

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Waterbeach Parish Council held on Tuesday, 1st March, 2005 at 7.30 p.m. in the New Pavilion.

Present: Mr. N. Brown; Mrs. J. Cornwell; Dr. C. Grant; Mr. W. Grant; Mr. D. Halsey; Mr. P. Jones; Mr. M. Leeke; Mr. W. Saberton; Mrs. J. Williamson(SCDC); Mr. M. Williamson; Mr. A. Wright (Chairman).

In attendance: The Clerk.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr. Mrs. J. Coston.

2. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1st February, 2005:**

Following the amendments to item 5 that the “on the precept had hey not been included” be removed and to item 14 iii to read “The visitors per session at Waterbeach during January count was 35, an increase from the average of 20 from the October count” the Minutes were approved and signed.

3. **Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 1st February, 2005:**

There were no matters arising.

4. **Risk Assessments – how best to achieve:**

Mrs. Williamson and the Clerk have started to carry out various risk assessments. The risk assessments handed out to the Clubs and organisations had not yet been received back. It was questioned whether training was required to carry out risk assessments.

5. **Co-option of Parish Councillor:**

No applications had been received. There are now three vacancies as Mr. David Benton had resigned from the Council after twenty years service. Mr. Benton would continue to assist in the management of the cemetery.

6. **Annual Parish Meeting:**

- i. **Date:** It was agreed that the meeting would be held on Wednesday, 25th May in the Library.
- ii. **Format:** The meeting would start at 7.30 p.m., with informal time held during the final half hour of the library session. The business of the meeting would commence at 8.00 p.m.. A representative from CCC Libraries would be invited to attend.

Other matters for discussion: Mrs. Williamson and Mr. Leeke would find out if there was any information regarding the proposals for the airfield.

The details of the Annual Parish Meeting would be published in the Newsletter which is to be circulated.

7. **Correspondence:**

- i. CCC – Cambridgeshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan. This would be discussed as an agenda item in April.
- ii. CCC – South Cams. Environment & Transport Area Joint Committee agenda and minutes.
- iii. Cambs. City Council – Consultation on the Cambridge & South Cambridgeshire Area Transport Plan
- iv. CALC – Special Conference to include Quality Parish Initiative & New Clerks Contract. Mrs. Williamson would attend. The web address of the Council is www.waterbeach.org.uk
- v. SCDC – Community Services Funding Toolkit
- vi. ODPM – Vibrant Leadership and Citizen Engagement & Public Services: Why Neighbourhoods Matter
- vii. Cambridgeshire ACRE – Calor Cambridgeshire Village of the Year 2005
- viii. Standards Board for England – A Code for the Future.

- ix. Mr. Marshall, Winfold Road – request for a ‘No Ball Games’ sign on the area of grass. It was agreed that the area is an amenity area for recreation and therefore a sign restricting recreational activities could not be erected,
- x. Mr. D. Benton – letter of resignation from the Council
- xi. Mrs. L. Steele – request for views on proposed redevelopment of the Black House or the Fen Chapel in Long Drove. The Council considered that the proposals were interesting and would make comment on them when the planning application was received. Mrs. Williamson would consult with the Conservation Officer at SCDC.
- xii. Defra – Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill.
- xiii. Defence Estates – proposed cemetery extension. It was agreed that the Council is still keen to purchase the land but that the Council is concerned that the MoD’s legal fees, paid for by the Council, are rising considerably with little evidence of progress. The Council is minded to approve the increase in the limit of expenditure on the MoD’s legal fees to £4000 provided that the purchase can be completed in the near future. The Council suggest extending the period for completion to 30th April and then they would introduce a limit on expenditure.

8. Approval of Accounts:

With the addition of the standing order amount to the Mr. K. Stubbley for salary, and the omission of the amount outstanding to SCDC for 2000/01 and 2001/2002 rates Mr. Brown proposed, seconded by Dr. C. Grant and agreed that the accounts as presented should be paid.

The Council requested that the monthly income should also be shown on the list of accounts.

9. Superannuation – Additional Voluntary Contributions:

There has still been no reply from the ODPM.

10. Representative Reports

- i. County Councillor’s Report: Mrs. J. Coston was not present.
- ii. South Cambridgeshire District Councillor’s Report:

Mrs. Williamson reported that:

- In previous years SCDC had not increased their charge due to the reserves that had been accumulated and that they had been instructed to spend them. The cost of the Northstowe development consultation and the travellers had been a lot and the Council had had to increase the tax this year by 100%. The Council Tax bills will be sent out before the ODPM has made a decision regarding capping of the Council tax increase. If the increase is capped bills will have to be re-issued by SCDC at a cost of £50,000.
- The groundsmen had collected a number of dumped bicycles which had been collected by SCDC.
- Primrose Lane – it could not be reported definitely whether the area had been cleared by SCDC.
- iii. Recreation ground
 - a. Machinery – the Clerk suggested that in order that spring maintenance on the cricket square and the bowls green could be carried out by the groundsmen that a spiker and a scarifier be hired from Duxford Hire and that the purchase of a spiker, which would be used more frequently than a scarifier, be investigated. Agreed.

- b. Bowls facilities – the Bowls Club are carrying out some maintenance and improvement work to the inside of the Bowls Pavilion. The Clerk has requested work to be carried out on the external door. The Bowls Club and Cricket Club agreements have not been signed and returned as yet.
- c. A request had been made by the Jenny Wren Football team to use the training area. The groundsman should be consulted on the request, it was agreed that for a charge of £15 the area could be used for an initial trial period. A suitable agreement would be drawn up for signing in the event that the club wished to proceed.
- d. It was reported that residents had complained about the grass being rolled when conditions were not suitable.

iv. Library:

The forthcoming book change will apparently have fewer books. Dr. Grant is looking into this. A volunteer meeting will be held in April. More volunteers are urgently needed.

11. Village Matters:

Mr. Jones expressed concern about the height of the hedge at 22 High Street as it obstructed the site lines along the path when exiting The Missons. It was agreed that Mr. Jones would go and discuss the situation with the occupier.

The solar light at Chittering is not working. The Clerk would report.

The chevron sign on the bend at the Sailing Club corner had been knocked down. The Clerk would report.

Mr. Saberton had been asked to continue as SCDC representative on CALC.

The meeting ended at 9.50 p.m.

Chairman Date