

Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th June 1979 in Milton Primary School to discuss the Cambridgeshire Structure Plan.

Present: R.T. Summerfield (in the Chair), Mrs. B.C. Waterson, H.W.H. Easy, A.D.J. Bull, P. Kiddle, R. Day, K.P. Humphries and the Clerk B.K. Connor.

Apologies for absence received from Mrs. G.F. Tonks and G. Patten.

The Chairman opened the meeting by reviewing the latest Structure Plan proposals as they affect the village.

3990 The deadline for any representations on the Plan, which should be made direct to the Department of the Environment, is June 22nd 1979. The Examinations in Public would be held in September and K.P.H. reported that as District Councillor he was fighting the refusal that he be allowed to participate.

K.P.H. provided a site map outlining the Milton area and discussions then took place regarding the suitability of the various areas for housing development. K.P.H. and R.D. were in favour of maintaining a green belt area between Milton and the City, but the only area which could be considered suitable is one of the sites at present occupied by Stokes. P.K. felt that it would be of prime importance to have a green belt to the north of Milton to prevent the possibility of the Waterbeach corridor development. H.E. expressed his full agreement. It was decided that if the City volunteer a green belt area this should be accepted, but on no account should this be taken up at the expense of the northern green belt boundary.

The development of Chesterton Fen was suggested but this would not be an easy matter in view of the very poor drainage which exists in the area. It was appreciated that the main areas for development would be the areas 1 and 2 behind Benet Farm and to the north of Butt Lane both areas being bordered by the village by-pass. The acreage was approximately 90 which could accommodate 900 houses, but this would leave the other 300 which have been planned to be fitted into the south of Milton. R.T.S. pointed out that in addition to the land required for housing, the Structure Plan proposals envisaged 44 acres of industrial development in the Milton area.

Area 8 offers approximately 12 acres, i.e. 120 houses, thus leaving 180 houses. A further suggestion was made that a development could be located on the site known as Kings Hedges Farm which lies between the Cambridge Northern By-pass and the western edge of the Science Park. H.E. commented that the land is of extremely poor agricultural quality.

P.K. felt that a point of prime concern should be the proportion of local authority to private development involved in the plan. P.K. also felt that there would not be employment for all the incoming population in local industry, and quoted the example of Haverhill as a disastrous failure by London C.C. to accommodate the overspill in a new settlement area. The big question seems to be how people are going to be attracted to move into the area.

It was agreed that there should be no development to the north of the village including Milton Fen, the Rectory and lake areas bordered by Fen Road.

Education would present a great problem. Milton Primary School at present takes 180 children, and the proposed increase in population would result in approximately 360 primary children and 240 secondary children, thus another primary school would have to be built or the existing one extended very considerably. Impington V.C. is already full, thus a new college would have to be provided in another village and the situation could arise whereby some schoolchildren could be travelling to one college, and other schoolchildren having to be transported to Cambridge to fill the schools there. The point was then raised that as more land is required to accommodate the development of schools, recreation ground facilities and shopping areas this will all effectively diminish the land available for housing development.

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The Council do not feel strongly about the phasing of housing built and felt that this would take its natural course. Drainage would obviously have to be drastically improved and the finance could be a problem since the AWA are not prepared to pay.

The Chairman thanked K.P.H. for preparing his 3 papers which had been circulated on Land Availability, Drainage and Conservation, and confirmed the Council's agreement with the points outlined and highlighted by K.P.H.

The Clerk was then instructed to convey the Council's feelings by letter to the Regional Director, Department of the Environment and refer to the Public Meeting which was held on 30th January 1978 repeating the results and referring to the referendum. The Chairman would approve the letter.

The meeting was then closed at 10.25 p.m. by the Chairman who felt that the meeting had been very successful.

Signed.....*R Sumner Field*.....Chairman.....*2/7/79*.....Date