

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL** HELD
IN THE PAVILLION ROOM, VILLAGE HALL, FOWLMERE
TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2017 AT 7:30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr L Wragg (Chairman), Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr S Mulholland, Cllr D Roberts, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr M Vinton and Mrs J Wright (Clerk).

IN ATTENDANCE: Dorothy Woods, Kate Wood, Mr Frost, 7 residents from Appleadre

	Actions
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr P Burge, Cllr C Howe,	
2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS: Cllr Bearpark declared an interest in item 9 (as it affects the land where he lives). Cllr Roberts declared that if an application is later placed before South Cambridgeshire District Council she will approach any new information afresh. Also, because Cllr Roberts is a District Cllr at SCDC, the same applies and she will look at any application, which goes to SCDC, afresh.	
3. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 21ST NOVEMBER 2017: The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.	
4. MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising. It was agreed to bring the item forward regarding St Mary's Lights. Cllr Sunderland declared an interest in this. Cllr Roberts asked how we are financially and Cllr Sunderland responded to say that it can be afforded. The Clerk read out the email from Rachel Collins concerning the St Mary's Church lights. Lead theft is a serious risk and the quote seems reasonable (Cllr Mulholland). Cllr Roberts proposed £1150, Cllr Bearpark seconded and all agreed. They have already made significant efforts in securing the church and paying for it independently (£4000 towards the security system has already been raised.)	
5. VILLAGE HALL A) CHANGING ROOM REFURBISHMENT Planning permission has now been received. B) CAR PARK LINES Dorothy Woods will accept a quote from Peter Taylor (CCC) – 3 options and they are opting for 44 bays and 2 disabled (they don't need to have mother & baby spaces). The external lighting is the next thing to be looked at.	
6. COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS: Cllr Topping was unable to attend the meeting, and had not submitted a report before the meeting. A) CLEARANCE OF CCC LAND NEAR SCHOOL CAR PARK/BUTTS PEDESTRIAN GATE This was therefore not discussed B) A505 WORKING PARTY This was therefore not discussed	

7.	<p>DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE: Cllr Topping did an interview on local radio saying there were no problems with the Local Plan and said it would be finalised in March. The Inspectorate has said otherwise and the planning officers at SCDC had to apologise. A Planning Committee Meeting was held and there is still no final date, or a date for the public consultation. Cllr Roberts would like to send an email to Cllr Topping expressing concern and disappointment. Cllr Vinton, whilst supportive of this and appreciating the frustrations, does wonder what this would achieve – Cllr Sunderland, we are not a political body. It was agreed to keep a watching brief on this.</p> <p>The meeting was opened for urgent questions from members of the public and press.</p> <p>No questions had been notified to the Clerk and there were no questions from those present.</p> <p>Jean Bell made some comments on the Chrishall Rd planning application. Her house will be 12 feet from the first development and she, and other residents have lost privacy. The speeding traffic will be a problem, can't sustain this, it is outside the village envelope, why has it got this far? Cllr Wragg replied that it is because of the combination of incompetence and bad luck (of SCDC elected members and employed professionals at SCDC) where we don't have the 5-year land supply – all the protections of the village envelope are removed and Parish Councils are inundated with proposals which have no basis in planning. We are very short of tools to resist this. Cllr Wragg suggested that they should write to the MP. What other avenues can be used – a deluge of letters to the MP helps to concentrate their mind... Fowlmere is an inappropriate place for anything other than group village development. Cllr Roberts – there is a problem with that is happening at Appleacre, which is potentially 3 times the size it was originally, and it is also outside of the village envelope. The house at Lanacre has also been permitted yet the PC opposed it. Are the new properties counted as houses – no, they are counted as caravans. Cllr Vinton – there are many reasons why people wish to move to Fowlmere and as a PC we are disappointed that our objections aren't taken seriously.</p> <p>The meeting was then closed to members of the public and press.</p>	
8.	<p>BURIAL BOARD The Clerk reported that there has been a burial for Simon Webb and there will be another one later in the month for Rosina Cann. The Clerk to contact Ron Ward again about the possible bench/shed. There is the possibility of a future cremated remains from a local resident.</p> <p>The gate was sticking but now is working – thanks to Cllr Mulholland and Cllr Vinton.</p> <p>The stop-cock cannot be located – a plumber has been contacted to 'freeze' the pipe and put in the appropriate connections – the cost will be between £200 and £250. The water butt will be about £80. Cllr Vinton will progress if the PC are supportive (which they agreed to). This will change the mains pressure to gravitational pressure, which will stop people liberating the water...</p>	Cllr Vinton
9.	<p>PLANNING COMMITTEE A) Planning Application – For Information Only:</p> <p><i>S/2575/17/FL</i> <i>Application for 15 dwellings to include 6 affordable dwellings, construction of access and provision of open space</i> Land to the West of, Chrishall Road, Fowlmere, ROYSTON, SG8 7RY Colegrove Estates Ltd</p> <p>Cllr Bearpark declared an interest and left the room at 20:15 Cllr Bearpark asked for the residents of Fowlmere present to be supported.</p>	

	<p>Cllr Roberts - the agent – Kate Woods is present. Bonnie Kwok is the SCDC Planning Officer and has achieved many of the aspects she is requiring. There has been a move around of the road. Plot 3 (new) is proposed to be very close to the Appleacre plot 13, as the resident at the meeting pointed out. There are noise restrictions on Appleacre and these will not apply to the proposed development. The properties on Appleacre are raised and they will be able to see into the rooms.</p> <p>Kate Wood explained that she is employed by the land owner. She preferred a previous iteration of the parking.</p> <p>Plots 1-6 is affordable housing (4 will be social rented)</p> <p>Play equipment – FPC agrees with Bonnie Kwok at SCDC – there should be play equipment on site – it is further away from the residents at Appleacre. With a commuted sum of money to FPC.</p> <p>The reply to SCDC is as follows:</p> <p>Fowlmere PC is still strongly against this application and wish to see a refusal for this application. It is outside the past and emerging Local Plan for Fowlmere. FPC is particularly concerned about the effects that the proposed number 3 and 12 would have on the properties at Appleacre which they consider to be overbearing / too close / overlooking to what are very single-storey dwellings on Appleacre. Numbers 12 and 3 are still of an unacceptable nature in terms of proximity (3) and overall size and proximity to 14 and 15 Appleacre (12). There is an enormous loss of amenity and privacy.</p> <p>Sustainability – this village is poorly provided in terms of facilities – no village shop, minor public transport bus service. Other than a pub and the school you have to leave the village.</p> <p>In the past and emerging Local Plan it is a ‘Group’ village and would only be allowed within the Village Envelope, dwellings of up to 8 (and in exceptional circumstances up to 15). There are no exceptional circumstances here and it is outside the village envelope. It is a purely speculative application.</p> <p>There should be play equipment on site – it is further away from the residents at Appleacre. With a commuted sum of money to FPC for maintenance and upkeep.</p> <p>A proper depth of screening would be required.</p> <p>This needs to be referred to the SCDC Planning Committee, with a site visit.</p> <p>Cllr Bearpark returned to the room at 8:55pm</p> <p>B) S/3566/17/FL <i>Construction of a new grain store and creation of an access from Fowlmere Road together with planting and formation of an acoustic bund</i> Land East of Fowlmere Road, Foxton Thriplow Farms Ltd</p> <p>FPC and Foxton are recommending refusal. There is to be a joint meeting at SCDC on 9th January. Mr Frost was present and also commented on the location. It is likely to go to the February Planning Committee. There is no comment from Highways yet.</p>	
10	<p>ROAD SAFETY A) SPEEDWATCH UPDATE The December session was cancelled due to ill health but further dates will be arranged in the New Year.</p>	Clerk (Agenda)

	<p>The Clerk was asked about getting 'this village supports speedwatch' signs and it was suggested going to CCC.</p> <p>B) CASUALTY REDUCTION SUPPORT FUND There is nothing for discussion at present</p>	Clerk
11	<p>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES</p> <p>A) TO PROPOSE A POLICY RELATING TO TREE PLANTING The Clerk explained the background to this. Various issues were raised. There is the ongoing cost of tree maintenance. It is a nice thought for those coming up with the idea, especially at a time of sadness. We have a lot of trees to manage. Who will tend them as they bed in (ie watering)? There is a need for consistency – there needs to be a written policy. A search has shown up an equal number of policies in favour and against. Cllr Mulholland shared an example. A mature height restriction could be implemented. The applicant could be responsible for the initial upkeep. A fee could be paid, as can an upper number on applications.</p> <p>Cllr Mulholland to share the documents. A Policy is good housekeeping. For further discussion at the next Burial Board.</p> <p>It was noted that the brook has been cleared in High Street by SCDC.</p>	Cllr Mulholland / Clerk (Agenda)
12	<p>FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES</p> <p>A) CHEQUES PAID Annual Chairs Allowance - £150.00 Clerk's Salary (Nov17) - £667.79 Wix fees (Web-site) via Jo Asquith - £74.25, £12.46 Stationery Cupboard - £23.94 Phillimores Xmas Tree and Batteries - £52.48 J Wright Telecoms refund - £37.56 Cams Acre Payroll (Oct-Dec 2017) - £41.40 HM Revenue and Customs (Nov 17) - £2.00 NEST Pension via J Wright - £3.26 Seniorlink November 2017 - £82.86 VH Hire 19.12.17 = £24.00</p> <p>B) ST MARY'S LIGHTS This has already been discussed.</p> <p>C) OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT To be carried over to Jan 18</p>	
13	<p>CORRESPONDENCE: Clerk to keep the vacancy on the PC in the public eye.</p>	Clerk
14	<p>ACTION LIST UPDATE: The action list was updated accordingly.</p> <p>A) IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO VILLAGE LIFE Outdoor gym options need further discussions and will go on the next agenda. No further ideas.</p> <p>B) WEBSITE UPDATE The letters we write to SCDC on planning need to go on the web-site.</p>	

15	<p>OTHER MATTERS:</p> <p>The Royston and District Community Transport letter requesting funds was discussed. Cllr Vinton says it is not fit for purpose, having volunteered. For further discussion at the January 2018.</p> <p>White lines are required at the end of the road to Foxton – contact Cllr Topping.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21:45.</p> <p>The date of the next meeting is 7:00pm (Finance) followed by 7:15pm (Burial Board), followed by 7:45pm (Main PC) on Tuesday 16th January 2018 at the Village Hall (Pavillion Room).</p>	<p>Clerk (Agenda)</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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