

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL** HELD
IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE
18TH NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7.30 PM

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

IN ATTENDANCE: There was no-one in attendance

		Actions
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: There were apologies from Cllr C Howe, Cllr J Peacock and Cllr L Wragg and Cllr Roberts will chair the meeting in the absence of Cllr Wragg	
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS: No items were declared	
3.	MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 21ST OCTOBER 2014: The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.	
4.	MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising. Clerk to enquire about the separate price of a train as part of the woodland set from Wicksteed.	Clerk
5.	STANDING ORDERS: Cllr Wragg and Cllr Roberts have circulated the final word changes to the Standing Orders. Cllr Sunderland proposed the amendments, Cllr Bottrill seconded and all agreed.	
6.	COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS: Cllr Topping attended the meeting and gave the following report: "Streetlighting <i>I was pleased that your chairman was able to attend the briefing at the county highways depot the other week and make first contact with Balfour Beatty. For the changeover to be successful, the parish council needs to work closely with Balfour Beatty's representative, Keeley Russell, who can get changes made if the design authority at the county agree. The key thing is to work fast as the contractors put in the poles quickly. (see also end of this report for further ahead view on streetlighting.)</i> Bus fares <i>I am still chasing for a reply on this from the county council - I may have an update. Apologies.</i> Thermal imaging cameras <i>Thermal imaging is a great way to interest people in saving energy in their homes. The thermal camera makes heat visible, pinpointing the gaps where heat is leaking out in bright 'take action!' colour. South Cambs has 3 cameras available to borrow, free of charge, this year. To borrow one need to contact Resources Officer, Joseph Minutolo to book and arrange collection and return. Joseph can be reached on 01954 713359 or at joseph.minutolo@scambs.gov.uk. If you're new to thermal imaging South Cambs will be running a training session at the Melbourn Hub on 26 November, 7 – 8.30 pm.</i> Solar farm planning application between Whittlesford and Thriplow. <i>I attended the committee hearing in early November but the application was stayed by the committee after concerns from an environment lawyer. I expect the application will be taken at</i>	

the December planning committee meeting.

Local plan examinations hearings

I attended one session of the hearings which will start again early next year. The main focus of debate so far has been whether the figures of 14,000 new homes in Cambridge and 19,000 new homes in South Cambridgeshire identified in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) are appropriate. As expected, developer representatives argued for substantially higher housing figures for both Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire and particularly focused on affordability of housing. You can follow progress with the examination on the Council's website: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/local-plan-examination>.

Recycling

Recycling - the County Council review of recycling is still going on. An analysis of site usage has been carried out. Thriplow fares reasonably well. The critical thing will be to make sure that if the number of sites is reduced, the one serving south cambs is Thriplow, not Milton, which serves the City mainly. I will continue to monitor and feed in views to this.

Broadband

The cabinet at Jacksons Way/ High Street. I have been sent a detailed report and an apology by the County Council - which I pass on to the parish council. They tried three different sites in the locality but were unable to find a better location than the one along the footpath.

Park & Ride

Extra ticket machines are now due to be installed to make it quicker and easier. Please remember you can go online to www.cambridgeparkandride.com to pay for parking at the sites, where a number of options are available from discounted annual seasons to pay as you go for occasional users. Extra signs have also been put in place to help customers, and staff are on hand to give advice and help people use the system.

Cambridgeshire Electoral Review

Public consultation will shortly start on the new electoral map of Cambridgeshire. The Boundary Commission has now indicated a reduction in Councillors from 69 to 63 is appropriate, and working out which Parishes go with which others has started. if you have a view then please contact the Commission at reviews@lqbce.org.uk.

Drains cleaning!

As the winter rains start the county will be kept busy unblocking gullies and drains. If there is debris in a gully it can be suctioned out at a cost of something like £3 per drain). The connections between drains are not included in the exercise. If a vehicle is obstructing access then the work can't be done. If you think we've got drains untended and overlooked, a photo/exact location needs to be sent to the County Council. All surface water drains will have water sitting on the top.. It's grass and muck up to the top that constitute a bad sign. Once done a small paint mark will be applied to show it's completed.

Shared Services & Cost Cutting

South Cambridgeshire District Council has now agreed a number of shared services which – if all goes according to plan - will cut costs by 15%. Legal and ICT will be shared between Huntingdonshire District, Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District councils, with the waste and recycling link up between Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District councils only. Turning to the County Council it needs to make £32.6 million in savings next year which means some very fundamental cuts. Proposals include cutting extra support to adult learning programmes in Fenland; a review of Cambridgeshire Future Transport and public transport provision with new savings to be looked for from 2016/17; saving £278,000 over two years by dimming most street lights in residential areas and then switching them off between midnight and 6am. Lights would be kept on all night in certain areas such as busy junctions and main traffic routes or where there is a lot of late night activity. Parish Councils

	<p><i>would be able to pay for lights they feel are important to stay on all night – estimated cost for this is around £15 a year per lamp column."</i></p> <p>A light should be put on the BT Box as it's a very dark coloured box and some means of lighting has to be put into place now (via Cllr Topping).</p> <p>The P&R machines are too complicated and adding insult to injury and the idea should be scrapped, it is a disgrace, Clerk to go back to Cllr Topping.</p>	<p>Cllr Topping</p> <p>Cllr Topping</p>
7.	<p>PLANNING COMMITTEE: A) PLANNING MINUTES FROM 21ST OCTOBER 2014</p> <p>These were present in the main minutes from October 2014</p> <p>B) THE TRIANGLE</p> <p>There has been a letter of apology from King Street Housing. There has been no update on the two residents who will have to have a change of accommodation but the PC expect to hear once the properties have been vacated. Cllr Wragg to reply and circulate.</p> <p>The new 'local connections' guidelines have been circulated to all Cllr's.</p> <p>The Millennium Oak tree is to be replaced as promised. The PC have no objections to a slight adjustment to its placement. As long as they look out for local services. Mr Teasdale is expecting further trees to be planted and Lovell's need to adhere to the original site planting plan.</p> <p>There is paperwork to support the removal of the tree outside plots 1 and 2. The Tree Officer at SCDC to look at the Tree Constraints schedule and explain the history</p> <p>The Meeting was then opened and then closed to members of the public.</p>	<p>Cllr Wragg</p> <p>Clerk</p>
8.	<p>BURIAL BOARD:</p> <p>There was a burial for cremated remains and an enquiry about a fee for a memorial stone but nothing further on the outstanding Smith memorial concern.</p>	
9.	<p>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES: A) SAVILE WAY PLANTING</p> <p>Clerk to ask for 2 further competitive quotes.</p> <p>B) VILLAGE TREE WORK</p> <p>The final tranche of tree work in the village has been commissioned and some Section 106 money can be used (on Parish owned land but not the Cemetery trees)</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
10.	<p>FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES: A) MINUTES FROM 21ST OCTOBER 2014</p> <p>Minutes of the meeting of Fowlmere Parish Council Finance and General Purposes Committee held in the School Room, URC, Chapel Lane, Fowlmere, Tuesday 21st October 2014 at 7:00pm.</p> <p>Present: Cllr L Wragg (Vice-Chair), Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr C Howe, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr D Roberts, Cllr M Sunderland and Mrs J Wright (Clerk).</p>	

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Bearpark, with Cllr Howe apologising for a slightly late arrival.

2. Minutes of previous meeting/Matters Arising

The previous minutes of 15th April 2014 had already been agreed and signed at a previous PC meeting.

3. New Finance Chair

Cllr O'Regan has resigned from the Council and so a new Finance Chair is needed. Cllr Sunderland was proposed to be Finance Chair by Cllr Wragg, Cllr Roberts seconded and all agreed. Cllr Wragg is still to be Vice-Chair.

4. Review of income and expenditure.**a) Moving Bank Account(s)**

The Clerk explained about the better rates of interest for the deposit account at the Cambridge Building Society. £60,000 to be moved to a Cambridge BS account. Cllr Wragg proposed, Cllr Peacock to second, all agreed to open the Cambridge account. Cllr Wragg to proposed to put £60,000.00 in, Cllr Bottrill seconded, all agreed.

5. Precept

The Clerk to produce a draft of the 2015-2016 Precept.

Cllr Roberts would like to see the legal fees increased in the budget (£5,000) for potentially advice surrounding the Local Plan, just for one year. If unused, this would reduce the precept the following year.

Cllr Roberts explained about a sycamore that residents would like to take down in Jacksons Way. It has prompted further discussion about the ownership of that piece of land so it may be worth considering some funding for legal fees. There is a well on that land which could cause issues.

6. Trees, Grass and Hedges**a) Next round of village tree work**

The Clerk explained the costs of undertaking the next round of planned tree work in the village, hopefully to come from Section 106 money. Clerk to ask also about protected verges could come from Section 106 money and this could pay for lifting the cuttings (appropriate maintenance of a valued village amenity). Clerk to commission tree work.

Clerk to go back to Hardy's to say OK for 2 village cuts this month. It was agreed that the overhanging trees in Ryecroft lane which border the moat should be tackled next year, rather than annually.

7. Future Projects**a) Cost of Chapel Cupboards**

Clerk to order 2 x cupboards, walnut is a more appropriate colour.

b) Village Survey of spending priorities

	<p>Clerk to ask again in the FATN.</p> <p>c) Replacement train at The Butts Cllr's to look further into play equipment. Cllr's agreed to replace the play train at the Butts and the Table-tennis table for installation in the Spring.</p> <p>8. Other Matters There were no other matters</p> <p>9. Date of next meeting Tuesday 20th January 2015 (presumably 7:00pm), prior to the PC Meeting at the URC, Chapel Lane.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 7:40pm.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Cllr Sunderland proposed, Cllr Roberts seconded and all agreed they were a true and accurate record and were duly signed.</p> <p>B) CHEQUES PAID Chq 008 - Cambridgeshire County Council - Streetlighting Oct 13 - Sept 14 - £1172.28 Chq 009 - Mrs J Wright - October 14 Salary - £629.37 Chq 010 - Seniorlink Eldercare Oct 14 (monthly charge for residents' pendant scheme) - £64.43 Chq 011 - Equip4work Ltd (cupboards for the chapel) - £607.20 Chq 012 - Hardy Landscapes (Oct 14) - £1536.96 Chq 013 - E-on (Chapel Electricity) - £28.35 Chq 014 - Mrs J Wright (Refund for buying outdoor Xmas lights and decorations for village tree) - £90.00 (£200 budgeted, Mike proposed, John Seconded, all agreed) Chq 015 - Mrs J Wright (Refund for Oct 14 Telecoms) - £43.80</p> <p>Clerk to let Sally Ayres know the pump shelter cannot be used when the Xmas tree is in there.</p> <p>Clerk to measure the height for the proposed tree.</p> <p>C) SECTION 106 MONEY This had already been discussed.</p> <p>D) PROPOSED PRECEPT FOR 2015-6 The proposed increase is too high for extra legal fees and this has been revised to £1500 and an overall increase of 3% which is acceptable. Clerk to re-circulate.</p> <p>E) VILLAGE SPEND Clerk to put a request for suggestions in the New Year FATN</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
11.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE The correspondence list was noted.</p> <p>All Cllr's to look at Thriplow Map in order to make decisions regarding the new Fowlmere map. The Clerk to take measurements of the current stand outside the church.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
12.	<p>ACTION LIST UPDATE: A) CHRISHALL GRANGE LEAFLET Clerk to double check when the last cut happened as the verges are looking very long, especially on Long Lane.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

	The action list was updated accordingly.	
13.	<p>OTHER MATTERS:</p> <p>A) UPDATE ON THE VILLAGE HALL</p> <p>Cllr Bottrill reported that the VH Committee need a new Chairman and a new secretary. The Pavilion Room is in the process of being done up.</p> <p>There is no update on the PO service at St Mary's - Cllr Sunderland to see if he can find out anything further.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts mentioned that she had learnt that there could possibly be some financial benefit to parishes from local solar farms - in the case of Black Peak, this would go to Melbourn which seems unfair to Fowlmere, especially as they have held events in the village here to raise support. Clerk to ask the Meldreth Clerk if they are receiving any financial benefit for their one.</p> <p>Do we know when the fibre-optic changeover will happen - Clerk to ask Cllr Topping?</p> <p>Cllr Bearpark commented that the letter to King Street Housing by Cllr Wragg and Cllr Roberts was very good and commended them on their continuing efforts.</p> <p>The Clerk asked about dates for the post-Xmas meal and a date of Tuesday 27th January 2015 was proposed. Cllr's to look into possible locations.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 8:40pm</p>	<p>Cllr Sunderland</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Topping (Clerk)</p> <p>All</p>