

## **WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Waterbeach Parish Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 at 7.30 p.m. at the Old Pavilion, Cambridge Road, Waterbeach.

### **OPEN FORUM**

Some members of the public spoke at length and vociferously about the cutting of grass in the play area. This is covered under item 14/29 below.

The matter of the Cemetery gravestones was also raised and is also covered under item 14/29.

The Clerk was requested and agreed when possible to circulate her report further in advance of meetings, even if in draft form.

One member of the public spoke about the proposed dog show – see Clerk's report and item 14/29 below.

### **PARISH COUNCIL**

#### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

#### **14/21 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3 June 2014 with a correction made to item 14/10 were approved as a correct record and were signed

Proposed: Cllr P Johnson. Seconded Cllr Williams. Unanimous

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17 June 2014 were approved as a correct record and were signed

Proposed: Cllr Rabbett. Seconded Cllr A. Grant. Unanimous (those not present abstained)

#### **14/22 MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

Cllr Rabbett - agenda item 14/27 as she knows the applicant for funding for the Day Care centre and 14/30 as her husband works for the Council.

Cllrs Wright and Shipp – agenda item 14/30 Accounts as they are both involved in the Military Heritage Museum

Cllr Williams – agenda item 14/23(c) as he lives opposite one of the proposed developments

## 14/23 PLANNING

- a. [S/1015/14/FL](#) Proposed dwelling. 9, Burgess Road, Waterbeach, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB25 9ND. Amended parking arrangements & dwelling set back 6m from highway.

It was **RESOLVED** that the council has no objection to this application on condition that materials and delivery vehicles are kept on-site and subject to Highways approval of the layout.

Proposed: Cllr Bull. Seconded: Cllr Wright. 14 In Favour. 1 Against

b. *CIL - Discussion postponed until after next item – see below*

- c. Appeal Ref: APP/W0530/A/13/2207961 – Land to the west of Cody Road. original application reference Ref S/0645/13/FL  
Appeal Ref: APP/W0530/A/13/2209166 - Land north of Bannold Road  
original application reference S/1359/13/OL

- Information about s106 funds that will fall due if the developments are built was read out. It was pointed out that library and lifelong learning s106 funding have been allocated to the County Council but the library and many learning facilities in Waterbeach are provided by the Parish Council, so it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the District Council to challenge this and to ask that this fact be taken into account in future agreements for other nearby sites that are subject to appeal..
- Concerns were raised about the planning inspector's reasons which include a dismissal of the concept of a buffer zone between the village and the married quarters.
- It was suggested that in view of what had happened with a previous development the Parish Council should review its approach to management of Open Spaces in new developments.

- b. i) It was **RESOLVED** the proposed response to the CIL proposal which had been circulated be approved subject to one or two changes in wording.

Proposed: Cllr Wright. Seconded Cllr Bull. Unanimous.

It was also agreed to encourage residents to respond individually.

ii) Cllr Bull explained that the income to the Parish Council from the CIL would be a maximum of 15% of the total levied but with a Neighbourhood Development Plan this could be increased to 25%. However such a plan requires the involvement of many from the community and specifically not only the Parish Council. This would be a good opportunity for the village to work together and it was agreed that Cllr Bull should talk about this at the Annual Parish Meeting and encourage members of the Community to become involved.

## 14/24 SKATEPARK

- a) It was agreed in principle to appoint a Project Manager and CDM Manager and the Clerk was asked to get staged quotations and make a recommendation to the Council.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** to make a temporary repair to the half-pipe consisting of repainting and riveting in accordance with the RoSPA safety report at a maximum cost of £1,000. This process to be managed by the Clerk in consultation with the working party.

Amendment to reduce the cap amount to £600 was defeated.  
Proposed Cllr Shipp. Seconded Cllr Gilzean. In Favour 2. Against 13.

Substantive motion Proposed: Cllr A Grant. Seconded Cllr Williams. Unanimous.

- c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve allocation of third party funding from Parish Council reserves in the event of a successful grant application (maximum of £5,000). This would be a reallocation of previously approved s106 expenditure.

Proposed. Cllr M Williamson. Seconded Cllr Wright. Unanimous.

- d) Discussion of alternative locations for the skate park was postponed to later in the agenda. (see below after item 14/25)

## 14/25 EXTENSION OF WATERBEACH RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Grant explained her proposal on the possibility of acquiring additional land in order to extend Waterbeach Recreation Ground. Lot 2 of the land at Cambridge Road was discussed which is priced at around £65 to £75,000. However this land has been sold (subject to contract). It was agreed to approach the vendor's agent and ask if they would consider an offer from the Parish Council for use as community land. If it could be acquired at a reasonable price, it might be viable to borrow the purchase price. However the borrowing process is more complex than previously and there is a requirement to prove community support.

There was further discussion about reconsidering the option to obtain the land behind the church. However the archaeological remains there mean that it is unlikely to be possible to develop it into a games area of any kind. It could perhaps be used for activities such as cycling and dog walking but the current price is in any case prohibitive.

The meeting now returned to item

### 14/24 (d) Location of the proposed skatepark

New potential locations were discussed –

- the area currently used as a training area between the tennis courts and the Old Pavilion. If the idea of mobile floodlights was pursued, then the footballers could train elsewhere on the Rec.
- a space in the middle of the Rec between the gap in the trees where the bins and seats currently are. This would necessitate moving the football pitches slightly.

It was agreed that the working party should meet to look at these options in detail and mark out the preferred location so that others could see.

Any new location should not reduce the number of football pitches.

It was pointed out the planning permission would almost certainly be required for either option.

#### **14/26 PAYMENT OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES CONTRIBUTIONS**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the signature of indemnities for execution regarding s106 monies due to be received from SCDC in respect of the following sites:

- a) Development of land r/o 31 High Street, Waterbeach – S/0895/12/FL  
£2,302.46 and £380.51
- b) Development of land at 10 Burgess Road, Waterbeach – S/1513/12/FL  
£3,104.38 and £513.04

Proposed: Cllr M Williamson    Seconded Cllr J Williamson    Unanimous.

#### **14/27 REQUESTS FOR FUNDING**

The application from Waterbeach Day Care Centre for the Elderly for a grant towards the annual running expenses of the Day Care Centre was discussed. It was agreed to defer a decision to the following month and the Clerk was asked find out more about the application. How much are they asking for and have the Parish Council given them a grant before – if so how much and when?

#### **14/28 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- Footballs from the basketball/five-a-side court are being kicked over the garage into a neighbouring property. It was agreed to put up a notice asking footballers to take care to keep the balls within the court and also to look into the possibility of putting up some high netting on the inside of the fence in question.
- The culvert has not been cleared outside 86-90 Bannold Road and there is a big hole near the access gate. It is believed that this land is owned by Highways.
- Chattering play areas still needs to be cleaned. Also the recently repaired seat is splitting and the hedge is overhanging.
- Grass cutting in the play area when children are present should not be allowed.
- A goal post has been left in the wooded area at the back of the Rec. and is now covered in grass. This is a trip hazard.
- Dead wood on the Village Green needs to be removed.
- Litter such as cans should be picked up before mowing as such items can cause problems if hit by mowers when there are people nearby.
- Could the bin on the Gault be emptied more frequently during the summer as people are depositing dog bags in there as there is no dog bin nearby.
- A mower cassette was left unattended on the Rec.
- Manholes with the concrete surround broken are a trip hazard.

- At the library/community room there are splinters on the handrail. Stacked chairs fall over. There are still guttering issues. It is believed that the chairs are stacked wrongly and that the illustrative photo is in fact wrong. The Clerk will report these issues to the school.

## 14/29 REPORTS

- a. The Parish Clerk's report had been circulated and is attached to these minutes. It was agreed that:-
  - i. The **dog show** is approved in principle
  - ii. The Council wish to replace/repair the **finger posts** and for them to remain wooden.
  - iii. As well as **reopening the front door** of the Old Pavilion, it was suggested that the veranda be reinstated at some point.  
Cllr K Grant agreed to send contact details of the County Access Officer to the Clerk as they had given Cllr Grant an opinion about the **ramp access** to the building
  - iv. The Council do not want to lose the regular visit of Circus Tyanna which is an asset to the village and if possible would suggest that the **circus suggested by the PTA** might visit at a different time of year.
  - v. The Clerk repeated that her original request had not been to buy a new copier but simply **to upgrade the copier with a scanning module and this upgrade was approved.**
  - vi. The proposed council and committee **meeting dates** were approved. Dates had not been included for the **Employment Panel** as this has previously met on an "as needed" basis. Strategic employment issues are the responsibility of the Finance Committee. The Employment Panel should meet soon to discuss how it should operate in the future and bring those recommended Terms of Reference to the Finance Committee at the end of July if at all possible. The Clerk will coordinate dates and times
  - vii. It was agreed that there are two separate matters for discussion regarding **complaints**
    - the mechanism for handling them
    - the individual complaints made recently

If it proves necessary to have a formal complaints' panel on these issues, then we may need to call on independent outside people from other parishes to assist.

With regard to the grass cutting, the Clerk has spoken to the staff and has written to the complainant.

With regard to the Cemetery, the working party are to meet at the Cemetery, along with the Clerk to gain a general overview of the situation. The working party will then arrange to meet with Mrs Felvus.

The Clerk will also be obtaining independent advice about the general state of the Cemetery as compared to others and what is reasonably achievable.

It was agreed that is it important to act judicially and not politically when it comes to complaints. Councillors have only very recently been elected and should be able to work together.
- b. County Councillor
  - i. Resurfacing has taken place in Winfold Road and Clare Close.
  - ii. 36000 potholes are to be repaired in the County of which there are 500 in our area.

- iii. Work will be taking place on the Landbeach cycle route in the next week which will affect traffic on the A10
- c. District Councillor(s)
  - i. Cllr P Johnson will attend the appeals meeting on 2 July
  - ii. South Cambs District Council (SCDC) are looking at working with Cambridge City Council on waste management
  - iii. SCDC is also considering a similar arrangement for Planning
  - iv. Cllr P Johnson is trying to get SCDC to tidy up the grass area in Coronation Close
- d. Chairman
  - i. Responding to a recent FOI request could have revealed confidential salary information. The Clerk had consulted with the ICO and had been advised that revealing such information would constitute misuse of personal data. It is essential that individual Councillors also understand clearly their responsibilities to keep certain information confidential and the potential consequences of breaching Data Protection legislation.
  - ii. It was suggested making the next Planning meeting into a full meeting to discuss the question of the New Town
- e. Library Officer
  - i. Library volunteers continue to work hard on fundraising
  - ii. The summer Reading Challenge is currently being publicised.
  - iii. As can be seen from the library accounts, there is not a great deal of money left.
- f. Tree Officer

There are two dead fruit trees that need replacing and several with significant damage. Also some trees on the Gault need replacing

#### **14/30 ACCOUNTS**

Cllr Rabbett left the room.

The accounts for the past month as set out in the schedule were approved for payment with the exception of the bill from Northamptonshire LGSS.

Proposed: Cllr Bull. Seconded Cllr J Williamson. 7 in favour. None against. Remainder abstained (including those with declared interests).

#### **14/31 FUTURE AGENDAS**

No issues were requested as agenda items for future meetings but the following matters were mentioned: -

- Traffic outside the school is a problem – this to be discussed by the Highways Committee
- It was suggested that on occasion councillors meet at 6.30 advance of a 7.30 meeting to look at parts of the Rec. For example in August they could inspect the Play Area and the Skatepark.

- The question of an additional Dog Bin on Bannold Road has been raised several times. The proposed location is a problem as we do not know who owns the land - it was suggested that it is County Highways.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 10.30 pm

**Chairman**

UNAPPROVED