

## Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 08 June 2009 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

**Present:** RH Chapman (chair) PS Badley (to item 11 inclusive) AJ Cambell JE Coston GA Covell R Day  
TA Drummond M Ellwood RJ Farrington SC Humphreys B Jefferson IF May HM Smith  
RT Summerfield RLE Waters  
Councillor M Williamson (apologies for lateness – chair of another meeting)  
The clerk and assistant clerk

**1 Apologies for absence** – none.

**2 Declarations of Interest – personal and/or prejudicial**

HMS – planning - personal - member of SCDC planning committee.

TAD - land update personal – member of colts football club.

IFM - land update personal – chairman of colts football club.

**3 Minutes** - the minutes of the meeting of 11 May 2009 were approved and signed as a true record.

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

A resident who was concerned that the removal of the cycle barriers on the footpath between the end of Froment Way and Butt Lane had resulted in the footpath being used by people on motorbikes at speed.

Council at its meetings held in July and November 2008 had requested that one only barrier be removed. “No vehicle” signs were suggested.

It was **AGREED**

**to ask A Frost to reinstate one barrier as the removal of both barriers was a mistake.**

**Action:** *the clerk*

**5 Clerk’s/Chairman’s report**

Office alarm system (PC8/4-09) – in conjunction with A Gray, MCC and JEC the clerk accepted CIA Solutions’ quotation for a maintenance agreement at the office and youth building. Noted that CIA did not charge a call-out fee whereas the local firm that the clerk contacted charge £40. **Action confirmed.**

Police Liaison (PC6/5-09) – Sgt Rogerson had contacted RHC and wished to have further discussions with him. It was understood that Sgt Rogerson was concerned at the abrasive attitude shown at the meeting held on 11 May. The chairman and Council’s two police liaison representatives would meet with Sgt Rogerson and report back.

CPALC Representative (PC8/5-09) – JEC was elected CPALC representative.

Landfill Liaison (PC8/5-09) – **AGREED** to ask Dave Harling, Waste Recycling Group for a meeting on 1st July.

**Action:** *the clerk*

Allotments fence – repairs to the allotments fence cost £220. The clerk had written to the driver of the car that damaged the fence and her insurance company to reclaim the cost.

Stanton Farm Nursery – reports of parents using the A10 entrance were being investigated by SCDC as this was not only dangerous but also a breach of planning consent for the nursery.

Maintenance:

- Litter bin – bin at end of Fen Road was recently set on fire. SCDC Policy was now to replace bins with a standard bin throughout the district. HMS reported that SCDC would therefore replace this bin.
- Bus shelter Landbeach Road – another glass panel had been broken. RHC arranged for it to be replaced by a metal panel. The clerk was pursuing an insurance claim.
- Tomkins Mead: information received from Malcolm Busby about volunteers carrying out willow regrowth cutting back in the wet grassy area and the path edges overhanging with the growth of adjacent plants. It was hoped to put bark chippings on the boardwalk ends in the next few weeks.

CPALC – South Cambs Parish Forum meetings to be repeated 3 times at 3 different venues.

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2009 – Impington - 7.00pm – HMS hoped to attend.

Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009 - Cambourne – 10.00am - South Cambs District Council Offices, Cambourne.

RHC, RLEW, the clerk and assistant hoped to attend.

Headstone – Having been instructed to erect a headstone at Milton cemetery Ivett & Reed paid MPC £90. The family had now decided not to proceed. Ivett & Reed asked for a refund. **For Maintenance to discuss.**

SCDC Standards Committee – nominations for four parish council members who represent all South Cambridgeshire parish councils and meetings required by 7 August 2009.

A14 improvements – a resident from Impington had asked local councils to consider “lobbying” for noise prevention measures. The clerk would point out that ME and JAG (minute 12/5-09 below) would continue to lobby on behalf of local residents. **Action: the clerk**

**6 Verge – to consider proposals to improve appearance of verge opposite Tesco (PC15/4-09)**

RHC reported that K Faunch, CCC, was willing to support the proposals to prevent access across this verge and that he would provide bollards.

The kebab van provided a service and Council did not want to stop the van trading. Council’s intention was merely to improve the appearance of this area.

Proposals: low level landscaped bunding planted possibly with daffodils together with a sign for the Country Park. It was hoped to use soil from the Park & Ride site.

**AGREED**

**to accept the proposals.**

The clerk would ask K Faunch to provide wooden bollards. **Action: the clerk**

RHC would finalise costings and proceed with the improvements. **Action: RHC**

**7 Request from Colts Football for funding towards expense of playing home games outside the village**

**AGREED** (13 votes in favour 2 abstentions)

**to grant the colts football club £620 – the cost of playing home games at Landbeach and Impington.**

It was suggested that the football club put in a request during the present financial year for the cost of portable floodlighting to enable training to take place at Landbeach / Impington. Noted that there were facilities within the village for training.

**8 Planning**

Wind turbine Tesco (PC6/3-09) - correspondence received in support of application.

Conservation Area

walnut tree 42-44 High Street - application C/11/40/072 to remove limb, six lowest laterals and lift remaining crown. – **no comments** (delegated).

Decisions received

Cambridge Newspapers Ltd – generator (PC10/4-09) – **approved. Specific details and noise levels to be approved.**

Mr Ian Jones 32 Fen Road – garage and carport (P5/4-09) – **approved. Details of materials to be approved.**

Milton Primary School Humphries Way (P5/4-09) – enclosure of existing external open area to form ICT suite - **approved.**

Mr & Mrs W Gunn 313 The Rowans (P5/4-09) – first floor side extension and single storey rear extension – **approved. No windows or openings on south west elevation at first floor level.**

Mrs L Shane 106 The Rowans (P5/4-09) – first floor bedroom and bathroom extension over garage – **approved.**

Napp Pharmaceutical Holdings Ltd 194, 196, 198 Science Park (P5/4-09) – glazed enclosure of bridges between buildings at first and second floors (retrospective application) – **approved.**

New applications

S/1769/07 The College of West Anglia Landbeach Road – demolition of existing workshop and Leonard buildings, alterations and construction of new teaching and administration building – revised landscaping scheme – **for information only**

S/0480/09 Milton Primary School Humphries Way – erection of cycle and scooter shed and racks - **approve**. (12 votes in favour 3 abstentions).  
JEC declared a personal interest – school governor.

S/0520/09 The College of West Anglia Landbeach Road – Change of use and extension of straw barn from agricultural to educational equine therapy unit including the replacement of external cladding – **no recommendation**.  
RHC declared a personal interest – working relationship with the College

S/0587/09 SCDC - Blackwell Caravan Park – replacement warden’s building - **approve**.  
HMS pointed out that this site had been improved – compound with skips or rubbish, entrance planted, graffiti under bridge removed and painted by youngsters as an art project. The site was owned by CCC and managed by SCDC.

S/0647/09 Ms M Barker and Mr J Morley 1 Old School Lane – extension and alterations – **no recommendation**.

**9 Independent Internal Audit**

Year end report – Council received the year end report.

Points noted: earmarked reserves – were the projects still live? Minutes in loose leaf folder. No evidence in the minutes that Council had seen the budget spreadsheet before agreeing budget figures for 2009-10.

Council confirmed that this spreadsheet had been presented to the February 2009 meeting.

The Finance & Staffing Committee would look at this report at its next meeting in July.

Independent Internal Auditor

**AGREED**

**to appoint Canalbs Ltd as Independent Internal Auditor for 2009-10**

**10 Land Group update (PC12/5-09)**

**Proposal at 8.25pm [Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960] to exclude members of the public to this item as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business**

The confidential minutes of the meeting held on 11 May were approved and signed as a true record. Minutes of the Land Group had been circulated.

It was **AGREED** that the following areas of discussion should be in the public domain:

- Land at Landbeach Road – Council was still keeping this option open. The clerk would clarify position regarding renewal of planning permission and inform CCC that Council was still interested in acquiring the land. *Action: the clerk*
- S106 Urban Renaissance Village – there had been delays both by SCDC and subsequently by URV in finalising the S106 Agreement. RTS reported that the Land Group had put dates into the Agreement by which the S106 should be implemented.

The meeting was opened to the public at 8.50pm.

**11 Parish Plan update including Village Guide costs and revenue (PC15/5-09)**

PSB had provided Parish Plan data to the MCC committee. This would be discussed at the October meeting.

Communications Group was scheduled to meet 7 July to discuss specifically the website – the style and content.

Transport and Appearance Group had not met. This group intended to meet K Fauch to discuss the feasibility of their ideas.

Police Liaison Group was supporting PCSO Claire Whiteman at the Country Park Environment Day on 14 June. The group would attend the Summer Fayre to publicise Neighbourhood Watch. Ian Jones had written an article about Neighbourhood Watch for the Village View.

Environment Group would also be at the two events above and were looking at various issues such as home insulation.

Village Guide - the assistant clerk had obtained quotations for printing. £1430 for advertising had been received. This would cover the printing costs. Noted that a colour front cover would increase the costs by approximately £100.

**AGREED**

**that a better quality photograph of the village sign should be taken (RHC to take?) and that the front cover should be in colour.**

**12 Joint Action Group (JAG)** (report by ME attached)

**13 Milton Community Centre [MCC] update**

Buildings Committee to meet Wednesday 10 June with the architect. It was hoped then to seek tenders.

**14 County Councillor’s report**

Congratulations to MW on being re-elected.

During the election period officers avoided communication with councillors / candidates.

Issues:

- Butt Lane / A10 junction. A Frost had promised extra signs. The clerk would write to A Frost expressing concerns that motorists were either trying to turn right at this junction or were making u-turns at the lay-by / Rectory Farm and that better signing was essential. (MW put forward an idea that all traffic should use the Park & Ride junction. This was not considered feasible).
- Mereham – MW would appreciate receiving any more information.

MW asked Council to pass on to him any issues to pursue.

Issues already agreed: cycle barrier, top soil for verge opposite Tesco, signs at A10 / Butt Lane junction, land at Landbeach Road. The clerk would copy letter to MW. **Action: the clerk**

**15 District Councillors’ reports**

Housing – tenants had voted against transfer to a Housing Association and thus the housing stock would now stay with SCDC.

Tetrapak – a recycling facility was to be made available at Tesco.

Tesco – the manager had informed HMS that he intended improving the landscaping around the Tesco site, and trimming the bushes near The Rowans. She had drawn his attention to the long grass between the store and The Rowans

Graffiti – Cambridge City Council had written to the Highways Agency again over the graffiti on the A14 cycle bridge.

Culvert wall – HMS had been trying to find out who was responsible for maintaining the brick wall at the end of the culvert into the river along side Fen Road. Philippa Noon, River Cam Conservators had also been investigating. Cambridge City Council installed the wall. The Conservators own the halingway. SCDC maintain the drain (though not an awarded drain).

**16 Bills for Payment and Money Received**

**CONFIRMED** payment of cheques 100062 - 100064

**AGREED** payment of cheques 100065 – 100076 and minibus 59 and 60

RHC declared a personal interest (working relationship with Algar Signceaft).

Noted that cheque 100034 for £2829.37 to Buchans Landscapes appeared to have gone missing in the post. The clerk was asked to contact the bank to put a “stop” on this cheque. **Action: the clerk**

This amount was reissued as part of cheque 100066.

Noted that the bank accounts amounted to £237,981. Fidelity Guarantee amounted to £240,000 (minute F7/1-09 refers: “Level of Fidelity Guarantee to be assessed in April”).

As Lloyds Bank was now charging a monthly £5 maintenance fee per account RTS had agreed to close the two Lloyds accounts. Remaining balances would be transferred to the Co-operative Bank accounts.

**17 Correspondence**

**Standards Committee** - Newsletter

**ACRE** - Calor Village of the Year Competition.

It was proposed that Council enter the Village of the Year Competition.

There being 3 votes in favour, 4 against and 7 abstentions the proposal was not carried.

**18 Dates of Next Meetings**

Youth Working Group – 11 June 6.30pm, Maintenance - 29 June, Community Care – 16 July 11.00am

Council - 20 July, Finance – 27 July

**19 Items and Reports for July agenda**

Village Tour

The meeting ended at 9.40pm

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

### **Joint Action Group (JAG) report**

Reminder - Jag is Joint Action Group made up of 8 parish councils whose aim is initially ensuring local peoples concerns about Northstowe are presented to the correct planning and development agencies.

The flawed planning system is in urgent need of reform – it is undemocratic and effectively disenfranchises local people by being too bureaucratic.

It has been recognised by CCC, SCDC, The Developers, Highways Agency, Cambridge Horizons who attend our meetings. However, SCDC have declared JAG unconstitutional. They cannot continue to support an action group.

JAG have formulated a Constitution.

SCDC have set up their own Northstowe Liaison Forum. This is the same thing but gives them the Chair and agenda setting although JAG can request items.

Peter Studdart and or Joe Mills (she is Corporate Manager New Developments).will Chair.

I attended first meeting at Rampton.

Main points of interest to us are:- When? Answer - don't know. The HCA (Homes and Community Agency) have to sort out their relationship with Gallaghers and declare their aims and objects clearly. A revised plan will then be put to the Treasury.

Nothing will happen before January next year at the earliest. Once started the build rate will be much slower than at first envisaged. That is good news – less construction traffic, and a slower population explosion both from those involved in the construction and those moving to the area.

The Transport Draft Plan will be available JAG to comment on.

There are 34 pages of funding/S106 requests from the Parishes..

I have spoken with Cheryl French of Cambridge Horizons (they have some funding available) advising that Milton has not submitted any requests and outlined our soccer situation in so far as we have many more teams than pitches .She agreed this a worthy cause and reasonable request She will come back to me.

A14. This will be a noise problem for Milton (see letter from Impington resident).

A meeting date will be set by JAG and a Noise Expert has been invited on a Pro Bono first attendance/input. Officials from all involved authorities will attend.

Finally Mereham is raising its ugly head again and JAG is aware.

PS for info:- Peter Studdart Principle Officer New Developments

Joe Mills Corporate manager New Developments.

Cheryl French Cambridge Horizons.

Tim Wotherspoon Cabinet member

Heidi Weight Engagement and Communications 01954 713213

Tracey Mann Community Facilities project manager 01954 713342.