

WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Waterbeach Parish Council held on 2nd September 2014 at 7.30 p.m. at the Old Pavilion, Cambridge Road, Waterbeach.

OPEN FORUM

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

- Uneven pavements causing problems for wheelchair users in many places in Waterbeach but especially where Cattells Lane meets High Street. Clerk to report this to County Council Highways.
- Improved lighting on the recreation ground paths still to be tackled.
- Some residents are unhappy about the proposed location for the new skatepark and feel it should remain in its current location
- A resident said that all skatepark users should not be labelled as yobs and that use of a skatepark is no noisier than other sports such as football.
- Mrs Felvus thanked the council for their letter and asked what would be done about other graves.
- A representative of the toddlers' playgroup spoke about the fact that they are desperate for a new building to house the group. It was agreed that this matter should be added to the October agenda and in the meantime the group should contact the Clerk about the issues so that we can try and work out what the Parish Council can do to help.
- It was suggested that there could be created a sub-group to take on issues affecting older people in the community. For example when the Day Care centre closes many elderly residents have no port of call. It was agreed that this matter should be placed on the October agenda.
- A resident commented on how clean and tidy the Village Green looks
- A resident reported that people resident within the barracks site had been told they will be able to stay for at least another year.

PARISH COUNCIL

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs. Bull, Howlett, Rabbett and Williams

14/45 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 5 August 2014 were approved as a correct record and were signed

Proposed: Cllr Wright Seconded Cllr Shipp
10 in favour. 1 abstention – Cllr K Grant

The Minutes of the resumed meeting of the Council held on 7 August 2014 were approved as a correct record and were signed

Proposed: Cllr P Johnson. Seconded Cllr Gilzean
10 in favour. 1 abstention – Cllr K Grant

14/46 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr P Johnson – South Cambridgeshire District Councillor

Later in the meeting Cllr Smart declared an interest in item 14/53 as his wife is a former employee and therefore a member of the pension fund.

14/47 PLANNING

a. The Council **RESOLVED** that it had no objections to planning application **S/1709/14/VC** Variation of Conditions. Land at Palmers North Fen Farm, Chittering Drove, Waterbeach (Solar Farm)

Proposed: Cllr P Johnson. Seconded Cllr Wright
Unanimous

b. and c. The Council **RESOLVED** that it had no objections to planning application **S/1879/14/FL** change of use of existing barn to dwelling, or **S/1891/14/LB** Listed building consent for change of use of same building.

Proposed: Cllr Wright
Unanimous

14/48 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 site:

Development of 38 High Street, Waterbeach – S/0860/14/FL £732.82 and £284.08

Proposed: Cllr A Grant, Seconded Cllr J Williamson
Unanimous

14/49 No item – numbering error

14/50 SKATEPARK

Cllr Gaunt presented a report on behalf of the working party and there was a discussion.

(i) Location,

A planning officer from SCDC advised that all the suggested sites for the skate park would need planning permission including new structures on the existing site. The preferred option was the site near the end tennis court (on the football training pitch) furthest from the path and neighbours' rear gardens but rotated 90 degrees. She recommended submitting a pre-planning application and this has been done.

She was also asked about the possibility of a MUGA on the area near the path and felt this would be a good site rather than taking the tennis court area as tennis and football play on different surfaces.

(ii) Funding,

We have been awarded £40K grant funds from WREN. We had applied for £50K so we are now in the process of completing a pre application to Ameycespa for £10K.

(iii) Project Management

Two of the project managers approached have other commitments and another is on holiday but will quote later this month.

It was agreed that the working party should make arrangements to visit other skatepark sites to gain a better understanding of the noise levels and to include sites that had been in use for a few years to learn the effects of wear and tear on different surfaces.

14/51 COMMITTEES TERMS OF REFERENCE

This item was carried over to the next meeting

14/52 EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

There was some discussion about the creation of an emergency committee and the possible need for an emergency plan, including what issues can be covered e.g. flooding, power cuts, accident on the railway.

It was agreed to ask District Cllr P Johnson and County Cllr Leeke to see if they can find out if either the District or County Council has any advice available for Parish Councils about the creation of an emergency plan and to put this matter on the agenda again in October.

14/53 FINANCE

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, **it was RESOLVED** to approve the proposed Parish Council Discretion Polices for the Pension Fund.

Proposed: Cllr Gaunt, Seconded Cllr Wright

10 in Favour. 1 abstention - Cllr Smart who had a declared interest.

14/54 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Members raise the following issues: -

- Improved lighting needed on the recreation ground paths especially in the area near the office, including reflective webbing for trees near the paths.
- Village green – investigate possible damage to trees by historical re-enactment group
- Way Lane – low branches hanging over the road – should be regularly trimmed – Clerk to contact County Council
- Same low-hanging branch issues in Denny and Road and Car Dyke Road
- Trees on the cemetery drive need cutting back and one overhanging the cemetery gate is unsafe. Clerk to contact Defence Estates

- Could the heap of soil outside the cemetery gates be moved elsewhere to re-instate the full turning circle?
- The brickwork needs repairing by the small gate of the cemetery

14/55 REPORTS

a. Parish Clerk - A report had been circulated. The following issues were discussed:

It was agreed that there was no capacity for other football clubs to use Waterbeach Recreation Ground pitches on a regular basis as there would be significant risk of over-usage at some times of year or in poor weather conditions. The council might reconsider this policy if approached by other Waterbeach based teams. It was fine for the Clerk to continue to accept ad hoc bookings. Such outside bookings should be charged at a higher rate than the local clubs due to the on-costs.

Councillor B Johnson agreed to take responsibility for coordinating litter-picking from time to time.

It was suggested using a contractor to clean the Chittering playpark or to ask for help from nearby properties to see if they would allow use of their power or water supplies.

It was agreed to accept the offer of a memorial bench on the village green. A low maintenance design with replaceable slats should be chosen, based on previous decisions by the council about preferred designs

The Chair of the Council Cllr M Williamson would arrange a village walk-around on a Saturday morning.

The Beer Festival dates for 22-24 May 2015 were agreed. The Clerk to notify Tillage Hall to prevent any clashing of events.

b. County Councillor - no report as the County Councillor was not present – he had sent apologies.

c. District Councillor(s)

Cllr Johnson had been working towards arranging a multi-agency meeting to address the flooding problems in Bannold Road and would continue these efforts. He asked Cllr Smart to become involved as he has direct knowledge and experience of the problems. The foul drains run parallel to the storm drains and it appears that surface water runoff is flowing into the foul water system and causing this to overflow into gardens

It was agreed that the council should write to the planning department reiterating the current severe problems and recommend no further building in this area until the drainage problems are resolved. Also the sewage works are at full capacity when there is rainfall.

It is believed that the balancing pond in Camlocks is not functioning properly as it remains empty and dry even after high rainfall.

There are issues with access to the Network Rail car park at the station due to vehicles turning right immediately after the level crossing. It was suggested that this be referred to the Railway Inspectorate.

d. Chairman – no report

e. Library Officer – A report had been presented by the library officer. The Clerk reported that she had approached the school about maintenance issues in the community room. It was suggested that she copy her letter to the Chair of Governors.

f. **Tree Officer** – A report had been presented by the tree officer. It was noted that the ivy should be removed from the yews in the cemetery and also from the cemetery walls by cutting at ground level and leaving it to dry. Also some branches need removing.

The officer needs a scale plan of the Green and the Gault in order to apply for TPOs.

14/56 ACCOUNTS

It was **RESOLVED** that the accounts for the past month as set out in the schedule be approved for payment.

Proposed: Cllr P Johnson. Seconded Cllr Shipp
In Favour 10. Abstentions 1 Cllr - Smart

14/57 NEWSLETTER

The content of the upcoming parish council newsletter was reviewed and a number of changes suggested. It was felt that the item about housing should be on the front page and that there was the possibility of reducing the length of the item on winter gritting to allow room for other material. The item on the skatepark should include something about future plans.

14/58 FUTURE AGENDAS

Members requested that the matter of creating an Open Spaces Committee to look at the Green and the Gault be included.

It was agreed that a list of all correspondence circulated should be made available at each meeting. It was noted that the procedure for the recording of meetings agreed in August 2013 had not been reviewed after 6 months but the procedure had in fact changed due to the adoption of new Standing Orders.

The council should have a policy on the use of social media. Clerk to discuss with Chair and bring a proposal to a future meeting

14/59 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

*It is hereby **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 asks that in the public interest the public and press are temporarily excluded from this meeting and herewith instructed to withdraw.*

Proposed: Cllr Gaunt. Seconded Cllr Gilzean
Unanimous

14/60 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

(i) The Confidential Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 7 August 2014 were agreed.

(ii) A report was received from the Employment Panel.

These minutes are recorded in the Council's Confidential Minutes book

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm

Chairman

Unapproved