

WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Waterbeach Parish Council held on 3 March 2015 at 7.30 p.m. at the Old Pavilion, Cambridge Road, Waterbeach.

OPEN FORUM

A representative from Milton Cricket Club spoke to ask councillors to support their request to use the cricket pitch on a regular basis in the coming season (agenda item 14/142).

PARISH COUNCIL

PRESENT: Cllrs Bull, Gaunt, A Grant, Gilzean, Howlett, B Johnson, P Johnson, Rabbett, Smart, Williams, J Williamson, M Williamson (Chair), Wright

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs K Grant & Shipp

14 / 133 MINUTES

The amended Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3 February 2015 were approved as a correct record and were signed by the Chair

Proposed: Cllr Williams Seconded Cllr Bull
In Favour: 12 Abstentions: 1 (Cllr Howlett not present at last meeting)

14 / 134 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr P Johnson – Member of South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC)

14/142 CRICKET PITCHES

This item was taken out of order

It was **RESOLVED** to allow Milton Cricket Club to use the cricket pitch at Waterbeach for their 3rd team home games in future on the understanding that fixtures for the Waterbeach cricket teams will take precedence if there is any clash. The contribution to be paid in the coming season will be £70 per match.

Proposed: Cllr Williams Seconded: Cllr J Williamson
Unanimous

14 / 135 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the Annual Parish Meeting should take place on Wednesday 22 April.

Proposed: Cllr M Williamson Seconded: Cllr Wright
In Favour: 12 Abstentions: 1 (Cllr Smart)

It was agreed that the chairs of the various council committees and working parties will give updates and speakers from local community groups will be invited as well as recipients of grants from the council. Speakers to be given a strictly limited permitted time to speak. The Neighbourhood Development Plan will be covered also.

14 / 136 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES CONTRIBUTIONS

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the signature of indemnity for execution regarding s106 monies due to be received from SCDC in respect of the following site:
Development of Land Adj. 12 Burgess Road, Waterbeach – S/2026/11/FL & S/1649/12/DC- Public Open Space £2475.14 and Community Space £417.74

Proposed: Cllr J Williamson Seconded: Cllr P Johnson
Unanimous

14 / 137 GRANT FUNDING

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the grant application from Waterbeach Independent Lending Library. The grant is for £500 towards the provision of books for the Summer Reading Challenge aimed at 4-11 year olds.

Proposed: Cllr J Williamson Seconded: Cllr P Johnson
Unanimous

14 / 138 REPORTS ON GROUNDS CARE

A report had been circulated from Councillors Shipp & Smart regarding specifications for grounds care. After some discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should work through the details of the IOG report and analyse the data and do any further research necessary in order to create a detailed specification of the work needed on all the open spaces in the village along with a list of other tasks carried out. She will ask for input from councillors as and when needed with the intention of making a comprehensive report available in time for discussion at the May or June Parish Council meeting.

Proposed: Cllr J Williamson Seconded: Cllr Gaunt
In favour: 10 Abstentions 3 (Cllrs Howlett, Rabbett, Smart)

14 / 139 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A draft statement had been circulated and it was explained that the crucial point was to agree to designate the area to be covered by the plan and to put in place plans for further public consultation.

It was **RESOLVED** that after public meetings, information in the Parish newsletter and on the website the Parish Council recommends that Waterbeach Parish is the designated Neighbourhood Area for which together with community representatives they will develop a Neighbourhood Plan. The Council instructs the Clerk to make an application for this designation to SCDC attaching the agreed justification statement.

Proposed: Cllr Williams Seconded: Cllr Bull
Unanimous

14 / 140 BUS SHELTERS

The Parish Council agreed that it would be a good idea to install the two proposed bus shelters on Denny End Road and would be prepared in principle to take on the maintenance of such shelters.

However it could not make a formal commitment without further details on the potential commuted sum and potential maintenance costs. The Clerk to investigate further.

14 / 141 CEMETERY

A report had been circulated from the working party about the cemetery paths. Councillors raised questions about the height of the proposed path edging and the practicalities of the vehicles used by gravediggers being able to drive over it and/or the potential damage to the edging thus caused. Also if the area cut by grass-cutting machinery would be limited or if it could still cut to the edge of the path. The question was also raised about the value of spending money on a cemetery which is almost full but it was argued that this is still a community space and families visit the graves.

Councillors agreed that the path across the top of the cemetery is in a very bad state and that some action will definitely be needed to improve this even if nowhere else.

It was agreed that the questions raised be investigated further and the report considered again at the April meeting.

14 / 142 CRICKET PITCHES

This item was taken out of order – see after 14/134 above

14 / 143 HEALTH AND SAFETY

The following matters were raised

- Dog mess on the recreation ground and sports pitches. The Clerk was asked to review the resolution on this agreed at a previous meeting and ensure the actions were implemented.
- The adequacy and maintenance of the local sewage works was questioned. It was agreed that the Clerk should put in an FOI request to Anglian Water asking what maintenance work has been carried out and what alterations made since the plant was installed.
- The public footpath between Chittering and Waterbeach has been blocked. It was agreed this was a County Council issue and should be reported via the County's website.
- A dog bin is still needed on Bannold Road.
- There is still a problem with odour coming from the Amey Cespa site. The Environment Agency number for reporting this has been publicised locally. Any resident can call and report a problem. These calls are logged and they will be given a reference number.
- The Ladybird Springer has still not been repaired and it was agreed that it be taken out of service until a repair can be organised.
- A solution is still being sought to the issue of replacing a light in the bus shelter.

14 / 144 OFFICER & COUNCILLOR REPORTS

a. Parish Clerk

The Clerk had circulated a report which is attached to these minutes.

There is still an orange light next to a new light in Way Lane. The Clerk will contact Balfour Beatty to query that.

The date listed for the dog show was queried and the Clerk will check this.

b. County Councillor

The increase in Council Tax will be 1.99% - the maximum allowable without a referendum. Cuts of £30 million are to be made across the county including cuts in the winter maintenance programme - being achieved this year through revising the spread rate rather than cutting routes. The subsidised bus services are under review – this could affect route 196 through the village. The legal opinion on road gritting had been sent to the Chair. There was great disappointment that

the City Deal meeting had not included any cycle routes outside the city. No-one is happy about the street lighting cuts.

The Chair commented that the City Deal also had not mentioned the A10 at all. He agreed to draft a letter for the Clerk to send on behalf of the Parish Council about this.

It was noted that an amount of £98 per run had been quoted as the cost of gritting a road.

c. District Councillor(s)

Cllr Hockney again thanked councillors for their interest and help with the project to revitalise the Tithe Barn in Landbeach. There will be a fundraising Fun Day on 11 April. A further development for 57 houses on Bannold Road has been approved on appeal. SCDC are still waiting to hear about a date for Waterbeach to be discussed at the Local Plan hearings. The petition for school road safety is progressing well. The potholes in Burgess Road are to be fixed.

Cllr P Johnson had submitted a written report (attached) covering some of these and other issues. He also reported that improvements are to be made on Primrose Lane to put in perforated concrete blocks to deal with the fact that many vehicles are wider than the current track. This is planned to be done before next winter.

d. Chairman

Councillor training is to be scheduled and the Chair asked if a Saturday morning would be acceptable but a large number of councillors were against this idea.

e. Library Officer – covered under grant applications above

f. Tree Officer – covered in the Clerk's report

14 / 145 WORKING PARTY AND PROJECT REPORTS

a. Skatepark

Cllr Gaunt reported that the tender process is moving on with the deadline for responses being this Friday 6th March. Papers to be circulated amongst the working party on Monday 9th and a marking meeting to take place on Wednesday 11th March, exact time to be confirmed but probably late afternoon/evening. A final meeting if needed and a short list to be chosen by Friday 13th March. An open day is planned for Saturday 21 March.

b. Emergency Plan

A further working party meeting has been held and further progress made on completing the template. Various community groups are being approached for help and a further plea for volunteers has gone into the recent newsletter.

c. Toddler Playgroup

Cllr Bull is awaiting a report from the Toddler Playgroup after which the working party will submit a pre-planning application to SCDC.

d. Urban & Civic

A project update was circulated. Cllr Williams reported that he will be meeting Andy Brading again on 12th March about the sports facilities.

14 / 146 ACCOUNTS

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment of accounts for the month as set out in the schedule.

Proposed: Cllr .Bull Seconded: Cllr Howlett

In favour: 11 Abstentions: 2 (Cllrs Smart and A Grant)

14 / 147 FUTURE AGENDAS

A request had been made by a resident for a litter pick. It was noted that the response to a request for volunteers had been very poor last time. It was agreed to try and organise a joint litter-pick with the WI.

14 / 148 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

It was resolved in accordance with section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting) Act 1960 that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted at the next agenda item(s) the Chairman asked that in the public interest the public and press be temporarily excluded from this meeting and were herewith instructed to withdraw.

Proposed: Cllr M Williamson. Seconded: Cllr Bull Unanimous

14 / 149 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

This information can be found in the council's confidential minute book

14 / 150 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

The Confidential Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3 February 2015 were approved as a correct record and were signed by the Chair

Proposed: Cllr J Williamson Seconded Cllr Wright
In Favour: 10 Abstentions: 3 (Cllrs Rabbett, Gilzean and Smart)

14 / 151 CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

During this discussion as it was now nearly 9.30 pm it was unanimously agreed to continue the meeting beyond the two hour limit imposed by standing orders in order to complete the discussion of all matters on the agenda.

The remainder of the discussions concerned employees or former employees and the minutes can be found in the council's confidential minute book.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm

Chair