

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE  
20TH NOVEMBER 2012 AT 7.30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr P Flynn, Cllr E O'Regan, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr David Wherrell, Cllr Tim Stone and several members of the public.

		<b>Actions</b>
1.	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</b> Apologies for absence were received from Cllr N Webb</p>	
2.	<p><b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS:</b> No items were declared.</p>	
3.	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 16TH OCTOBER 2012:</b> The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.</p> <p>Cllr Wragg said that Item 4 paragraph 3 mentioned the meeting at Duxford which should be correctly called the Imperial War Museum Neighbours meeting.</p>	
4.	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING:</b> There were no matters arising</p>	
5.	<p><b>ROYSTON &amp; DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT - TALK BY DAVID WHERRELL</b> Cllr Roberts welcomed Mr Wherrell. The scheme is currently based at Royston Hospital and was started in the 1990's, although looking to move to the Town Hall as the Hospital is under threat of closure. They became a registered charity in 2008 and have 75 drivers, covering north of Baldock as far as the Mordens, Foxton, Duxford, Chrishall, Melbourn and Meldreth. This scheme differs from others because their staff are employed to run the admin and maintain the vehicles. The Volunteers do the actual driving and provide their own cars. They have two mini-buses and an MPV and they can take wheelchairs.</p> <p>They offer a door-to-door transport for people who are unable to use conventional public transport and who do not have a car. This used to be the elderly and vulnerable but now includes people in villages without bus-routes etc.</p> <p>Users can use it for hospital / doctors / dentists / day centres / social events &amp; trips / specialist needs clubs / shopping.</p> <p>Cars are charged at 50p per mile (charged per car, not per passenger) - minimum charge of £4.50 for up to 9 miles (this goes straight to the driver) and this is reviewed quarterly.</p> <p>MPV is 90p per mile and the mini-bus is £1.10-£1.50 per mile but for longer journeys, this operates on a sliding scale.</p> <p>Currently averaging 30-35 journeys a day. RDCT are in discussion with the local Council where there is a threat of removing a bus subsidy - looking at other ways to satisfy the demand for transport, for example replacing <i>part</i> of a threatened bus-route, not <i>completely</i> replacing it. The journeys are door to door and they can provide a regular lift.</p> <p>The free bus-pass is an issue but this will probably need to be overcome and accepted, unless recompense is received elsewhere.</p> <p>They ask for 2 days notice unless it's an emergency. Can call Mon-Fri 9am - 3pm. They are members of the Cambridgeshire Minibus Brokerage Scheme, to try and reduce the down-time</p>	

	<p>of the vehicles. The web-site is <a href="http://www.roytrans.co.uk">www.roytrans.co.uk</a> and they are supported and funded by other local organisations.</p> <p>Questions asked produced the following responses:</p> <p>PC donation could be in the region of anything up to £500. Fowlmere has a dozen or so clients in Fowlmere.</p> <p>They have their own insurances, both for drivers and passengers. There is a list of insurance companies so that the volunteers do not have their insurances loaded unreasonably.</p> <p>The charge is from the driver leaves their house, to when they return home - so they try to get a driver as close as possible to the client. Some journeys to hospital can be claimed from Addenbrookes.</p> <p>Drivers are prepared to wait up to 3 hours for a hospital appt but if longer, it becomes a double run, but often 1 route can be re-claimed. They have passes for Addenbrookes car-park. The Lister is more problematic but this shouldn't affect Fowlmere.</p> <p>Could a regularly timed service be accommodated in the village? If it is agreed that this is needed ie 'demand responsive transport' then it can be discussed but drivers would be employed rather than volunteer.</p> <p>What is the difference between this and dial-a-ride? Dial-a-ride is a semi-scheduled service which you ring up and book a seat on. Dial-a-ride do not currently visit Fowlmere.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts thanked Mr Wherrell very much for his attendance and the Cllr's agreed that it will be put on the next agenda to look at a way forward for Fowlmere to participate further in the scheme.</p>	
6.	<p><b>COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS:</b> Cllr Stone attended the meeting and gave the following report:</p> <p><b>"Superfast Broadband</b> <i>Registration for Superfast Broadband continues. At present 73 out of a potential 475 premises have been registered in Fowlmere. This represents 15.4%. Some villages have achieved over 80%.</i></p> <p><i>Registration will continue until the end of November. The County will then use the statistics to persuade suppliers to take a commercial decision to install superfast broadband. If they won't, then the County will have to prioritise where to spend its own (borrowed) money.</i></p> <p><i>I have found that knocking on people's doors gets a pretty good response, though I haven't done any door-knocking in Fowlmere.</i></p> <p>A reminder that the website is at : <a href="http://www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/">www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/</a></p> <p><b>South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Issues and Option report</b> <i>The Local Plan Issues and Options consultation is now closed. I remain quite keen that parish councils should have more say in the planning process and this could save the necessity of creating a Neighbourhood Plan at some considerable expense.</i></p> <p><i>As I understand it the District Council will digest the responses made already and then will go out to a further round of consultation early in 2013</i></p>	

**Minor Highway Improvements**

You should have received notification that the County is looking for bids for next year. The limit of money available per project is £10,000 and 10% has to be paid for by the parish council. Any excess over £10,000 has to be paid for by the parish council or any outside party. If you have identified a project it's always helpful to get Brian Stinton out to give advice.

**Highway improvements**

While I was at it I made some enquiries about how much past highway engineering measures had improved road safety. Since the Flint Cross works were completed in Autumn 2010 there have been no injury accident recorded. The last recorded injury accident here was 20<sup>th</sup> March 2010. The speed limit changes were undertaken independently of the main works so the County has no record of whether speeds have actually reduced at that point.

**Fire Service Consultation**

Public consultation on further collaboration, up to a full merger, between Cambridgeshire and Suffolk fire and rescue services is now open.

A three-month public consultation starts to gauge how people feel about further collaboration or a merger in principle, providing it would bring about significant savings and help protect the number of frontline firefighters.

People can find out more and make their views known either online at [www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk) or by picking up a hard copy of the consultation pack and survey at Cambridgeshire's libraries and fire stations next week. Alternatively a hard copy of the consultation pack can be posted to residents, if they contact the fire service on 01480 444500. The closing date for the consultation will be January 14, 2013.

**New Constituency**

The Boundary Commission has just published its latest proposals for changing parliamentary constituency boundaries. The Commission is charged with culling English MPs from 533 to 502, and arranging the numbers of electors so that every MP represents a similar number – between 72,810 and 80,473 people. No constituency is allowed to be more than 5% above or below an electoral quota.

The new South West Cambridgeshire constituency would include, amongst others, Offord Cluny, Earith, Cottenham, The Mordens as well as Fowlmere. Thriplow would be in the new South East Cambridgeshire constituency.

If you would like to comment then you have until 10th December to make a representation. Possibly the best way to get there is through the Boundary Commission website.

**Dottrell Hall Farm**

After pained telephone calls from Mr Gerard Bouton about tipping wood waste on a field next to his property County officers visited the site on 16<sup>th</sup> November to find out what was going on. Mr Bouton was naturally alarmed about articulated lorries coming onto the site from the Fowlmere Road and exiting past his house onto the A505. As the whole operation was unlicensed the County got the District and the Environment Agency involved at an early stage.

	<p><i>They met the occupant of the land, James Williams of Acquisitions &amp; Developments Rugby Ltd, and discussed the current site operations. Mr Williams stated that there is an intention to import and store waste wood materials on the land currently occupied. There is no intention to occupy any other parcels of land adjacent or nearby to the occupied land. Mr Williams wishes to use the existing agricultural barn to store 'processed' wood chip materials.</i></p> <p><i>Mr Williams is aware that both planning permission and a permit from the Environment Agency are required to carry out the operations (part retrospectively). The County officers did make clear that while Mr Williams had a right to submit a planning application, it does not guarantee its approval, and may lead to formal enforcement action if required.</i></p> <p><i>Mr Williams made assurances that an application would be submitted within the next week or so, and that the planning agent acting on behalf of the company would be in contact with the County this week to discuss the proposal.</i></p> <p><i>It is also understood that the company occupying the site will not use the entrance from the A505 for any HCVs either entering or exiting the site.</i></p> <p><i>The County will continue to monitor the situation closely and will await the submission of the planning application. Should the application not be forthcoming then formal enforcement maybe undertaken if expedient to do so. The trouble with enforcement is that it takes an age."</i></p> <p>Cllr Bottrill mentioned that the white lines in the village are terrible, especially at the cross-roads, where the road from Foxton meets the Cambridge Road. Cllr Stone will mention this is routine maintenance to Highways</p> <p>Cllr Roberts reported that the new gates are now installed on the land off Long Lane.</p> <p>There will be a meeting in March 2013 for Protected Verges Wardens.</p>	
7.	<p><b>PLANNING COMMITTEE:</b>  <b>a) Planning Minutes From 16th And 24th October 2012</b></p> <p><b>MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, URC, CHAPEL LANE, FOWLMERE ON TUESDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2012 AT 7:15PM</b></p> <p>PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr E O'Regan, Cllr P Flynn, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr N Webb, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Cllr T Bearpark and Cllr J Peacock</p> <p>IN ATTENDANCE: There were no attendees</p> <p><b>1. Declarations of interest (if any)</b></p> <p>Before discussion, Cllr Roberts declared that if an application is later placed before South</p>	

Cambridgeshire District Council she will approach any new information afresh.

**2. S/1747/12/FL - Revision**

Extension to dwelling

**1 Piper's Close, Fowlmere, SG8 7RX**

**Mr & Mrs Gerald Thurley**

Cllr Roberts has neither personal or prejudicial interest in this item but Mrs Wetzl (the architect) has made comments about this application to SCDC regarding Cllr Roberts and to avoid any further unwarranted paperwork on this matter, Cllr Roberts handed over to the Vice-Chair of Planning to lead this item. In Cllr Peacock's absence, Cllr Wragg led this item.

The Parish Council have no objection to the revision.

Cllr Roberts returned to the table.

**3. Other Matters and Updates**

Other Matters and Updates (*for information only*)

It was agreed to hold a further meeting at 7:00pm on Wed 24th October for an additional planning application which has since come in.

The meeting closed at 7:35pm

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE  
HELD IN THE DOROTHY PLUCK ROOM, ST MARY'S CHURCH, FOWLMERE ON  
TUESDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2012 AT 7:00PM**

PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr P Flynn,  
Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Cllr N Webb, Cllr E O'Regan

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr S Mulholland, Dr Cheetham

**1. Declarations of interest (*if any*)**

Before discussion, Cllr Roberts declared that if an application is later placed before South Cambridgeshire District Council she will approach any new information afresh.

**2. S/2106/12/FL**

Erection dwelling with associated works following demolition of existing outbuildings

**Land to the rear of 80-86 Chapel Lane, Fowlmere, SG8 7SD**

**Mr Stewart McGinty**

	<p>Cllr Roberts reviewed the history so far and introduced the changes made. Mr Mulholland spoke on behalf of the neighbours and they are generally happy with this new revision but have reservations about the boundary fence height. January's have said they would replace the fence to their satisfaction but it isn't mentioned in the plans.</p> <p>The Parish Council are now satisfied with the position, style and size of the proposal - the objections that the PC and the neighbours have by and large been addressed. The proposed roof level gives the PC no grounds for objection. There is, however some discrepancy over the proposed 1.5m and 1.8m boundary fence heights. The PC understands that the agent has offered a new, uniform boundary fence of 1.8m, which the PC would require formalised as a condition for approval. Subject to this, the PC therefore recommend approval.</p> <p><b>3. Other Matters and Updates</b> Other Matters and Updates <i>(for information only)</i></p> <p>The meeting closed at 7:30pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed accordingly.</p> <p><b>b) Thriplow Triangle</b> It looks as though the TT is going to go ahead very shortly. The Housing Portfolio Holder at SDCDC has agreed to release £42,000 towards the project. The Clerk to keep in touch with the builders on progress.</p> <p><b>c) The Queen's Head</b> There is nothing further to report at this stage.</p> <p><b>The Meeting was then opened and closed to members of the public (who had left after item 5.)</b></p>	
8.	<p><b>BURIAL BOARD:</b> <b>a) Bench request at Cemetery</b> A request was made from Mrs Allen regarding their request to buy and place a bench at the cemetery in memory of their late parents. All Cllr's are happy with this and the Clerk to let Mrs Allen know.</p>	
9.	<p><b>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES:</b> <b>a) The Moat</b> Cllr Bottrill raised the issue of whether the survey needs to be done again in 2013. Clerk to check with David Kenney. The Clerk has taken over the paperwork and the Moat has been strimmed so is more usable in the meantime. Cllr Roberts thanked Mr Bates for his sterling work in this period. Money for tree work needs to be considered in the forthcoming precept.</p> <p><b>b) Jacksons Way Land</b> Cllr Roberts wants to know what the legal costs will be - go to solicitors and their solicitors too for advice. The PC should seek independent advice as to whether this is a good idea to progress (the well is also a cause for concern - has it been filled?). Asked CAPALC for advice.</p>	

	<p><b>c) Village Tree Survey</b>  There is currently £4000 of work needed, with a priority of £2200. Cllr Roberts suggests that the trees indicated A are scheduled into the Precept. We need to await the outcome of the cemetery tree survey.</p>	
10.	<p><b>FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES:</b>  <b>a) 2013-2014 Precept</b>  In addition to the list, we need to consider a donation to the Royston and District Community Transport (£150?). Misc needs to increase to incorporate tree work (this could replace the fund for the Village Hall as they are currently in better financial shape.)</p> <p>The PC reworked the Precept and have arrived at a commendable figure that matches the previous year. The Clerk to re-circulate.</p> <p><b>b) Asset Register</b>  It was noted that the cemetery gates should be included in the insurance. Cllr Wragg to take a look at the policy documentation.</p>	
11.	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>  All Correspondence has been dealt with.  .</p>	
12.	<p><b>ACTION LIST UPDATE:</b>  The action list was updated accordingly.</p>	
13.	<p><b>OTHER MATTERS:</b>  <b>a) Update on Fowlmere Village Hall</b>  Cllr Wragg and Cllr Flynn reported that fundraising is going well at the VH and finances are healthy.</p> <p>Cllr Flynn reported that she had been the victim of a scam regarding work to her roof, which she duly reported to the police.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21:45</p>	