

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL** HELD  
IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE  
**16TH DECEMBER 2014** AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr L Wragg (Chairman), Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr C Howe, Cllr D Roberts, Cllr M Sunderland and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Topping

		<b>Actions</b>
1.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</b> Cllr T Bearpark and Cllr J Peacock were absent and had sent their apologies.	
2.	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS:</b> No items were declared	
3.	<b>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 18TH NOVEMBER 2014:</b> The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.	
4.	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING:</b> There were no matters arising.</p> <p>A second letter has been sent to King Street Housing, with the agreement of the PC.</p> <p>The millennium oak tree has been replaced and is quite tall but a little narrow - there is concern that it is a little 'un-oak-like' so this will be checked once leaves appear! Clerk to advise Dorothy Woods as it is a WI tree and Cllr Roberts to replace the sign which has been cleaned.</p> <p>The lighting seems to be different to that in Foxton and the newer ones produce less light - PC to pass on concerns to Cllr Topping. Savile Way is particularly 'dark'.</p> <p>Clerk to chase the cemetery re chapel cupboards.</p> <p>6th January agenda - add play equipment items to the agenda. Clerk to ask the Mulholland family if there is something that could be in conjunction with the memory of their daughter</p> <p>Clerk to speak to St Mary's about replacing the village map and everyone to look again at the Thriplow sign.</p> <p>Re the PO at St Mary's - Cllr Sunderland said that the PO is looking to replace the retired travelling post-person and will report on progress as and when that happens.</p>	<p>Clerk Cllr Roberts</p> <p>Cllr Topping</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
5.	<p><b>COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS:</b> Cllr Topping attended the meeting and gave the following report:</p> <p><i><b>"Gritting and streetlights</b> - gritting routes are unchanged for this winter, the county having found the money to keep the gritting budget. Although some streetlights will be dimmed in future, and possibly even turned off, this will mainly be in urban areas where the lights are controlled by a master dimmer. Village lights are more time consuming to turn down as there is no master dimmer.</i></p> <p><i><b>Anti-fraud plans</b> The county has secured £300k of government funding to set up a counter-fraud team which it is intended will be pro-active and try to act as a centre of excellence for the region. I supported the audit team when they picked up that the county was relying heavily on its electricity suppliers and there was no proper validation of bills being paid to see if there</i></p>	

was any overcharging.

**Broadband** - The junction box at Jacksons Way/High Street is now live and residents should (a) do a speed check on their current service (using eg the Which? website) and then contact a service supplier - not necessarily their current provider as it pays to shop around - about the costs of purchasing a fibre-based package. Take up results are very promising which shows the latent demand that exists.

With regards to a light in or around the junction box, I have asked highways and BT Openreach on this but there may be an argument that there is sufficient ambient lighting.

**Flint Cross fire** - latest reports on the air quality following sampling carried out by the Environment Agency is that there is no issues of concern, even though it appears that there was rubbish other than just wood caught up in the fire (tyre components). There are still hot spots within the fire area and so the site will need to be left for a few more weeks, on advice from the Fire Service. I have had concerns expressed about air quality and I will write directly to those residents, but a set of questions and answers will be published on the south cambs district council website this week giving a lot of detail about the site, the fire, and air quality test results set out in accessible language.

In terms of the future use of the site I will brief the parish council.

**Flint Cross - other developments** - There was a planning application put in May to South Cambs to develop the bungalow site beyond the turning into Fowlmere Rd. That has not yet been decided, and the owner, Mr Onsloe, has been asked not to bring further materials onto the site in advance of the decision, even though his argument is that he needs to make progress. County Officers have agreed to visit the site shortly after Xmas to ascertain the current situation, and they are liaising with the district council enforcement officers.

**Transport.** I have passed on to the County the concerns from local residents at the high costs of a bus day-rider ticket and I will follow this up with a meeting to better understand the logic and financial modelling. I will continue to make the point that this approach is going to both deter use of the service and cause hardship to those most dependent on the transport service. The County Council is setting up a community transport group and I fully support this as it is clear that while the budget pressures on the county's transport are real and continuing, we need to protect services for the isolated in our rural villages.

**The solar farm** to be sited between Thriplow and Heathfield and the bridleway from Whittlesford was unanimously rejected by the planning committee at South Cambs. I attended and spoke on behalf of the residents of Heathfield who opposed the application.

**Affordable homes** The government has abolished S106 payments for housing developments of less than 11 homes. This will have a direct effect on planning permissions which are pending but also on some which have already been granted. It will have most impact on very small villages where developments are restricted to 3-4 homes.

**Local plan** -hearings start again in Jan on the consultation led by the Planning Inspector and will focus on transport and green belt issues."

	<p>Clerk to mention new Broadband in the next FATN</p> <p>Reflective tape would be a good idea on the new BT Box and reiterate the need for a light, which is a good PR point for them to make too. These concerns were passed to Cllr Topping.</p> <p>The monitoring of the fire was only undertaken for two days which is simply not good enough - Cllr Topping to pass that on. Cllr Topping reported that the Environment Agency were gearing up to take further action against the landowner but CCC wanted to move quicker. SCDC are to take the lead on this now, according to Cllr Topping. Cllr Topping to find out the timetable and lead party for the way forward.</p> <p>The triangle piece of land at the Flint Cross is possibly subject to a planning application which has not yet been viewed (also, it is in Melbourn) and the current use is unclear. Cllr Roberts to ask Charles Swain at SCDC Planning for clarification.</p> <p>Cllr Bottrill reported that Cambridge Future Transport has reported a delay in their progress but the bus service will continue as it is in the meantime.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts mentioned the P&amp;R system where there are now people employed to show users how to work the machines which is showing how much of a disaster the system is. The online payment system needs to be advertised.</p> <p>Cllr Wragg reported to Cllr Topping that the A10 cycle route at the Trumpington roundabout, which has been used by farm machinery and made it very dangerous indeed.</p> <p>The drains have been cleared in the village, as far as the PC can tell.</p> <p>The cellar doors to the former Black Horse on the public footpath looks as if it's about the collapse, could CCC look into it via Cllr Topping</p> <p>The drain/ditch is still full in Chapel Lane, with the silt higher than the pipe under the road.</p> <p><b>A) ROAD TO FOXTON</b></p> <p>The road was very dangerous and slippery, the local farmer/landowner has promised to reimburse costs of car cleaning but this is more for Cllr Van De Ven, rather than Cllr Topping. Highways has not responded to Cllr Sunderland's letter.</p>	
6.	<p><b>PLANNING COMMITTEE</b></p> <p><b>A) PLANNING MINUTES FROM 18TH NOVEMBER</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 18TH NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7:15PM</b></p> <p>PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr M Sunderland and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Cllr C Howe, Cllr L Wragg, Cllr J Peacock</p> <p>IN ATTENDANCE: There was no-one in attendance</p> <p><b>1. Declarations of interest (if any)</b></p> <p>Cllr Roberts declared that if an application is later placed before South Cambridgeshire District Council she will approach any new information afresh. Also, because Cllr Roberts is a District Cllr at SCDC, the same applies and she will look at any application, which goes to SCDC,</p>	

	<p>afresh.</p> <p>2. S/2436/14/FL Erection of side and rear extension and roof extension <b>Thistledown, Rectory Lane, Fowlmere, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 7TJ</b> <b>Mr and Mrs Armstrong</b></p> <p>The Parish Council has no objections as it is not likely to affect any neighbouring properties</p> <p>3. S/1930/14/FL (Renewal of planning permission S/1221/12) - For Information Only - Application Withdrawn Installation of temporary building <b>The Way, Fowlmere</b> <b>Madeleine Reynolds, Ion Science Ltd</b></p> <p>The Parish Council noted the withdrawal.</p> <p>4. S/1929/14/FL - For Information Only - Permission Granted Install a maximum of 2 portakabins <b>Ion Science, The Way, Fowlmere, SG8 7UJ</b> <b>Madeleine Reynolds, Ion Science Ltd</b></p> <p>The Parish Council noted the decision.</p> <p>5. APP/W0530/A/14/2219702 - For information only - Appeal Allowed S/1249/13/FL Land adjacent to the Butts Business Centre, Fowlmere, SG8 7SD <b>Ion Science, The Way, Fowlmere, SG8 7SL</b> <b>Madeleine Reynolds, Ion Science Ltd</b></p> <p>The Parish Council noted the Appeal Decision. Cllr Wragg and Cllr Roberts will be sending a further letter to the Appeals Inspectorate.</p> <p><b>6. 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 and signed as an accurate record.</p> <p>Work is ongoing with regards to the reply to the Appeals Inspectorate ref Ion Science.</p> <p><b>B) REPLY TO KING STREET HOUSING RE THE TRIANGLE</b> This item was discussed earlier</p> <p><b>The meeting was opened, and then closed to members of the public and press</b></p>	
7.	<p><b>BURIAL BOARD:</b> <b>A) TOM COLDING MEMORIAL STONE</b> The Memorial stone for Tom Colding is perfectly acceptable.</p>	

	The Smith memorial was discussed - the height and colour is acceptable but the base width and memorial width, stone width to be 24 inches max and the base can therefore be up to 30 inches in total maximum width. The golfer silhouette is agreed as two colours maximum. Clerk to reiterate no wording on the reverse, must all be on one side, the back of the stone must remain plain as they face other graves (other than the plot number). A symmetrical design on the top needs to be in line with the guidelines already given.																																																																																																																																					
8.	<p><b>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES:</b></p> <p><b>A) SAVILE WAY PLANTING</b> To be put onto the agenda for Jan 15, which will be a cut off date of 13th January for the other two quotes. Trees can be cut back as part of the project to make the area more visible from the High Street.</p> <p><b>B) VILLAGE TREE WORK</b> The tree work is underway in the village and should be completed by the end of the year.</p>																																																																																																																																					
9.	<p><b>FINANCE &amp; GENERAL PURPOSES</b></p> <p><b>A) CHEQUES PAID</b> Mrs J Wright -December 14 Salary - £629.37 Seniorlink Eldercare Nov 14 (monthly charge for residents' pendant scheme) - £62.34 Mrs J Wright - refund for new toner cartridge (Amazon) - £51.83 Hardy Landscapes (Extra Verge Cutting) - £271.20 Cambridgeshire Acre - Q4 payroll charges - £20.52</p> <p><b>B) PROPOSED PRECEPT FOR 2015-6</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2014/5</th> <th>Exact 3% increase</th> <th>SUGGESTED 2015/6</th> <th>Increase</th> <th>Decrease</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Salary</td> <td>£7,550</td> <td>£7,776.50</td> <td>£7,800.00</td> <td>£250.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PC Comms</td> <td>£340</td> <td>£350.20</td> <td>£350.00</td> <td>£10.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grass Cutting (Village)</td> <td>£8,330</td> <td>£8,579.90</td> <td>£8,580.00</td> <td>£250.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniorlink</td> <td>£1,240</td> <td>£1,277.20</td> <td>£1,230.00</td> <td></td> <td>£10.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Street Lighting</td> <td>£1,800</td> <td>£1,854.00</td> <td>£1,850.00</td> <td>£50.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Areas (CW)</td> <td>£3,280</td> <td>£3,378.40</td> <td>£3,380.00</td> <td>£100.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>School Grass</td> <td>£440</td> <td>£453.20</td> <td>£450.00</td> <td>£10.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Protected verges</td> <td>£1,200</td> <td>£1,236.00</td> <td>£1,240.00</td> <td>£40.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Play Equipment</td> <td>£520</td> <td>£535.60</td> <td>£540.00</td> <td>£20.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cemetery Bills</td> <td>£440</td> <td>£453.20</td> <td>£450.00</td> <td>£10.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hire of Halls</td> <td>£390</td> <td>£401.70</td> <td>£400.00</td> <td>£10.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stationery / Postage</td> <td>£220</td> <td>£226.60</td> <td>£230.00</td> <td>£10.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Training</td> <td>£160</td> <td>£164.80</td> <td>£160.00</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chairs Allowance</td> <td>£150</td> <td>£154.50</td> <td>£150.00</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Audit / Bank fees</td> <td>£440</td> <td>£453.20</td> <td>£450.00</td> <td>£10.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Legal Fees</td> <td>£500</td> <td>£515.00</td> <td><b>£1,500.00</b></td> <td>£1,000.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Insurance</td> <td>£1,310</td> <td>£1,349.30</td> <td>£1,350.00</td> <td>£40.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>CPALC</td> <td>£380</td> <td>£391.40</td> <td>£400.00</td> <td>£20.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>P'ground Inspection</td> <td>£200</td> <td>£206.00</td> <td>£200.00</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bus Shelter</td> <td>£500</td> <td>£515.00</td> <td>£520.00</td> <td>£20.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donations</td> <td>£450</td> <td>£463.50</td> <td>£460.00</td> <td>£10.00</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2014/5	Exact 3% increase	SUGGESTED 2015/6	Increase	Decrease	Salary	£7,550	£7,776.50	£7,800.00	£250.00		PC Comms	£340	£350.20	£350.00	£10.00		Grass Cutting (Village)	£8,330	£8,579.90	£8,580.00	£250.00		Seniorlink	£1,240	£1,277.20	£1,230.00		£10.00	Street Lighting	£1,800	£1,854.00	£1,850.00	£50.00		Public Areas (CW)	£3,280	£3,378.40	£3,380.00	£100.00		School Grass	£440	£453.20	£450.00	£10.00		Protected verges	£1,200	£1,236.00	£1,240.00	£40.00		Play Equipment	£520	£535.60	£540.00	£20.00		Cemetery Bills	£440	£453.20	£450.00	£10.00		Hire of Halls	£390	£401.70	£400.00	£10.00		Stationery / Postage	£220	£226.60	£230.00	£10.00		Training	£160	£164.80	£160.00			Chairs Allowance	£150	£154.50	£150.00			Audit / Bank fees	£440	£453.20	£450.00	£10.00		Legal Fees	£500	£515.00	<b>£1,500.00</b>	£1,000.00		Insurance	£1,310	£1,349.30	£1,350.00	£40.00		CPALC	£380	£391.40	£400.00	£20.00		P'ground Inspection	£200	£206.00	£200.00			Bus Shelter	£500	£515.00	£520.00	£20.00		Donations	£450	£463.50	£460.00	£10.00		
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	<b>PC Laptop</b>	£100	£103.00	£200.00	£100.00	
	<b>Misc</b>	£2,900	£2,987.00	£3,000.00	£100.00	
	<b>Village Hall/fund allocation</b>	£1,000	£1,030.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	
		<u>£33,840</u>	£34,855.20	<b>£34,890.00</b>	<u>£2,060.00</u>	<u>£1,010.00</u>
	<b>= 3% increase</b>			Net		
				increase/(decrease)		<u><b>£1,050.00</b></u>
	Cllr Sunderland proposed and Cllr Roberts seconded to submit the precept to SCDC and all agreed. Clerk to submit.					
	<b>C) BANK ACCOUNT PROGRESSION</b>					
	The paperwork was authorised to be signed for all necessary docs to bring the changes into being.					
	<b>D) PROPOSED NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT</b>					
	This was discussed earlier.					
10.	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>					
	The correspondence list was noted.					
11.	<b>ACTION LIST UPDATE:</b>					
	<b>A) CHRISHALL GRANGE LEAFLET</b>					
	The leaflets are ready to be delivered just after Christmas.					
	The action list was updated accordingly.					
12.	<b>OTHER MATTERS:</b>					
	<b>A) SUSTAINABLE PARISH ENERGY PARTNERSHIP EVENT (MELBOURN)</b>					
	Cllr Wragg attended this meeting and has circulated the report. He advises this is something we should sign up to and to put on the January 2015 agenda.					
	<b>B) UPDATE ON THE VILLAGE HALL</b>					
	Cllr Bottrill reported that there isn't a new Chair or secretary yet and the positions were being advertised.					
	<b>C) POST-CHRISTMAS MEAL</b>					
	7:30pm - Wednesday 28th January - Cllr Roberts to check out possibilities					
	The feedback has been very positive on the Christmas Tree and spare batteries are in stock!					
	The pillars at The Green are collapsing and it's extremely dangerous to passing children. Clerk to write to the Goodfellows asking them to make it safe as it adjoins the public highway and to mention to the school to alert parents and tell the Goodfellows that we have done this.					
	The meeting closed at 21:20pm					
					Clerk	
					Cllr Roberts	
					Clerk	