

Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 05 October 09 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: RH Chapman (chair) PS Badley AJ Campbell JE Coston GA Covell R Day TA Drummond
 RJ Farrington B Jefferson IF May HM Smith RT Summerfield RLE Waters
 Councillor M Williamson and 1 member of the public
 The clerk and assistant clerk

1 Apologies for absence - M Ellwood SC Humphreys.

2 Declarations of Interest – personal and/or prejudicial

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

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

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

3 Minutes - the minutes of the meeting of 07 September 2009 were approved and signed as a true record.

4 Public Participation

Milton to Impington cycle route – the cycle lane was for the benefit of everyone. Approximately 24,000 residents living in neighbouring villages could potentially benefit from a cycle lane while approximately 200 youngsters from Milton attend Impington Village College. If the path is not a safe route then the argument for keeping the school bus should be made at the appropriate time.

The chairman thanked the member of the public for her input.

5 Clerk's/Chairman's report

Milton to Impington cycle route (PC4/9-09) – report from JEC. Cycle route had been approved by Cabinet. Two different departments at Shire Hall would discuss independently the issues of a cycle lane and the provision of a “free” school bus.

There were still valid arguments for declaring the cycle lane unsafe for youngsters, especially 11 year olds. Council, through its *ad hoc* group, should press for the highest possible standards for the cycle lane. Consultation must be genuine and in good time, not just prior to the construction.

Archaeology (PC5/9-09) letter of thanks received from WD Booth.

Training – a very well attended session was held at Milton on 23rd September led by Ian Dewar County Executive Officer CPALC. It was encouraging to see all six local councils represented including the clerks. Topics addressed: Meeting Procedures and the Code of Conduct. Training notes were provided for those attending.

One member felt that the training session confirmed how well MPC was organised.

Next session on 14 October at Horningsea.

Village Tour

- *Path by Tesco:* (PC5/7-09) – to be discussed at meeting with Paul Torres manager at Tesco. Also to be discussed: shrubs overhanging the highway boundary; notice board in foyer; repairs to zebra crossings; litter and general maintenance; trolleys stacked near ATM's. RHC, BJ and HMS hoped to attend.
- *Cycle Barriers*
AGREED to explain to a concerned resident the reasoning beyond the removal / widening of cycle barriers at The Sycamores. **Action: the clerk**
- *The Elms:* broken down fence – this land was not in PC's ownership. The fence belonged to the residents 42-52 The Oaks. The clerk had written to the resident who queried this.
 Keith Faunch had agreed to patch the adjacent path.
 Overgrown grass, rubbish and broken glass: this had been cleared.
- *Trees* - in programme for Autumn – to be discussed at November meeting (see item 12).
- *A10 Bridge* – the clerk would confirm Council's request for a barrier to funnel cyclists away from the entrance to Coulson Close and into Butt Lane. **Action: the clerk**

South Cambs Parish Forum meeting Wednesday, 23rd September – report from the clerk:

- **“Changing Role of Parish Councils** – Ian Dewar County Executive Officer CPALC. Parish Council cannot be rate capped. We were advised not to try to cut our precept as the principal authorities are under financial pressure. If we want something done then we shall have to ask the residents to pay for it through the rate precept.
Parish Council duties and powers are wide ranging. Where there is no specific power to spend money eg for the Community Care scheme then Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 can be used. This states that £6.15 x the number of electors (= c£18,450) may be spent so long as it is commensurate with the benefit to the community. This money cannot be spent on individuals. We could not therefore sponsor an athlete to the Olympics.
The new Power of Well-Being (POW), however, can be used to spend money on anything or anyone, including individuals, but we must meet four criteria to use the POW two of which we do not at present meet: at least 80% of members must have attended POW training; Council must have a Community Engagement Strategy in place.
Ian emphasised that Parish Councils should be proactive, learn to be better partners to enable partnership working within the community (Parish Plan an example?) and learn to maximise the Powers and Precepting abilities.
- **Parish Council Planning Powers** – Gary Duthie Senior Lawyer SCDC. We have a duty to the whole community – not just those who make their views known - and should be open minded.
- **Code of Conduct** – Fiona McMillan Deputy Monitoring Officer SCDC. Strong emphasis on the rules regarding declaration of interest.
- **Data Protection and Freedom of Information Acts** – David Lord Senior Lawyer SCDC.”

Housing growth survey – Noted that a survey had been organised by the County and District Councils in Cambridgeshire to help plan a response to the East of England Regional Assembly (EERA) on the four options for growth. Public roadshow from October 5th to 10th

Website – A number of years ago Paul Oldham very kindly gave the website (miltonvillage.org.uk) and its content to the Parish Council. However, the domain name was never formally transferred.
It was **AGREED** (11 votes in favour 1 abstention)

to ask Paul Oldham to have the domain names www.miltonvillage.org.uk and www.miltonvillage.co.uk transferred to Milton Parish Council at a cost of £20 plus VAT”.

PSB expressed concern that the Communications Group had not been informed about this.

Remembrance Day – reminder about the ceremony at 11am on 11th November. The clerk would invite the school.
Action: the clerk

6 **Planning** – the minutes of the planning meeting held on 21 September were received and noted

Planning

Gypsy & Traveller Community Strategy (PC7/7-09)

Consultation period runs until 21 October 2009.

Gypsy & Traveller site consultation (PC7/7-09)

Concerns: number of traveller sites at Chesterton Fen had a big impact on Chesterton; there was one road entrance only to Chesterton Fen; Shirley School did not have capacity to cope with additional children. The clerk would ask for an injunction to prevent development beyond Sandy Park. *Action: the clerk*

Decisions received:

Mrs L Newton 109 The Sycamores (P6/8-09) – extension - **refused**.

Contrary to Policy DP/3 LDF 2007 – unacceptable and adverse impact upon residential amenity. Contrary to Policy DP/2 – which seeks to ensure that all development is compatible with its location in terms of scale, mass form siting and design and preserve or enhance the character of the local area.

Equitable Life & Assurance Society Ltd – unit 220 Science Park (P6/8-09) – 3 roof chillers and cycle shelter - **approved**.

New applications:

S/0922/08 Tesco Stores Ltd – erection of glazed lobby (13/9-08) – amendment – installation of sliding doors to both the north-east and south-west – **for information only**.

S/1243/09 Gemmix SGB Storage and Distribution, Cambridge Road - concrete batching plant – (see P5/9-09 above) - **strongly refuse** (1 abstention).

Concerns:

- **Extensive times of operation (24 hours a day/7 days a week);**
- **Danger to already busy traffic junction (as well as cycle bridge users);**
- **Potential lorry traffic through the village (application contains no proper access plan);**
- **Noise pollution; already concerns about the noise generated by RMC at nearby Winship Road especially during early morning;**
- **Precedent for heavy industrial work on a light industrial estate; is this in accordance with the light industrial licence relating to this industrial estate?**
- **Inappropriate development;**
- **High, unsightly towers would be a blight on village appearance (parish plan specifically addressed entrance to the village as an area for visual improvement).**

S/1314/09 Mr James Hammond 53 Cambridge Road – erection of dwelling following demolition of existing bungalow – **no recommendation**.

S/1170/09 Mr Libby Saunders 27 & 28 Newfields Fen Road - erection of utility/day room (retrospective) - **no recommendation – provided it was in accordance with Government / SCDC Guidelines**.

7 Land Group update (Confidential)

Proposal [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 at 8.32pm

Confidential Minutes of 16 & 21 September, Confidential Notes of 25 September were received. The latest version of the Section 106 Agreement had been e-mailed to councillors separately.

Proposals:

- **to accept the Section 106 Agreement for the Former EDF Site.**
- **to designate two signatories for the Section 106 Agreement.**

The meeting re-opened at 9.27pm.

8 Audit 2008/09

The audited Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2009 was received. The clerk had advertised this on the notice board.

9 To consider proposals for double yellow lines at Cambridge Road Industrial Estate

From David Lines' office CCC: "The next step to proceed with any Traffic Regulation Order for parking restrictions at Crane Industrial Estate is **for the Parish Council to formally confirm funding and that they wish to install such restrictions**.

The Local Member will be asked if they support the proposal (as no restrictions will be installed without their support).

With the support of the Parish Council and Local Member, we would then formally advertise the proposal. This is a 28 day period from the date the advert appears in the local press. Providing there are no objections received we can order the installation of the work to coincide with the sealing of the TRO."

As a response about funding had not yet been received from Cecil Instruments and CSLT it was **AGREED** to discuss this at the November meeting.

It was also **AGREED**

that the Parish Council should not fund the yellow lines as it does not receive Council Tax from businesses.

Two points:

- 1 Should the double yellow lines be on both sides of the road?
- 2 As the £2 parking fee at the Country Park seemed to have exacerbated the parking problem at the industrial estate the clerk would ask CSLT to consider a lesser parking charge for a short stay, eg for up to two hours, in the expectation that cars would be more likely then to park in the Country Park car park. **Action: the clerk**

10 To investigate the provision of CCTV at the bowls pavilion / meeting room

In view of the recent vandalism problems around the meeting room, office and scout store ie broken windows and fires it was **AGREED** [Local Government and Rating Act 1997 Section 31]

to ask RLEW to explore with Chubb, as Chubb installed and maintain the CCTV system at MCC without going out to three tenders, [Standing Order 56(d)] the feasibility, including cost, of having CCTV installed outside the meeting room and linked to the MCC system.

11 To consider quotation to scan in minutes from 1953 – 1995 (FS9/7-09)

AGREED to accept the quotation from the IPC Group St Ives to scan in the minutes from 1953 -1995 at a total cost of £435. [Local Government Records Act 1962 Section 4]

If it was found necessary to scan up to 1997/8 (at which time the minutes were published on the web) each page would cost 12 pence extra.

12 Maintenance – the minutes of the Maintenance committee meeting held on 28 September 09 were received

Accident Damage (M8/9-09) – **AGREED that Council pursue the claim through the Small Claims Court if necessary.** *Action: Asst clerk* (PSB declared a personal interest – an allotment holder).

Tree works and general maintenance (M10/9-09) – to be discussed at November meeting.

Grass cutting and general maintenance contract review (M11/9-09)

AGREED to continue to ask Buchans Landscapes to provide the contract for 2010-11 at an increase of 2% and not to go out to tender [Standing Order 56(d)].

SCDC contract (M11/9-09) (Recreation Close and Walking Way) – the clerk had been unable to contact the relevant officer at SCDC.

13 Parish Plan update

Communications Group - minutes from 14 September meeting were received. Proposals about the website would be presented to November meeting.

Environmental Group – HMS reported about a fund available that could be used for the Baits Bite project.

14 Milton Community Centre [MCC] update

AGM Wednesday 7 October.

Three quotations had been received for the improvements to MCC.

15 County Councillor's report

Community Engagement Strategy – MW would attend a workshop and report back to the November meeting.

Three major Cabinet decisions:

1 Cycle ways in general were approved. The CCC would not give any assurance about the provision of the school bus to IVC. The Milton to Impington route would be difficult to build to the levels that a safety audit requires. There had been much less support for this route than the others.

2 Response to Gypsy and Traveller consultation. Concerns about capacity at Shirley School and road infrastructure.

3 Innovation Fund. It was proposed to submit a bid for Government funding towards a railway station at Chesterton. A congestion charge would only be introduced (in 2017 at the earliest) if other traffic reduction measures proved to be unsuccessful.

16 District Councillors' reports

Finance – officers are proposing a budget cut £1.6 million in 2010-11 a cut of 10%.

Sewage Chesterton Fen – AWA were meeting to determine a sewage connection to Chesterton Fen.

A14 bridge – graffiti - the clerk would contact Rob Barron at the Highways Agency. *Action: the clerk*

17 Bills for Payment and Money Received

CONFIRMED and AGREED payment of cheques 100118 – 100133

18 Correspondence

EERA - East of England Plan > 2031 Public Consultation till 24 November; **CPALC** - Sustainable Communities Act

CCC - Next Local Liaison Forum for the Oakington to Cambridge section Meadows Community Centre on Thursday 15 October;

ACRE - ACRE Impact Report 2008/09 & Community Action magazine Autumn 2009

19 Dates of Next Meetings

Planning and Finance - 19 October; Council - 2 November; Minibus - 4 November

20 Items and Reports for November agenda

Double yellow lines; Tree works; Parish Plan Communications Group; Community Engagement Strategy; Electrical works meeting room.

The meeting ended at 10.10pm

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