

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL** HELD
IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE
20TH JANUARY 2015 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Vice-Chairman), Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr C Howe, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr M Sunderland and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Topping, Mrs Davis, 3 members of the Smith Family

		Actions
1.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Wragg sent his apologies.</p>	
2.	<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS: No items were declared.</p> <p>In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Roberts is to take the meeting.</p>	
3.	<p>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 16TH DECEMBER 2014: The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.</p>	
4.	<p>MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising.</p>	
5.	<p>COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS: Cllr Topping attended the meeting and gave the following report:</p> <p><i>"Gritting and streetlights - gritting routes are unchanged for this winter, the county having found the money to keep the gritting budget. Although some streetlights will be dimmed in future, and possibly even turned off, this will mainly be in urban areas where the lights are controlled by a master dimmer. Village lights are more time consuming to turn down as there is no master dimmer.</i></p> <p><i>Anti-fraud plans The county has secured £300k of government funding to set up a counter-fraud team which it is intended will be pro-active and try to act as a centre of excellence for the region. I supported the audit team when they picked up that the county was relying heavily on its electricity suppliers and there was no proper validation of bills being paid to see if there was any overcharging.</i></p> <p><i>Bus routes - 31 service</i> <i>The new route is out to tender, on the basis of consultation last year. The county seems to have listened to what people were looking for, and the route will call in at Shelford rail station enabling people to connect to trains going into London as well as continuing on to Cambridge. There wasn't a great demand for the route to end at a park and ride, and the proposals reflect this, with the route going to Addenbrookes.</i> <i>The tender exercise will take a few months, and then to new service will start. The current service will continue until then. I will ask the county again about through-ticketing and costs of tickets.</i></p> <p><i>Broadband - I challenged the Connecting Cambridgeshire team because they seemed to be reporting that the junction box at Heathfield was not going to be ready but they have now</i></p>	

	<p><i>sorted that out having initially found asbestos in the old box. I am following up a query from a resident in Fowlmere who lives on the outskirts of the village where BT seem to be saying they are not able to supply a superfast broadband package.</i></p> <p>Recycling review and libraries review <i>The county council review of recycling is due in the next month or so, with the most likely local impact being a reduction on the opening hours of the depot at Thriplow. There is now to be a review of libraries in an effort to make further savings. However, the overall settlement from the government could have been a lot worse for Cambridgeshire.</i></p> <p>City Deal and transport / cycling opportunities. <i>By the end of Jan we should know what transport infrastructure plans will be funded by the City Deal in the first 5 years of the proposals.</i></p> <p>Flint Cross fire <i>I have a response from the Environment Agency which does not really answer the question of what happens if the site isn't cleared up by the required date of mid-Feb. I understand the site is still too hot and the area is still smouldering in parts, so it is too soon to start remediation. I will be writing to the county and the environment agency seeking a more robust approach."</i></p> <p>The PC reported to Cllr Topping that some of the streetlights are not yet working - 15 are not correct. Cllr Topping and Clerk to chase Balfour Beatty about the 'snagging list'.</p> <p>Re buses, Cllr Topping to keep pressing about the reduced price of a 'through' ticket as this happens for the 7a bus locally.</p> <p>Clerk reported that the PC did not get awarded any money for 2015-16 regarding the traffic speeding measures allocations. Clerk to circulate information received.</p> <p>A) ROAD TO FOXTON; 30 MPH SIGN OBSCURED BY FINGERPOST, THRIPLow ROAD Clerk to report signage to CCC Highways.</p> <p>Regarding the muddy road to Foxton, the verges are in a mess and Highways have seen the damage - hopefully this will not be repeated.</p> <p>Trap-door to the Old Black Horse needs re-reporting as it looks unsafe. Cllr Topping to speak to Highways about the collapsed pillar as well at The Green.</p>	<p>Cllr Topping and Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Topping</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Topping and Clerk</p>
6.	<p>PLANNING COMMITTEE A) PLANNING MINUTES FROM 16TH DECEMBER AND 6TH JANUARY</p> <p>MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, URC, CHAPEL LANE, FOWLMERE ON TUESDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2014 AT 7:00PM</p> <p>PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr C Howe, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Cllr J Peacock, Cllr T Bearpark</p>	

IN ATTENDANCE: There was no-one in attendance

1. Declarations of interest (if any)

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.

2. Record 10745

Application to undertake work on trees situated in a Conservation Area
5 Cassander Close, Fowlmere, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 7SF
Mr Neil Wise

The Parish Council support the view of the SCDC Tree Officer on this application (The PC asks if permission is required to extend the driveway from SCDC Planning?).

3. S/2663/14/FL

Proposed single storey extensions to existing dwelling
Lanacre, 86 Chrishall Road, Fowlmere, SG8 7RY
Mr Colin Blundell

The Parish Council has no strong objections but they would however like written advice from the planning officer as to whether what is proposed, taken in conjunction with other enlargements of the property in the past, remains within appropriate permitted development rights.

4. S/1902/14/FL

Solar Farm and Associated Development
Black Peak Farm, Fowlmere Road, Melbourn, SG8 7PJ
Lightsource SPV104

The Parish Council strongly object to this application and were dismayed that none of the maps recorded the existence of the 'Protected Verges' which are clearly signposted as such, with repeater signs. The entrance width, compounded with the required road-splays cannot but cause irreparable damage to what are highly important and significant bio-diversity resources. This land was originally maintained by the County Council but the management is now under the jurisdiction and care of the Parish Council. In the light of the fact that inaccurate maps have been supplied, this should be revisited and interested parties should be given the opportunity to revisit this application. The flora contains rare and precious flowers recorded in the vicinity of the site under discussion.

5. S/2330/14/FL

- For Information Only - Permission Granted

Rear Extensions
Newlands, London Road, Fowlmere, SG8 7RY
Mr Jez Deacon

The Parish Council noted the decision.

6. Other Matters and Updates

a) 22 Pipers Close, mobile home in rear garden

A full size mobile home has been installed in this property via the Village Hall. Local residents have expressed concerns and SCDC have been involved. A new fence has been constructed at the rear of the property with an access gate to the Village Hall land, which should have permission. SCDC have informed the residents that they need to put in a retrospective planning application (within 28 days). Cllr Roberts to check if this is in the Green belt.

Clerk to book a planning meeting for Tuesday 6th January 2015.

The meeting closed at 7:40pm

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE DOROTHY PLUCK ROOM, ST MARY'S CHURCH, FOWLMERE ON
TUESDAY 6TH JANUARY 2015 AT 7:30PM**

PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr C Howe, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Cllr J Bottrill

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Colin Jones, resident

1. Declarations of interest (if any)

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.

2. Record 10789

Application to undertake work on trees situated in a Conservation Area

**Location of Proposed Works - Building plot bottom of 86 Chapel Lane
1 Champions Close, Fowlmere, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 7TR
Mr Mill**

The Parish Council commented that the photo provided was very useful and would welcome more applications supported in this way. With regards to this application, the Parish Council technically support the application to remove a dead tree but would like to query as to why this is being described as a 'building plot', as the site of the tree is outside the village envelope and is green belt and cannot be classified as a building plot.

3. S/2829/14/FL

Change of use/conversion of redundant former barn building to dwelling

**Rear of Lanacre, Chrishall Road, Fowlmere, SG8 7RY
Mr Colin Blundell**

The Parish Council do not support this application (voted 6-0 in favour of a refusal to approve). The Parish Council pay regard to the National Planning Policy Framework but alongside it the Local Development Framework can still be considered where such are up to date and consistent with the NPPF - we consider this to be a case in point. The NPPF at

page 14, item 6, para 55 is consistent with the LDF July 2013 chapter 7, 'Reuse of buildings in the countryside for residential use', policy H/16 'Reuse of buildings in the countryside for residential use'. The PC feels it doesn't fulfil the criteria required in the NPPF nor does it appear to follow the criteria in H/16 LDF. The building appears to be of a very light-weight construction, more in keeping with a shed rather than a substantial agricultural building. The building would appear to need a large amount of construction work doing to it ie not as described in para b (of H/16). This would in reality make it practically a 'new-build' The information given as to the marketing of the building for employment purposes seems minimal and there is no proof that it has been marketed thoroughly, as would have been expected. The circulation areas of the papers employed to market the property are very narrow and restricted and one would have expected also that there would be a bill-board at the site itself. A 5-year lease seems very restrictive and would also reduce the attractiveness. The site lies outside the village framework, and is therefore wholly contrary to established policy. Any approval on this site would set precedent.

4. S/1902/14/FL - For Information Only - Amendment
Solar Farm and Associated Development
Black Peak Farm, Fowlmere Road, Melbourn, SG8 7PJ
Lightsource SPV107

The Parish Council noted the amendment.

5. S/2403/14/PM - For Information Only
Prior Notification (Class M3(a) for conversion of agricultural building to Class B8 storage & distribution (planning permission not required)
Deans Farm, Shepreth Road, Fowlmere, SG8 7TG
Mr & Mrs T Deans

The Parish Council noted the notification with concern and are observing what was supposed to be a farm with simply farm-use being turned into an apparently very different commercial enterprise. We trust that SCDC Planning Officers will be alert to any contraventions of planning policies for land in the open countryside that may occur in the future.

6. S/1902/14/FL - For Information Only - Permission Granted
Solar Farm and Associated Development
Black Peak Farm, Fowlmere Road, Melbourn, SG8 7PJ
Lightsource SPV107

The Parish Council noted the decision. Fowlmere PC has made SCDC Planning Officers aware that the verges have special protection on them. If damage is done to them in the course of this development then Fowlmere PC will be expecting full restoration and reparation. Please confirm that this is understood and agreed.

7. Other Matters and Updates

a) Letter to Planning Inspectorate

Cllr Wragg has already previously circulated the proposed letter and the final version will be sent off in the next couple of days.

b) New play equipment

	<p>To be discussed at the main January PC meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Wragg has noted that the 30mph sign from the approach from Thriplow into the village on the lhs is obscured by the Foxton sign! Clerk to report on CCC web-site</p> <p>Clerk to e-mail The Green to say that the PC are continuing to be concerned about the toppling post and it would be helpful to know what the entrance to their property on the public highway and ask what their plan is as comments are coming from members of the public.</p> <p>Muddy road to Foxton to go on the next agenda.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 8:40pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>The minutes were agreed and signed as an accurate record.</p> <p>Pipers Close, a planning application has been receive regarding the mobile home which the PC will view retrospectively.</p> <p>The solar farm have come back to the PC to say they will repair any damage to the protected verges etc as part of the application.</p> <p>B) COMMUNICATION RE WAR MEMORIAL The Clerk has received an e-mail to say that English Heritage wish to list the Fowlmere War memorial. The PC were agreeable in theory but wanted to know if there were any implications etc re additional cleaning and maintenance? Clerk to ask. The question was also asked if the tunnel is listed? - Cllr Bottrill to ask Martin Sheldrick.</p> <p>The meeting was opened, and then closed to members of the public and press</p> <p>The Smith family attended to ask about the memorial stone application for Jasper Smith and asked, "Did the Clerk have to be present when an application is viewed?" Cllr Roberts advised this is not the case and explained the process for permission given.</p> <p>Helen Davis also attended the meeting and would like to see copies of correspondence regarding King Street Housing which were provided</p>	
7.	<p>BURIAL BOARD: A) MEMORIAL BENCH The application have been received from JK Memorials and all changes have been made regarding height etc and all that remains is the design along the top and the PC were in agreement that the application could progress for the headstone. The family have been thanked for adapting their ideas and all agreed on this final design. Clerk to reply back to the stone mason.</p> <p>The Mulholland family have requested to put in a bench at the cemetery. All agreed and asked the Clerk to thank them for their kind gesture.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
8.	<p>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES: A) SAVILE WAY PLANTING</p> <p>B) DAMAGED PILLAR AT THE GREEN The Clerk reported that the residents have replied to say the damage is being assessed as part of an insurance claim. Cllr Topping was asked to make sure Highways are aware as there have been quite a few questions asked from residents about its safety.</p>	<p>Cllr Topping</p>

9.	<p>FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES</p> <p>A) CHEQUES PAID Mrs J Wright January 14 Salary - £629.37 Seniorlink Eldercare Dec 14 (monthly charge for residents' pendant scheme) - £64.43 Mrs J Wright - refund for new toner cartridge (Amazon) - £49.93 Eon - Chapel Electricity - £28.98 St Mary's Room Hire for 2014 - £30.00 URC Room Hire for 2014 - £252.00 Shire Tree Surgery (Ryecroft Lane / Moat) - £165.00 Transfer of funds from current account to new savings account at Cambridge Building Society - cheque signed for £40,000 Cheques in from Keppey (plot purchase £70.00), Paintin (Memorial Stone fee £180) Peasgood and Skeates (2 x internment fees £30 and £150)</p> <p>B) PRECEPT FOR 2015-6 This was discussed in the previous Finance Meeting, but the precept has been submitted and accepted.</p> <p>C) PROPOSED NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT This was discussed in more detail also at the previous Finance meeting</p>	
10.	<p>OTHER MATTERS (FOR DECISION) The Sustainability workshop will go onto the February agenda.</p>	Clerk
11.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE The correspondence list was noted.</p>	
12.	<p>ACTION LIST UPDATE:</p> <p>A) CHRISHALL GRANGE LEAFLET These are being delivered this week, as mention of them has been made in the current FATN.</p> <p>The Parish Election will take place in May and Cllr Roberts hopes that all will consider staying on the Council and seek to make up the two vacancies.</p> <p>The action list was updated accordingly.</p>	Cllr Wragg
13.	<p>OTHER MATTERS:</p> <p>A) POST-CHRISTMAS MEAL To defer until Wed 11th March</p> <p>B) CAPALC GARDEN PARTY Cllr Peacock, Cllr Howe and Cllr Sunderland would like to be considered for the CAPALC invitation to the Garden Party.</p> <p>C) COUNCILLOR TRAINING This is to take place in the coming weeks at Cambourne and Sawston and Cllr Wragg, Bottrill, Bearpark and Sunderland will be attending.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9:00pm</p>	