

**MINUTES OF THE SWAFFHAM BULBECK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
NUMBER 324**

Held at the School on Tuesday, 3rd November 2009.

Present: Margaret Chadwick (Chairman), Loder Bevington, Bert Collins (Vice-Chairman), Lynn Reed, Mary Smith and David Turner.

In Attendance: Karen King-Clerk, Cllr David Brown, Cllr Allen Alderson

2385: Apologies for Absence: Daphne Dodds (*holiday*)
Sharyn Robinson (*work commitments*)
Giles Merritt (*work commitments*)

2386: To Approve & Sign the Minutes of Meeting Number 323, 6th October 2009: These were approved and signed. *Proposed: Lynn Reed. Seconded: Bert Collins.*

2387: Matters Arising from Previous Minutes (for information only):

- Min.ref 323/2381: Margaret Chadwick confirmed that 4 councillors had attended the 'Power of Wellbeing' training organised by Burwell Parish Council. She explained that in order for this to fully benefit the Parish Council another 4 councillors would need to complete the training. *Bert Collins, Loder Bevington, Giles Merritt and David Turner said they would be willing to attend. The Clerk confirmed that she also needed to attend this training and would check into future dates.* **Action: Clerk**
- Min.ref 323/2381: Bert Collins confirmed that he had fitted the replacement bolts, bushes, etc., to the play area equipment.
- Min.ref 323/2383: The Clerk confirmed that she had chased the repairs with Adventure Playgrounds.
- Loder Bevington told meeting that the second set of gates to the play area would not now be part of the Playfinder Scheme. The cost of Adventure Playgrounds carrying out this work was considered too high. It was suggested that the work be carried out locally using the correct materials. LB said he would speak with Kelley Harrington about hinges, etc, and was hopeful this work would be completed before the end of the financial year. **Action: LB**
- Min.ref 323/2383: Mary Smith asked if the Clerk had heard anymore from CCC Highways about the missing whitelining. The Clerk confirmed she had not but would follow up. **Action: Clerk**

2388: Members' Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda: Loder Bevington declared a Personal Interest for item 2392.

2389: County Councillor's Report: *Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting.*

- **Full Council** met on 13th October.
 - The main agenda item was the proposed bid for over £510 million to the Transport Innovation Fund to tackle congestion in and around Cambridge City. After much debate it was agreed that the County Council would go ahead with the bid on a phased to relieve traffic pressure from the north of the city. This will be followed up by a number of infrastructure improvements over the next 5-7 years including improvements to cycle-ways, dualling Newmarket Road from the Quy roundabout into the city and relocating the Newmarket Road park and ride. Should the planned improvements not limit congestion to an acceptable level (a level to be agreed over the next 12 months as part of the final bid), then the County Council accepts the need to bring in a congestion charge – with details to be discussed over the coming months.
 - The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan was agreed for public consultation after some discussion. Council also debated a motion concerning climate change but agreed to defer decision pending further work on the implications of signing up to the so-called 10:10 Scheme calling for a 10% cut in carbon emissions by 2010.
 - Council received reports from the Police and Fire and Rescue Authorities and had the opportunity to question representatives on non-operational issues.
 - Council also considered annual reports from the pensions and audit and accounts committee.
- On **waste issues**, the new county-wide waste handling facility at Donarbon, Waterbeach is now operational and undergoing test runs. It will be officially opened on 9 November. Permission has been granted for a new, enclosed, household waste recycling centre at Witchford.
- The Joint Area **Traffic** Committee met to consider, amongst other issues, applications for the jointly funded minor highways improvement scheme for next year. It was agreed to fund improvements at the Lode crossroads and works in Soham, Cheveley, Littleport and Witcham. Sutton requested inclusion in funding schemes but the Committee felt that the scoring had been undertaken equitably and rejected the request to change the scoring.

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- A site meeting was held with County officers, fellow County Councillors and Quy Parish Council about the Quy traffic calming measures. As reported previously, Quy Parish Council is adamant that it wants to keep traffic calming. Changes to the road markings to try to assist the flow of traffic, amongst other ideas, were discussed. Officers would cost various options and I suspect that the argument over removal of the current measures will continue for some time!
- There have also been a number of meetings regarding the early stages of the **budget** process. The County Council staff at managerial level and above has had a pay freeze this year and it is quite clear that we will have to be very careful in setting budgets for the next few years.

2390: District Councillor's Report: *(Cllr Alderson reported to the meeting)*

- *Mobile Play Scheme:* ECDC's new Mobile Play Scheme has been a big success as it toured the District in October. Hundreds of children and young people have climbed walls, jumped on bouncy castles and played many other games as the project brought free activities to Ely, Bottisham, Soham and Cheveley. It will be visiting further areas in November.
- *Southern Link Road:* Officers at the District and County Councils are looking at options for major improvements to the A142, principally the Southern Link road round Ely. Work on the plans for the road is moving forward with funding from Cambridgeshire Horizons and the Government's Housing Growth Fund. Link being looked at between Angel Drove and Stuntney without a crossing over the river. This would reduce any potential environmental impact and be significantly cheaper than previous suggested routes.
- *Affordable Housing:* The Strategic Housing Market Assessment has identified a need in East Cambs of 597 new affordable units per annum for the foreseeable future. In 2008/9 there were delivered 134 units, in 2009/10 – 100 and hopefully in 2010/11 probably 130-140. There will be more calls on the Council to deal with people made homeless during the recession. By more efficiently working with our partner agencies we have been able to reduce the cost of our homelessness service, for instance, from £235,000 in 2005/6 to £176,142 in 2008/09. We are also using less bed and breakfast accommodation which is very costly.
- *Bridge over Reach Lode:* This was approved. Attended last planning meeting but not allowed to put case for alternative cycle route. Funding has been achieved so work should start next year.

2391: Correspondence for Consideration/Circulation: *(see Appendix 1 for correspondence received)*

- CCC – A & B Road Speed Limit Review – *this was to be circulated for info.*
- CCC – HCV Issues and Countywide Advisory Freight Map – *this was to be circulated for comments at next meeting*
- ECDC – Local Development Framework Adoption Statement – *this was to be circulated for info*
- CPALC – Information Pack – *this was to be circulated for info.*

Cllr Brown left meeting at 8.15pm

2392: Consideration of Planning Application for 97 Commercial End – *The replacement of the existing wooden front gates at drive entrance from Commercial End with wrought iron gates. The gates opening inwards towards the house. Ref: 09/00768/FUL-09/00769/LBC. There were no objections but comment recorded that the style of gates was out of character in a conservation area.*

2393: Refurbishment of War Memorial:

Loder Bevington confirmed that he had spoken with Bob Thomson about the repairs. BT had suggested that if the Parish Council was to apply for grant funding it would be best to go for full refurbishment. LB asked for someone else to take on this project and prepare applications for funding. Mary Smith agreed to do this and said she would liaise with BT. It was noted that a grant application needed to be submitted by April 2010 as this was the next 6-monthly deadline. It was agreed that a contribution to the work would be included as part of the Precept for 2010/11.

Action: MS/(BT)

2394: Request for Bus Shelter opposite Shop:

Margaret Chadwick told meeting that she had been asked if a bus shelter could be erected on the Recreation Ground side opposite the shop for people travelling in the Newmarket direction. Following discussion and before taking this forward the Clerk was to contact Stagecoach and ask if they held details of numbers of people using this bus stop and, secondly, to place a note in the Beacon asking anyone who used the bus to travel in the Newmarket direction and who would like to see a bus shelter to contact her.

Action: Clerk

2395: Progress Report on CCC Play Pathfinder Project – Recreation Ground/The Denny:

Min.ref 323/2378: Loder Bevington gave a progress report. He confirmed that £20,000 had been awarded. With reference to the swing, it was hoped to achieve the extra award funding to purchase the cantilever swing as the preferred option. It was considered too much of a strain for Parish Council Precept to cover extra cost.

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With reference to the grant agreement, "Appendix 1 – Financial reporting" was the main issue as this would need to be completed monthly during the period of the project. The Parish Council was to manage the project but it was agreed that LB would complete agreement and circulate for comment. The Chairman would then sign before next meeting. *Proposed: Loder Bevington. Seconded: Bert Collins.*

2396: Cambridgeshire ACRE – Membership Renewal:

This was agreed with the subscription of £35. *Proposed: Lynn Reed. Seconded: Loder Bevington.*

2397: Formation of Village Conservation & Environment Working Group/Committee:

Loder Bevington confirmed that several residents had contacted him and expressed an interest in forming such a group. LB was to arrange an initial meeting and would publicise the date when known. **Action: LB**

2398: Outstanding items from 2009/10 Budget –Precept:

- Replacement Millennium tree. Quotes received - £81 + VAT for standard Common Lime. *Loder Bevington gave meeting information of a more suitable replacement – Tilia Tomentosa 'Petiolaris'.* This was to be further looked into. The cost of up to £100 + VAT was agreed. *Unanimously agreed.*
- Contribution to JFMHI Scheme (School Safety Zone). £1/elector = £670.
- Land Registration – outstanding fees.
- National Trust Lease – legal fees for registration of land.

Cllr Allen Alderson left the meeting at 9.20pm

2399: Clerk's Report:

- Min.ref 323/2381: Patching work carried out by CCC Highways on Green Bank Road without disturbing the granite kerbstones.
- Package of documents relating to Parish land registration delivered by hand to Thomson Webb and Corfield Solicitors.
- Wreath ordered for Remembrance Ceremony – 11/11/09.
- External Auditors confirmed approval of Annual Audit Return for 2008/09.
- Min.ref 323/2383: Uneven surface of footpath on Quarry Lane reported to Paul Butcher of CCC. He confirmed that he would inspect.
- Certificates passed to Lynn Reed, Mary Smith and Bert Collins for completing Councillor Development Training.

2400: Finances including Approval of Payment of Outstanding Accounts:

Payments:

a) Karen King – <i>Clerk's salary, October 2009</i>	£ 185-36
b) Inland Revenue – PAYE	£ 46-20
c) K H Services – <i>grasscutting services</i>	£ 976-70
d) Cambridgeshire ACRE – <i>annual subscription</i>	£ 35-00
e) Adventure Playgrounds Ltd – <i>replacement parts</i>	£ 87-75
f) E.ON Energy – <i>streetlighting, September 2009</i>	£ 1-93
Total:	£1,332-94

The above accounts were approved. *Proposed: Lynn Reed. Seconded: Mary Smith.*

Receipts:

BIAA Bank Interest – <i>October 2009</i>	£ 0-91
David Rayner Farms – <i>land rent</i>	£ 2,160-00
W T Shrubbs – <i>land rent</i>	£ 430-00
Total	£2,590-91

2401: Parish Councillors' Reports:

- Play area inspections for October carried out by Margaret Chadwick. November inspections were to be carried out by Lynn Reed.
- Bert Collins reported play area covered with Autumn leaves and volunteered to clear them with a blower.
- Cross-reference *Pavilion Charity min.ref 68/449:* Loder Bevington told the meeting that the Electrician, Mr Sparks had inspected the timeswitches. It was found that one timeswitch was working but one was faulty. LB contacted the suppliers, Timeguard. As the timeswitches were of the same type and still in warranty they were both to be replaced free of charge.

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The meeting closed at 9.35pm

2402: Dates of Next Meetings:

17th November 2009 – Precept/Budget Meeting

1st December 2009

5th January 2010

2nd February 2010

2nd March 2010

APPENDIX 1: CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION/CIRCULATION/FILE:

CCC

As item 2391

ECDC

Community Services Committee 8/10/09 – Decision List

General

Suffolk ACRE Insurance – confirmation of insurance cover

The Planning Field – *Cambridgeshire Playing Fields Association Newsletter*

NATS – TCN Update (Terminal Control North)

Emails:

ECDC – Mobile Play School

SCDC – Statement of Community Involvement and Supplementary Planning Documents