

**Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on
Monday 18 July 2022 at 7:30pm in the Bowls Pavilion**

Present: H Smith (Chair) (HMS), J E Coston (JEC), D Wildman (DW), D Owen (DO), A Bradnam (AB)

In Attendance: S Corder (Clerk), A Latchem (Councillor – via Zoom)

1 Apologies for absence

R Farrington (personal), A Markham (personal), P Ellwood (personal)

2 Charles Krolik-Root Community Flood Action Programme Manager from the local Lead Flood Authority, Cambridgeshire County Council attended via Zoom to advise us about clearing the ditch from Tomkins Mead to the North Lodge Park lake. The general rule for riparian ownership of a ditch is that if your property is next to a ditch even if it is behind a fence or a hedge, you are responsible for maintaining/clearing the ditch to the centre if it meets with a neighbour. The water should be able to flow through the owner's land and the bank needs to be kept clear to prevent any flood or blockage issues. There are 29 riparian owners along this stretch of the ditch. Riparian owners are liable for the cost, and the County Council has the power to ensure it happens. There are some grants available.

MPC to source quotes to have the ditch cleared. Riparian owners to be contacted by letter informing owners of the proposed project. **(AL left 7:35pm)**

3 To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13 June 2022 and 4 July 2022

JEC – amendment to Item 8 (13 June 2022) – To remove the wording “Edmund Green project deferred until an overall plan for the Green is agreed” as this was not voted on. 3 In Favour – 2 Against **AGREED**

AB – amendment Item 6 MVAS – “MVAS still awaiting parts for repair but has been deployed as a speed indicator only (no data recorded)”.

JEC Proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting on Monday 13 June 2022 as a true record, with amendment, -

AB Seconded – 4 In Favour 1 Against **AGREED**

HMS Proposed to accept the minutes of July 2022 as a true record – AB Seconded **ALL AGREED**

4 Declarations of interest and dispensation

To receive declarations of interest from councillors for items on agenda: None

To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any): None

To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate: None

5 Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak

No public attended

6 Clerk's/Chairman's Report and Works Schedule

Willow Crescent – Action with Ashtons Solicitors to transfer the land to MPC from current owners. Fees have been paid for works to progress

Old School Lane – Ashtons Solicitors putting together an application with information for adoption of land from the Crown

Tomkins Mead: AB in consultation with Cambridgeshire County Council on how to take the clearing of the watercourse from Tomkins Mead to North Lodge Park lake forward. Clerk sourcing updated quote from ADC Drainage. See Item 9

The Rowans Safety Improvements - Clerk to put an application to the Local Highways Project Group for a Privately Funded Highways Improvement Scheme (PFHI). Assistant Clerk to provide wording for a Village View Article as consultation for the plans

Land in Milton: HMS update – HMS Proposed to go into Confidential Sessions – DO Seconded **ALL AGREED (meeting closed at 8pm)**

Motion to exclude public and press

It is hereby resolved in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meeting) Act 1960 that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the sensitive nature of the business to be transacted at Agenda Item 6. namely: Land in Milton

The public and press will be temporarily excluded from the meeting at this point and any present are herewith to withdraw. **(meeting opened 8:05pm)**

7 Planning

The minutes of the meeting of Monday 20 June and Monday 4 July 2022 were received

Decisions:

None received to date

New:

22/02798/HFUL – 35 Willow Crescent, Milton – First floor side extension **HAS NO RECOMMENDATION. Comment: The plans appear to show retention of the single skin garage wall on ground floor and new double skin on the first floor. (Subject to any adjustment by the Planning Chairman)**

22/0758/TTCA – TRO Milton Hall Attenborough Room, Ely Road, Milton – T1: Turkey Oak, remove deadwood and reduce over extended limb NE by up to 2m. T7: Hornbeam, raise crown over drive to 3m. T56: Ash, reduce height by 6m to address unbalanced crown, leaving tree at 14m. T132: Sycamore, reduce by 3m, restabilise movement. T134A: Sycamore, reduce by 5m to leave at 8m to alleviate weight on weak compression fork at base. T163: Ash, fell due to poor structural form and very weak main fork adjacent to internal roadway **HAS NO COMMENTS**
AB had spoken to a groundsman from Milton Hall who would ensure T134A was not cut back too harshly.

To **RATIFY** decision made to allow HMS (Chairman) speak at the SCDC Planning Committee on behalf of MPC regarding the planning application for 1 High Street, Milton **JEC Proposed – DW Seconded ALL AGREED**

8 Maintenance

To **APPROVE** the grass cutting contract to go out for tender. – **JEC Proposed – AB Seconded ALL AGREED**

The minutes of the meeting of Monday 20 June 2022 were received

To **CONSIDER** suggested name change from The Orchard to either “North Wood” or “North Copse” **Defer name change to September MPC meeting – another suggested name “Paddock Wood”**

To **CONSIDER** quote from HAGS to replace the panels of the play tower at The Rowans play area after graffiti incident £1,522 + VAT **Defer to September MPC meeting. The Village Maintenance person has cleaned as much of the graffiti off with solvent.**

To **CONSIDER** quote to replace both cradle swing seats at The Rowans play area, Wicksteed £271.25 + VAT **HMS Proposed – JEC Seconded All AGREED Clerk to ensure that swing seat cleaning is part of the village cleaner’s job description.**

9 Tomkins Mead

To arrange a Working Group to take the project forward, including briefing residents and delivering information.

HMS, AB, DO and Geoff from the Cambridge Sports Lakes Trust will form the Working Group. Clerk to ask AH if he would like to join

10 Community Care

The minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 6 July 2022 were received

11 Capital Projects Working Group

To **AGREE** updated costs for proposed works and further recommendations: (funded from S106 Arts Budget), namely:

To **AGREE** the quote for purchasing 3 art style benches: 1 on Edmund Green £2,800 for bespoke bench seat of the Repton Gate design+, 1 on Pond Green £1,192 for butterfly & bee bench and 1 for the Cemetery £1,192 for Sunflower bench Total **£5,434+ VAT** (includes delivery £205 and leg extensions £108). Plus £1,287 + VAT for installation (Buchans) + £195 additional cost for fixing benches to concrete base Total **£1,482 + VAT - HMS proposed a budget of £7,300 max including the additional costs of an information plaque for the Repton Gate bench – AB Seconded ALL AGREED**

To **AGREE** location of benches: Cemetery bench – right hand side just after the dividing hedge, Pond Green – same location as current bench, Edmund Green – suggestion: 45% degree angle near the west end looking towards the daffodil patch **HMS Proposed the location of the Cemetery and Pond Green benches and to agree the location of the Edmund Green bench when final plans have been agreed – AB Seconded ALL AGREED**

It was mentioned that the Church would like the Parish Council to take on responsibility for the wooden original Repton gate. This had not been agreed.

Village Gateway Signs: To **AGREE** budget spend of £12,000 **JEC Proposed – DW Seconded 4 In Favour – 1 Abstain AGREED**

AGREE locations – Defer to September meeting, locations and design to be confirmed with a map to accompany this item.

Landbeach Road Bus Stop: To **CONSIDER** proposal for suggested art work categories and draft poster design **ALL Agreed – PE to tweak the poster wording and put together an article for the Village View. Wording to be agreed with HMS**

Village Pump: To **CONSIDER** what to see

Pump with Sculpture £6k

Pump with photo £6k

Pump with sculpture and photo £9.5k

Defer to September MPC meeting

- 12 Parish Online** Several years ago we voted to join Parish Online, to enable our assets, land registry details, insurance details, play equipment, allotments, cemetery and more to be geo-coded and plotted on map overlays. We have again signed up for a 30-day free trial, and the cost will be under £300 per annum going forward to be paid from the Subscription budget. **PROPOSED** that we undertake this contract once the free trial ends (if it is successful). To be paid from the Office budget. **HMS Proposed – DW Seconded 4 If Favour – 1 Abstain AGREED (to move to Subscription budget in future years)**

- 13 Bills for Payment and Money Received**

To **CONFIRM** and **AGREE** bills for payment – DW Proposed to pay Vouchers 78 to 127- HMS Seconded **ALL AGREED (Voucher 117 to be broken down to: £2,845 for MPC to pay (includes £95 extra authorised by the Clerk for tree removal), £325 for Scouts to pay, £175 for Bowls Club to pay – Clerk to invoice Scouts and Bowls Club)**

- 14 Incursion on Milton Parish Council Land**

To consider whether any further action should be taken – **Defer to September MPC meeting**

- 15 The County Councillor's Report for June 2022 was received (Full report on MPC webpage)**

The costs of inflation – nationally: The County Councils Network and the Society of County Treasurers have revealed that spiralling inflation has left forty of England's largest councils with £729M of additional unfunded costs since they set their budgets in March 2022. To balance their budgets—as they are legally required to—and control costs, councils warn they face a winter of 'difficult decisions'.

Environment

Flood Resilience Forum: Cambridgeshire County Council's Community Flood Action Programme has recently received a £14,000 grant from the Local Resilience Forum. The money is to be used for local flood groups to enhance their community flood kits and thus their resilience to flooding. A flood group is a voluntary group of residents who meet on a regular basis to work on behalf of the wider community to help to try and reduce the impact of future flooding.

If any local flood groups would like to apply for this money, please get in touch with the Community Flood Action Programme team on CFAP@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

If you are interested in setting up your own flood group, then take a look at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/flood-and-water/community-flood-action-programme> or email [CFAP@cambridge-shire.gov.uk](mailto:CFAP@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Resourcing Net Zero : The Council's Environment & Green Investment Committee is moving ahead to implement its ambitious climate change strategy.

Carbon pricing: Progress is being made in implementing internal carbon pricing at the County Council. This is a way of assessing the financial value of carbon emissions or carbon reductions, to help inform decisions about projects on environmental as well as financial grounds.

Nature & Climate Declaration and Climate & Ecology Bill : The Environment & Green Investment Committee on 7 July will consider recommending to Full Council that it sign the Nature & Climate Declaration and endorse the Climate & Ecology Bill.

Energy retrofits: Cambridgeshire Energy Retrofit Partnership is a collaboration between the County Council and Cambridgeshire's District Councils. It is currently delivering energy efficiency projects in over 500 homes across the county with the poorest energy efficiency and lowest incomes, using over £9M of Government grant.

Flooding and nature restoration: The Council's Environment & Green Investment Committee is

Waterbeach waste facility: Preparations are being made at the Amey waste park at Waterbeach in advance of major works to reduce odour emissions, to comply with new legal recommendations. The works will allow district councils to continue to deliver waste for transfer to alternative processing sites and to landfill from August, while the odour emission works are done.

Adults and Health - Care Reform costs: The cost of the Government's adult social care reforms could be a minimum of £10Bn higher than currently estimated, according to the County Councils Network. The reforms include a more generous means-test, a cap on care costs of £86,000, a move towards a 'fair' cost of care, and the ability for people who arrange and fund their own care to ask their council to do it on their behalf.

Children and Young People

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

The Council's Children & Young People Committee will receive on 5 July a report on the strategy to deliver more SEND school places. It will also be asked to amend the specification of new build primary schools to include 55m2 of additional SEND space per up to two forms of entry.

Household Support Fund: The Government has confirmed that it is extending the Household Support Fund for six months of 2022/23 and has allocated £3.58M of grant funding to Cambridgeshire for this.

Are you interested in adopting?

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Adoption have been promoting adoption in a month-long campaign 'Is Adoption Right For Me?' to highlight the process and raise awareness of what adoption means.

Building on this, the adoption agency are supporting this year's #YouCanAdopt new campaign 'A Life Less Ordinary' which has gathered information about the children waiting for adoption and the views of those who would consider adopting, to help find parents for children waiting longest to be adopted across the counties.

We are supporting the campaign via our Facebook page: Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Adoption Service - <https://www.facebook.com/candpadoptionsservice>.

If you are interested in adoption and want to find out more, contact the council by: Emailing adoptionenquiries@cambridgeshire.gov.uk, calling 0300 123 1093 or visiting: www.cpadoption.co.uk.

Population in the County: Cambridgeshire has seen one of the UK's biggest population increases over the past ten years, data just published from the **2021 Census** shows.

Overall the number of people living in the county rose by more than 57,000 in the last decade to 678,600. This 9.2% rise is higher than the East of England average, in a national picture which saw the East grow faster than any part of the UK

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority: The Combined Authority has received a letter from auditors EY expressing concerns about its value for money as a result of various ongoing issues.

16 The District Councillors Report July 2022 Cllrs Paul Bearpark, Anna Bradnam and Judith Rippeth was received (Full report on MPC webpage)

Support for Ukrainian Refugees: **The Council continues to dedicate a great deal of resource to supporting the Homes for Ukraine programme and welcoming guests to South Cambridgeshire. A few numbers on this provide an indication of the extent of the work being undertaken by very dedicated council officers:**

- 329 groups/families who have so far applied to the scheme in South Cambridgeshire, who have matched with a sponsor, and have applied for visas. Some groups have not yet arrived.
- 742 guests within those groups that have been matched to sponsors.
- 67 parishes in South Cambridgeshire with Ukrainian guests that have arrived.
- 682 visa applications made in South Cambridgeshire, and 633 visas issued.
- 221 groups/families that have arrived in South Cambridgeshire so far.
- 476 guests that have arrived in South Cambridgeshire so far.
- Completed a total of 445 DBS checks on occupants of sponsor homes.
- Completed a total of 138 welfare visits with groups who have arrived.

Officers have been providing excellent support to the Homes for Ukraine programme. The [Support for Ukraine website pages](#) are regularly updated with the latest advice and guidance for hosts and guests.

MJ Awards 2022: SCDC has been nominated in the 'Leadership in responding to the Climate Emergency' category. The Council's 'Green to our core' programme of work is up against Cheshire West and Chester Council, Essex County Council, Manchester City Council, LB Enfield and LB Waltham Forest and Wokingham Borough Council.

A10 path Lighting: We are continuing to push for some form of lighting on the A10 cycle path. We feel that this is essential to make it clear where the edge of the path is in the winter. When travelling north on the path vision is impaired by the dipped headlights of vehicles travelling south.

Mere Way Lighting: We are continuing to push for appropriate lighting of the forthcoming Mere Way path. Currently no lighting is proposed which we think will discourage people from using it. Given the rural setting of this path the lighting does need to be appropriate. Hence, we have been campaigning for solar studs which will have very limited impact on the setting and wildlife.

Cycle Way to Cambridge Research Park: Cambridge Research Park will be surfacing an existing bridleway for use by cyclists. We think that the plans are insufficient to encourage people to cycle to CRP especially in winter. There is a long section which will not be re-surfaced and a significant length of it is alongside a very deep drain. We have been pushing both CRP and CCC to come up with a better scheme.

SCDC Community Chest Grants: The District Council also agreed to contribute £960 to Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust to support the Wild Minds project which provides outdoor activities to young people aged 14-17 who are coping with mental health issues. The money will enable Wild Minds to purchase a range of woodworking tools, wildlife observations kits and bench seating. Wild Minds enables young people to build their resilience, confidence and independence, as well as have fun through outdoor activities

17 The Milton Community Centre Report – July 2022 was received

Maintenance/Improvements: All external windows at the Annexe and ground level at the Community Centre have been cleaned. Some gutters and storm drains in the main car park have been cleared.

Bookings: Bookings for Children’s parties in both the Annexe and the Main Hall are remaining popular as is the general hire at the Community Centre. We have seen an increase in the number of cancellations due to COVID increase over the past 3 weeks.

Hard Courts: The tennis courts are in use 7 days a week and most evenings with people playing Tennis. The 5 aside court continues to be popular for both football and netball.

Youth Building: Eddies Artworks continue to use the building Monday to Friday and Youth Group on a Tuesday. Repairs have been made to the shutter bolt fixings to try and reduce unwanted access to the building.

North Lodge: The Red Cross are still using the Pavilion Monday to Friday. We have erected signs to the North side boundary to the football pitches to try and reduce people climbing the fencing.

Sycamores Rec: The Basketball Court has been resurfaced and we are waiting for the tarmac to cure prior to the white lines being painted. Tree roots that had broken the surface and become trip hazards on the football pitches have been removed.

Vandalism and Crime: We believe there have been 2 attempts to gain entry to the Youth Building with damage to the rear door rolling shutter and fixings this has been reported to the police. Sadly with the warmer weather we have seen damage at both Coles Road and The Sycamores from people using disposable BBQ’s. We continue to see high levels of recreational drug use at The Sycamores and Coles Road with alcohol cans and bottles and NOS canisters being left behind on a regular basis.

There have been reports on social media over the last few days of an assault at the play area at Coles Road. This has not been confirmed to MCC and the police have not contacted us.

We continue to see fly tipping of both household and commercial waste in the car parks and un-authorized use of the trade waste bins meaning that our own waste can’t always be disposed of.

18 Correspondence – Emailed to Councillors

- CAPALC June 2022 Bulletin
- CAPALC Training – Summer 2022
- Urban & Civic planned cycle improvements – for Milton
- IHMC Incident report – June 2022
- Waterbeach barrack July 2022 Update

19 Dates of next meeting

- Monday 25 July 2022 – Planning 7pm – Finance & Administration 7:45pm
- Monday 18 August 2022 – Planning
- Monday 5 September 2022 – Parish Council

Meeting closed at 9:23pm Signed: Date: