

Minutes of Meetings of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 7th March 1977 in Milton Primary School at 7.30 p.m.

Present: R.T. Summerfield (in the Chair), G. Patten, H.W.H. Easy, M. Waggett, Mrs. M.E. Jones, Mrs. B.C. Waterson, S.B. Poulter, D.J. Cook, P. Kiddle, Councillor K.P. Humphries, and the Clerk B.K. Connor

1. COUNCIL

3192 (3149) The Chairman welcomed Mr. S. Flint to the meeting which was also attended by 7 members of the Village. Mr. Flint explained that the S.C.D.C. in fact has only a minor responsibility for the maintenance of awarded water courses dating back to a statute in 1840. This covers the cleaning of ditches and other maintenance to prescribed depths and dimensions. Furthermore the ERCU's statement whereby the SCDC were said to have given permission for the award ditches to be used is not strictly true in that any person has the right to make entry into these ditches.

Mr. Flint further explained that with limited staff available, the Engineer and Surveyor, had carried out an examination of the area and made several recommendations regarding the existing courses since the flow through the 13th Public Drain would virtually be doubled. It was emphasized that the SCDC would be responsible for the free flow of water in the ditch and nothing more could be done with the resources available. Any other matters should be the responsibility of the Anglian Water Authority.

G.P. reminded the meeting of the statement of the ERCU representatives in that their responsibilities for drainage finished at the fence and that any work that needed to be done would have to be the responsibility of the SCDC. Following the subsequent discussion, Mr. Flint offered to contact the appropriate personnel at the ERCU and AWA who should be involved and suggest that a site meeting with the P.C. and three representatives on behalf of the farmers (Mr. N. Asplin, Mr. J. Wagstaff and Mr. D. Pearson) should be organised. This would be arranged through the Clerk.

It was commented that the Milton section of the River Cam has many twists and curves to contend with and when coupled with heavy silting results in a very poor flow and consequential loss of good drainage ability.

The Chairman then raised the question of the condition of the award drains in the parish for which the SCDC are responsible for cleaning. Mr. Pearson estimated that this operation was last carried out 4-5 years ago and that further action is required at present. This would be reviewed at the site meeting.

The Chairman then raised the question of the Gray Conoley ditch and the fact that since October 1975 this has not been cleaned by the SCDC since responsibility was claimed to be that of the owners of the adjacent land. Mr. Nunn of 42 Old School Lane commented that the areas of the ditch near his property are in a filthy condition with stagnant water. This again would be investigated at the joint meeting.

The Chairman then thanked Mr. Flint for giving up his time to attend the meeting and the residents then left.

2. 3193 The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 7th February and the special combined meeting with the V.H.M.C. officers on 17th February had been circulated and were both confirmed and signed.

3. Matters Arising

3194 (3153) Seats on the Village Green. The Chairman advised the meeting that M.W. and Mr. E. Spong of 13 Fen Road had planted some shrubs behind the newly installed seats to improve the area. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr. Spong to thank him for obtaining the shrubs for us.

- 3195 (3154) Butt Lane Closure. The County Surveyor had advised the Council that no further action would be taken with regard to the western junction of Butt Lane with the Milton by-pass until the roadworks are completed. The Council's comments with regard to a school crossing patrol at this junction had been passed on to the Education Department who had written on 21st February once again to say that no action would be taken until the road is complete and if it is felt that at this stage a case exists for the provision of the crossing patrol a Safety Officer would then investigate and report.
- 3196 (3155) Changing Rooms. The Clerk confirmed that the account in the name of the Working Party for the project has now been closed and the balance remaining from the Council's original loan of £1200 i.e. £787.53 has now been repaid and credited to the deposit account. P.K. commented that the six months maintenance period costs would be closely examined with a view to the possible submission of further invoices to claim additional monies from the reduced C.C. grant.
- 3197 (3157) Accidents in the High Street. It was noted that the insurance company involved with the damaged properties are prepared to finance the erection of reinforced steel walls to protect the dwellings.
- 3198 (3164) P.C. land between Coles Road and Old School Lane. The Clerk contacted the Naturalists Trust who expressed interest in considering the future management of the area and would arrange a site meeting in the near future.
- 3199 (3177) Replacement Trees- Coles Road adjacent to Village Hall. M.W. reported that all the new trees which he installed on a Saturday morning were ripped out with the stakes and ties on the Saturday night. It was agreed that further planting would be left until the autumn for review.
- 3200 (3116) Rental Allowance for the Clerk. The Clerk discovered that the annual allowance for heating, lighting had been agreed at £250 (ref. minute 2846) and not £225 as originally specified. This would be rectified in the bills for payment.
- 3201 (3178) Proposed Tennis Courts. Mr. M. Gray had arranged a meeting for interested parties, but only four residents attended. It was felt however that there would be support for the project if enough residents were informed and became involved. Mr. J. Farrow had undertaken to obtain quotations for the erection of courts and also to advise members of the village that a meeting would be organised before the VHMC A.G.M. at which it was hoped that the issue could be discussed further. H.E. felt that it was wrong to suggest that these courts could be financed by means of the rates and that the sports club involved should foot the bills. G.P. felt that the Council should make a contribution if necessary. This situation will be reviewed when the level of interest is determined.

4. Silver Jubilee Celebrations

- 3202 (3156) As the Council representative MEJ reported that the first meeting of the new Committee had been held and was successful. A rough programme has been prepared and will be discussed again at the next meeting which would be held on 9th March. In general a full day's activities were envisaged on the Tuesday of the holiday. M. Gray was elected Chairman of the Committee, with F. Burling as Secretary, and M.E.J. as Treasurer.

MEJ had been asked to raise 4 points on behalf of the Committee as follows. (a) The Committee have no funds at present. It was proposed by G.P., seconded by M.W. and agreed that the Council would extend a loan of £50 to cover running expenses. (b) Village organisations would be running entertainment type side shows and it was agreed that the P.C. would undertake the responsibility to run an event. (c) It was proposed by G.P., seconded by M.E.J. and agreed that the Council would pay for the commemorative mugs for the children up to a total maximum value of £200. (d) It was proposed by G.P. and seconded by P.K. and agreed that the P.C. would underwrite any loss resulting from the celebrations if for example the weather was so bad that the activities could not be run as planned.

The Clerk was asked to confirm these points to Mr. Gray before the meeting on 9th March.

5. Structure Plan Cambridge Sub Area

3203 The Chairman and M.E.J. had attended the public meeting on the Consultation Report held on 1st March in Histon. The feeling of all the other villages represented was that of support for Milton and Waterbeach in that a development as planned should not be permitted. The proposed increase in population in Milton could involve a corridor of development between the north of Milton and the south of Waterbeach extending along the area bordered by the A10 and the railway line.

H.E. proposed that we strongly object to the plans specified in strategies 1 and 2, and this was seconded by G.P. and unanimously agreed on the following grounds. The character of the village would be destroyed completely - the village has already undergone such an experience on a smaller scale approximately 10 years ago. Controlled growth up to the new village boundaries imposed by the by-passes when constructed would be preferred.

All our past suggestions in this respect have been ignored, there has been no communication with the P.C. and no consultation whatsoever. The most sensible approach would be to examine in detail a Village Plan so that local knowledge could be used in the expansion proposals. P.K. felt that the earlier recommendations made in that the maximum population should be set at 3000 in 10-15 years time by means of sensible infill controlled building should have been adopted.

The Cambridge Community Council would like a copy of the Council's comments and the Clerk was instructed to send a further copy to Waterbeach Parish Council for information.

6. 3204 A.W.A. Great Ouse River Division

Under the Water Act of 1973 a survey on the area is required concerned with flooding problems within the parish. It was decided to delay replying to the request for detailed information until after the joint meeting with the AWA/SCDC.

7. 3205 Community Council Circular concerning the Play Committee Reference Bulletin 1

Copy filed for information.

8. 3206 Bills for Payment

It was proposed by P.K., seconded by G.P. and agreed that the following bills be paid.

Cash for R. Buck - Cleaning duties 19/12/76-19/3/77		£13.00
Mr. B.K. Connor - rent, heating light & travel allowance for the clerk 1/1/77-31/3/77	£62.50	
+ amount underpaid last quarter	6.25	£68.75
Mrs. J.R. Connor - Secretarial expenses for February 15 hrs @ £1	£15.00	
telephone/postages Feb.	2.91	£17.91
S-Print - Photocopying agenda & minutes		£5.64
M. Waggett (reimbursement) - trees for parish (Scotland Nurseries)	£12.49	
EFG Nurseries	£ 8.29	£20.78
Milton Silver Jubilee Committee - loan for running expenses		£50.00

B

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

3207 Complaints Regarding Areas owned by Moss, Dickerson & Nicholas

Residents of nos. 54, 58 and 60 Old School Lane had provided a copy of their letter sent to the Rating Officer demanding a reduction in rates due to two main complaints. (a) The poor state of the area owned by Moss which now has the appearance of a derelict bomb site and (b) the pit areas are now invaded by motorcyclists making a great deal of noise. A second letter accompanied this from residents of nos. 56, 60, 64, 66, 72 and 74 Fen Road who also complain of the noise from the motorcyclists. It was also mentioned that the woodland area on the north side of Fen Road opposite their properties is also invaded by youths on motorcycles.

Copies of both letters were also sent to the Environmental Officer of Health Mr. Hoyle. The Clerk had contacted Mr. Hoyle who has written to Mr. Moss asking for his site to be refenced and cleared. No reply had been received to this request.

10. 3208 The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th April at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Signed... B. Summerfield Chairman 4th April 1977 Date

11. PLANNING COMMITTEE

3209 The Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 7th February had been circulated and were approved.

There were no matters arising from these minutes.

3210 New Applications Received

S/0248/77 - J. Keefe, 46 Butt Lane - first floor extension at rear of house.
- no objections.

There were no other planning matters to discuss.

Signed... B. Summerfield Chairman 4th April 1977 Date