

## WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Waterbeach Parish Council held on 5 January 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at the Old Pavilion, Cambridge Road, Waterbeach.

### 15 / 185      **THOSE PRESENT / APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

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

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr A Grant (out of parish)

### 15 / 186      **OPEN FORUM**

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak

### 15 / 187      **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 1 December 2015 were approved as a correct record and were signed by the Chair;

**Proposed: Cllr J Williamson. Seconded Cllr Wright      Unanimous**

### 15 / 188      **MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

Cllr K Grant declared an interest in tem 15/195 as tenants in a property she owns are affected by the pedestrian crossing

### 15 / 189      **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

It was **RESOLVED** that a grant of £300 be paid to the Fen Edge Twinning Association with the proviso that that there should be more publicity in Waterbeach for the twinning visit and events surrounding it as well as a follow-up report which we can include in our parish council newsletter. It was also suggested that WAY (Waterbeach and Landbeach Action for Youth) should be contacted by FETA and encouraged to get involved.

**Proposed: Cllr Wright      Seconded Cllr J Williamson**

**In favour: 13      Against: 1**

### 15 / 190      **CEMETERY MATTERS**

There was some discussion, during which it was established that Urban&Civic had confirmed that, on occasions when the need arose, they could allow access for maintenance from the north side of the proposed new space. Councillors also suggested that in the longer term other additional options might need to be investigated.

It was **RESOLVED** to support and pursue the proposal for adding approximately 1 acre of land to the existing cemetery to the west of the current site, subject to the required finance and appropriate permissions being available.

**Proposed: Cllr Bull      Seconded Cllr B Johnson**

**In favour: 10      Against: 2      Abstentions: 2**

### 15 / 191      **PLANNING**

Councillors felt that the report does not properly address the question of the visibility of the lighting from some distance away. Whilst acknowledging that issues with the existing site lighting are not a planning matter assurances are needed that the lighting associated with this application will not add to the already existing problem of poor screening of light on the site.

With regard to the matter of the cycle way, it was said that this proposal is for 6975m<sup>2</sup> and therefore the required 30,307m<sup>2</sup> has not yet been met to require implementation of the cycle way. However councillors wish to know what the total floor space is that has already been constructed to enable understanding of the overall context.

It was emphasised how crucial the construction of a cycleway is as the situation has changed considerably in that there is far more traffic on the A10 than was the case when the site first opened. There is no bus service from Waterbeach railway station to the site. Therefore people currently have

no option but to walk along an extremely busy and dangerous stretch of road which does not even have a footpath.

In view of the above it was **RESOLVED** not to withdraw the Parish council objection to this planning application.

**Proposed: Cllr Williams      Seconded Cllr K Grant**  
**In favour: 10                  Abstentions: 4**

**15 / 192                  BANNOLD ROAD DEVELOPMENT – STREET NAME**

After some discussion it was **PROPOSED** to recommend that the street be named Harvey Way.

**Proposed: Cllr B Johnson.      Seconded: Cllr Howlett      Unanimous**

**15 / 193                  CHILD AND VULNERABLE ADULT SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

There was a short discussion during which it was pointed out that all staff working with children and vulnerable adults should have DBS checks and the Clerk was asked to put in place a system for ensuring all were registered.

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the recommended policy subject to this amendment.

**Proposed: Cllr K Grant                  Seconded: Cllr Gilzean                  Unanimous**

**15 / 194                  FINANCE - BUDGET**

The Clerk was asked to send a formal letter of protest to the District Council regarding the calculation of the parish council tax base for 2016/17 and District Councillor P Johnson was asked to speak to the leader in the absence of the portfolio holder. The general feeling was that the precept should remain the same and the Clerk and Chair agreed to come back to the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January with a revised forecast for the current year to help with a final decision.

**15 / 195                  HIGHWAYS - PEDESTRIAN CROSSING**

After a short discussion during which it was once again acknowledged that the site was not ideal, it was **RESOLVED** to confirm to the County Council that the Parish Council wished to continue with the project to install the pedestrian crossing on Chapel Street. A recorded vote was requested.

**Proposed: Cllr Williams      Seconded: Cllr P Johnson**

**In favour: 10 Cllrs Bull, Gaunt, B Johnson, P Johnson, Rabbett, Shipp, Williams, J Williamson, M Williamson.**

**Against: 2 Cllrs Gilzean, Smart      Abstentions: 2 Cllrs Howlett, Wright.**

1 Not voting Cllr K Grant who had declared an interest

**15 / 196                  OLD SKATEPARK**

Two residents had put forward suggestions. It was agreed to postpone any decisions until the outcome of the idea for the use of the old garage site for Waterbeach Toddler Play Group was known.

**15 / 197                  COMMUNITY AWARDS**

It was agreed to nominate the skatepark project and those who had worked on delivering it in the category of "Outstanding Local Service/Amenity". As there were no other volunteers to write the proposal, the Chair agreed to try to do so.

**15 / 198                  LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION**

It was agreed that the commission be asked to look forward and recognise the anticipated growth of Waterbeach in which case no changes should be made. The emerging Local Plan should be cited noting population figures and the presence of a strategic site. If necessary then it would make most sense for Waterbeach to be paired with Milton.

*At 8.30pm the Chair asked for and received councillors' permission to take some items out of order in order to give priority to the matter scheduled for the closed session.*

**15 / 201 OFFICER & COUNCILLOR REPORTS – COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Leeke reported on the County's ongoing budget plans indicating that matters have not improved and there is still uncertainty as to where cuts will fall but it is likely that the following local services will suffer: school crossing patrols, libraries, winter gritting and road maintenance.

**15 / 202 COMMITTEE & WORKING PARTY REPORTS – URBAN & CIVIC**

Rebecca Britton from Urban & Civic advised that the feedback report from the open day had been sent out to those who had registered an interest. Newsletters have also been circulated throughout the village. There was no news as yet about any work on the skatepark approach path.

**15 / 205 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 the meeting and were herewith instructed to withdraw.

**Proposed: Cllr Bull    Seconded: Cllr J Williamson**  
**In Favour: 13 Abstentions: 1**

**15 / 206 MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

None declared

**15 / 207 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

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

**Proposed: Cllr Wright    Seconded Cllr Gaunt**  
**In Favour: 11 Abstentions: 3 (not present at that meeting)**

**15 / 208 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

The Minutes for this part of the meeting can be found in the Council's confidential minute book

At 9.30pm the Chair re-opened the meeting to the public and it was **RESOLVED** to suspend standing orders in order to allow the meeting to continue beyond two hours.

**Proposed: Cllr J Williamson    Seconded Cllr Wright**  
**In Favour: 13    Against: 1**

**15 / 199 LOCAL PLAN / NDP**

It was agreed to authorise the sub-group meeting planned for 6th January, to collate responses to the Local Plan to be shared with residents at the public meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> January.

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the planning committee to produce a formal response to the Local Plan Consultations to be submitted to SCDC on behalf of the Parish Council.

**Proposed: Cllr Shipp    Seconded Cllr Williams    Unanimous**

**15 / 200 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- There is a problem with chickens escaping from a local garden into the area near the children's play area. The Clerk is attempting to contact the owners and will look into what is needed on the council's side of the fence
- There is a problem with the street lights in Cody Road. The County contractors are aware and are dealing.
- Dog fouling – if offending owners can be identified this can be reported to Environmental Health.
- Various potholes were mentioned. The Chair said that highways maintenance issues that are the responsibility of the County Council should not be raised here unless already reported directly to the County.

**15 / 201 OFFICER & COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

**District Councillor(s)** – a report had been circulated by Cllr P Johnson. The location of the post box was still not resolved and it was agreed to put this on the agenda for the February meeting.

**15 / 202 COMMITTEE AND WORKING PARTY REPORTS**

**Toddler Play Group** – It was reported that this can now progress since pre-planning advice has now been received. The pre-planning advice to be circulated to all councillors.

**15 / 203 ACCOUNTS**

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

**Proposed: Cllr Bull Seconded: Cllr J Williamson**

**In favour: 10 Cllrs Bull, Gaunt, Howlett, B Johnson, P Johnson, Rabbett, Williams, J Williamson, M Williamson, Wright.**

**Against: 1 Cllr Smart Abstentions: 3 Cllrs Gilzean, K Grant and Shipp**

**15 / 204 FUTURE AGENDAS**

- The location of the post-box.
- Trustee for the Military Heritage museum
- Bench locations

The meeting closed at 10 pm

Chair