Improvement bid: (previous min 11/04-13) the bid for funding from Cambs County Council (CCC) to improve the pedestrian/cycle crossing on High Street (at the top of Fen Road) has not been successful. CCC hope that a budget will be available in 2014/15 for improvements, when a bid could be considered again, details will be sent later in the year.

Wooden Seats beside War Memorial: on 1st July the village cleaner advised one of the seats had fallen over. This was made safe by Paul Capitain the same day. The cost to rub down both seats and re-stain will be approx. £100. The seat that has been repaired is likely to need replacing in 1-2 years. AGREED to refurbish the seats and to budget for a new seat next year (proposed RTS, seconded IT).

Advertising in the Conservation Area: (previous min 6/06-13) All unnecessary advertising has been removed from the conservation area and listed buildings following the intervention of the Enforcement Officer from SCDC.

Litter and dog fouling in the village: A complaint has been received from a resident about dog faeces and litter in the village (the main area identified is the Sycamores rec). Andy Gray (MCC) advises the rec is litter picked once a week. Resident asks if there is a plan to take some sort of action against the culprits. Clerk will send the resident a link to information on the Parish Council website regarding dog fouling and advise that the public can call the police on 101 to report littering.

**Action:
Clerk**

College of West Anglia (CWA): email received from a resident 'Some of my Landbeach Road neighbours and I have been in contact with The College of West Anglia this summer about the state of their grounds along Landbeach Road, Milton, but have had no response. I wonder whether The Parish Council could approach them? The hedge going towards the A10 is overgrown and difficult for cyclists, particularly if they are being overtaken by other vehicles.

The "flower beds" at the No Entry gate are full of weeds which have now seeded and these have blown into our gardens.

Further along, towards Knights Way, plants grow through the fencing, again causing more problems for cyclists and creating more seed waste.

The grounds, in general, as seen from our properties are untidy. Screening that was put in place to hide waste bins is no longer effective as the bins have been moved forward and a general storage area appears to have become a dumping ground.

I realise that the college has financial problems, but other areas, more prominent to visitors are being kept presentable. At weekends many horse boxes draw up at the no entry gate expecting to access the College. What a poor impression of the place they get.

I hope something can be resolved soon.'

The Clerk has since received an email from Alison Barber, Campus Director, which was also sent to the resident, stating that tidying up of this area is underway. The hedge will be checked and cut back if necessary.

8. **Planning:** the minutes of the meeting held on 01 July 2013 were received and noted.

Decisions:

S/0179/13/OL Aula Ltd Plots 420, 430 & 440 of Phase VI of Cambridge Science Park – erection of three buildings totalling 13,800 sq m of B1a and B1b floorspace – **approved** (previous min P5/02-13: parish council made no recommendation but had concern that with larger amounts of roof covering and larger car parking areas some on-site water storage be considered)

S/0699/13/FL Mr & Mrs Tony Whybrow 5 Old School Lane, Milton – two storey extension – **approved** (previous min P7/-5-13: parish council made no recommendation but had concern about poor layout particularly on upper floor).

S/0701/13/FL Mr Scott Walker 27 Coles Road, Milton – single storey front extension – **approved** (previous min P7/05-13: parish council had recommended refusal on grounds that extension was out of character with street scene and had detrimental effect on neighbour's amenity).

S/1161/13/FL Mrs Yoko Penaluna 22 David Bull Way, Milton – single storey rear extension – **approved** (previous min 7/06-13).

New applications:

S/1104/13/FL Mr & Mrs A Bird 307 The Rowans, Milton – conversion of existing detached garage: amendment: Roof light to front roof slope, glazed window, door and sliding screen removed from front and replaced with timber infill panel and door (previous min PC7/06-13: parish council refused original application on grounds of visual impact: the shutters do not address the problem of visual impact as they could be open all day). **No recommendation**

HMS, having declared a disclosable pecuniary interest, left the room at 7:30pm

S/1356/13/FL Mr Luke Edwards 2 Hall End, Milton – Two storey front extension & single storey rear extension.

No recommendation

HMS returned to the meeting at 7:37pm

S/1447/13/FL Mr & Mrs Dark 3 Burling Walk, Milton – First floor extension over garage. **No recommendation**

S/1467/13/FL Mr G Cater 27 Willow Crescent, Milton – Single storey rear extension. **No recommendation**

Consultation: from Cambridgeshire County Council

C/05001/13/CC Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992 – Regulation 3, Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011, Land at Chesterton Sidings, Cambridge – facilities, toilets, ticket office, retail space, amenity space, rail staff accommodation and facilities. The development also includes two main line platforms and a bay platform with a footbridge (with lifts) providing access over the main lines and operational sidings from the station building to the platforms. External works include car (450 spaces) and cycle (1000 spaces) parking and hard and soft landscaping. Construction of new vehicular access from Cowley Road and new pedestrian and cycle links to the surrounding area. The development will be linked to the existing guided 'Busway' network by a short length of new busway connecting to a longer section of track which is authorised by an existing planning permission. AGREED to comment:

- Concern about traffic congestion on already busy roads leading to the new station;
- Could lead to an increase in cars parked in Milton as passengers can walk over the Jane Coston Bridge to the new station. If problems do arise can Cambridgeshire County Council confirm they will monitor the situation and take appropriate action.

9. **Finance & Administration:** the Internal Auditors report was received and noted.

10. **Maintenance:** RTS thanked GH for putting himself forward for election as the chairman of the Maintenance Committee at the 01 July meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on 01 July 2013 were received and noted. The minutes of a meeting of the cemetery working group held on 08 July were received and noted.

It was AGREED to accept recommendations::

- **To approve revised cemetery policy** (proposed IT, seconded RTS);

HMS advised that advice from the legal advisor at SCDC was to carry out a consultation on the revised cemetery policy. An item will be included in the next Village View advising the cemetery policy has been updated and asking for any comments by 1st November. Copies of the magazine will be delivered to Fen Road, Chesterton and Blackwell Caravan site, which are in Milton Parish.

- **To approve recommendation that the left side of the cemetery is allocated for interment of ashes only and the right side of the cemetery is used as a lawned cemetery for interments** (proposed RTS, seconded GH);
- **To agree to write to the families of the late Queenie Smith and Louise Smith to offer 6 adjacent graves for pre-purchase to family members, providing residency in Milton can be established** (proposed GH, seconded RTS).

**Action:
Asst.
Clerk**

A letter to the Chairman had been received from Rt. Hon. James Paice MP, who had been contacted by a member of the late Louise Smith's family. AGREED (proposed RTS, seconded GH) to send a copy of the letter being sent to the late Louise Smith's family to James Paice.

11. **Community Care:** AGREED payment of 5 hours overtime for the Warden (proposed IFM, seconded IT).
12. **Working Party:** to set up working group to make recommendations for future open space/community projects. This was deferred to the September meeting.
13. **Grants:** AGREED to refuse application for a grant received from Relate Cambridge (proposed IFM, seconded RJF). The Parish Council could only offer grants to village-based organisations/clubs that offer benefits to Milton residents.
14. **MCC report: Andy Gray, Community Centre Manager**

Maintenance/Improvements:

Nothing to report.

Bookings:

No new classes to report.

There are no Saturday Night bookings throughout the summer, apart from the Village Fayre. However, I have recently received a number of enquiries for September and October and I would expect at least a couple of these to go ahead.

Youth Building:

Nothing to report.

Vandalism:

Coles Road Playground was covered in obscene graffiti on Saturday evening, 8th June.

The garage door at the Sycamores Rec was vandalised (or a possible attempted break in) on Thursday evening, 13th June.

The Sycamores Pavilion and the Youth Building were covered in graffiti on Friday and Saturday evenings, 15th and 16th June.

The Sycamores Pavilion and the Youth Building were again subjected to graffiti on Wednesday evening, 19th June, together with obscene graffiti on the Exercise Equipment and the Sycamores Playground.

All of these crimes were reported to the Police. Histon and Cottenham have also had similar incidents, although I understand that the Police have identified (and spoken with) a number of suspects.

RJF noted that Milton Fayre, held on 13th July, had been very well attended. AGREED to send a letter to the organizing committee to thank them for all their hard work.

**Action:
Clerk**

15. **County Councillor's report: Maurice Leke, County Councillor**

Milton to Landbeach Cycleway, Phase 1 – This should be completed within the next few days with the completion of the top surface and the installation of the solar lights.

Milton to Landbeach Cycleway, Phase 2 – Taking into account the comments made at last month's meeting the County Council have decided to consult on the options for the A10 junction in September. Their intention is to hold two meetings, one in Milton and one in Landbeach. My understanding is that the focus will be on road safety considerations.

Butt Lane Cycleway – Work has started (at last!) on putting a proper surface on the part finished part of the cycleway.

Cambridge Science Park Station – The Application for Planning Permission for the new station at Chesterton sidings has now been submitted. The application can be found at:

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/environment/planning/applications/planning+proposals.htm>

South Cambs Local Plan – There will be a public consultation drop-in event at Waterbeach School on Thursday 25th July from 2:30 to 7:30. The most significant proposal as far as Milton is concerned is the proposal for a new town of 8,000 – 9,000 houses north of Waterbeach.

Chesterton – Abbey Bridge – Cambridgeshire County Council has commissioned a feasibility study for a new foot & cycle bridge over the River Cam close to the railway line in the East Chesterton and Abbey areas of Cambridge. This is a route which would be useful to villagers who cycle or walk into town via the river as it would cut off a big corner if they're heading for Abbey. A drop-in session will be held on Thursday, 18th July from 7:30–8:30pm at the Shirley Primary School, Nuffield Road, Chesterton.

16. District Councillors' reports

Councillors Report – July 2013 – Hazel Smith

Waterbeach development

Local Plan consultation: Waterbeach Primary School 25th July

This is the only opportunity for local people to comment on the new town proposed for Waterbeach. Although this is listed as 8-9,000 homes, 1,400 before 2031, in fact they intend to leave the actual number of houses to be decided later.

They also propose significantly more houses in the A428 corridor: 1,700 at Bourn Airfield before 2031 (3,500 in total) and 1,200 between Cambourne and Caxton Gibbet, behind the new secondary school, which is now nearly complete. These proposals will be consulted on over the summer, until 30th September.

Community Infrastructure Levy – the rates per sq m of floor area are out for consultation at the same time. Up to 15% will be paid to parish councils instead of the current recreation/village hall payments under Section 106. If they have drawn up a Neighbourhood Plan under the new process, then the maximum is 25%.

Little Gransden Cedar of Lebanon Tree

The planning committee decision was to allow this tree (300 years old) to be felled by removing the Tree Preservation Order. But the council's decision is being challenged by Cllr Robin Page who is taking a case for an injunction to the High Court. The council was being threatened with unlimited liability into the future, and an immediate claim for £110,000 to £400,000 for underpinning the adjacent listed building.

Traveller funerals

SCDC may be able to help MPC to establish residency in Milton from their records.

Neighbourhood panel

Maurice and I went on Tuesday. One of the priorities for over the summer is helping young people feel safe on the recreation grounds in Milton. Quite a large number of Milton young people responded to the online survey that the police put out, and safety through the 'Tesco tunnel' and at the recs was an issue they identified.

Homeless prevention

The district council is dealing with a lot of requests for help. They ask that people contact SCDC when they know they have difficulties, and they can try to intervene to save people losing their homes.

It is unfortunate that from the end of July 2013 the SCDC will no longer be providing a Pest Control Service. The two members of staff who currently operate the service are being made redundant and will formally leave the council at the end of August. A planned wind-down of the service is now underway, which will see the taking of new requests for treatment (apart from wasps) cease from 10 June. Residents will be signposted, via the SCDC web site, to the private sector for all new treatments. New wasp requests will cease and all on-going treatments be completed by the end of July 2013.

17. Bills for Payment and Money Received, Budget Figures

Proposed by MP, seconded by IFM

CONFIRMED and AGREED payment of cheques 100891–100911.

Budget figures were noted.

18. Correspondence (inc. urgent correspondence not on the agenda)

LCR – Summer 2013

Clerks & Councils Direct – July 2013

The Clerk Magazine – July 2013

19. Dates of Next Meetings – 22nd July Finance & Administration (in PC Office); 12th August Planning Committee (if required); 2nd September Parish Council.

20. Items and Reports for September agenda (to be received by Fri 23 August)

The meeting closed at 9:20pm

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