

WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Waterbeach Parish Council held on 2 December 2014 at 7.00 p.m. at the Old Pavilion, Cambridge Road, Waterbeach.

PRESENTATION

James Fisher, Section 106 Officer at South Cambridgeshire District Council, explained that, due to a very recent change in government policy, in the period running up to the planned introduction of CIL next summer, there would be no further s106 income from developments of up to 10 dwellings.

He clarified the fact that s106 funds may be used to make existing facilities fit for purpose and this can include routine maintenance or purchase of machinery. It is up to the Parish Council to decide what is needed and best for the village. In answer to a question he confirmed that in his opinion vertidrainning was an entirely appropriate use of the funds.

Funds from CIL will have an even wider definition of use but there will be more exemptions as regards payment by developers, such as affordable housing and self build properties.

OPEN FORUM

The following issues were raised by members of the public: -

- The chairman of WAY spoke in support of their grant application.\
- A resident asked about the cost of the accounting software (which can be found in an earlier month payments' list) and whether the Parish Council had legal expenses insurance (the answer is yes).

PARISH COUNCIL

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

14 / 93 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 4 November 2014 were approved as a correct record and were signed

Proposed: Cllr J Williamson Seconded Cllr Wright
14 in favour. 1 abstention (Cllr K Grant not present at that meeting)

14 / 94 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr P Johnson – South Cambridgeshire District Councillor
Cllr Rabbett – Item 14/95
Cllr M Williamson and Cllr J Williamson – Item 14/96(c)
Cllr Wright – Item 14/96 (d)

14 / 95 TODDLER PLAYGROUP

Cllr Bull explained that she and Cllr Gaunt had visited the old garage on the recreation ground (near Chapel Close) with representatives of the Toddler Playgroup and they all felt that – subject

to planning restrictions and appropriate legal agreements - the garage and immediate surrounding area had the potential to be a good option for adapting for new premises for the playgroup. There was a long discussion about parking, security, access and the possibility of locating a building elsewhere on the recreation ground.

It was **PROPOSED** that the Parish Council welcomes the opportunity to provide a site for the Toddler Playgroup if it can be achieved on ground in Parish Council ownership, without disadvantaging other users.

Proposed: Cllr K Grant Seconded: Cllr Bull

An **AMENDMENT** was proposed to indicate that the Parish Council's preferred option was the old garage site.

Proposed: Cllr Williams Seconded: Cllr Gaunt
In favour 13 Abstentions: 2 (Cllrs K Grant and M Williamson)

A vote was taken on the **AMENDED RESOLUTION**

In favour: 14 Against 1 (Cllr Shipp)

14 / 96 GRANT FUNDING

a. It was **RESOLVED** to make a grant of £500 to Waterbeach Day Centre for the Elderly

Proposed: Cllr K Grant Seconded Cllr Bull Unanimous

b. It was **PROPOSED** to make a grant of £3,000 to the WAY Project.

An **AMENDMENT** was proposed that £500 of this be conditional on matched funding being provided by Landbeach Parish Council.

Amendment Proposed: Cllr K Grant. Not seconded. The amendment failed and a vote was then taken on the **ORIGINAL RESOLUTION**.

Proposed: Cllr Williams. Seconded Cllr Howlett

In favour: 13 Against 2 (Cllrs A Grant and K Grant)

Councillors J Williamson and M Williamson left the room during the following item.

c. It was **RESOLVED** to ask the Farmland Museum to provide accounts when submitting a formal request for continued funding.

Proposed: Cllr K Grant. Seconded: Cllr Gaunt. In favour 11 (4 absent from the room)

d. It was noted that repayment of the loan granted earlier in the year had been received along with a letter of thanks from the Village Society

14 / 97 SOLAR FARMS

Cllr Gaunt had circulated a report.

It was **RESOLVED** to ask Cllr Gaunt and Cllr P Johnson to continue their work to pursue the best options for compensation available from these projects on behalf of the community, including any retrospective opportunities.

Proposed: Cllr A Grant Seconded: Cllr B Johnson Unanimous

14 / 98 FINANCE

- (a) A report had been circulated on the setting of a budget and precept for the year 2015-2016. The question of the possible cost of a cemetery extension was raised and it was indicated that options would be to apply for grants or to raise a loan. There was a feeling in the meeting that it might be necessary to increase the precept, especially in view of the potential reduction on s106 income over the next few years. Also if we apply for grants for projects, there will still be a need to provide a 10% contribution or more as most grants are conditional on such a contribution,

It was **RESOLVED** that the Finance Committee be advised that whilst it should endeavour to keep the precept at the same level if possible, the Council was not opposed to raising the charge if required but by no more than 2%.

Proposed: Cllr A Grant Seconded: Cllr J Williamson

In favour: 14. Abstained: 1 (Cllr Gilzean)

- (b) It was **RESOLVED** to create a fundraising team to take responsibility for research into opportunities and making applications for grant funding for parish council led projects and to appoint members to that team. The team to be led by Cllr P Johnson and Cllr Gaunt and for them to co-opt further volunteers as needed.

Proposed: Cllr J Williamson. Seconded: Cllr A Grant
In Favour 14 1 Abstention (Cllr Howlett)

14 / 99 DOG SURVEY

Cllr M Williamson had circulated a final report on this. He also advised that at least one person had been identified, reported and formally warned by Environmental Health about allowing their dog to foul and not picking up. It was agreed that this be flagged up on the Parish Council website and Facebook page.

There was a long discussion covering many options for action and finally it was **PROPOSED** that the council provide new improved signage to say that dogs must be kept on a lead and make it widely know that, unless problems reduce, after 12 months the Council would again consider banning dogs from the Recreation Ground.

Proposed: Cllr Bull, Seconded Cllr A. Grant

An **AMENDMENT** was proposed that people be reminded that there are other locations available for walking dogs off the lead – such as Millennium Wood and Car Dyke.

Proposed: Cllr A Grant. The amendment was accepted by the proposer and a vote was taken on the **AMENDED RESOLUTION**.

In Favour: 8 Against: 5 Abstentions: 2 (Cllr M Williamson and J Williamson)

14 / 100 SPEEDWATCH

It was agreed to put out a call for volunteers to train in order to be able to set up a speed watch team in the village. Cllr P Johnson will contact the police to get this started.

Cllr Howlett left the meeting at 9.17 pm.

14 / 101 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

It was **RESOLVED** to formally adopt the new complaints procedure as circulated to councillors with this agenda.

Proposed: Cllr J Williamson Seconded: Cllr Gilzean
In favour: 13 Unanimous. (Cllr B Williams was temporarily not in the room)

It was agreed to review the procedure after 6 months to ensure that it is working

As the meeting was likely to run late (see below ref adjournment) it was agreed to take the next items out of order

14 / 104 ACCOUNTS

It was noted that the accounts payable report is now produced automatically from the new software and the presentation is generally improved. It was agreed that the description column needs further work to ensure it describes the items for payment more clearly. The clerk explained that some of the items listed under PPE were for the new temporary member of staff, due to the Council's obligations as an employer under Health and Safety regulations.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment of accounts for the month as set out in the schedule.
Proposed: Cllr Wright Seconded: Cllr J Williamson
In favour: 13 Abstention: 1

14 / 102 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- The question of possibly replacing the felled plane tree was discussed, but there were reasons why this might not work. Should the stump be ground down? It was agreed to agenda this item at the next meeting,
- The windows in the Chittering bus shelter need to be cleaned and the glass replaced where needed.
- The branch of the willow tree near the station is still hanging dangerously. The Clerk will contact the County Council again about this.
- The Springer on the Gault still needs repair. The clerk reported that this was in hand with the suppliers.
- A dog bin still needs to be installed on Bannold Road.
- There is a missing water meter cover on Chapel Close.

The Clerk asked that where possible safety problems noticed by councillors be reported quickly to her rather than waiting for a meeting, so that action could be taken sooner.

The meeting was adjourned at 9.32 pm and it was agreed that it be resumed on Tuesday 9 September after the planning committee meeting.

Chair