

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL** HELD  
IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE  
**16TH JUNE 2015** AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr L Wragg, (Chairman), Cllr S Crowther, Cllr D Roberts and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J Houghton, Cllr Peter Topping, Mr J Bottrill, Mrs P Willis, Mr and Mrs Bradshaw, Mr D Collier

|    |   | <b>Actions</b> |
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| 1. | <p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</b><br/>There were apologies for absence from Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr C Howe and Cllr M Sunderland hoping to attend after a very late running hospital appt.</p>   |                |
| 2. | <p><b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS:</b><br/>Cllr Crowther excused herself from the 'Memorial Stones' item under 'Burial Board' due to a family memorial stone being discussed.</p>   |                |
| 3. | <p><b>ACCEPTANCE OF NEW COUNCILLORS AND ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE SIGNING</b><br/>Cllr Houghton was welcomed onto the Parish Council. Cllr Sunderland, who has been away is still to complete the paperwork for his position of Finance Chairman.<br/><br/>All documentation was signed and witnessed by the Clerk.</p>  |                |
| 4. | <p><b>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 19TH MAY 2015:</b><br/>The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.</p>  |                |
| 5. | <p><b>MATTERS ARISING:</b><br/>Cllr Wragg has spoken to the Headteacher Mrs Mephram about the school's opinion for a crossing - Mrs Mephram would seek opinion but thought that directly opposite the school gates would be a preferred location.</p>   |                |
| 6. | <p><b>COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS:</b><br/>Cllr Topping attended the meeting and gave the following report:</p> <p><b><i>"Boundary review of County Council</i></b><br/><i>The Boundary commission proposals reducing the number of county council divisions are out to consultation. People can make a submission to the Cambridgeshire electoral review, through consultation.lgbce.org.uk, sending an e-mail to reviews@lgbce.org.uk. The key point for Fowlmere is that their is an alignment with Foxton, and the proposed division covering Fowlmere is made up of villages which have broadly similar make-up and issues. The new divisions in the south of the county are geographically larger than before. The Boundary Commission is also starting a review of district council boundaries.</i></p> <p><i>The County Council is also seeking views on its flood management strategy. The problems winter before last were often caused more by ditches and soakways not being maintained, more than because we live near rivers and lakes. If people want to give their views the link is <a href="http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/NBICY/">www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/NBICY/</a> until 14 July. If there are flooding issues, now would be the time for the parish council to meet with highways to get the work schedule agreed before the winter.</i></p> <p><b><i>Superfast broadband</i></b><br/><i>The Connecting Cambridgeshire team – I saw them on Tuesday - were very grateful for the detailed information supplied by local residents – this has enabled them to go back to BT and ask questions about the initial mapping where cul de sacs might have been missed. As always, websites such as <a href="http://www.moneysupermarket.com">www.moneysupermarket.com</a> provide simple guidance on what this is all about, and it pays to shop around.</i></p> |                |

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| <p><b>Balfour Beatty streetlighting</b><br/> <i>I have chased up Peta, who is holding the fort after the departure of Keeley. They have now visited the villages where work is still outstanding and they tell me that they aim to complete by the end of June. They will email me the dates for that work next week and I will forward to Jacqui if there are any remaining problems for Fowlmere.</i></p> <p><b>Village school places</b><br/> <i>The situation is still very difficult in that demand exceeds supply. I am aware of a family in Ickleton that might need to have to send a child to Linton. I am advising a family in Whittlesford that is going to appeal, although the appeal rules are very restricted. If there are families facing these problems in Fowlmere then please ask them to contact me and I will do what I can to assist. I have had meetings with the admissions manager at the county last week about what to do in the longer terms - decide which school has the location for expansion and build there.</i></p> <p><b>County Council minor highways scheme</b><br/> <i>Bids are due in the autumn, so now is the time to decide if any scheme is to be pursued, and – importantly – to schedule meetings with highways engineers to obtain rough order costings and get them on side.</i></p> <p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b><br/> <i>Whittlesford Parish Council remain very keen to understand the work of other villages. I understand that Foxton have made progress on their plan – given the similarities ie proximity to a rail station, it might be worth a joint meeting with Foxton to understand how they have got on.</i></p> <p><i>I have asked - but not yet had - an update on Flints Cross from the County (Andrew Greenwood).</i></p> <p><b>HGVs</b><br/> <i>Still need to get this meeting about putting weight restrictions to prevent rat-running through villages set up with David Lines – I will update at the meeting as I have a session with Mike Cooper this morning.</i></p> <p><b>Other news...</b><br/> <i>The County Council attempt to go into a commercial partnership to re-use parts of the Central Cambridge Library has been suspended following revelations that the owner of the company is disqualified from being a company director until 2019. There will be a full council meeting on this issue.</i><br/> <i>I was interviewed by BBC Radio Cambridge regarding the Babraham roundabout on the A1307 where cars keep spinning, and what the county council can do to prevent this.</i><br/> <i>I was very pleased to attend the installation of the new vicar covering the parishes of Thriplow, Foxton, Fowlmere and Shepreth.</i><br/> <i>The County Council now has a policy of asking parish councils to pay for village road signs if they need replacing.</i><br/> <b>Email <a href="mailto:peter.topping@cambridgeshire.gov.uk">peter.topping@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</a></b><br/> <b>tel 07825 876582</b><br/> <b>twitter @petertopping"</b></p> <p>Clerk to speak to Mike Cooper (CCC) about the clearing of an underground pipe in Chapel Lane.</p> <p>Cllr Topping added that if the school needs additional school classrooms, now is the time to speak to County as there is a need for increased places. Cllr Roberts to speak to the school</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Roberts</p> |
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|    | <p>as she is now to be on the Governors.</p> <p>Butts Lane is sinking and County need to do something about that urgently.</p> <p>Long Lane has had sewage poured into the drains from a blockage at The Swan (11th June), not due to the building work underway along Long Lane (they have had an anonymous complaint letter, blaming their workmanship which the site manager has strongly denied.) The gulleys on both sides of the road are blocked. Clerk to contact SCDC Environmental Health to attend.</p> <p>Unsafe cellar doors at the old Black Horse Pub - this should be brought to the attention of the house owners - Clerk to write.</p> <p><b>A) TRAFFIC SURVEYS</b><br/>Cllr Wragg asked who the Highways Panel was made up of in 2014 - Cllr Topping thought it was Roger Hickford who Chaired, with Tony Algy, David Jenkins, Mandy Smith - notes are taken, not minutes and these are not published.</p> <p><b>B) TUNNEL UNDER HIGH STREET</b><br/>Subterranean Britannica have surveyed the tunnel in the past, Cllr Wragg asked if CCC can assess the max weight which can passing over the tunnel?</p>  | <p>Cllr Topping</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Topping</p>              |
| 7. | <p><b>DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE</b><br/>The Examination in public of the Local Plan - this has been suspended and there are serious issues with no timescales, producing excess speculative development. Cllr Roberts to keep the PC up-to-date with developments.</p>  |  |
| 8. | <p><b>SUSTAINABLE PARISH ENERGY PARTNERSHIP EVENT</b><br/>There is nothing to update - to be deferred to the next meeting.</p>  |  |
| 9. | <p><b>PLANNING COMMITTEE</b></p> <p><b>a) HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY</b><br/>The PC was approached by Cambs Acre to see if the PC wanted another survey undertaken. Enquiries have been made as to need via SCDC as to current bidding figures but the indication is not clear so Cllr Roberts will get clarification on the actual numbers, to report at the July meeting. Clerk to send a holding e-mail to Cambs Acre - to say the PC is actively investigating at present.</p> <p>Clerk to respond to a speculative letter concerning a potential development in Long lane to say the PC will not enter into discussions prior to a formal planning application.</p> <p><b>The meeting was opened to members of the public and press</b></p> <p>Mr Bottrill's questions were raised - the issue of over-parking at the end of Dovehouse Close - this has been repeated at SCDC and it will be looked at again by them.</p> <p>Draft Minutes to be discussed further on July minutes.</p> <p>The path to be cleared between Chapel Lane and Ryecroft Lane - Cllr Roberts to report this at SCDC/CCC</p> <p>The ditch under Chapel Lane needs clearing first to determine if the pipe is blocked, there's nowhere for the blocked pipe to go otherwise. Clerk to pass onto Mike Cooper in line with the</p> | <p>Cllr Roberts</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Roberts</p> <p>Clerk</p> |

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|     | <p>request at item 6.</p> <p>Mr and Mrs Bradshaw, Rectory Lane - has Cllr Topping received the letter concerning the parking in Rectory Lane? The PC has no control over parking. Mr and Mrs Bradshaw feel there will be continuing issues over parking in the future. CCC can only be asked what their views are. Clerk to check if Cllr Topping has received letter.</p> <p>Mrs Willis, a tree is dead on The Butts - needs to be removed. Clerk to ask Chris Wall in the first instance</p> <p>She also asked could there be any benches installed on the Butts, along the top rail, purchased with Section 106 money? This to be discussed at next Finance meeting</p> <p>Mrs Willis also requested a 'village noticeboard' which the PC are looking into with no response back from The Swan - she suggested it goes on The Butts which needs further discussion at the Finance Meeting?.</p>  | <p>(Clerk)</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>                   |
| 10. | <p><b>BURIAL BOARD:</b><br/> <b>a) CEMETERY INSPECTION</b><br/> 7:15pm to be rescheduled from 7:30pm on Wednesday 17th June.</p> <p><b>B) MEMORIAL STONES</b><br/> Cllr Crowther left the meeting as this relates to her direct family. The Barnes memorial stone was discussed. A decision to be taken at the next meeting as additional members will be present.</p>  | <p>(Clerk)</p>  |
| 11. | <p><b>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES:</b><br/> <b>A) SAVILE WAY PLANTING</b><br/> Jason Rayner quote to be decided at the Finance Meeting in July, to plant in the Autumn..</p> <p><b>B) MOAT SIGN</b><br/> Cllr Peacock to see who else is responsible for the original sign</p> <p><b>C) CHAPEL LANE / RYECROFT LANE ALLEYWAY</b><br/> This was previously discussed.</p> <p>The wildflowers are growing from SCDC.</p> <p>Clerk to write to KSH about the large tree outside numbers 1 and 2 The Triangle, to ask them to please consider removing part of the tree.</p> <p>A verge needs be cut on Cambridge Road - again, Clerk to write to KSH</p> <p>Clerk to write to the Mulholland family to thank them formally for their kind donation of a bench at the Cemetery and to progress a plaque on the new item of play equipment.</p> <p>Dave Salmons kindly removed a piece of metal jutting out of The Butts, probably an old tree support</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Peacock</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
| 12. | <p><b>FINANCE &amp; GENERAL PURPOSES</b><br/> <b>A) CHEQUES PAID</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs J Wright, June 15 Salary - £648.00</li> <li>• Seniorlink Eldercare May 15 (monthly charge for residents' pendant scheme) - £64.43</li> <li>• LW mileage for trip to Cambourne - £15.30</li> <li>• Hardy Landscapes - May 15 - £1501.54</li> <li>• J Wright telecoms refund May15 - £27.52</li> <li>• Fowlmere Village Hall - Section 106 money towards new tables and chairs - £1000.00</li> <li>• Cambridgeshire Acre - Payroll Services April - June 2015 - £36.00</li> <li>• J Wright refund from Amazon for printer toner £49.75</li> <li>• D Salmons (repair seat at Butts, bench at VH, swing chains VH, install wooden train on Butts, and TT Table on Butts) - £410.00</li> </ul>   |   |

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|     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCDC - Cost for uncontested election - £135.00</li> <li>• Money in from CCC, towards grass maintenance - £927.74</li> </ul> <p><b>Balances at Bank as of 14th June 2015:</b><br/> Current A/C (Santander) £38,916.83<br/> Deposit A/C (Santander) £19,953.66<br/> Cambridge Building Society £40,000.00<br/> Petty Cash £270.42<br/> (£39,464.73 of this is Section 106 Money)</p> <p>Clerk to challenge the uncontested election costs with SCDC</p> <p>The cost of new swings and chains at The Butts as needed in the ROSPA report is £404.53. Cllr Roberts proposed, Cllr Crowther seconded and all agreed to progress their purchase and fitting from Wicksteed.</p> <p>Clerk to request a few photos of the new TT Table from the school to use on the web-site.</p> <p>Clerk to query the cost of a zip-wire.</p> <p>Cllr Crowther asked if land could be purchased with Section 106 money to provide a play area at The Triangle. The Clerk has asked the question of KSH if they would be willing to negotiate on behalf of the land owners and the PC awaits a reply. Clerk to chase mid month.</p> <p><b>B) VILLAGE HALL REPRESENTATIVE</b><br/> A member of the PC needs to sit on the VH Committee, Cllr Crowther has a conflict of interests as she is employed by the VH - it was agreed to wait until there was a full attendance.</p> <p><b>C) VILLAGE MEETING PROCEDURES</b><br/> To be classed as 'draft minutes' and to go on the next meeting agenda.</p> <p><b>D) PROVISION FOR POSSIBLE PROFESSIONAL PLANNING ADVICE</b><br/> There could be an influx of speculative planning applications and the PC recognises this and have funds allocated for planning expertise as necessary, there is money available in the deposit funds. In principal it was agreed this could be taken further if necessary - Cllr Roberts proposed, Cllr Houghton seconded and all agreed that this might be a necessary course of action, until the Local Plan is formalised and the risk is lowered, to deal with the exposure caused by not having a new approved local plan.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>(Clerk)</p> <p>(Clerk)</p> |
| 13. | <p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b><br/> The correspondence list was noted.</p>  |   |
| 14. | <p><b>ACTION LIST UPDATE:</b><br/> The action list was updated accordingly.</p>   |   |

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| 15. | <p><b>OTHER MATTERS:</b><br/> Cllr Crowther to enquire about the cost of an old-fashioned red telephone box with the aim of having a library in it</p> <p>Clerk to send the May minutes to Cllr Wragg re attaching the Deans Appeal report as stated.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts has spoken to SCDC re the state of the grounds at The Swan which are in a very poor state of repair, especially as an eating establishment. SCDC are going to take a look.</p> <p>Parking on The Triangle is an issue with seemingly unfair allocations of parking. Cllr's to take a further look.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21:30</p> | <p>Cllr Crowther</p> <p>Clerk / Cllr Wragg</p> <p>All Cllr's</p> |
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