

Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 11 June 2012 at 7.00pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: RT Summerfield (chair) AJ Campbell JE Coston (from 8:28pm) TA Drummond M Ellwood
RJ Farrington G Heaney (from 7:15pm) M Hersom (from 8:02pm) IF May J Mowatt MC Perkins
HM Smith I Tyes
Councillor M Williamson (from 7:40pm)
The clerk and assistant clerk

- 1 The chairman welcomed Polly Wilderspin, Cambs N.H.W. Executive Area Coordinator for Histon and Swavesey Neighbourhood Panel Areas. Polly gave a presentation about the benefits of a village-wide neighbourhood watch scheme, which requires a village co-ordinator who liaises with street co-ordinators. Nowadays there is a real-time exchange of information between N.H.W. co-ordinators and Police. In Milton there are currently 8 members of the scheme on the police database but no village-wide scheme set up. It was agreed to publish an article in the next issue of the Village View in an effort to attract volunteers to set-up a village-wide scheme. **Action: Asst. Clerk**
- 2 **Apologies for absence:** DJ Chamberlin (JE Coston sent an apology as she would be arriving late)
- 3 **Declarations of Interest – personal and/or prejudicial:**
Personal: HMS agenda 9 Planning – a member of SCDC Planning Committee.
- 4 **Minutes:** the minutes of the meeting of 14 May 2012 were approved and signed as a true record.
- 5 **Public Participation:** no members of the public wished to speak.
- 6 **Casual Vacancy – to consider co-option to Council:** no applications had been received. An advert would be placed in the next issue of the Village View, notices placed on the village noticeboards and Paul Oldham would be approached to advertise the vacancy in Milton News/Milton Chat. **Action: Asst. Clerk**
- 7 **Clerks Report:**
Daffodils on the Bund opposite Tescos (5/03-12) – Agreed that daffodils should be planted on the bund, and also around the war memorial and the new Jubilee Oak tree. The Clerk would arrange this with Buchans. **Action: Clerk**
WI Projects Noted that the WI could possibly offer assistance with one-off or annual activities. A suggestion was made to ask the WI if they would be willing to organise teas/coffees in the Youth Building for the opening ceremony for the new fitness equipment on the Sycamores recreation ground. **Action: Asst. Clerk**
Fire Extinguishers A foam and a CO₂ fire extinguisher have been fitted in the Parish Council Office on the recommendation of Econogard, who carry out fire safety inspections for MCC, at a cost of £113.50 + VAT. Previously there were no extinguishers in the office.
Picture of Baits Bite Lock for office Council were extremely grateful for the donation of this picture from Jim Daniels.
Vandalism at Country Park DJC notified me on 25th May that the police were investigating vandalism that had occurred in the Country Park. This had occurred over several nights.
Letter from Jim Daniels Jim has sent a letter thanking Council for the send-off after the meeting in May and for the seat by the Bowls Green.
CCC Rights of Way Team – training on managing unauthorised encampments – dates of training sessions will be circulated to councillors.
Revised speed limit for A10 – Noted the plan to introduce a 50 mph speed limit from Cowley Road to Denny End Road junction and along old Ely Road into Milton. No objections were raised.
Training – the Clerk has been enrolled for CiLCA training – a portfolio must be completed and submitted within 2 years. 1st training session will be on 21st June at Somersham. A 2 day intensive training for new Clerks (recommended by CAPALC in addition to the CiLCA training) has also been booked on 26th Sept and 3rd Oct at St Ives.
Local Plan Parish Workshops – The Local Plan will set out the planning policies and proposals to guide the development and use of the land in the district for the period up to 2031. The notes from these workshops have been published on the South Cambridgeshire website: <http://www.scambs.gov.uk/Environment/Planning/DistrictPlanning/LocalDevelopmentFramework/SCLP.htm>
Mere Way – the barrier near Blackwell Traveller’s site needs to be replaced and also the barrier at Butt Lane. It was agreed that option 1 (heavy duty box steel gates) were the preferred choice but concern was expressed that the 1.5m gap in the centre would allow motorcycles access onto the Mereway. This would be passed back to the CCC Rights of Way and Access Team. [Note: Reply received advising that 1.5m is the required gap as this is a public bridleway.] **Action: Clerk**

Trees – following a complaint about overgrown trees along the footpath from Bowls Pavilion to Barnabas Court it has been suggested that the crowns on hornbeam trees be raised. This will be added to tree works for the Autumn.

Sycamores Rec Fitness Equipment Opening Ceremony – The new fitness equipment has been installed on the Sycamores Rec. It was agreed that an Opening Ceremony would be held on Saturday 30th June commencing at 3:30pm. The Youth Building would be open from 2:30–5:30pm for teas/coffees. An invitation would be sent to Milton WI to ask if they would be willing to organise the teas/coffees on the day (see above) as well as attending the ceremony, and to MENCAP.

Action:
Asst.
Clerk

8 Community Care: the minutes of the meeting held on 17 May were received and noted. **AGREED** to pay Tracey Ebbon for 12 days holiday from 2011 due to mitigating circumstances. Community Care Committee would review TE's contract to ensure statutory holiday entitlement is taken going forward.

9 Planning: the minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2012 were received and noted.

Decisions received:

S/0526/12/FL Mr & Mrs Roger Witt 17 Pearson Close (P 5/04-12) – extension and conversion of garage to form annexe – **approved; only for purposes ancillary to residential use of 17 Pearson Close, no windows or doors other than those authorised by this permission.**

S/0680/12/FL Mr T Mendham 14 Fen Road (9/05-12) – detached two-storey dwelling – **refused; the dwelling, by virtue of its scale, form and design, would result in visual harm to character and appearance of street scene and would have an unacceptable overbearing impact on, and result in loss of light to, the flats at 1a Coles Road and an unacceptable overbearing presence on garden and patio serving 16 Fen Road – contrary to Policy DP/3 of the adopted South Cambs Local Development Framework.**

S/0711/12/FL Mr Hagger 6 Willow Crescent – two storey side and single storey front and rear extensions (P 5/04-12) – **approved; reduce any tall planting (< 600 mm) next to vehicle access within an area of 2m x 2m either side of the access**

S/0756/12/VC Mr & Mrs J Marshall 48 Fen Road – variation of condition 2: design of dwelling and design/position of bin/cycle store (9/05-12) – **withdrawn**

New applications:

S/0841/12/OL Glassworld PLC Cambridge Road – Erection of single storey extension to factory unit – **no recommendation**

S/0962/12/FL Mr A De Simone 33A Froment Way – Change of use from annexe to separate dwelling – **refuse; overdevelopment of the site, 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. It would set a precedent for this type of development.**

S/1003/12/PD Trinity College Unit 27, Science Park – prior notification for demolition of research/warehouse building – **no recommendation**

S/1027/12/DC Mr A De Simone land adjacent to Lea Court, Coles Road – discharge of conditions 5,6,8 & 12 of planning application S/0984/12 (P 6/09-11) (approval of materials for external surfaces, hard and soft landscaping, off-site open space infrastructure, community infrastructure, S106 monitoring and refuse bin provision and details of boundary treatment) – **refuse; no details given for scheme for provision of off-site public open space infrastructure, community infrastructure and S106 monitoring.**

10 To confirm support for working party to investigate feasibility of a new skatepark (previous min 6/05-12)
AGREED to set up working party to look into feasibility of a new skatepark and bring back recommendations for construction, layout, maintenance along with costs.
IT advised that some fundraising would take place by having a 'throw a wet sponge at...' at the MA4Y stall at the Summer Fayre and asked for volunteers. RTS advised that if the skatepark equipment is to be ordered by Milton Parish Council (MPC) then quotes must be obtained via MPC. A wider range of grants may be available if MA4Y place the order but this could mean MA4Y would need to apply to become a registered charity. RJF advised that MCC would provide the space for the skatepark but would not maintain the equipment, the same arrangement that applied to the previous skateboard equipment. RTS thanked IT for taking this project forward.

11 Meeting with Ian Greasley, Area Traffic Manager, CCC on 7th June 2012.
RTS, HMS and the Clerk met with IG at the Milton P&R site to identify how to alleviate traffic missing the turning via the P&R site to Cambridge, then turning north along the A10 and doing a U-turn at Rectory Farm or the Milton (Humphries Way) junction. Signage is the key point to stop traffic taking the wrong route and needing to turn round. Additional signs showing 'All Routes A14' would be added at the exit of the P&R car park and on Butt Lane and 'All Routes A14' will be added to existing signs.
This should be reviewed after 6 months.

12 Finance:
Consultation on appointment of Littlejohn LLP as external auditor for five years from 2012/13. No objection was raised to the appointment.

Report received from Internal Auditor

AGREED to increase Public Liability cover to £10 million

Action:
Clerk

13 Staffing
AGREED at 8:28pm [Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960] to exclude members of the public to this item owing to the confidential nature of the business.
The minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 29 May 2012 were received and noted. The meeting re-opened at 8:32pm

14 Queen's Jubilee (previous min 13/05-12)
Beacon: Following the decision taken to cancel the beacon event some negative comments had been posted on Milton Chat and an email had been received by RTS. Council supported the Chairman in his decision, taken in consultation with CSLT, to cancel the Beacon.
AGREED (7 in favour, 5 against, 1 abstention) to send a letter to acknowledge receipt of the email.
Oak Tree: The Oak tree has been planted and a plaque will be commissioned to be placed on the Silver Jubilee seat on the opposite side of Coles Road. Previous royal coronation/jubilees were marked by:

Coronation: Bus shelters built;

Silver Jubilee: 2 seats; 1 Walklin Way/Coles Road junction, 1 Pond Green (plaque now missing);

Golden Jubilee: Holm Oak planted (with engraved stone tablet) near War memorial;

Diamond Jubilee: English Oak planted Coles Road, opposite Silver Jubilee seat.

Action:
Clerk

15 MCC Report:

Maintenance/Improvements:

The small windows to both sides of the Bowls Pavilion have been replaced, as the old ones were rotten.

The heating system in the Annexe has been overhauled and should now be far more efficient than it was.

Quotes have been obtained for refurbishment of the kitchen in the Community Centre. It is hoped to do the work during the school holidays.

Bookings:

Nothing new to report.

Youth Building:

Nothing new to report.

Vandalism:

The out pane on one of the double glazed windows in the lounge was smashed at night on Thursday 24th May. This was repaired at a cost of £200. We did not claim on our Insurance, as our excess is £250.

16 County Councillor's Report:

The Golf Course issue was raised at the Development Commission Control Meeting. The Environment Agency is not prepared to condemn any material in the bunds. The revised scheme is being adhered to.

Recreation Land at Landbeach Road – MW recommended writing to Stephen Conrad to officially enquire that the land is still available for purchase and for an up-to-date price. It was noted that the planning permission for the land expires in 2013.

**Action:
Clerk**

Waterbeach Barracks There has been no further information about this.

17 District Councillors Reports:

Cambridge Science Park station

Michael and I have been invited to briefings at the County Council about this, though as yet nothing has been said at the District Council. The officer in charge of the station project is Bob Menzies.

The plan is to develop the station, with its access and car parking, but leaving everything else (housing, office development, cycle approaches) to be decided by others (probably South Cambs and Cambridge City, through the normal planning policy routes). By keeping it simple they hope to deliver it by the end of 2015. However this means that any other accesses on foot and by bike from Chesterton, and the approaches from Milton Road are likely to happen in a piecemeal fashion, and for it all to be ready in time a great deal of cooperation between the councils is needed. Bob suggested he might like to talk to Milton Parish Council later on in the summer.

I am raising the issue as often as I can at the District Council.

The funding for the project will come from the rail franchises being let in the next year or two, and this funding can only be spent on the station and necessary infrastructure, for example improvements in the existing Fen Road level crossing. However the hoped-for second access road to our Chesterton Fen Road area cannot be paid for by this means.

Northern Area Corridor Transport Plan

This is a fund into which developers in Milton, Histon and Impington and the northern part of Cambridge City have been paying transport infrastructure S106 contributions over the last few years. It stands at over £2m, to be spent in these areas to alleviate transport issues caused by the increased use of the roads etc. Many bids have been put forward for spending the money – but most of these are from within Cambridge City, as it has so far only been discussed at the Northern Area Committee. Some money has already been spent on subsidising and extending bus routes in the city. Small traffic calming schemes seem to fall into its remit. Also the proposed cycle and pedestrian bridge across from Fen Road to Stourbridge Common and Newmarket Road was suggested for a large slice of the remaining funds. This bridge would run beside the railway, and could even be cantilevered from the existing railway bridge subject to the agreement of Network Rail ... It would provide a useful approach to the new station from the South and East.

Again this money cannot be used to fund a second way into Chesterton Fen.

Another meeting is being organised this month (likely to be Monday 18th June), and I hope our councillors will attend. I will be away that week.

Problems in Pearson Close

Following the grant of planning permission to extend the house used as a taxi base, some neighbours are reporting even more taxi activity there. I have taken this up with Environmental Health officers, but because the nuisance comes from driving and parking on the public highway (even before 5am) there is nothing they can do. [A letter will be sent to the proprietors of the taxi company concerned to ask for the disruption to be minimised.]

**Action:
Clerk**

Bellway take over the site behind Milton Hall

I discussed this with the planning officer Andrew Winter who is now in charge of our area. The application for reserved matters is expected at the council in the next 2 weeks or so.

Friends of Milton Country Park AGM

The Friends committee is in good shape with 13 attending the AGM and 596 email members overall. The main events were the Easter Egg Hunt and Bird Box Building, and committee members have helped out at difficult times, like when the ticket machine had been vandalised last year. Mick reported that the Park Run on Saturday mornings can get as many as 350 people running in the Park, and they are nearly ready to receive donations via JustGiving as reported in the Village View.

Jolly Brewers (previous min P 6/05-12) no appeal has been lodged against the licence granted.

A litter pick took place on 10th June.

18 Land Group Update:

Bellway Homes is under contract to purchase the former EDF site from Urban Renaissance Villages (URV) and develop the site for general housing. Bellway intends to submit a Reserved Matters planning application in the near future. The Land Group will meet with the Senior Land Manager from Bellway Homes in the next few weeks.

Golf Course: Officers at Cambridgeshire County Council will be invited to attend the July parish council meeting to discuss matters concerning the golf course.

**Action:
Asst.
Clerk**

19 Bills for Payment and Money Received

CONFIRMED and AGREED payment of cheques 100691–100699

(Cheque 100699 will appear in next month’s Bills for Payment data)

20 Correspondence:

CAPALC – request for funding from Vitalise to provide respite care breaks for disabled people
– Connecting Cambridgeshire launch new Broadband Campaign

Royal Town Planning Institute (East of England) – Conference for Councillors, 22 June 2012

SLCC – E-newsletter

Cambridgeshire ACRE News Digest

NALC – People in Action Conferences – 5 July (Bristol) and 20 Sept (Sheffield)

LCR – Summer 2012 magazine

Planning Policy Update – June

21 Dates of Next Meetings: Planning (if required) 2 July 7pm; Maintenance 2 July 7:30pm; Council 16 July 7.00pm; Finance & Administration 23 July; Planning (provisional) 13 August

22 Items and Reports for July agenda: to be received by Friday 6 July

The meeting ended at 21:37pm

Signed

Date