

WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on **Tuesday 4 February 2020 at 7.30pm**

**THOSE PRESENT / APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**Present:** Cllrs Bavester, Bull, Gilzean, Grant, Howlett, B Johnson, P Johnson, Rabbett, Seemarks, Shipp, B Williams, J Williams, J Williamson, M Williamson, Wright

**Apologies:** None

**Also in attendance:** County & District Cllr Bradnam, District Cllr Rippeth, Project Manager Michael Scott (Item 19/206); S Mason, Clerk

**19/202 OPEN FORUM**

The Chair of Waterbeach Colts asked that the resurfacing of the car park work could be done outside the football season. It is heavily used in the season and the disruption would be reduced if it could be undertaken outside the football season. Moreover, the clubs could be liable to penalties for any cancelled fixtures.

**19/203 MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

Cllr Shipp Item 19/208a and b – pecuniary interest  
Cllrs M and J Williamson 19/206 – personal interest as TH committee members

**19/204 MINUTES OF MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting on 28 January 2020 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair

**Proposed: Cllr Gilzean Seconded: Cllr Wright Unanimous**

**19/205 BUDGET FOR FY2020-2021**

Members noted the correction of an error in the budget agreed at the 28 January 2020 meeting – correct expenditure figure is £242, 024. (The line entry for office cleaning had inadvertently been left blank in the document circulated and agreed at the meeting.)

**19/206 RECREATION GROUND CAR PARK – APPOINTMENT OF CONTRACTOR**

Michael Scott presented his report. The project had been advertised on Contracts Finder and seven tenders had been received. The tender documentation had envisaged a March start date but it was open to Council to decide what was most appropriate. Following a lengthy discussion it was concluded that there was no ideal date because there would be inconvenience and upheaval no matter when the work was carried out. On balance it was **AGREED** that the Project manager should be asked to request a start date on 29 June i.e., the day after the Waterbeach Dog Show. The days would be lighter and drier and car parking usage would probably be less heavy than in the coming months.

Lighting. There were a number of concerns raised about the effectiveness of the solar lighting as the column light being piloted on the Recreation had been observed to be off as early as 10pm on days that were dull and gloomy. It was concluded that the Project Manager would be asked to investigate if there was a better solar cell product on the market. Meanwhile it was **AGREED** that ducting should be installed as part of the project to enable retrofitting of 2 columns if this proved necessary. A pilot bollard had only been installed last month so it was too early to reach a view on that.

**Proposed: Cllr Wright Seconded: Cllr Bull Unanimous.**

Start Date. It was proposed to start the project in mid April after the Easter Holiday.

**Proposed: Cllr Shipp Seconded: Cllr Rabbett**

An amended proposal was made for a start date the day after the Dog Show – Monday June 29.  
**Proposed: Cllr Seamarks Seconded: Cllr B Williams.**

**The amended motion was voted on first: In favour: 9 Abstentions: 4 Against: 2**

This motion then became the substantive motion and was voted on again:

**Proposed: Cllr Seamarks Seconded: Cllr B Williams. In favour: 9 Abstentions: 4 Against: 2**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Contract Award. It was **AGREED** to appoint J Cobb and Sons as the contractor for this project, their tender price being £148,757.

**Proposed: Cllr Wright Seconded: Cllr B Williams Unanimous**

Michael Scott would now make the necessary pre-works actions including asking about the ducting for lighting and a revised start date to be the date after the Waterbeach Dog Show.

#### **19/207 REVIEW OF RISK REGISTER**

Members **AGREED** the register with the following comments:

- Formatting to be tidied up to make it easier to understand
- The output (action columns) needed to be kept under active review
- It should be brought back to Council for a further review in 6 months-
- A further entry relating to the cemetery gate pillar currently awaiting repair should be added until such time as the repair was done

**Proposed: Cllr Rabbett Seconded: Cllr Seamarks In favour: 14 Abstention: 1**

#### **19/208 MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS – STANDING ITEMS**

Cllr Shipp having declared a pecuniary interest, left the room in items a and b, left the room

**[a. S/2075/18/OL](#) Outline planning permission (with all matters reserved) for development of up to 4,500 dwellings, business, retail, community, leisure and sports uses; new primary and secondary schools and sixth form centre; public open spaces including parks and ecological areas; points of access, associated drainage and other infrastructure, groundworks, landscaping, and highways works.**

Land adjacent to Waterbeach Barracks & Airfield site, Waterbeach  
**RLW Estates Ltd**

Updated Design & Access statement with schedule of changes; Ecology designated sites assessment note; Fenland experience strategy document; Transport Assessment schedule of clarifications

WPC do not consider that the proposed amendments meet the fundamental objections to the proposed application as expressed in the Parish Council's previous comments submitted on 25 July 2018 and further identified the following matters of concern to the proposed amendments:

Link between New Town and Denny Abbey. The causeway between the two sites is an historic route which has been in common use as a public route since medieval times.

Moreover prior to the construction of the airfield in 1939 there was a direct link between Waterbeach and Chittering with a track from Waterbeach to Winfold Farm and then Denny Abbey and a further connection to Chittering from Denny Abbey.

The development area has extended outside the area allocated in the Local Plan. The density of dwellings have been extended outside the allocated area.

The flooding strategy still has impact on parts of Waterbeach for which there is no mitigation

The foul water strategy and interaction with current Anglian Water relocation of the sewerage works is unclear

It is noted that the Station area is part bunded and part raised which will further impact the visual appearance from the River Cam and Long Drove.

S106 –WPC asks that SCDC to ensure, for continuity, that the negotiations follow the same format as the U&C document regarding headings.

WPC supports the concerns raised in the objections from Highways England dated 6th January 2020 and East Cambridgeshire District Council long standing holding objection regarding the impact on the A10 and A14/A10. Both agencies refer to the A10 being at capacity especially during peak hours and that no further development should occur until such times that sustainable mitigations are implemented.

WPC notes that the flood risk and surface water assessment was amended in April 2019. The most recent comments to view from the Environment Agency are dated 27th September 2018 which pre-date this. WPC requests that SCDC ensure that the EA are made aware of the amendments to enable them to comment and for their recommendations to be considered when determining this application.

WPC notes that the Internal Drainage Board in their response of support of the 30th November 2018 was on the understanding that the appropriate drainage infrastructure was implemented. This will involve a process that needs to be agreed with the Environment Agency. WPC is unsighted of any agreement or a further response to the amendments from the Internal Drainage Board.

Anglian Water has stated in their response dated 21st of May 2019 that there is no additional capacity at the Waterbeach Waste Water treatment Works. The PC would therefore like to ask for details on what plans there will be to tanker excess in and out and to have the opportunity to comment and for future provision to the parish as a whole.

The Design and Access Plan envisages plans for vehicular access from Cody Road which is of great concern and WPC reiterates its objection that Cody Road is not suitable.

Page 9 para 3.38 states that because the public footpath is overgrown it implies this is because of low footfall rather than the fact the footpath is not maintained at the height of summer when the study took place. It is important that unrestricted use continues and that the path is kept well maintained in the natural landscape of the fens and the Cam Washes.

Page 10 paras 4.6 and 4.7 make many assumptions regarding footfall and what may happen without supporting evidence as does much of the report.

In conclusion, despite the existence of a current Local Plan and an SPD, Waterbeach Parish Council **AGREED** to recommend **REFUSAL** of this planning application. Results of current consultations by Anglian Water and the Greater Cambridge Partnership should also be addressed before the application can be approved. WPC will request that its recommendation of refusal of the amendments to this application are considered in conjunction with its original response dated 27th July 2018.

**Proposed: Cllr Rabbett    Seconded: Cllr Seamarks    In favour: 13    Abstention 1**

**[b. S/0791/18/FL R](#) Relocated Railway Station - Not discussed**

Cllr Shipp returned to the room.

**c. S/0559/17/OL Urban and Civic planning application S/0559/17/OL.**

Cllrs Gilzean and B Williams, along with Paul Bearpark representing the Neighbourhood Plan, were going to the public realm/transport workshop on Monday 17 February

**d. S3372/17/CW Energy from Waste Plant (Incinerator) - Not discussed**

**e. Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant Relocation**

While there was no clear date for the consultation to commence, it would be helpful to understand what process would be applied when it did. The Clerk would ask Tim Slater if he could help.

**f. Community Forum**

Councillors were asked to suggest issues and concerns that they would like to see covered at the next Community Forum.

**19/209**

**PLANNING/HIGHWAYS**

To comment on CCC proposal to [install a raised table on Way Lane, Waterbeach approximately 25 metres to the north of the centre line of Spurgeons Avenue.](#) (This relates to a planning condition of the extension to Waterbeach Primary School.

**The following response was AGREED:**

In principle the Council welcomes the plan to install a crossing – but has strong objections to element involving the installation of raised table. These features give rise to unwelcome noise. In addition, it notes that such facilities elsewhere tend to lead to road erosion either side of the raised area (e.g Bateman Street Cambridge, Milton High Street). It feels this feature is not necessary given there is a chicane and a road narrowing to achieve the desired effect.

If, despite its objections a table is not removed from the scope, it asks that yellow lining (or other appropriate lining) is applied on either side of the raised table.

It asks if double yellow lines can be painted on the west hand side of the road directly opposite the School Keep Clear yellow painted area.

The Council was initially surprised that the crossing was not directly opposite the school and will asks if this was on safety grounds.

It has concerns that fumes that could be emitted from northbound traffic giving way outside the school entrance and the potential harmful effects on pupils.

**Proposed: Cllr Rabbett Cllr Shipp In favour: 13 Abstentions: 2**

**19/210**

**NEW STREETLIGHTS: Rosemary Road passage (Burgess Road end) and Jubilee Close**

Council noted that the solar column being piloted had failed on dull days in the circumstances **AGREED** to accept the quote to connect to an electricity support.

**Proposed: Cllr Bull Seconded: Cllr P Johnson Unanimous**

**19/211**

**OFFICER & COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Reports had been provided by the County and District Councillors and by the Clerk. The following points were also raised in discussion:

- The GCP had offered to attend a meeting to introduce the Waterbeach to NE Cambridge transport project – the Clerk was asked to give a positive response to the offer.
- District Cllr Rippeth reported that the Age UK warden had resigned and recruitment activity was in hand to replace her.
- County Cllr Bradnam reported that she was still involved in the Mayor's bus reform task force which would be looking inter alia into connectivity with his plans for a Cambridge Metro. Cllr M Williamson reported that the last sentence in the written report about bus passes should be removed as it was not correct.
- The Library Officer had advised that a new building would need a minimum footprint of 13.3m x 7.6m. Potential sites were not easy to identify. The Old Garage and Tillage Hall extension were the only possibilities currently identified. A future discussion on indoor community space should be scheduled.

- The Tree officer asked that a new tree audit was organised. Cllrs noted that start had been made on removing the growth from trees on the Green.
- The Chair raised two issues:
- She reminded Cllrs that the Council had a duty of care towards its staff.
- She had contacted SCDC with concerns about the barn adjacent to the Car Dyke where pest infestation had been seen. County Cllr Bradnam injected to report CCC had instructed the tenant to take appropriate pest control measures.

It was **AGREED** to extend the meeting for a further 30 minutes.  
Proposed; Cllr; Bull Seconded: Cllr Rabbett Unanimous

Cllr Gilzean left the meeting at 9.30

**19/212 MONTHLY PAYMENTS**

a. The accounts for January were **APPROVED** for payment

**Proposed: Cllr M Bull Seconded: Cllr Bavester In favour: 13 Abstentions: 1**

The addition of two late arrivals onto the list for payment were also **APPROVED**  
Cambridgeshire ACRE – consultant support for the Neighbourhood Plan - £1,200 (excl VAT)  
Ridgeons Huws Gray – general consumables - £263.69 (excl VAT)

**Proposed: Cllr M Bull Seconded: Cllr J Williamson In favour: 12 Abstentions: 2**

**19/213 SCDC FREE TREES OFFER**

It was **AGREED** to take up the offer from SCDC and delegate to Cllr Grant as Tree Officer, the decision on what tree(s) to purchase and a location for planting them. Cllr Seemarks said that the Brownies were keen to help plant them – the Clerk to make contact once decisions had been taken.

**Proposed: Cllr Wright Seconded: Cllr Bavester Unanimous.**

**19/214 TRANSFERRING FUNDS**

It was **AGREED** to transfer £40,000 from the CCLA S106 account into the Unity Trust current account.

**Proposed: Cllr B Johnson Seconded: Cllr P Johnson Unanimous**

Cllr Shipp left the meeting at 9.35

**19/215 GRANT APPLICATIONS**

To consider the following requests:

a. Waterbeach Independent Lending Library (£2000)

It was **AGREED** to grant £2000 for the Summer reading Challenge.

**Proposed: Cllr Seemarks Seconded: Cllr B Williams In favour 11 Abstentions: 2**

b. Waterbeach Bowls Club (up to £5,475)

This application would be deferred until May i.e. in the new Financial Year and once the outcome of the planning application for a new pavilion was known

c. Denson Close Day Care Centre (£2,000)

As a grant had already been made in the current financial year, this new application would be deferred until May.

**19/216 NEW BOOKSHELVES FOR THE WATERBEACH INDEPENDENT LENDING LIBRARY**

To agree to earmark up to £600 from S106 funds for purchases.

**Proposed: Cllr Seemarks Seconded: Cllr B Williams In favour: 8 Abstention: 3**

A second proposal for a new bookcase that arose from a CCC suggestion would be tabled at the next meeting once more details were available.

**19/217 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

It was **AGREED** to renew annual membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks at a cost of £227.

**Proposed: Cllr Bavester Seconded: Cllr Williams IN favour: 10 Abstention: 1**

**19/218 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

a. Pest Control measures – covered under Chairs report

Other items covered:

- Parish Office – the skate park side exit needed to be accessible in case of emergency
- Waterbeach Doctors' surgery – a public meeting to discuss concerns had been organised for 11 February
- Chapel Street pedestrian crossing – despite numerous approaches the lines remain unpainted and it was getting ever more dangerous.

Cllr Grant left the meeting at 9.50

**19/219 USE OF THE VILLAGE GREEN**

The following requests were agreed, subject to confirmation of appropriate insurance cover and the submission of a suitable risk assessment documents:

a. Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup - Mother's Day Cake and Flower Stall on Saturday 21 March

**Proposed; Cllr B Johnson Seconded Cllr Bavester Unanimous**

b. James Dean Fun Fair annual visit arriving on Sunday 5 April, opening on 10-12 April and leaving Monday 13 April. The Fair to be asked to reinstate the ground upon vacation.

**Proposed: Cllr Bavester Seconded; Cllr Rabbett In favour: 8 Abstentions: 3**

**19/220 ACTIONS LOG**

Item not discussed

The meeting closed at 9.55pm