

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 28 April 1997 at 8pm in the Community Centre.

Present: RLE Waters (chair Milton Parish Council) RJ Farrington JE Coston IL Davis R Day IF May CF Nunn J Sandford J Shaw HM Smith SJ Snaith RT Summerfield EY Wakeling DT Wildman
45 members of the public and the clerk to Parish Council.
In attendance Nigel Howlett, Sue Dellar of Cambridge Housing Society and Simon Ward Architect SCDC.

Minute 176/97

1. Introduction

RLEW welcomed all to the "assembly" and introduced PC Shulver Milton's new Community Officer.

2. Apologies - DJ Lee.

3. Sheltered Housing

RLEW gave a brief outline of the history of the proposed Sheltered Housing Scheme and stressed that the Parish Council had made no decision yet on the site at Coles Road Recreation Ground.

NH explained that the scheme was designed to protect the residents from noise and to preserve the recreational facilities. He wished to minimise the impact on the neighbourhood. The building could be used for community use eg Day Centre.

The following issues were raised from the floor:

- Was this the only site available?

MPC had tried finding sites for eight years and had found no other.

- Disturbance by users of the sports facilities.

The building would be well insulated to conserve energy and to prevent disturbance by noise.

- Local residents at present had to leave the village if they wished to live in sheltered accommodation.

- The size of the units - should there be more one bedroom flats?

Two bedroom flats gave more flexibility allowing carers to sleep in and couples to use separate bedrooms if necessary; also allowing guests to stay. This type of accommodation was now considered more desirable than one bedroom flats

- The size of the scheme. Should it be larger?

It was considered better practice to have two separate smaller schemes rather than one large impersonal one.

- Method of selection of residents.

Selection of residents would be made by SCDC in consultation with MPC and CHS. Milton residents would get preference. RTS suggested that residents who wished to be put on the waiting list should write to SCDC immediately.

- Future needs.

The questionnaire recently sent to every household in the village produced the following results:

109 replies were received:	YES	NO
1. Do you believe there is a need for sheltered housing?	103	4
2. Would you personally be interested in moving to such a scheme?	58	47
3. Do you know of anyone else who might be interested in living in sheltered housing in Milton?	59	45
4. Do you support the use of part of the Recreation Ground for the scheme?	70	33

It was not possible purely from these results to ascertain future needs.

- Replacing land used.

MPC had looked into the possibility of buying the land adjacent Tesco and the A14. The owners however wanted full building value for the land. This land was in Green Belt. SCDC had considered compulsory purchase for recreational use. As the Country Park was in Milton it would be difficult therefore to prove the need for more recreational space.

- Had Granta Housing Society for example been consulted?

No. The CHS had been involved for some time

- Had formal planning application been made?

No formal application had yet been made.

- If the hardcourts were moved more space could be found for the scheme.

The moving of the courts was not essential to the scheme. The courts would provide a focus of interest. Moving the courts would also incur costs and CHS would probably not be allowed to use part of SCDC's grant (at present c. £900,000) towards moving the courts.

- Because of the lack of strategic planning at the time of expansion of Milton the needs of the elderly were not taken into account.

- Recreation Close and the gardens of Cambridge Road should be considered. Could they be included in the scheme?

RLEW pointed out that decisions taken at the Parish Assembly were not binding on the Parish Council and that Council would make a decision at its next meeting on 12 May. He then asked:

1. Do you believe there is a need for sheltered housing? All agreed.
2. Do you support the use of part of the Recreation Ground for the scheme? 32 in favour, 11 against and 7 abstained.

RLEW thanked NH, SD and SW for attending.

4. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of 29 April 1996 having been circulated were confirmed and signed.

5. Accounts

The clerk had produced draft accounts. As from 1996/97 the Audit Regulations had changed and the clerk was now obliged to produce income and expenditure accounts together with a balance sheet. The clerk thanked DTW and RTS for their assistance.

These accounts would be audited later in 1997.

6. Charities Accounts

A copy of the Charities Account was circulated. Noted that funds could not be transferred from one village fund to another.

7. Chairman's Report

The chairman highlighted the following:

Youth

MPC supported the Bus Project - a mobile drop in centre. A grant from Tesco of £1000 was also used towards this project.

HMS was involved with IVC, the school and the church in providing support for carers of under 5's.

Crime

There had been a reduction in crime since 1995. The majority of crimes involved theft from cars.

PC Shulver was hoping to make Neighbourhood Watch more effective.

Northern Fringe

Two major applications for development had been made - Sainsbury and AWA/Railtrack. Both applicants were appealing against SCDC's non determination of the applications. MPC had agreed not to spend money on a barrister as the City, County and South Cambs Councils were already fighting the cases.

MPC felt that the traffic infrastructure needed to be improved before any consideration be given to development of the Northern Fringe.

Landfill Site

Council were constantly in dialogue with East Waste about the amount of litter blown from the Landfill Site.

Grass Cutting

A new contractor had won the contract for a five year period starting in 1997.

Dog Bye Laws

As from Autumn 1997 it would be an offence for dog owners not to pick up dog faeces. These bye laws would apply on all open spaces in Milton.

SCDC had appointed a dog warden.

8. County Councillor's Report

Cycle Bridge

JEC thanked all for signing her petition. The petition and letters had been presented to the Transportation Committee and would go to Parliament later in the year. The cycle bridge was now included in the plans for the Northern Fringe development.

As the result of a possible new cycle lane between Milton and Impington the 140 children who go to IVC would lose the right to a 'free' bus.

Milton and Impington Parish Council and County Councillors were alarmed at the prospect.

Views would be sought from the public.

Mere Way

A Traffic Regulation Order had been made prohibiting vehicles using Mere Way. Locked barriers had been installed.

Waterbeach Station Car Park

The car park was closed by the Railway Inspectorate because the turning was too close to the railway.

The County Council had earmarked part of a field for a replacement car park.

The County and District were willing to fund the scheme. The County were waiting to hear from WAGN.

Rowing Lake

HMS and JEC attend the Rowing Trust (CRT) meeting as observers.

JEC has a say on what should or should not happen on the site because the County Council owns most of the land; she has been able to have imposed certain conditions eg free public access.

CRT were applying for lottery money - the cost of the scheme had risen from £4m to £14million. More facilities were planned - cycling, horse riding, gymnasium and practising tank and a boat house to hold approx 100 boats.

CRT must agree to an archaeology scheme for the site.

Important drainage issues still needed to be resolved.

The final planning permission for this scheme lay with the District Council and was still outstanding. The joint approach of Parish, District and County Councillors had helped achieve much over the years.

9. District Councillor's Report

Travellers

Travellers last gained access to the field between Tesco and the A14 in July 1996.

Thanks to the co-operation of the owners MPC has been able to prevent illegal access to the site.

Thames Valley Eggs

Permission was refused in May 1996 to expand the site off Mere Way. Thames Valley Eggs appealed and an inquiry was heard. Officers of SCDC were confident that the appeal would be turned down.

Thanks to SJS for attending the inquiry and for her efforts.

Milton Hall

Meetings had been held to discuss a proposed new entrance to Milton Hall off Ely Road. If this scheme wins approval, views of Milton Hall would be improved and the Church Lane entrance closed except for users of the Church and Hospice.

Country Park

Fishing platforms had been improved following recommendations by ROSPA.

The sculpture by Peter Fluck was due to be removed.

SCDC were still pursuing the proposal for a sound barrier along the A14.

Public Entertainments Licences

RTS had received more letters about this subject than any other.

The White Horse and Waggon & Horses had been granted full licences but with strict conditions and the Lion & Lamb an occasional licence.

SCDC Depot

A proposal to relocate the Oakington depot at Milton had now been dropped.

10. Questions and Answers

As there were no questions the meeting ended at 10.05pm.

Signed S. A. Waters Chairman.....29.4.98.....Date

DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

I, ROBERT LESLIE EDWARD WATERS having been elected to the office of Chairman of Milton Parish Council declare that I take that office upon myself, and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties of it according to the best of my judgement and ability.

I undertake to be guided by the National Code of Local Government Conduct in the performance of my functions in that office.

Date 12.5.97 (Signed) R.L.E. Waters
(Signed) David

Member/Proper Officer of the Council of the parish of Milton