

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL** HELD
IN SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE
21st JULY 2009 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr M Bates, Cllr P Cook, Cllr A Eades, Cllr P Flynn,
Cllr D Woods, Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr T Stone

		Actions:
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: – There were apologies from Cllr W Kohler	
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS: No items were declared	
3.	MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 16TH JUNE 2009: The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.	
4.	<p>MATTERS ARISING:</p> <p>7) The bus shelter does have woodworm and Cllr Flynn and Cllr Woods are going to treat it as part of their maintenance project. Cllr Eades offered to assist. The same Councillors will also look at the wooden triangular bench on the Butts as this needs some attention too.</p> <p>13) Cllr Bates has left several messages with David Kenney from English Heritage but has had no response. The Round Moat to be a regular monthly item on the agenda.</p> <p>The iron bench on the Butts needs new bolts and this is in hand with the contracted maintenance.</p> <p>16) The tiles on the bus shelter project is to start in September. It was agreed that Cllr Kohler could now provide regular updates on progress as there was no longer a conflict of interest, given that all financial agreements were in place.</p>	<p>Cllr Flynn, Cllr Eades & Cllr Woods</p> <p>(Clerk)</p>
5.	<p>COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS: Cllr Tim Stone gave his report:</p> <p><i>“Jointly Funded Minor Highway Improvements</i> <i>At last Monday’s meeting of the South Cambridgeshire Traffic Management Area Joint Committee we once again expressed our disappointment at the way parish bids for funding had all failed for this financial year. It is likely that next year’s bids will be scored the same way and therefore we shall see no more than a few dropped kerbs and bits of white lines. We have asked for the whole scheme to be re-evaluated for the year 2011/12.</i></p> <p><i>Transport Innovation Fund</i> <i>The Cambridgeshire Transport Commission reported today. County Councillors were given a preview this afternoon and a public meeting is being held in the Guildhall in Cambridge this evening.</i></p> <p><i>The full report is available at www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk Essentially it says that something must be done and that the County’s proposals are sound.</i></p>	

The County is suggesting £325 million is spent on improving public transport, £55 million on improving cycle routes, £11 million on pedestrian improvements and £108 million on improving highways.

However the suggestion is that the County should challenge the government to supply the money and then agree with the County that the congestion charge would be implemented only when a given level of increased congestion has been reached. This would take the sting out of the argument about a congestion charge for vehicle movements between 7.30 and 9.30 in the morning.

When I asked Sir Brian Briscoe (the Chair of the Commission) about the details of the congestion charge he suggested that these could wait until later; the important thing was to get government agreement before the rug is pulled from under the money. This is a hot potato in the City, where the City Council is looking for substantial discounts for residents. We shall see.

Housing Growth Fund

Meanwhile the County has just been informed that £6 million of the Housing Growth Fund money allocated by the government to help pay for infrastructure in new developments has been withdrawn and will be sent to more “deserving” places.

This is an absolute disgrace. Cambridgeshire’s continued growth depends on infrastructure being in place. A very strongly worded motion was passed at Full Council today protesting. Just as well Labour aren’t expected to win too many seats in Cambridgeshire in the next year or so.

Hanley Grange

Hanley Grange has gone quiet recently. This is because it is wrapped up in the new Regional Spatial Strategy negotiations, which takes the plan to 2031. The East of England Regional Assembly (EERA) deliberated on 17th July but has yet to produce a written report giving its views on all the submissions by the region’s strategic planning authorities.

Unofficially we are told that there will be four scenarios going out for public consultation in September. Cambridgeshire’s proposal to freeze the figure of new housing at the 75,000 level in the 2021 plan will apparently not be accepted. The county’s alternative to allow 15,000 additional houses to take the total to 90,000 is apparently the minimum that EERA will accept; all other scenarios are for much higher numbers. Cambridgeshire points out that higher levels of house building have never been achieved locally and there is no reason to expect that that will change.

In any event EERA’s plan will go out for a 12-week consultation in September then an Inspector will decide next April (probably) on what should be in the Regional Spatial Strategy.

Flint Cross

County Highways have proposed an accident reduction plan for the A505 at Flint Cross. Graham Taylor of Cambridgeshire Highways explained the plan at a site visit on 10th July which I attended with Melbourn county councillor Susan van de Ven and two Fowlmere School governors.

The essence of the plan is introduce ‘discipline’ to this stretch of road, where numerous unmarked turn-offs and slip roads create an unclear situation leading to accidents. That would involve slightly reducing the width of the road on the side of

	<p><i>the petrol station and putting in traffic islands - some lit - both to prevent overtaking and at one of them to give a place for pedestrians to cross. Mr Taylor agreed that, if they wished him to do so, he would visit local parish councils to explain and answer questions. The project is funded to go ahead this financial year and it's important that the opportunity be seized to avoid falling off the list - but equally it's important that the scheme be one that will make a positive difference.</i></p> <p><i>The budget for the scheme is £100K. We asked about the possibility of traffic lights but these would be prohibitively expensive and are therefore not being considered.</i></p> <p><i>One element not included in the scheme which we queried on the site visit is a 50mph speed restriction along the whole of the stretch. While the proposed scheme does not officially require consultation, a proposed speed limit reduction would, and so this will go to the October meeting of the Area Joint Traffic Management Committee, of which I am a member. Highways would like to start the work around September, but the question of the speed limit restriction could cause a brief delay."</i></p> <p>Cllr Roberts thanked Cllr Stone for his continued efforts regarding improving safety at Flint Cross – it is greatly appreciated.</p> <p>Cllr Stone mentioned that he was now aware of the 'hidden' 30mph sign on the outskirts of the village and would seek to have the overgrown trees cut back.</p> <p>The PC asked Cllr Stone about the Renault testing days at Duxford. He reported that whilst there is some opposition, it seems the majority of local residents are in favour of anything that brings profitability to the museum. Whittlesford and Pampisford are to conduct their own local surveys into the effects of noise.</p> <p>Cllr Stone added that the County was still in negotiations with Duxford about selling the land to them and this should be resolved one way or another by the end of the year.</p> <p>The PC asked Cllr Stone to push for the pot holes outside of the school to be mended as they are in a dreadful state. Cllr Stone was unaware that this had not already been done and will chase up with the Highways Department.</p>	<p>Cllr Stone</p> <p>Cllr Stone</p>
6.	<p>PLANNING COMMITTEE: The minutes of the previous planning meeting were agreed and are detailed below:</p>	

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE DOROTHY PLUCK ROOM, ST MARY'S CHURCH,
On 7 July 2009 at 7.15pm**

PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chair), Cllr A Eades, Cllr, P Flynn, Cllr W Kohler, Cllr D Woods, Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: There were apologies from Cllr M Bates.

1.	Declarations of interest (if any)
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	<p>Before discussion, Cllr Roberts declared that if an application is later placed before South Cambridgeshire District Council she will approach any new information afresh.</p> <p>It was noted that Item 8 would need to have a personal interest declared.</p>
2.	<p>S/0595/09/LB - For information only. Permission Granted Alter interior and exterior – install 2 new fire surrounds and open hearth (g.f), remove external stair. Remodel back stair to f.f. Replace and enlarge glazed porch. Remove modern floor in attached cottage, install spiral stair and gallery. Changes to windows, door and roofs. 9 Chapel Lane, Fowlmere Dr & Mrs Hobro</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the decision.</p>
3.	<p>S/0595/09/LB – For information only. Amended Plans Alter interior and exterior – install 2 new fire surrounds and open hearth (g.f), remove external stair. Remodel back stair to f.f. Replace and enlarge glazed porch. Remove modern floor in attached cottage, install spiral stair and gallery. Changes to windows, door and roofs. 9 Chapel Lane, Fowlmere Dr & Mrs Hobro</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the amendment.</p>
4.	<p>S/0594/09/F – For information only. Permission Granted Replacement porch, extension to roof and alterations 9 Chapel Lane, Fowlmere Dr & Mrs Hobro</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the decision.</p>
5.	<p>S/0594/09/F – For information only. Amended plans Replacement porch, extension to roof and alterations 9 Chapel Lane, Fowlmere Dr & Mrs Hobro</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the amendment.</p>
6.	<p>S/1779/08/F – For information only. Permission Granted Installation of replacement signage (re-using existing lighting) partially retrospective. Swan House, High Street, Fowlmere Mr Rahman</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the decision. Cllr Roberts to speak to SCDC Planning about the flashing sign which is mentioned in the planning notice.</p>
7.	<p>S/0558/09/F – For information only. Permission granted Variation of condition 3 to allow windows at the first floor in the North West elevation Burnaby, Thriplow Road, Fowlmere, Mr Mark Townend & Mrs Alison Townend</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the decision.</p>
8.	<p>S/0727/09/F Oil Tank</p>

	<p>32 Chapel Lane, Fowlmere Mrs Jackie Wright</p> <p>All Parish Council members declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 8 and will leave the decision to SCDC.</p>
9.	<p>S/0773/09/F Extension 3 Cambridge Road, Fowlmere Mr & Mrs Easto</p> <p>The Parish Council has no objection to this application as it is not over-large, is in keeping with the rest of the building and is not overlooking the neighbour's property.</p>
10.	<p>Other Matters and Updates</p> <p>There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.25 pm</p>

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE UNITED REFORM CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE,
On **21st July 2009 at 7.15pm**

PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chair), Cllr A Eades, Cllr, P Flynn, Cllr D Woods, Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: There were apologies from Cllr M Bates and Cllr Kohler.

1.	<p>Declarations of interest <i>(if any)</i></p> <p>Before discussion, Cllr Roberts declared that if an application is later placed before South Cambridgeshire District Council she will approach any new information afresh.</p> <p>.</p>
2.	<p>S/0950/09/F Replace park home with a dwelling. Springfields, Fowlmere Road, Melbourn Mrs Maxine Blyth</p> <p>The Parish Council supported the application, which they felt was justified given the existing cattery business which clearly required living accommodation on site, rather than in a mobile home which the applicant had been doing for many years. The proposed bungalow would be an improvement on the existing structure in the countryside. Should permission be granted, it would need to be a requirement that the existing mobile home be removed on completion of the bungalow.</p>
3.	<p>Other Matters and Updates</p> <p>There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.20 pm</p>

6. cont	<p>Cllr Roberts introduced an e-mail from Savills concerning potential development sites in Fowlmere. This would be discussed at the next Planning Meeting to be held on 4th August at 6:00 (Clerk to book the Chapel for the meeting). Cllr Roberts to circulate all necessary correspondence in advance of the meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk Cllr Roberts</p>
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	In the meantime, the Clerk to respond to Savills to explain their correspondence would be discussed and we would report back after the planning meeting. Clerk also to request information on the client, confirmation if they are a registered social landlord and if they represent more than one party. THE MEETING WAS OPENED TO THE PRESS AND PUBLIC	Clerk
7.	BURIAL BOARD Cllr Woods reported that a letter had been received from SCDC about a previous application for funding at the Chapel, asking if the PC would be applying this year. It was agreed that Cllr Woods would reply back to say we would not be applying at present as the criteria for the funds available do not support the particular works necessary at the Chapel at this stage.	Cllr Woods
8.	TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES There was nothing to report. a) Update on the Moat This had been covered previously in the agenda	
9.	FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES The minutes from 7 th July 09 were agreed as a true record and are recorded below:	

Minutes of the meeting of **Fowlmere Parish Council**
Finance and General Purposes Committee
held at the Dorothy Pluck Room, St Mary's Church, Fowlmere,
Tuesday 7 July 2009 at 7-30 p.m.

Present: Cllr D Woods (Chairman Finance), Cllr P Cook, Cllr P Flynn, Cllr W Kohler, Cllr D Roberts.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr M Bates sent his apologies

1 Minutes of the previous meeting

Had already been ratified at the May 2009 Parish Council meeting

Actions

2 Matters arising

There were no matters arising which were not to be covered in the Agenda

3 Review of Income and Expenditure

Cllr Woods informed the Council that expenses were under-budget, even taking into consideration that it is still early in the financial year and that the annual insurance cost a little more than expected.

Cllr Woods requested if an updated version of Sage (Accountancy package) could be purchased. It was agreed the Clerk would investigate and purchase if under £200.

Clerk

Cllr Woods informed the Council that the accounts are now with the external auditor. A letter has been received requesting some further information which the Clerk and Cllr Woods will respond to. It was added that the Standing Orders should be on the July 09 meeting for the Parish Council to review and ratify.

Clerk & Cllr Woods (Clerk)

4 Trees and Grass

Cllr Woods has confirmed the details with Chris Wall re the hedging in the cemetery extension.

Re planting new trees in the village – it was agreed that the number of trees in the village is fine at present but should be reviewed at a later date.

5 Future Projects

Nothing has been spent so far on future projects but Cllr P Flynn suggested the Butts could do with some additional swings so this could be considered for the next precept.

6 Other matters

Village Hall

The Village Hall needs to be asked to fill out the log for the security cameras and report to the PC regularly and especially after every AGM which hasn't happened recently. FPC paid for a new video camera for the Village Hall in 2002 and a new one has been requested which has been quoted at £850, which is not in the precept.

The grass cutting at the Village Hall has also been requested to be included in FPC's annual village maintenance. This has not been requested in writing, neither is it in the precept. The inclusion of the basketball court insurance has also been asked to be considered.

It was suggested that the 'Village Hall' is included as a heading in every monthly Parish Council meeting and a report included. **(Clerk)**

War Memorial

It was agreed that Cllr Roberts could purchase the replacement planter for the War Memorial (£36) and she would ask Mr Deans to fix it into place. **Cllr Roberts**

ROSPA

Following the annual inspection, Anglian Playgrounds are providing a quote for the listed repairs / maintenance. Cllr Flynn and Cllr Woods are also helping by doing some maintenance such as re-painting. **Cllr Flynn & Cllr Woods**

Bus Shelter

There is definitely woodworm on the side of the bus shelter which needs repairing – Cllr Flynn and Cllr Woods to include in their maintenance. **Cllr Flynn & Cllr Woods**

There has been no progress in the school project of tiling the inside of the shelter. **Cllr Kohler**

Clerk

The new Clerk has nearly reached the end of her first three months and a review should now take place. This has been arranged for early August with Cllr Roberts and Cllr Woods.

7 Date of next meeting – Tuesday 6th October 2009

Meeting closed at 7.45 pm

9. Cont	<p>a) Matters Arising</p> <p>3) The Clerk reported that the Sage upgrade should cost about £150 and will report further to Cllr Woods</p> <p>6) War Memorial Planter – Cllr Roberts to approach a local builder to quote for fixing the planter in place, which has now been purchased.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Roberts</p>
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	<p>ROSPA – the quote for contracted maintenance is £590 plus VAT and this needs to go ahead immediately. Cllr Roberts thanked Cllr Flynn and Cllr Woods for their continued efforts in maintaining the play equipment in the village.</p>	
10.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Cllr Bates to replace Cllr Hawkins as the Duxford liaison. The Clerk to write to Duxford with Cllr Bates details but also request information, agendas etc and a list of meetings in advance. Cllr Woods to deputise in Cllr Bates absence.</p> <p>Clerk to chase up progress with the proposed new textile bank</p> <p>Re overhanging trees in Thriplow Road. Clerk to respond saying that the trees were in Thriplow's Parish on what was probably Oliver Woolston's land – the Thriplow Clerk is Mrs Easthope.</p> <p>Regarding the request for information about past accounts, the Clerk to work with Cllr Woods to provide the required information.</p> <p>Re letter from Cambridge County Council Swine Flu procedures – Clerk to place on the notice board.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk & Cllr Woods</p> <p>Clerk</p>
11.	<p>OTHER MATTERS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY:</p> <p>a) Recruitment of New Parish Councillors It was thought that a formal election may need to take place, following the interest shown in the two positions. The Clerk to seek clarification from SCDC and report back at the next meeting.</p> <p>b) Village Hall Following the verbal request to include grass cutting in the PC budget, the Clerk to write to the Village Hall Chairman asking for all requests to be made in writing and to be, where possible, made before the next years precept is set (January). The PC would also like a copy of the most recent accounts (incl any requests for Grant Aid) and a contact list for the Village Hall.</p> <p>The request to purchase the Village Hall a new digital video recorder was proposed by Cllr Woods, seconded by Cllr Flynn and was unanimously agreed. The Clerk and Cllr Woods to respond to the Village Hall (Tamsin Goodfellow at The Green) but with the understanding that all maintenance logs are kept and reports/accounts made regularly to the PC.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts had a report from Jeannie Grisoni at the Village Hall concerning unauthorised access to the land adjacent to the Village Hall for survey work, by Oxford Archaeology East on behalf of Chartism Housing. Cllr Roberts informed the company that they needed to write to the Parish Council officially to consideration regarding any access – no correspondence has yet been received.</p> <p>c) Standing Orders It was proposed by Cllr Woods, seconded by Cllr Eades and unanimously agreed that the Standing Orders are to be retained.</p> <p>Village Map Cllr Roberts reported that the village map outside the church was looking very bleached. In the first instance, the Clerk to seek a replacement from</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk (Cllr Woods)</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>Welding Alloys who kindly donated the last map. It was agreed that a more permanent, possibly stone relief map be considered as a longer-term future project.</p> <p>Contract for the Clerk Cllr Bates to finalise the contract before the Clerk's review on 4th August 09</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9:00m.</p>	Cllr Bates
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