

Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 3 October 2005 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: JE Coston (chair) RH Chapman IL Davis R Day M Ellwood RJ Farrington B Jefferson IF May J Payne PK Oldham HM Smith RT Summerfield RLE Waters (from minute 400/05 - apologies for lateness) County Councillor M Williamson (part) + 5 members of the public (part)

Public Participation

Application for bungalow adjacent Orchard End Cambridge Road – concern about the use of mixed red brick.

382/05 (328/05) **1 Welcome to new Councillor** – the Chairman welcomed Ian Davis back to Council after an absence of 8 years. He signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

383/05 **2 Apologies for absence** - AJC.
As he had moved from Milton CJL tendered his resignation. He attended briefly to bid farewell and thank members and clerk for their support. The Chairman thanked CJL for his service and wished him and his family well.

384/05 **3 Declarations of Interest** – IFM item 10 - personal (Chairman of Colts Football).

385/05 **4 Minutes** – the minutes of the following meetings were approved and signed as a true record: 5 September, 28 July and 17 August.

(324/05) PKO thanked councillors for the gift on the occasion of his wedding.

(361/05) Licence Hearings - PKO enclosed a report on the recent hearings. Noted that Tesco at Bar Hill were given more stringent conditions than Tesco at Milton. An operational CCTV in the passage was made a condition of Tesco's licence. Thanks to PKO for attending the hearings.

5 Clerk's/Chairman's Report

386/05 (333/05) Remembrance Day Ceremony - PC Shulver hoped to attend. JEC would contact the school.

387/05 (335/05) Crime – figures not to hand. According to Inspector Ormerod police patrols had been increased.

6 Planning –

387/05 (330/04) Appeal – Pine Direct 135 Cambridge Road against service of an enforcement notice.

Decisions received

388/05 (300/05) Silver Fern – Cambridge Road Industrial Estate sign - **approved**.

[Portable classroom, mess and toilets – no objections by SCDC to the increase in length of the three units].

389/05 (338/05) CJ Hanson – land at Ely Road – dwelling and garage – **approved** – subject to various conditions in accordance with Structure and Local Plans.

390/05 (350/05) M Roberts – 14 Pryor Close – porch/cloakroom single storey – **approved**. External materials to be identical to those used for the existing building. Note: roof altered from hip to a lean-to.

391/05 (351/05) Telstra Europe Ltd Platinum House St Johns Innovation Park – air conditioning plant compound and generator – **approved**. Materials for external walls and roofs, hard and soft landscaping to be approved.

New Applications

392/05 (354/05) S/1573/05 Mr K Wynn 31 Willow Crescent – oa for bungalow. Amendment – revised design – roof altered and covered link to existing house included. **Refuse - No reason to change previous comments**. [Delegated]. Noted that the Planning Officers were recommending approval.

393/05 S/1679/05 Napp Pharmaceutical Holdings Unit 191 Science Park– gardeners store and machinery garage (retrospective application) – **No recommendation**. [Delegated].

394/05 S/1723/05 SY Tjinakiet 22 Froment Way – retrospective application – repositioning of existing close boarded fence - **No recommendation**. [Delegated].

395/05 S/1766/05 Mrs K Dowling extension and conversion of office / workshop into dwelling and erection of garage adjacent Half Acre Cambridge Road - **No recommendation.**

396/05 S/1767/05 Mrs K Dowling land adjacent Orchard end Cambridge Road – bungalow - **No recommendation. Acceptability of red brick queried. Window in roof should be obscure glass.**

397/05 Pi Technology – tree surgery – various – **approve.** PKO reported that a tree survey revealed that various tree work was needed – some urgently. These had been approved by John Hellingsworth. Pi would replace trees where possible.

398/05 **7 Community Care** – the minutes of the Community care meeting of 15 September were received and noted.

(371/05) Noise from industrial estate – the EHO had referred this to Jem Belcham, Planning Officer to investigate.

399/05 **8 Maintenance** – the minutes of the Maintenance meeting of 19 September were received and noted.

(385/05) Bulbs – agreed to wait till 2006 before considering planting more bulbs.

(390/05) Tree Tomkins Mead - Cornhill Insurance claim form received.

AGREED

to amalgamate the Allotments and Cemetery Committees with the Maintenance Committee.

Report of meeting with Buchans Landscapes received and noted. Noted that there were two diseased horse chestnut trees at Froment Way and that Stuart Buchan had removed both of them (cost £300) – action confirmed.

AGREED

to accept quotation from Buchans of £350 for removing two sycamores and lowering crown of lime at the Oaks.

400/05 **9 Cemetery** - the minutes of the Cemetery meeting 19 September were received.

(380/05) Cowslips – the resident was pleased with the outcome and thanked the cemetery committee. She would monitor the area in 2006 in consultation with RD.

AGREED

to set fees as recommended in minute 381/05.

401/05 **10 Land** – JEC, RHC, IFM and MW had met with David Nuttycombe and Andrew Hall of the County Council. Main points covered:

(331/05)

- The site shows approx 25 acres cut into a blocks of 14.37 acres and 9.72 acres – to be valued as three plots (overall 24.09 acres and two individual plots)
- The likely acreage needed for the new playing fields football pitches, associated buildings, access and car park was estimated at between 16 – 20 acres – depending on whether adult football moved from The Sycamores
- The land would fall vacant on 28th Sept 2005
- The likely price would be £7 – 10,000 per acre
- The County Council would give Milton Parish Council first preference on any sale
- Drainage and levelling work would need to be carried out

For the sale to Milton Parish Council to go ahead the following would need to happen:

- South Cambs would need to be approached informally to discuss possible change of use from arable to playing field. (action Cllr MW / JEC)
- Cambridgeshire County Council highways would need to approve possible access arrangements
- Borrowing approval would need to be sought
- Grants would need to be applied for in addition to the pledged £40,000 from Parish Council (min 45/01)
- Archaeologist department would need to be approached informally for their view on possible archaeological issues
- There would need to be agreement on legal fees
- Planning permission

It was understood that grants of 50-90% might be available from DEFRA's Rural Development Grant to purchase farm land for recreation purposes. The County Council Highways Department had concerns about visibility at the access. Jem Belcham, SCDC had given his initial views.

The County Council, a Local Authority, was considering selling agricultural land to Milton Parish Council, also a Local Authority for recreation purposes to benefit the community. There was a strong feeling, therefore, that the CCC should not ask for up to £10,000 per acre.

The following resolution was **AGREED** (1 abstention – RLEW having missed the bulk of the discussion did not vote):

Milton Parish Council wishes to progress with the purchase of land off Landbeach Road subject to agreement on the area to be purchased, the price and funding.

The clerk would ask the County Council to value the land. **Action: the clerk**

AGREED

to ask PKO to search the Land Registry to try to ascertain value of other land sold by the County council locally. **Action: PKO**

402/05
(358/05)

11 Parish Council Office – update

Colin Nunn, project manager, had met with the Chairman and clerk to discuss the specifications. He had arranged to meet Mr Murfitt.

A suggested agreement with MCC and bowls club would be presented to November meeting.

Quotation for electrics – not yet received.

403/05

12 Youth

Shelter – vandalism had continued: seats removed, roof damaged, screen removed. The seats had now been taken away and stored.

A report detailing the problems with the installation and the shelter defects was received from LH (Chairman youth committee).

AGREED

to ask Urban Engineering to meet JEC, ME, LH and RLEW on site.

The clerk had claimed the remainder of the Living Spaces grant - subject to site visit. In order to comply with the ROSPA report bushes needed to be cut back and the surrounds of the concrete base filled with soil. If this were done then the full amount of the grant could be claimed.

Skate park – James Matthews had repaired skate park surface. Repairs needed to stainless steel mesh – RHC would arrange for a welder to look at the site to repair mesh and remove dangerous part of youth shelter roof. **Action: RHC**

RLEW would look into cost of CCTV for the site (possibly short term hire).

Action: RLEW

ME agreed to inspect skate park weekly in addition to inspections by P Adams.

Youth Building - in 2004 an agreement was signed with MCC for the hand over of the youth building to MPC - to be reviewed in November.

Future of Youth Club – LH reported that Julian Ayres (Cottenham Village College), having consulted with her, was proposing closing the youth club for a period of time to break the current cycle of disruption. Many of the problems were caused by youngsters from outside the village. Detached youth work would take place during the time of closure.

Concern was expressed as Council was providing money for a youth club and not detached youth work.

AGREED

to recommend that Julian Ayres suspends the youth club temporarily and to invite him to the next meeting.

Action: the clerk

- 404/05
(360/05) **13 Standing Orders - Review of emergency spending limits**
AGREED - that Standing order 75(b) remain the same: “The clerk shall be allowed to spend up to £100 without prior approval of Council.”
- that Standing Order 75 c (i) be amended thus:
“For expenditure of between £100 and £500 the chairman of the spending committee (or chairman of Council) together with the clerk shall have executive power.”
Noted that Standing Order 75 c (ii) would be amended thus:
“For expenditure of between £500 and £2000 prior approval of Council shall be required.”
- 405/05 **14 Local Conservation Issues**
Country Park Advisory Group Meeting – PKO’s report was received.
The principle issue discussed was the future of the park – ways to save money and generate income eg car parking charges.
Investigations would continue into all options for future management of the Park and any additional ways of funding it, in the short and long term.

Future management of Tomkins Mead
Currently SCDC maintained Tomkins Mead for MPC for nothing. This was unlikely to continue.

Options for future management of Country Park and other local woodland
It was **RESOLVED** to close the meeting to members of the public under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 1 paragraph 2 whereby publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest owing to the confidential nature of the business. [11 votes in favour 2 abstentions].
SCDC were looking to invite third party organisations to tender to take over management and maintenance of the Country Park.
ME reported that the owners of the woods behind Milton Hall had considered offering the land to an organisation [eg Hospice] as a charitable donation.

The meeting was opened to the public with all 14 members present.
- 406/05 **15 MCC Update**
AGM was set for 5 October. It was suggested that a joint meeting might be useful.
Trees work (in response to residents’ requests) at both recreation grounds was in hand.
- 407/05 **16 Bills for Payment and Money Received**
CONFIRMED – payment of cheques 3098 - 3100
AGREED – payment of cheques 3101 - 3116
- 408/05
(327/05) **17 County Councillor’s Report**
Church Lane yellow lines – no further action to be taken.
Cycle bridge – Alan Middlebrook (since left CCC employment) had previously agreed to cut back hedge at southern end (within City boundary). A Frost needed to see written proof before proceeding.
Softer bollards had been considered but rejected. Rumble strips were being considered for the Milton end of the bridge but there were concerns about the safety of such strips for cyclists.
Application Chesterton Fen – MW understood that there was opposition from residents in Chesterton to the “skip” application (min 353/05). He would attend the committee meeting to support local residents and the Parish Council.
Park & Ride – the CCC were at early stages of looking into re-location of Cowley Road Park & Ride.
- 409/05 **18 District Councillors’ Reports**
HMS – CCTV cameras for the cycle bridge should be ready at the earliest in a month. Plans for a crossing and double yellow lines at the Milton end were being processed.
RTS – Licence Hearings public houses - residents of Coles Road and Wilson Way had been asked to keep a record of any problems and report to the EHO. (See also Min 385/05 above).

410/05

19 Correspondence

- CCC - Priorities and Budget Strategy
- 2006-10 Survey
- Parish Plans – Biodiversity
- Waste consultation
- ACRE - Annual Review
- SCDC - Debating Competition for Young People
- Gallagher Estates - Arbury Camp newsletter
- Bond Pearce - Tesco Transfer of Justices’ Licence adjourned
- Countryside Agency - Open Country & Common Land Map
- Hewitsons - Cantabrigian Restaurant
- The Parks Golf Club Ely Road – application for declaration of finality of provisional Justices’ Licence

20 Dates of Next Meetings

- Planning 17 October
- Finance 17 October
- Council 7 November

Chairman.....

Date.....