

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MILTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th, 1968, at 7.30pm.

There were present: Mr.L.M.Forbes (in the Chair), Messrs J.S.Doggett, J.W.R.Lewis, R.T.Summerfield and E.J.Walking. Apologies for absence were received from Mr.D.Pearson and Mrs.M.Jones.

1443

Mr. R.T.RANSLEY

An apology for being unable to accept the Council's invitation to meet them on this occasion was received on behalf of Mr. Ransley, Manager of Eastern Electricity at Milton Hall, owing to his wife's recent operation. He trusted the Council would appreciate his not leaving his home this particular evening.

He wished the Clerk to assure the Council that the news concerning Eastern Electricity traffic to and from the Hall under the re-organisation was now much better. Some further changes would mean the number of lorries to be based here will be much less and traffic will now be a mere shadow of what was formerly intended.

He also extended a special invitation to the Council to view the Milton Hall premises one evening and said that, in the spring, it was intended to have a general Open Day for visitors.

The Council expressed their concern at his wife's illness and instructed the Clerk to write to Mr. Ransley regretting he was unable to come but they would look forward to meeting him and accepting his kind invitation.

1444

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, JUNE 6th, 1968

The circulated minutes of that meeting were confirmed, signed and adopted.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1445

Tarmacing at Recreation Ground (1420), - Grant at Rate (1428) -

The Clerk read a letter of thanks from the Secretary of the Committee of Management for the Council's generosity in paying the whole cost of this work and also acknowledging with thanks receipt of the sum of £118, the product of a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. rate.

1446

Investment of funds (1425) -

The Clerk reported inquiry of the Auditors (in accordance with Min. 1425) about Post Office investments. They had advised investment in Cambridgeshire County Council but the latter had told the Clerk that the small amount the Council had available would not interest them.

The Auditors also suggested that under present inflationary trends the Council might consider using the funds held in the Post Office rather than re-investment. These funds are the residue of a bequest by the late E.W.Dunn to the Village now amounting to about £170.

The Clerk was instructed to ask the Secretary of the Committee of management if they had any likely requirements for recreational purposes.

1447

Gravel Pit behind Recreation Ground (1430) - The Clerk reported that he had discussed the dangers with the Public Health Inspector and the responsibility for safety. The District Council maintain a four-strand wire fence and quick-thorn hedge but have no statutory powers regarding gravel-pits; they agreed it is difficult to prevent children gaining access.

The District Council had asked the Police for increased vigilance there and sought the co-operation of the Headmaster of Milton School in warning children not to enter or bathe in the gravel pits.

The Clerk had written to the two mothers who had complained of the dangers, Mrs. Cawtherne and Mrs. Kirk of Wilson Way, informing them of the efforts being made and of the lack of statutory powers and also that the Parish Council felt that safety precautions were a matter for the Pit owners.

1448

Ready-Mix Site, Cambridge Road (1434) - The Clerk reported receipt of the original conditions attached to this site (Decision Notice, No. C/67/517, 15 Feb. 1968) from the County Planning Office, also the additional items agreed between the Developers, the Public Health Dept. and the County Planning Office following residents' complaints. These include: erection of a 7-foot high close-boarded fence (which has now been partly erected), provision of a water-sprinkler, 5 m.p.h. speed-limit signs, the shielding of the hoppers and the discontinuance of the klaxon horn.

The Clerk read a letter from Mr. R. Rose (one of the complainants) thanking the Council for their efforts in obtaining the fence. He trusted the Council would press vigorously for the enforcement of full planning conditions and, if this did not result, asked if the Council would consider complaining to the Ministry of Housing of the inconsiderate siting of the roadway which had resulted in traffic being brought unnecessarily close to homes, and the increase in noise which was taking place. He also asked if the Council could obtain a copy of the 'Inquiry when the above site was scheduled for industrial use'

After hearing the original Planning Conditions together with the additional measures agreed, the Council considered these quite stringent and that further complaint to the Ministry at present was not warranted. They would continue to watch the implementation of all conditions imposed on the developers.

The Clerk was instructed to reply to Mr. Rose and, if possible, obtain the information for which he asked.

1449

Messrs Stokes' unauthorised building (1439) - The Clerk read a letter from the Chairman, Mr. D. Pearson, in his absence, in which he considered that the present state of Messrs Stokes' Pits should be dealt with very severely. He said the unauthorised site was in disgraceful condition and also disgracefully conducted. He suggested that the Council write strongly to the County Planning Officer reminding him that the site is in the green-belt and that if no satisfactory answer assuring the Council of its early closure is received that the Clerk write direct to the Ministry and inform the Planning Officer of this intention. He felt the Planning Office were in danger of becoming a laughing stock by such continued defiance with little real control over planning matters.

The Council agreed and instructed the Clerk to write accordingly.

1450

Waste Land: Fen Road/Old School Lane (1441) - The Clerk reported on the inquiries the County Planning Office were making. They told him that they were still trying to contact, through Solicitors, the particular developers responsible for carrying out the imposed conditions, namely: maintaining a footpath and open space, here.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

1451

Proposed Public Toilets on Recreation Ground (1370) - The Clerk reported that he had again approached the District Council as a result of the concern expressed by residents at the Annual Parish Meeting. They regretted that the cuts in local authorities' expenditure will now extend into 1969/70 and were sorry to say that there is 'no possibility of public conveniences being erected at Milton within the next 12 to 18 months'.

The Council received this news with dismay.

1452

Omibus Services from Cambridge (1401) - The Clerk reported he had sought an interview with the Traffic Superintendent of the Eastern Counties 'Bus Co. to put residents' views. The Superintendent had been helpful but regretted that the poor use made by the public of certain services lead to curtailment. He could offer no hope of the 115 Service extending to Milton but offered a 9.20 p.m. on weekdays (except Thursdays). This had come into operation in July and the Clerk had circulated information about this in the village.

1453

REQUEST BY THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT FOR A JOINT MEETING WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk read a letter from the Secretary asking for a combined meeting to discuss the possibilities of financing proposed extensions to the Village Hall.

The Secretary said that it appeared that the best way of financing this would be a long-term loan from the Parish Council and Mr. Martindale, Secretary of the Cambridgeshire Community Council had advised that more and more Parish Councils were assisting Community Centres.

The Council discussed the nature and purposes of the proposed extensions and the Clerk was instructed to reply to the Secretary that the Parish Council would be happy to agree to a combined meeting if the Committee of Management would come provided with certain essential information. This was to furnish the Parish Council with concrete figures as to likely costs and of their own annual income to date; the Parish Council also suggest that the Committee first approach the Planning Authorities informally to seek their views on such extensions bearing in mind that the present building had ten-years Planning Permission only. The Council also ask that Mr. Martindale, whose knowledge and advice in these matters is paramount, be invited to attend the joint meeting. The Committee also to be asked to suggest a likely date.

1454

THE VILLAGE HALL

The Clerk reported that the District Auditors had gone into the years' expenditure on the Committee of Management, which included the building of the new Village Hall, at some length. After consulting the Clerk of the District Council and relevant legal documents they were satisfied that all expenditure was in the public interest. They gave as their opinion however, that the Hall was legally owned by the Parish Council since it was erected on land in the tenure of the Parish Council from the District Council.

The Clerk had resumed correspondence, in light of this, with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government who had previously raised related questions and had informed them of this view. He awaited reply.

1455

THE COUNCIL'S TRUST DEED

The Clerk said that as a result of complaints from members of the Committee of Management alleging infringement he had sought advice of the Department of Education and Science. The Deed had been drawn up by the Department when granting the Committee finances towards building the new Hall.

The Department said that, while it was not possible to define the 'boundaries of the area of benefit' it certainly indicated that membership is not confined to residents of the Parish of Milton and that any Committee, to function equitably, would be expected to interpret the term 'neighbourhood' in an open and reasonable frame of mind.

They also said that the Secretary of State 'is a little concerned at the need for a separate sub-Committee but would not initiate any objection to it'. The Secretary of State pointed out that such a sub-Committee would have no power to make an authoritative decision which can only be made by majority vote of the Committee under Clause 3 of first schedule.

The Clerk was instructed to communicate this to the Secretary.

1456

ASSOCIATION OF PARISH COUNCILS.

The Clerk gave notice of a Conference for new Parish Councillors to be held on Saturday, October 12th. at Cambridgeshire House and the Autumn Conference on Saturday, November 16th., at Cottenham Village College. The Clerk asked that names of Councillors wishing to attend be sent to him for transmission to the Association Secretary.

1457

PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

The following application which had been considered by the Planning sub-Committee was ratified by the Council:

Applicant: J.A.Wilson Esq and Mrs.M.Turner
Description: Construction of petrol filling station
Location: Bene't Farm, Cambridge Road, MILTON (C/68/265)

Not approved, for same reasons as refusal of similar application, February last, with the additional reason that there are now three busy industrial entrances almost opposite.

1458

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was agreed for Tuesday, November 12th., subject to a Hall being available.

1459

PROVISIONAL DATES FOR MEETINGS IN 1969.

The Council agreed on the following previsionsal dates:

- Tuesday, 14th. January, 1969.
- Tuesday, 11th. March
- Tuesday, 3rd. June
- Tuesday, 9th. September.

The Clerk was instructed to ask the Secretary to make the Village Hall available for those dates.

1460

BILLS FOR PAYMENT.

The following were passed for settlement:

	£.	s.	d.
C.R.D.C. - rent for lease of land (VH)	1	0	0
Playing Fields Ass. - Annual Sub.	1	1	0
C.R.D.C - levelling entr. Rec.Gd. (min. 141)	10	0	0
W. Heffer - Box Files	2	3	8
Clerk's salary to Midsummer, 1968	12	10	0
de expenses to Sept. 6th 1968	10	0	6
Eastern Elec. - Shelter lt. to June '68.	1	10	2
Total:	£38	4	10

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

1461

The Clerk reported that he had asked the Ministry of Transport for a copy of their recent publication 'How Fast ?' which they had sent him for the Council's use.

1462

The Clerk had received complaint in July that the grass in front of the Council Houses, Cambridge Road had not been cut. He had passed this complaint to the District Council.

1463

Following a complaint about the state of the grass at the corner of Lynhurst Close the Clerk had asked the R.D.C to cut it pending meeting of the Council, on a chargeable basis. The Council considered the upkeep of this grass to be responsibility of the estate developers. Accordingly, the Council approved the cost of cutting on this occasion only.

1464

ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Mr. J.S. Doggett raised the question of public seats in the village, some of which he thought were in bad disrepair.

He proposed that defective seats be renewed and the one the Council had in stock be erected near the War Memorial as previously decided. This was seconded by Mr. R.T. Summerfield and agreed by the Council.

This completed the business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at about 9.15 p.m.

Signed *L. Pearson* Chairman

Date *Nov. 12th 68*