

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 23 April 1990
at 8pm in the Community Centre.

Present: Mrs. L.M. Lock (in chair), members of the Parish Council,
about 60 residents and the clerk.

Apologies received from P. Barringer and J. Harradine.

Minute No. 153/90

The chairman extended a warm welcome to all and introduced Tony Leadley from S.C.D.C.

1. Country Park. Tony Leadley gave a brief summary of the history of the proposed Country Park.

S.C.D.C. had already served notice on the landowners of its intention to purchase the land. A price was still to be agreed.

Gates and fencing had been erected to stop dumping.

The Landscape Design Architects were in the process of preparing tender documents for removing all of the rubbish. Site cleaning to take place from June to September.

Tender documents would then be prepared for landscaping etc. - work due to start October 1990 (finish spring 1991).

The working party including R.D., J.F.C.F. and R.T.S. were due to meet at the end of May to discuss policy options i.e. Would the park have an educational bias? (No funding was available from the County Council for educational purposes). Would wildlife preservation be the aim? How was the park to be managed?

A full time ranger/warden would be appointed on April 1st 1991.

More works would follow such as a fishing platform, environment centre.

S.C.D.C. planned to spend £1.7 million phased over 5 years. It was hoped to have the park operational within a few years.

Following questions Mr. Leadley explained that:

The main vehicular access was to be from the Tesco roundabout and existing footpath links were to be retained.

A gate would be erected across the Old School Lane entrance and fishing suspended for 12 months.

Possible parking problems in Fen Road/Shirley Close would be monitored.

The car park would have space for 50 cars initially.

Lorries clearing the site would be asked to use the slip road.

He had no knowledge of a possible footbridge over the A45.

(J.F.C.F. pointed out that a footbridge was part of the County Council's transportation plan).

No decision had yet been taken on the signing to the Park. The proposal to sign vehicles along the slip road and not through the village would be considered.

Works on both lakes could be phased to allow local youngsters still to play, fish. (Mr. Leadley was concerned about dangers from machinery).

L.M.L. thanked Mr. Leadley.

There had been excellent consultation from S.C.D.C. for which the Parish was grateful.

2. Accounts.

The clerk presented the accounts for 1989/90.

At March 31st Council had a balance of £197218.54. £123,330.00 from Dorther Properties and Twigden Homes had since been received.

3. Charities Accounts.

F.J. Kilner gave a brief summary.

Account 1 had received £1500 (land rents). This money was used for people in need. £2300 had been spent (including carry over from previous year) & £263 was carried over into the next year.

Account 2 - General Benefit - had given £1000 towards play equipment.

Account 3 was the Watercourse Maintenance Fund.

4. Chairman's Report.

1989/90 was a busy year with many meetings.

112 planning applications were considered.

The chairman was presented to the Princess of Wales at the Hospice opening; attended a dinner to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Science Park and the 50th Anniversary celebrations of Impington Village College.

Road Strategy. M.P.C. objected very strongly to the Eastern bypass for Milton and the extension of that route through Chesterton Fen etc., because of the damage to the environment and the potential for infill housing.

A meeting was arranged with the chairman and vice chairman of S.C.D.C. who supported M.P.C.

R.D. and L.M.L. also met with Councillor James and R. Burton of the County Council to put forward objections and alternatives. M.P.C. had heard unofficially that the Milton bypass was now dropped.

M.P.C. would continue its objections to the rest of the route and support councils affected.

It was understood that improvements were due to be made to the A10/A45 interchange.

M.P.C. had constantly pointed out the poor access to the Science Park and had suggested an entrance from the north via Mere Way.

The County Council Road Strategy was due to be published soon. Milton welcomed the opportunity for the full discussion allowed.

Open Spaces. Agreement had at last been reached with the developers for the Sycamores recreation ground, open spaces, bund and play areas.

£100,000 had been received from Tesco in September 1989 and the final £123,330 from Dorther Properties and Twigden Homes on April 17th 1990.

Many thanks to Tesco, Dorther and Twigden for the money and facilities.

M.P.C. were now negotiating with Monsell Youell, Bovis, Bryant, Costain and H. Rose for similar agreements.

Because of adjustments to accommodate the new school entrance part of one of the play areas supplied by Costain cut into the school playing fields. Agreements were being drawn up for this to continue to be used by the school.

Recreation Grounds.

Milton now had c. 15 acres of recreation ground.

Repairs to the sand slitting of the Sycamores recreation ground and the surface of Middleton's Pit had been necessary because of the dry summer of 1989.

The installation of play equipment was completed after considerable difficulties. Thanks to J.E.C.

A cricket square costing £3900 had been laid on the Sycamores recreation ground. It was due to be used from 1991.

A planning application was about to be made for a 4 changing room pavilion and car park to be built by E.J. Gifford. It was hoped to start playing football there in Autumn 1990.

Community Centre.

M.P.C. continued to support the M.C.C.

Much of the rate precept was raised for the loan repayment on the building.

Now that the large business contribution was lost the cost fell on the individual community charge payer.

S.C.D.C. refused any financial help in this matter.

M.C.C. had had another successful year. Thanks to the Executive Committee and G. Patten.

Expansion of the Centre was necessary especially for use by under 5's and the elderly. Thus M.P.C. were looking into extending the Centre or having a separate building for use by the under 16's.

Grant aid would be sought wherever possible.

Thanks to the two sub committees working for the Sycamores recreation ground and the Centre extension, also to S.B. Poulter for his expert advice.

Youth Club

R. & B. Martin had run the Youth Club voluntarily for 6 years. Many thanks to them,

From September 1989 the club had been run from Impington Village College. One leader was paid by M.P.C.

An interest free loan of £4000 had been granted to the Scout Group towards the cost of a minibus.

Thanks to the leaders and the parents' committee for their hard work.

Elderly.

M.P.C. continued to support the elderly through the bus pass scheme and was constantly in touch with those concerned with the needs of the elderly.

I.W. Chilton had set up a car scheme for taking elderly people shopping. Thanks to her and all the volunteer drivers and also to the W.R.V.S.

Library.

There was less hope of a library in the near future.

The mobile library was likely to be reduced to a visit once a fortnight.

The librarians were concerned that more people should use the mobile library.

Village Sign.

Designs by J. Waterson showing Baits Bite Lock old and new had been approved. The base and mounting had been designed by L. Sandford. Thanks to the volunteers constructing the sign.

Village Voice.

Congratulations to the Village Voice for being voted the Best Community Magazine in East Anglia. The paper was the best means of communication in the village.

Thanks to the editors and distributors.

Notice Board.

Thanks to J. Holder and G. Lockwood for allowing the notice board to be fixed to their studio wall.

Traffic.

Speed of traffic through the village was still a concern.

Bollards had been placed at the Butt Lane/High Street junction.

Double yellow lines were due to be painted in High Street between the White Horse and Stops Shop and at the Coles Road/Cambridge Road junction.

Results of a traffic survey to determine the need for a pelican crossing were expected shortly.

Parents and children should be encouraged to use the warden controlled crossing and not at the Fen Road/High Street junction.

The footbridge over the A45 depended on the Road Strategy Scheme for that area.

The cycleway was now extended to the Golden Hind roundabout.

Litter.

There had been two "clean up" campaigns. Thanks to the volunteers and the cubs/scouts.

Three more litter bins had been installed in Cambridge Road and High Street.

Thanks to Mr. Shipp who continued with village cleaning duties.

M.P.C. had expressed concern through J.E.C. about the state of Chesterton Fen.

The Village Voice had proposed a recycling scheme. M.P.C. was awaiting S.C.D.C.'s intentions.

Grass Cutting.

This included new areas on The Rowans and Sycamores. P. Ferguson had been awarded the contract for 1990.

Tree Planting.

Thanks to R.D. and his "gang" for continuing tree planting.

Baits Bite Lock.

It seemed that improvements to the Baits Bite bridge were not possible although mesh was to be placed on the stair treads and bridge and between the bottom two handrails.

M.P.C. had asked for the concrete bridge built in 1922 to be listed but it was considered by English Heritage to be insufficient interest.
of

Cemetery.

Regulations and a scale of charges for management of the extension had been agreed. Administration of cemetery was now part of the clerk's duties.

Audit.

There was a detailed audit for 1988/89 because of the sums of money handled by M.P.C.

The Auditors were able to give much helpful advice.

L.M.L. concluded her report of this her last A.P.M. by thanking all the volunteers in the village, members of the council especially R. Day and the clerk and his wife.

Question and Answer Session.Baits Bite Bridge.

Concern was expressed that dogs' feet could be caught in the mesh.

Goding Way/Fen Road.

There was still very much concern about the dangers at this junction. A sleeping policeman was suggested.

Pharmacy.

Dr. Draper had appealed against the granting of a licence to operate a pharmacy to two separate applicants. Both appeals had been turned down.

Doctor's Surgery.

E.M.C.D. explained that patients could ask for an appointment with either doctor.

Play Area - The Rowans.

A resident living adjacent to this play area felt that the concrete post and wire fence was an eyesore and should be removed.

J.E.C. explained that this was a road safety measure and that the developers had installed the wrong height fence. It was hoped that planting would improve the visual impact.

Cycle Lanes

The cycle lanes needed dropped kerbs at their junction with Butt Lane.

Roundabout.

Concern was expressed at the state of the Tesco roundabout. The County Council were due to take over this roundabout shortly.

Industrial Estate.

As yet M.P.C. had not heard what was to happen to the Lemin Site. (Lemin and Co apparently were moving).

School Entrance.

The Governors were considering making the temporary entrance permanent and were aware that this was being used as a footpath.

Phone Kiosk.

Lorries parked at the Coles Road/Cambridge Road junction to use the telephone still caused concern.

The question of moving this kiosk was raised again.

Dualling of A10.

The road strategy was due to be published on May 15th.

It was understood that tender documents were being drawn up for dualling of the A10 from the A45 to Stretham.

Village Cleaning.

J.F.C.F. was concerned at the untidiness of the village and questioned whether the village would be willing to spend more money employing a part time cleaner.

E.M.C.D. suggested that Council explore the cost.


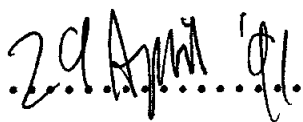
Mrs. Snaith pointed out (most reluctantly) that men were the worst offenders for dumping litter. Mr. J. Wagstaffe quickly retorted that it was only because the women sent them out with it!!

Recreation

Money was earmarked for the following capital projects:

- Community Centre Extension/Under 16's building and carpark enlargement.
- 4 tennis court size all weather surface suitable also for netball and football.
- Bowling Green.
- Pavilion and cricket square.

J.F.C.F. voiced Council's and he hoped the whole village's appreciation of the tremendous work done by Lesley Lock (round of applause) to which L.M.L. expressed her thanks and concluded the meeting at 9.45pm.

Signed Chairman  Date