

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD
IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE
15TH JANUARY 2013 AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr P Flynn, Cllr E O'Regan, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr N Webb, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr D Silenki and Mr M Inchcome (Melbourn Stores).

		Actions
1.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Tim Stone and Cllr Bearpark</p>	
2.	<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS: No items were declared.</p>	
3.	<p>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 18TH DECEMBER 2012: The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.</p>	
4.	<p>MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising that aren't covered already on the agenda.</p>	
5.	<p>COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS: Cllr Stone is away and was therefore unable to attend the meeting:</p>	
6.	<p>PLANNING COMMITTEE:</p> <p>a) SCDC Local Plan All Cllr's have read or are reading the documentation and if any have any items further to add then they need to please let the Clerk know.</p> <p>b) Thriplow Triangle Cllr Roberts updated on the situation - This has always been a PC concept scheme, it has been a long process, originally with Circle Anglia as the HA for 10 units, purely rental. This was requested to change when Bedfordshire Pilgrims took over, to a 50:50 split for purely rental:part rent/part buy. Cllr Roberts and Cllr Wragg attended the Planning Meeting at SCDC and Cllr Wragg spoke on behalf of the PC. No evidence was submitted at the SCDC Planning meeting to support this proposed change by SCDC (no one from the HA or SCDC Housing Dept were there) but SCDC passed it, despite the comments from FPC not even being represented which was misleading. The SCDC Legal Officer also took part in the debate and said the grant funding had dried up which was unfortunate and therefore other methods of financing the schemes were necessary and reminded Cllr's that a few months back Steeple Morden had the same situation and up to 30% of any affordable scheme can be for part rent/part buy, so the precedent had been set. This has been found out to not be true. Cllr Roberts sent further information about part buy/part rent to all Cllr's from Bedfordshire Pilgrim's web-site.</p> <p>Cllr Webb said that the 25% level is encouraging, as it could be higher, Cllr Peacock was in agreement. The problem is that it is different to what we told the village we were progressing, via the back door.</p> <p>Cllr Wragg said that the Steeple Morden site has only 2 for part rent/part buy, ie 25% but they are looking to change 50% here. It was commented that FPC have been very badly betrayed</p>	All

	<p>but it was agreed that they can't defer to the next meeting as they apparently need to be on site by the end of March.</p> <p>The PC would have a huge number of complaints if the houses end up not being filled by local residents because there are not enough Fowlmere residents who want part buy/part rent and this is the whole basis the project was agreed on.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts has said that, using the misleading example of Steeple Morden, her e-mail to SCDC would hopefully result in the application going again to the next Planning Meeting at SCDC.</p> <p>Clerk to reply to Mr Wilkinson re trees following his e-mail.</p> <p>Clerk to write on behalf of the PC, to request a meeting with SCDC in Fowlmere - to send to Sarah Stevens (Head of Planning), Schuyler Newstead and copied to the CEO. Also request the figures used by the planning committee upon which this decision was taken.</p> <p>c) The Queen's Head and The Swan</p> <p>Greene King reported that there was a deal due to complete in Mid January. The PC has had no further information.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts opened the meeting re The Swan - the Clerk reported that a member of the public in Melbourn had requested the date of the meeting and have attended this evening. Mr Dip Silenki has been running the Melbourn Stores in Melbourn. He is interested in The Swan becoming a local shop / Post Office etc. He is looking to make contact with the owner, with a view to opening up a retail premise.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts asked about the history regarding the Post Office in Melbourn but Mr Silenki was not obliged to discuss this any further.</p> <p>Cllr Webb said that she thought the village needed a shop and the potential is there for someone looking to put in the work.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts reminded Mr Silenki that the building is listed and in a Conservation area which could restrict internal changes. Also there are considerations with security. Cllr Roberts suggested Mr Silenki talks to SCDC about taking it further.</p> <p>The Chequers is to close on 3rd February but there is no further information.</p> <p>A letter has come from Bidwells regarding land West of High Street (Sheldricks). The village is not zoned for any developments in the SCDC Local Plan and it would be a huge change to the village. A meeting could not be held without a SCDC Officer being present and having a meeting implies an interest. Clerk to write and say it's outside the plans, there is no planning application to discuss and therefore no point in meeting. It's unsustainable to build large numbers of houses in this village.</p> <p>The Meeting was then closed to members of the public.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
7.	<p>BURIAL BOARD: There have been burials for William Ison and Peter Payne. The Barker grave has been raised</p>	

	and it won't be easily mown - the Clerk to speak to Mrs Allen. Graves need to be flat and that's what we ask grave-diggers to do too.	
8.	<p>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES:</p> <p>a) The Moat Nothing further to report re the Moat - we are waiting for the trees to be re-marked. Clerk to chase</p> <p>b) Village Tree Survey This is still ongoing</p> <p>c) Trees on verge at Burnaby, Thriplow Road The residents hired Shires to undertake tree removal on trees they do not own, on the grass verge outside the boundary of their house. A local neighbour fortunately reported that she had asked tree work to stop. The Clerk to write a strongly worded letter to them to insist this does not happen again.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
9.	<p>FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES:</p> <p>a) Contribution to school grass cutting and possible Royston Community Transport donation The Clerk has had agreement that the grass contribution can raise by an inflational 3%. With regards the Royston Community Transport, the Clerk to ask what the other PC's contribute and determine what we may contribute.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
10.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE The correspondence list was noted.</p>	
11.	<p>ACTION LIST UPDATE: The action list was updated accordingly.</p>	
12.	<p>OTHER MATTERS:</p> <p>a) CAPALC Garden Party Cllr Peacock and Cllr O'Regan expressed an interest in attending when the information is released.</p> <p>CCC - Clerk to report the pothole via the web-site on the road to Foxton (Fowlmere Road).</p> <p>Heather Mephram, Fowlmere Headteacher asked if the parking bay outside the school can be designated as 'school only' parking / yellow lines but the PC agreed that it can't be changed as there is a designated parking area further down the road. They could possibly install extra lighting. Clerk to feed back.</p> <p>Cllr Sunderland reported that SCDC are spending £1.4million on updating a travellers site and reported his objections and asked if his views could be taken further .</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9:00pm</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>