

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD
IN THE PAVILLION ROOM, VILLAGE HALL, FOWLMERE
TUESDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2017 AT 7:30 PM**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Dorothy Woods, Mr George Moss

		Actions
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:	
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS: None were declared	
3.	MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 12TH SEPTEMBER 2017: The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.	
4.	MATTERS ARISING: Cllr Bearpark reported that Tony Glasscot is very happy to cut back the hedges on his boundary in Long Lane. The Clerk reported that Cllr Wells has resigned, Clerk to send a thank you card and advertise the position.	
5.	VILLAGE HALL A) CHANGING ROOM REFURBISHMENT The online SCDC Planning Process didn't recognise the postcode so the planning application hasn't progressed. An old planning permission proves the site. FPC still needs to register it. Cllr Burge offered to help the Clerk as required. B) PC REPRESENTATIVE ON VH COMMITTEE (AGM) Cllr Wells was the last representative. The meetings happen on the 1 st Wednesday of the month – no conclusion was reached but perhaps responsibility could be shared. C) LAND REGISTRATION ISSUES Clerk to progress as mentioned above.	Clerk (Cllr Burge)
6.	COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS: Cllr Topping attended the meeting and gave the following report: <i><u>“County roads and drainage issues</u></i> <i>I have asked the Whittlesford depot team to suggest dates for the site visit to address the issues raised by the parish council with regard to Pipers Close and Long Lane (preferred 23rd, until mid pm, all day 24th, pm of 25th is possible).</i> <i>I hope that the parish council was able to send someone to the highways open day at the Whittlesford Depot on 16 Oct. As always there was a good range of county highways staff present.</i> <i>The Local Highways Improvement bid process has now closed.</i> <i>If there are issues to do with proposed traffic projects as opposed to repairing what is already there, the relevant project manager:</i> James.Toombs@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	

There is also information on the bid process at:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/improving-your-local-highway/>

Combined Authority

Relevant to the issues concerning Fowlmere with regard to housing developments is that the Combined Authority has put in a bid to Govt for some £197m to move the water treatment site at Milton, freeing up the brownfield sites around Cambridge North Station for the building of homes. 1,500 of which will be in South Cambs and so therefore will COUNT against the targets set by government to be built in this district. This means that there will be less pressure on villages in South Cambs. This bid is going forward to government as the priority for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough and stands a very good chance of securing the money.

The Mayor and Combined Authority announced that the first tranche of 250 affordable homes to be built with money negotiated with the Government under devolution. This is the first of some 2,500 houses to be built – or work must have at least started – over the next three years. These are not houses to be built on new sites, they will be built on existing sites, but the govt money will be used to accelerate the building on sites which have stalled or are going slow. Further sites will be announced in the next few months. Many of these affordable houses will be in South Cambs, with a mix of social rent and shared ownership.

Children's Centres -

Proposals were debated today at Full Council on 17 Oct. There is a good Frequently Asked Questions site on this at

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-centres/children-s-centre-consultation-faqs/>

The County Council wants to save money by looking at the accommodation costs of children's centres, and whether the services – which are the point – can be provided using other buildings in some cases, and whether services such as health can be shared with centres.

I know that children's centres are well regarded and are at the heart of giving children a good start in life. I have spoken to mothers with young children about their concerns and I have discussed the proposals with health officers. I have also read the recent research into children's centres and other programmes aimed at early years provision.

The review that the county council has carried out has been in part to see whether the costs of the buildings that house children's centres can be reduced and whether the location of the services fits the changing population locations of the county. I think that is a sensible thing to do, because what may have been a good fit 20 years ago may not be now. The costs of maintaining office space - set up at a time when staff needed filing cabinets for papers - needed to be looked at, because the purpose of a children's centre is to provide services, and there are now different ways of doing that, especially the family hub models.

If the services for children are Co-located with health facilities as is proposed, that can make things easier for users, rather than have separate buildings. I note that 75% of people who responded to the consultation said Co-location with health services would be welcome.

	<p><i>It will be important that the impact of any changes are understood and monitored, especially the impact on mothers having to travel longer distances to access these services, and I have asked that that is done.</i></p> <p><u>Rural travel hubs and proposals to look at bus transport issues in South Cambridgeshire</u> <i>There are proposals to find ways of improving the rural travel services in our villages, being taken forward by the Greater Cambridge Partnership and South Cambs, and also proposals to look particularly at the bus services connecting villages in South Cambs. If the Parish Council would find it useful to have a discussion specifically on those issues can that be put on the November agenda.</i></p> <p><i>As always I can be contacted via peterwwtopping@gmail.com or 07825876582”</i></p> <p>A) CLEARANCE OF CCC LAND NEAR SCHOOL CAR PARK/BUTTS PEDESTRIAN GATE The Butts gate is still to be looked into. There is still goodwill to progress with a community orchard at the land near the school.</p> <p>B) A505 WORKING PARTY A bid is going in to undertake a study to see how the A505 could be improved. Cllr Topping is meeting with Heidi Allen this week. Cllr Howe - an improved A505 will make the rat-runs through the villages used more often and this needs to be factored in and avoided. We do not wish to generate more demand to use roads, with safety being the top priority. It would be worth organising a discussion with interested (A505) parties.</p> <p>Cllr Wragg - talked to Robert Turner and Sarah Stevens in April about very poor performance in recent months/years. The dept is under resourced and this was ‘batted away’ but has since unfortunately been proven to be true. Cllr Topping needs to be in the picture about this, it was put into writing but no proper reply was received (a copy to be sent to Cllr Topping by Cllr Wragg). Cllr Topping to arrange for Jane Green to become involved as she is looking at ‘processes’. Moral is very low in the planning dept.</p>	
7.	<p>DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE: There are the changes as mentioned in the planning dept (and also Sarah Stevens has left). The Local Plan is close to being agreed – to be in place in March 2018. The local housing problems will lessen if SCDC and the city are seen as one entity.</p> <p>Transport hubs – possibly one at Foxton on the A10 – Foxton PC had an officer come and explain the idea, Melbourn would probably be a better location.</p> <p>The SCDC majority party agreed to spend up to £50,000 (£250,000.00 in total) to do a combined bus survey – Cllr Roberts voted against it and tried to get an amendment to get it deferred. £50,000 would have paid for a Planning Officer.....</p> <p>The meeting was opened for urgent questions from members of the public and press.</p> <p>Dorothy Woods – a resident complained about the lights at the Village Hall at the last meeting – it’s the tennis court lights on a Tuesday and they’re not often used at night so they are hopefully unlikely to cause offence. Cllr Wragg thanked Dorothy for checking.</p> <p>Nico Schonken (Savile Way) contacted the PC by email and asked permission for his scaffolding to go over a very small piece of Parish land on his boundary as he is having some building work done (unavoidable as he adjoins the green at the end of Savile Way) and the Cllrs had no problem with this.</p> <p>The meeting was then closed to members of the public and press.</p>	

8.	<p>BURIAL BOARD The minutes of the last Burial Board were agreed and signed.</p> <p>A) FEEDBACK FROM THE CEMETERY CLEAR-UP The clear-up went very well 19 adults plus 4 children on the Saturday and 12 on the Sunday. Everyone worked very hard, a lot of debris was created! The back row looks hugely better. Cllr Mulholland will keep working on it and a local resident Ian Wilson has kindly offered the use of his trailer.</p> <p>Water theft - this was discussed and Cllr Mulholland and Cllr Vinton to progress. The registration number should be passed onto the Police.</p> <p>Some items were found in the bin which the PC have hung on to in case they are required.</p> <p>More gravel can be added to graves if needed once the back row is fully cleared.</p> <p>Grave stone insurance – this was raised by someone who has a stone at the cemetery and has been offered this. It's not something the PC have heard of before.</p>	<p>Cllr Mulholland / Cllr Vinton</p> <p>Clerk</p>
9.	<p>PLANNING COMMITTEE Nothing further to discuss.</p>	
10.	<p>ROAD SAFETY A) SPEEDWATCH UPDATE The first session has happened and it was useful to get the equipment up and running. Estimated about 10% of vehicles were 35mph and above but of course the Speedwatch volunteers were clearly visible which is obviously a deterrent. All comments made were positive!</p> <p>B) TRAFFIC SURVEY UPDATE The data is in and can be circulated.</p> <p>C) CASUALTY REDUCTION SUPPORT FUND This is on hold until after the results of the survey have been analysed.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
11.	<p>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES A) TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS Clerk to thank and ask for the timescale on the application, stating that there is some urgency.</p> <p>B) SAVILE WAY PLANTING This has already been discussed.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
12.	<p>FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES A) CHEQUES PAID Glen Johnson Period Properties – Fire Engine Shed and Chapel Wall - £695.00 & £1940.00 Agriplant Protected Verges - £864.00 Hags – VH Play Equipment (Section 106) - £17112.06 Fowlmere Village Hall Pavillion Room Hire x 2 - £48.00 Kompan Butts Swings - £5527.72 (section 106) J Wright Refund for Amazon Toner and Chequers (non-alcoholic) meeting Refreshments - £63.95 E-on Chapel Electricity - £46.46 PKF Littlejohn Audit Fee - £276.00 Fowlmere Joinery – Noticeboard Repairs - £60.00 Road Data Service Ltd - £690.00 Hardy Landscapes – September Grasscutting - £718.54</p>	

	<p>SW Gardens and Landscape - £60.00 CPRE Delegate Fee (P Burge) - £40.00 Jackie Wright September Salary - £667.59 NEST Pension - £3.26 HMRC - £2.00 Telecoms refund to J Wright - £32.46 Donation towards Remembrance Wreath - £60.00 Donation to Fowlmere Friendship Club Xmas Donner - £250.00 Dave Salmons – bench repair - £100.00 Seniorlink September - £82.86 Money in £30.00 Ivett and Reed Stone fee (Wilson), 2nd half of the Precept £18027.50</p>	
13	<p>CORRESPONDENCE: A note to be made about the Queen’s Head – there are concerns about access being allowed to view the property. Clerk to phone Everards and ask what the conditions are for being able to view the premises and books.</p>	Clerk
14	<p>ACTION LIST UPDATE: The action list was updated accordingly.</p> <p>A) IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO VILLAGE LIFE To be further advertised and carried over to the next agenda.</p> <p>B) WEBSITE UPDATE The Clerk showed the Cllrs the new web-site which they were very pleased with. The Clerk to instruct the developer to make it live as soon as possible. Cllrs were reminded to send across their revised wording and pictures.</p> <p>C) MEETING RE THRIPLow DAFFODILS It was very positive and ideas are still being discussed. Paul was having similar meetings with other local groups/areas. Clerk to ask for an update – and say the PC are very willing to meet again.</p> <p>D) FOWLMERE FESTIVAL 2018 IDEAS Rachel Collins would unfortunately not have the spare capacity to arrange anything with this as she has many other commitments in the village. Dorothy would like to be involved if the VH is to be used. Other ‘new’ people to be involved.</p>	<p>Clerk / Cllr Mulholland</p> <p>Clerk All</p> <p>Clerk</p>

15	<p>OTHER MATTERS:</p> <p>A reminder that the PC Xmas meal is booked at the Chequers for Tuesday 5th December.</p> <p>Clerk to advertise the vacant position on the PC with a closing date of 30th November, with interviews at the December meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Bearpark explained that an Appleacre resident was spoken to quite rudely by someone who claimed to be a Parish Councillor. Cllr Bearpark to let his resident know that it is not a current member of the PC and if it happens again, please ask for a name and regret this has happened to a resident.</p> <p>Cllr Vinton visited the open day for the proposed development at The Triangle – and a representative said the speeding in the village would be addressed by ‘putting speedbumps in the road’ – there was little mention of the complex processes involved in obtaining appropriate speeding measures, which the PC is currently undertaking..... There is scope for a secure play area.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21:45pm.</p> <p>The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 21st November 7:30pm at the Village Hall (Pavillion Room) with the Burial Board beforehand at 7:00pm.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Bearpark</p>
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