

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Waterbeach Parish Council held on Tuesday, 1st July, 2008 at 7.30 p.m. in the New Pavilion, Cambridge Road.

Present: Mr. A. Ball; Dr. C. Grant; Mr. W. Grant; Mr. P. Johnson; Mr. M. Leeke; Mr. J. Lewis-Jones; Ms. G. Smith; Mrs. J. Williamson (Chairman); Mr. M. Williamson; Mr. A. Wright.

Mr. Johnson also attends as a district councillor for the ward of Waterbeach; Mr. Williamson also attends as the county councillor for the ward of Waterbeach.

Absent: Mr. R. Jones

In attendance:

Matters raised by members of the public:

Ms Norma Kay and Ms Jenny Newall spoke about concerns relating to access to Car Dyke, use of the stables and related issues. They raised the following points:

- Vehicles visiting the stables were driving fast and causing danger to walkers
- The gates made access difficult, particularly for those in wheel chairs or pushing buggies.
- The height of the hedges caused safety issues for walkers
- There was evidence that the stables were being used for business purposes, contrary to the planning permission
- The owner of the stables was intending to ask County Farms to ban the use of the path for dog walkers

The County Councillor, District Councillor and Chairman of the Recreation Ground Users Committee agreed to meet with Ms. Kay and Ms. Newall at a time convenient to all parties and to report back to the next Parish Council meeting.

Maj D. Hornby, RE (retd.) raised a number of issues

- The Army would like to place a notice board at the end of Cody Road. This was noted
- He reported on a number of events involving aircraft on July 15th and 16th
- Work was going on to improve the profile of the museum on the camp, including improving relationships with local schools. Mr. Oliver Merrington was involved
- There were issues with the buses and safety on Denny End Road at the entrance to the Barracks. It was agreed that a letter be written to Stagecoach (Mr. Burton) asking them to use the bus stop within the triangle.
- Some discussion took place regarding the possibility of granting 39 Regiment some honorary position within the area due to their long association with Waterbeach

2008.55 **Apologies:** Mrs. J. Cornwell; Mr. D. Black; Mrs. C. Smith.; the Clerk

2008.56 **Declarations of Interest for matters on the agenda:**

2008.56.1 Mr. Ball, Mr. Lewis Jones, Mrs. Williamson, Mr. Williamson and Mr. Wright declared personal interests as members of the National Trust in matters relating to the Wicken Fen Vision.

2008.56.2 Mr. Johnson declared a personal interest as a work colleague of his is the secretary and treasurer of Waterbeach Wanderers Football Club

2008.56.3 Dr. C. Grant and Mr. W. Grant declared personal interests as having a business relationship with the Clerk in relation to payments to the Clerk and Mr. Smart.

2008.57 **Minutes of the previous meeting:** These were AGREED as a correct record and signed by the Chairman (Prop. Mr. Wright, Seconded Mr. Lewis-Jones)

2008.58 **Clerk's Report**

2008.58.1 **Dog warden** – neighbouring parish councils contacted. Clerks to put to councillors.

2008.58.2 **Community/youth building** – Kevin King e.mailed Melissa Reynolds on 9th June as requested by her to discuss issues relating to car parking. To date I have not heard that there has been any contact although Melissa was in the village today (Friday). I have also e.mailed asking her to respond.

2008.58.3 **Funding for above** – an application has been sent to My Place for fast tracking but the scheme has been inundated. Progress to the second round of the WREN Community Challenge application should be known by the end of July. Business plans are only required for projects which will be income reliant for management.

2008.58.4 **Groundsman shed** – no estimates received yet. I have also e.mailed Melissa asking when the PC can expect her to have written her report to grant approval.

2008.58.5 **Fence at 4 Greenside** – the fence is currently 2.54m high from the Gault side. Mr. Boyle has agreed with Melissa to remove the trellis from the top of the fence in the next 7 days. SCDC will monitor.

2008.58.6 **Cemetery** – work on the wall has started. It may be helpful if councillors could inspect before the meeting on Tuesday.

It was reported at the meeting that the workmen has found significant problems and some dangerous brickwork. A meeting had been arranged with the contractor at 14.30 on Thursday, July 3rd. Following discussion, it was proposed by Mr. Leeke, seconded by Mr. Ball and AGREED that the Council authorises

those members of the Council meeting the contractor to put into action the work necessary to make the wall safe and in keeping with the rest of the wall at the front of the Cemetery and, if necessary, to reduce the scope of the rest of the work without compromising the safety of the wall (For: 8, Against: 1, Abstentions: 1)

- 2008.58.7 **Graves** – I have contacted Paintin Memorials re. the grave spaces for Mr. And Mrs. Branch which has been kerbed around and grey slate laid. The kerbing infringes on the space below. The address of a family member is known.
- 2008.58.8 **The surplus trimmer** has been sold for £200 which leaves the surplus ride-on mower (purchased for £150) in the lych-gate. I have been asked if the Council would like to sell it.
Following discussion it was proposed by Mr. Leeke, seconded by Mr. Johnson and AGREED that the surplus mower be sold for the best possible price (For: 8, Abstentions: 2)
- 2008.59 **To co-opt a Councillor**
- 2008.59.1 There were no applications. Mrs. Williamson reported that she had heard of someone who might be interested. She would approach them.
- 2008.60 **To receive and consider any point relating to Health and Safety in relation to employees, equipment, properties and land**
- 2008.60.1 **Councillors' responsibility for quarterly safety checks** – a list should be prepared by the Clerk of those responsible for each area.
- 2008.60.2 **Dog Fouling Warden** – the Clerk has written to neighbouring Parish Councils and replies were awaited. A suggestion was made that other District Councils be contacted to see if resource were available.
- 2008.60.3 **Ms. Kay's remarks** concerning the visibility problems caused by the height of the hedge for those using Car Dyke were noted.
- 2008.61 **To receive reports and minutes of meetings**
- 2008.61.1 **Highways** – the minutes were noted. Following the resurfacing of Clayhithe road some councillors were concerned about the loss of red tarmac at the start of the 30 mph limit, the lack of a non-slip surface at the bend by the Boat Clubs and apparent loss of part of the yellow hatchings over the crossing. These issues would be raised with County Highways.
- 2008.61.2 **Recreation Facilities** – the minutes were noted. A list of football equipment had been received. The Clerk would be asked to ascertain replacement values and potential life of the items. It was suggested that groups could purchase small, expendable items for themselves.
- 2008.61.3 **Planning** – the minutes were noted. It was pointed out that the decision at pl.08.27.1 was unclear. It was confirmed that the application be refused and that the voting was 2 in favour of approval and 3 against.
- 2008.62 **To receive report and approve actions for Recreation Ground, Green and Gault inspections**
- 2008.62.1 A detailed written report was presented to the meeting which was noted. The following actions were approved
- 2008.62.2 The Clerk would be asked to pursue an estimate for inspection and provision of a written report on the condition of all trees.
- 2008.62.3 An estimate of work needed to rectify the items of medium risk found at the recent inspection of the Skateboard and Play areas
- 2008.62.4 The paths across the Green needed to be examined to find out their actual widths with a view to increasing their width.
- 2008.63 **To approve accounts for payment**
- 2008.63.1 These were approved (proposed Mr. Wright, seconded Mr. Ball) with Dr. C. Grant and Mr. W. Grant declaring an interest and abstaining (see 2008.56.3 above)
- 2008.64 **To deal with planning matters which need to be disposed of before July 15th**
- 2008.64.1 **S/0972/08/F:** Secretary of State for Defence, Waterbeach Barracks – erection of technical stores building. Approved.
- 2008.64.2 **S/0103/08/F:** Mr. P. Munro, 7 Way Lane – extension. Accept (6 for, 1 against). Recommend that all building materials be kept within the site boundaries
- 2008.65 **To consider future use of the Old Pavilion**
- 2008.65.1 It was considered too early to make definite plans, but a brainstorming meeting of members of the Parish Council should be convened to explore possibilities.
- 2008.66 **To discuss matters relating to the Cemetery**
- 2008.66.1 Mr. Wright agreed to prepare a draft acceptable use policy and present it to the August meeting of the Council. Mrs. Williamson offered to help

- 2008.66.2 It was noted that the Cemetery looked extremely good, and congratulations should be passed to those responsible
- 2008.67 **To arrange date for inspection of the Cemetery, Old Pond Site, Winfold Road recreation area, Clare Close and Chittering**
- 2008.67.1 A Saturday morning would be arranged. Mr. Williamson offered to set up a Doodle meeting request as an experiment to see if it helped set a date.
- 2008.68 **To discuss progress of the Youth and Community Building**
- 2008.68.1 **Planning permission** – final news of this was still awaited. Mr. Johnson was chasing. It was AGREED that, if not progress was made by July 16th, the Chief Executive of South Cambridgeshire District Council should be approached.
- 2008.68.2 **Information from ACRE** was being circulated. Councillors were asked to do this quickly. An additional paper on VAT had also been circulated from Mr. Williamson. This would be discussed as well.
- 2008.68.3 **A meeting to discuss the way forward** would be held on August 19th provided that enough Parish Councillors were available. This should include initial discussion of all aspects including the building project, tendering process, fundraising progress and the business plan for the building once opened. It was agreed that a representative from ACRE would be invited to attend this meeting.
- 2008.69 **To consider proposals of Parish Plan committee**
- 2008.69.1 Mr. Ball tabled a paper that expanded on the items listed in the Agenda. Following discussion, the following points were agreed:
- 2008.69.2 That it be suggested to the Committee that the number of groups be reduced to three with the Council's representatives being
- Traffic, parking, transport – Chair of Highways
 - Development – Chair of Planning
 - Community – Chair of the Council
- It was important that other members of the Council be involved and Mr. Ball, Mr. Black and Mr. Lewis-Jones should still be involved. The County and District Councillors should take part in their own right and not as representatives of the Parish Council
- 2008.69.3 That a meeting be trailed to take a strategic look at Parish Plan issues after the Plan had been finalised and published. This meeting would determine the Parish Council's role in the Action Plan.
- 2008.70 **To discuss the problems of blocked surface water drains in the village**
- 2008.70.1 A plan of the drains was needed and also a list of where the major problems are to be found
- 2008.71 **To consider a review of Standing Orders**
- 2008.71.1 The only item considered was the process when the Press and Public were excluded. It was agreed that at such a point the decision as to whether to exclude the County or District Councillors (not being members of the Parish Council) be a matter of discretion
- 2008.72 **To receive reports from Councillors, Officers and Representatives of the Council**
- 2008.72.1 **The County Councillor** reported as follows
- 2008.72.2 **Bannold Road closures** - The closure seems to have gone fairly smoothly although there have been a few confusing diversion signs. We had a meeting with the site people before the closure and pointed out the extreme inconvenience that closure that forced traffic to go through the married quarters would cause. Luckily Brian Sanders was also there and he told the developers about the possibility of using existing ditches and not digging up the road. Hopefully this will get followed up.
- 2008.72.3 **Local road works** - I did raise the issue of having both the Horningsea Road and the A10 disrupted by road works with Mark Kemp and Richard Preston (important people in the Highways department). They did take the point but I can't promise that it won't happen again!
- 2008.72.4 **Jointly Funded Scheme(s)** - I have discovered that our bid for improvement of footpath access to the Station has been accepted. I don't think that the Council have yet been officially notified, but I do understand that it is not just a rumour.
- I am chasing up getting the rest of the 'old' scheme finished. I'll have another go.
- 2008.72.5 **District Councillor Mr. Johnson** reported as follows:
- 2008.72.6 **The bin for Station Road** has now been fitted near the Station .
- 2008.72.7 **No 11 Station Road**, Building control are in communication with the owner to finish off work that needed doing and the situation is being monitored, I have informed Building Control that work does appear to have ceased just now and that there are issues that need resolving.
- 2008.72.8 **Street Lights**, Letter has been received from Paul Quigley enclosing copies of the original letters from Cllr.

- Spink and the County Council which had been sent to another Parish Council explaining the situation(on file)
- 2008.72.9 I have chased Becky Gane regarding the **Kissing Gate issue** so it is in hand even though the wheels grind very slowly
- 2008.72.10 **The Chairman** reported as follows
- 2008.72.11 **The Feast**
 We booked three adjacent spaces for the Parish Council, WILL and Neighbourhood Watch at the Feast. WILL did a good trade in books, and a number of people expressed an interest in being NW coordinators though I haven't followed all of them up yet. The Parish Council area had a display of information about the Parish Plan and some minutes for 1998, 1988 and 1978 which showed that many things do not change!
 If we repeat the exercise next year, and I think we should, we need to plan more in advance to make our patch more visible to the public. There was a steady stream of people but I think we could, if not should, do more to market the Parish Council's work at this event.
 Many thanks to Sarah and David for their help with digging out old minutes, photocopying, and for the help with transporting books etc
- 2008.72.12 **Avrille visit**
 There was no closing date for reply to the invitation to Avrille in September.(Fri 12th Sept to Monday 15th September) It turns out we have missed it. Michael and I are unable to go. David and Sheila Lynn are going and I will ask them if they will be the official village representatives unless anyone feels that they would like to go in which case I could try to negotiate a late entry
- 2008.72.13 **Donarbon meeting**
 Michael, Janet and I attended the briefing at Donarbon on 19th June. We had a tour of the site and saw the new shed which holds the paper, , metal and plastic before they are taken for recycling. While we were there Nuttall's were still hard at work on the site for the new Mechanical Biological Treatment plant which at the moment is just a large open space but should be in operation by 2010. Some of the earlier shallow filled landfill pits to the west of the site are being opened and the made deeper and lined before returning the old waste and filling with new waste,.
 Electricity is now being generated using the methane which is pumped from the landfill from the landfill pits. The plant was producing about 0.75MW but should be able to produce 1MW at full capacity.
 The smell caused by the green bin waste after it has been heat treated is still a serious cause for concern for nearby residents. The spreading area for waste after it the heat treatment is being increased to try to reduce the problem.
 After the site visit we were given an update on progress with the PFI project and an opportunity to ask questions
- 2008.72.14 There was no report from **the Library Officer**
- 2008.72.15 Mr. Wright, **CPALC representative** reported that, at the last meeting of CPALC. a presentation had been given by a representative of Cambridgeshire Community Foundation. They would be managing the grants from the Donarbon Landfill tax.
- 2008.72.16 On **Neighbourhood Watch / e.cops**, it was reported the Scott, our PCSO, would be moving on since he had successfully applied to join the full-time police. It was agreed that a letter be sent to him and to his superior officer, thanking him for his work with us, and drawing attention to his outstanding service to Waterbeach
- 2008.72.17 **Wicken Fen Vision:** Mr. Lewis-Jones reported that he had been to a meeting at which many local representatives were present. The next event was to be the opening of the Swaffham Bulbeck bridge on July 8th.
- 2008.73 **To receive communications from the Chairman**
- 2008.73.1 **Cambridge Water Company** – small grants were available. The form would be sent to the junior cricket club
- 2008.73.2 **SCDC** – A questionnaire, which appeared to be addressed to individuals, had been received from the CDRP. It was not clear what should be done with this, but additional copies would be requested for distribution.
- 2008.73.3 **Waterbeach Wanderers** – letter received concerning their financial problems. This would be passed to the Finance Committee for discussion.
- 2008.73.4 **Stagecoach** – A letter from Mr. Ross Burton had been received concerning obstruction due to parked cars, especially at weekends, in the Capper Road / Kirby Road area. The letter would be passed to Major Hornby and to Mr. Lewis-Jones as representatives respectively of the Army and the Residents' Association. However, some of the obstruction was felt to be due to the residents of the flats which were under the control of neither of these bodies.
- 2008.74 **To receive all other correspondence**
- 2008.74.1 Other correspondence received by the Council was noted

2008.75 **To answer questions from Councillors**

2008.75.1 **Access markings at the Missons** would be requested

2008.75.2 **The Cemetery Road surface** needs work and would be checked at the inspection

2008.76 **Matters for the next Agenda**

2008.76.1 **Mr. Leeke** requested that the Council's banking arrangements should be reconsidered following publicity concerning involvement by Barclay's Bank in Zimbabwe. He requested that a letter be written to the bank asking them for their comments on the reports before the matter was discussed.

Meeting closed at 10.00 pm

Chairman **Date**