

Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 03 June 2013 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: RT Summerfield (chair) JE Coston DJ Chamberlin RJ Farrington G Heaney
M Hersom IF May J Mowatt MC Perkins HM Smith I Tyes G Wynne-Jones
County Councillor M Leeke (arrived at 8:45pm)
The clerk and assistant clerk

1. **Accept and approve apologies for absence:** none received
2. **Casual vacancy:** The Chair advised that Alex Campbell had tendered his resignation on 31st May. There are now 3 vacant seats on the council. An advert will appear in the Milton School's magazine for parents.
3. **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;
IT (non-pecuniary interest) Agenda item 9 – member MA4Y
IFM (non-pecuniary interest) Agenda item 6 – member of Cambs MENCAP
 - b) **To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any):** None received.
 - c) **To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate:** None received.
4. **Minutes:** the minutes of the annual meeting of 13 May 2013 were approved and signed as a true record.
5. **Public Participation:** no members of the public were present.
6. **Clerks Report:**

Humphries Way/A10 junction (previous min 9/05-13): Mike Davies advised that to implement a trial of the closure of the deceleration lane requires a temporary traffic regulation order, which takes 12 weeks to process. This means that, if a trial is to be conducted, to ensure typical traffic conditions we'd have to wait until September. An item can be submitted for the next issue of the Village View, if required, to ask for residents feedback when more information about likely dates, if any, for a trial will be available.

A14 Road Closures: Notice has been received of overnight closure of A14 between junctions 31 (Girton) and 36 (Nine Mile Hill) from 10-25 June for repairs to eastbound carriageway and from 8-17 July for repairs to the westbound carriageway from Junction 36 (Nine Mile Hill) to junction 33 (Milton). Work will take place between 8pm-6am. Closures are planned for weekdays only but may include weekend nights if necessary. Signed diversion routes will be in place.

Highways Grass Cutting 2013/14: Cambs County Council (CCC) has confirmed the amount to be paid for 2013/14 for grass cutting county council land in Milton is £888.86. JEC asked Clerk to check what the council's contractor will charge for this work to ensure costs incurred are fully covered.

Signage in conservation area: Following a complaint from a resident and an email to the Conservation Team at SCDC one of the Enforcement Team has been working on this and has reported that he has had some success at the Jolly Brewers and White Horse where advertising banner signs and some A-boards have been removed and the premises tidied up. The banner sign now on the fence at the Jolly Brewers, which is located further from the building, relates to the Children's Hospice and he did not think it appropriate to seek its removal.

The signage at the Lion and Lamb Public House is still being pursued and the Clerk will be notified when there is anything further to report.

P&R Signs (previous min 9/05-13): the addition of A14 to signs at the P&R site has now been completed.

North Lodge Park – Archaeology Summary (prepared by WD Booth): Five years ago our regional archaeology group Oxford Archaeology East, based at Bar Hill, carried out extensive excavations on the then old EDF site; the excavations were essentially on the green field area. This spring, another group of archaeologists, the Essex County Archaeologists based at Braintree, continued with the final excavations on the 'brown field' areas after demolition of the old workshop buildings prior to Bellway getting underway with the building programme. The finds on this occasion, were in keeping with those found earlier by OAE, as follows. Further Roman pottery was found throughout the site, but more was found at the eastern end of the site, complementing the presence of a Romano-British farmstead in Long Meadow east of the development site - the farmstead site, I wrote up as a report, a copy of which is in the parish office. There was a further concentration of Roman pottery near North Lodge. Earlier Iron Age pottery was also found on the site as before. Medieval pottery from the Norman Conquest (11th century) was mostly found near Milton Hall and near North Lodge, suggesting an earlier medieval presence here north of the village. Skeletal remains of horse and cattle were found, with the horse bones found at the Milton Hall end of the site, suggesting buried horses that arose from the stables of the Hall. In this regard, foundations of walls near and to the north of the Hall, contained Tudor type red bricks

and stone which are likely to have been re-used for outbuildings, which arose from the earlier Tudor manor house on the site. All the above preliminary conclusions will be finalized in a report to be produced, probably in 2014, by the Essex unit, who have just recently been taken over by University College, London's Archaeology Unit South. I made several visits to the site between February and April in order to acquire the above information. I mentioned to the archaeologists about a visit from MPC, but there was little to see apart from holes in the ground, and there would not have been enough hard hats and yellow over jackets to go round. I will keep the parish council informed about the release of any published reports on the archaeology of the site which hopefully will appear in the next year or two.

Cambs MENCAP, Edmund House: Emma Holbrooke from Cambs MENCAP, Edmund House had approached the council to ask for their support if small advertising banners were placed along their hedge for corporate sponsors who had helped their fundraising. A motion to allow banners for up to one month was defeated (2 for/5 against/4 abstained). Clerk will write to advise that the parish council cannot support placing of banners along the hedge in Edmund House, which is consistent with their policy on advertising elsewhere in the village. The council fully supports the fundraising aims and were grateful that their views had been sought.

Training: AGREED that either Clerk or Assistant Clerk should attend a CAPALC training course on allotments on 28th June in Sutton covering a wide range of topics of interest to Clerks/Councillors whether they already have allotments or thinking of having allotments including how to manage allotments, how to regenerate existing allotments, Tenancy Agreements, Rent reviews, Associations, the Law; allotments as a community resource. Cost £55.

Bobby Scheme (previous min 20/05-13): AGREED to ask the scheme to keep the council updated on any new developments.

Potholes - Fen Road: Dave Gilks (County Council Highways) has advised that work to repair potholes will take place in the next few weeks.

7. **Planning:** the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on 20 May 2013 were received and noted.

New applications:

S1009/13/FL St John's College, St John's Innovation Park, Cowley Road – installation of a comprehensive lighting scheme to serve part of the Park (a cross-boundary application also submitted to Cambridge City Council). **No recommendation**

S/1104/13/FL Mr & Mrs A Bird, 307 The Rowans, Milton – conversion of existing detached garage. **Refuse – visual impact. The shutters do not address the problem of visual impact as they could be open all day (10 for/2 against).**

S/1161/13/FL Mrs Yoko Penaluna, 22 David Bull Way, Milton – Single storey rear extension. **No recommendation**

S106 payment:

Re: application S/2519/12/FL: 4A High Street, Milton (previous min PC4/02-13) – payment of £4258.90 in lieu of on-site provision of public open space and £703.84 towards off-site provision of community facility space. AGREED that Indemnity document is signed by RTS and HMS and that authority to sign future S106 indemnity documents is delegated to RTS and HMS.

JEC advised an up-to-date plan for the parish's public open space and community facility space projects should be kept. Clerk will add item to December Maintenance agenda.

**Action:
Clerk**

8. **Finance & Administration:**

- Accounting Statement for 2012/13 Annual Return was approved by council and signed by the Chairman.
- Amendments to Contracts section of Financial Regulations (section 11) and Appendix I and Standing Orders (p.27 only) as recommended by Internal Auditor were approved.
- The purchase of new laser printer/scanner (colour) from World of Computers for £189 + VAT for the office was approved. Clerk to ask WoC to come and install the printer.

9. **Milton Action 4 Youth (MA4Y)**

- Draft minutes from MA4Y AGM and Committee meeting held on 20th May 2013 were received and noted. IT and RJF will liaise over possibility of MA4Y becoming affiliated to MCC, which is a registered charity.
- Parish Council will pay £7 fee for a stall at the Summer Fayre.

10. **City Council's consultation on North Phase of Cambridge City-wide 20mph speed limit.**

AGREED to send a 'No' response to all questions on the consultation.

11. **MCC report: prepared by Andy Gray, Manager**

Maintenance/Improvements:

Nothing to report.

Bookings:

There are 3 new classes due to start during June:

- Children's Creative Movement, Tuesday and Thursday mornings in the Lounge;
- Tatty Bumpkins Children's Yoga, Thursday lunchtimes in the Lounge;
- Adult Aerobics, Wednesday evenings in the Lounge.

As with all new classes, only time will tell if these prove popular enough to continue.

Youth Building:

Nothing to report.

Vandalism:

Nothing to report.

12. County Councillor's Report

This item was deferred until later in the Agenda as Maurice Leeke had not arrived (he was also attending Landbeach Parish Council's meeting)

13. District Councillor's Reports

Councillors Report – June 2013 – Hazel Smith

Council committees

At the same time as the County elections, there were 3 by-elections for South Cambs, of which the Lib Dems won 2. However the ripples from the Lib Dem defections over the summer mean that we have lost a place on the Northstowe planning committee so I am no longer on that one. There is also less opportunity to hold the Cabinet to account for its decisions as 6 of the 9 places on the new Scrutiny Committee will be held by Conservatives. We argued for a stronger voice for the opposition in scrutiny at the Council meeting but were outvoted. This is however not as shocking as East Cambs where the ruling group have decided to abolish the Scrutiny Committee altogether!

Waterbeach development

The details of which areas in villages are to be supported for development in the local plan will be published on 3rd June, so I will be able to say more then. [HMS advised c. 900 new homes are proposed between now and 2031, the majority of these will be in Sawston.] The larger new village and new town proposals were announced a few weeks ago. They propose that Waterbeach should be a new town of up to 8,000 houses, but that building should only start from 2026 onwards, with 1,400 houses built by 2031 in this plan period. They also propose significantly more houses in the A428 corridor: 1,500 at Bourn Airfield and 1,500 between Cambourne and Caxton Gibbet, behind the new secondary school, which is now nearly complete. These proposals will be consulted on over the summer, and this last round of consultation on the local plan starts in July.

To support these proposals the County Council is looking at dualling the A10, which SCDC planners mentioned to us, and also there will be a study into the A10/A14 junction and how that needs to be changed, with implications possibly for our recreation ground.

Paying for the A14

The Cabinet meeting on Monday 3rd at 6pm will discuss contributing to the A14 upgrade. Lib Dem councillors have argued against local councils paying a contribution towards what should be a national infrastructure project.

SCDC Enforcement policy

The meeting at SCDC with some parish councillors to discuss the draft plan for enforcement went well last week. The main outcome was a realisation of how different planning enforcement is from Environmental Health, ASB, food hygiene and other areas where the council can prosecute offenders, due to the different regulatory framework for planning.

County Cllr. Maurice Leeke arrived at 8:45pm

12. County Councillor's Report (deferred from earlier in the agenda)

Maurice Leeke, County Councillor – June 2013

New Council – The county council has held its first meeting since last month's elections. Probably the most significant decision was for the council to return to running its affairs by committees rather than a cabinet. You will recall that the cabinet system was imposed on most of the larger local authorities by the government just over a decade ago. The Localism Act 2011 gave authorities the opportunity to go back to the committee system. For Cambridgeshire this will take effect from May next year.

The council elected its leader who is Martin Curtis a Conservative councillor from Whittlesey. I have been elected as leader of the Liberal Democrat group on the council.

Waterbeach Development – At the time of writing a lot of the details have not yet been released,

but the headlines are that a new town is being proposed for the Waterbeach Airfield site. The proposed number of houses has been reduced to 8,000 but the footprint remains the same. Of these 8,000 houses, 1,400 are allocated to the plan period (up to 2031) but at the end of that period (presumably 2026-2031). This is almost exactly the opposite of what Waterbeach has suggested. The village does not want a new town. It has said it is willing to accept development of the built-up part of the barracks site (estimated at 930 houses) to be integrated into the village. And it would like them sooner rather than later to replace the trade and vitality lost to the village as a result of the soldiers going.

Of greatest significance to Milton is probably the proposal that the A10 will need to be made into a dual carriageway to accommodate the additional traffic.

Butt Lane Signs – The signs which had been requested for Butt Lane to make it clearer that there is no right turn at the A10 junction, and that you need to turn into the entrance to the Park and Ride site if you wish go towards Cambridge, have now been installed.

Butt Lane Cycleway – For too long a section of the Butt Lane cycleway has been left half-completed. Whilst the county council has completed the part for which it is responsible the unfinished section is the responsibility of the developers of the Enterprise Park on the site of the old poultry farm. I have tried to push things along and I have been assured that the developer will get the cycleway completed by the end of June. For its part the highways department have agreed to complete the missing 20 metres or so of cycleway in front of the Enterprise Park which did seem to have been forgotten.

Milton to Landbeach Cycleway, Phase 1 – Work is continuing on Phase 1 of the cycleway from the Landbeach village sign to the Landbeach Road exit of Rectory Farm. Although incomplete it is interesting to see that people are already starting to use it.

Milton to Landbeach Cycleway, Phase 2 – This is much more problematic, and there are no plans to start work on this section yet. The issue is the A10 crossing. We are at an impasse on crossing the southbound carriageway of the A10. The Road Safety section at the county council are unwilling to sign off as safe a crossing for pedestrians and cyclists over two lanes of traffic moving at different speeds – in this case the main carriageway and the deceleration lane. I have spent some time myself at the junction watching traffic movements, had a site meeting with Hazel Smith, had a long discussion with Mike Davies and Ricky Nelson, as well as several telephone conversations and email exchanges. There is the possibility of a trial closure of the deceleration lane in September. In the meantime, of course, we will be left with the unsatisfactory situation of the cycleway ending abruptly 50 metres short of the A10 with no provision for cyclists and pedestrians to get to, and across, the A10.

3 possible options for the crossing were discussed. The necessary notices for a trial closure of the southbound deceleration lane in September will be advertised. Cllr. Leeke will contact the project team and the Road Safety Team to ask for representatives to attend a public meeting in Milton so residents of both Milton and Landbeach can comment on these proposals.

A CCTV survey at this junction has been carried out to assess traffic flow but the results have not yet been analysed.

14. Bills for Payment and Money Received

Proposed by RTS, seconded by DJC

CONFIRMED and AGREED payment of cheques 100880 □ 100890.

The Budget figures were noted.

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

Luminus News – Spring 2013;

Cambridgeshire ACRE – letter detailing further changes to services (available to view at meeting);

Cambs Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter – May 2013.

16. Dates of Next Meetings – 1st July Planning Committee (7pm); 1st July Maintenance Committee

(7:30pm); 15th July Council; 22nd July Finance & Administration (in PC Office).

17. Items and Reports for July agenda (to be received by Friday 05 July)

The meeting closed at 9:16pm

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

