

Teversham Parish Council
Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th April 2008
at Cherry Hinton Community Junior School

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|---------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Present | Chairman | Simon Martin | Vice Chair | Ian Oxford |
| | | Caroline Hunt | | Dave Kelleway |
| | | Michael Nicholson | | Nick Tucker |

County Councillor Robert Turner and 15 members of the public attended the meeting until after the issue of Land Maintenance had been discussed.

Members Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda

Cllr Dave Kelleway: Prejudicial Interest item 180. Personal Interest item 190.

175. Open Forum

Mr Lane described his anger and disbelief at the works carried out by S P Landscapes on behalf of SCDC around his home in Lemur Drive. He felt he had lost security and privacy as well as incurring costs to install a new fence. He and the other residents present agreed that the works had been too severe and aggressive. Cllr Martin explained that the Parish Council had had no idea how aggressive the work would be and had not been properly consulted. He explained that although the Parish Council had known there would be major cut backs, they were unaware of the 4ft height rule or one size fits all.

District Cllr Hunt then explained that if parishioners had contacted her, they could have arranged for the works to be more sensitive to the area. Members of the public explained that they had tried to negotiate with the contractors and with staff at SCDC and were told there was no negotiation. Response from SCDC had been inadequate with many people experiencing no response to their questions. District Cllr Hunt acknowledged that this was not good enough and there should have been someone there to answer questions.

Members of the public concluded that the main issues to be addressed by the officers at the District Council were lack of consultation, inability to appeal or stop works or have hedges left higher, loss of security, stumps left as stepping stones, dangerous spikes in the ground and access can be gained to the open space. One gentleman also asked if new planting could be put in between 3-5 Tamarin Gardens.

Due to the number of members of public at the meeting, Cllr Martin suggested that item 185. Land Maintenance be bought forward on the agenda.

Members of the public were advised that they would not be able to address the council during this discussion, but the Chairman agreed to close the meeting after the item to ensure that all of the points had been discussed.

Meeting commenced at 7.40pm

185. Land Maintenance

Councillors agreed that Mr Stephen Hills should be invited to the Annual Parish Meeting on 19th May 2008 to address the issues raised to the public in person.

District Cllr Hunt confirmed that environmental health officers were clearing the debris (concrete, bikes etc) in the next couple of days. Works to re-seed some of the grass areas exposed by the

clearance of shrubs were being undertaken. Concrete bollards were to be put in to block access to the open space.

Cllr Dave Kelleway reported that the lack of management whilst the works were being carried out were inadequate as SCDC had already concluded that the works would be sensitive in some areas. He was disappointed that there were no representatives available to handle parishioners complaints and Councillors agreed to write to Mr Hills to express these points.

Cllr Oxford raised his concerns about the spikes that were left protruding from the ground, as these presented a real danger to children. Councillors also agreed to raise this issue with SCDC.

District Cllr Hunt expressed her dissatisfaction with the lack of a named officer to deal with questions on such a big issue and parishioners frustration that calls had not been returned when they had been told they would.

Cllr Martin was disappointed that the Parish Council had not been shown maps detailing the works and not invited to the walk about that had taken place to agree the works in the first place. He also felt that the Parish Council should have been advised about the 4ft rule.

District Cllr Hunt and County Cllr Turner, who had been on the walkabout confirmed that they did not know the works would be so aggressive.

Cllr Dave Kelleway stated that the residents whose privacy had been affected, should have been consulted before work commenced.

The Parish Council agreed that the article in the Teversham News had not been adequate.

Cllr Martin also reported that rats had been reported and concerns raised about the disruption to birdlife as the work had commenced in spring.

District Cllr Hunt reported that she had received 22 emails from people who were happy with the work, expressing their thanks. SP Landscapes had also done some favours for the parish in cutting back shrubs on pathways that did not legally belong to the District Council.

To conclude, the Parish Council agreed to forward the complaints received from parishioners to Mr Hills to enable him to address each one. A letter would be sent detailing the Parish Councils comments and an invitation extended to Mr Hills to attend the APM.

Cllr Martin suspended the meeting at 7.57pm

Cllr Martin then asked the members of public if there were any additional points that needed to be raised. Main areas of concern were agreed to be rudeness and lack of response from both SP Landscapes and SCDC, the dead stumps left, would there be any re-planting?

Cllr Martin explained that members of the public would be invited to the Annual Parish Meeting to address SCDC direct with their complaints and the event would be publicised in the coming edition of the Teversham News.

All but three members of the public left the meeting.

Two parishioners then raised their concerns about speeding cars in the High Street. They would have done this during the open forum, but no opportunity had arisen. Cllrs confirmed that this was a police matter and measures to control speeding (electronic signs) were in place. County Cllr Turner confirmed he would report this issue to the Police and the Parish Council suggested that they might attend the next Neighbourhood Policing event. The Clerk would forward details. They thanked the Parish Council and left the meeting.

The meeting re-opened at 8.10pm

- 176. Apologies**
Apologies were accepted from Denise Kelleway and Ros Thulborn.
- 177. Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2008 were approved.
- 178. Co-option**
No applicants attended the meeting to be co-opted. The three vacancies would be advertised in the next edition of the Teversham News and noticeboards.
- 179. Village Hall**
Councillors acknowledged that the application for full planning permission had been submitted and the fee of £397.50 had been paid to SCDC. It was agreed that the Parish Council would recommend approval.
- 180. Teversham Terriers**
Cllr Dave Kelleway left the meeting.
Councillors unanimously agreed to make a charge of £10 per month to Teversham Terriers to cover the basic costs of water and electricity at the pavilion.
Cllr Dave Kelleway then rejoined the meeting.
- 181. Pavilion**
Councillors noted that work would commence on 9th April to repair the damage and Allianz Cornhill had accepted the quotation from Coulsons. There would be an excess charge of £125.
- 182. Sheppard Way/Whitgift Road**
Councillors noted that City Services had declined the work to repair the fence. The Clerk would obtain quotations to be discussed at the next meeting. The slab disturbed when the gate was removed had been replaced. The pathway in general outside the play area is in a poor state and Councillors agreed this should be reported to SCDC for repair.
- 183. Lime Trees**
Councillors acknowledged that SP Landscapes had planted new Lime trees in Gazelle Way and Mr Cole had been informed. A letter of thanks would be forwarded to SP Landscapes.
- 184. Land at 8 Spurgeons Close**
Councillors were reminded that this issue had arisen around ten years ago and the Parish Council had fought to retain the land in District Council ownership. Councillors looked at the plans and unanimously agreed to object to the selling off of council land to a private resident. This would set a precedent and Councillors were concerned that if the land was sold, access could be gained to the back of the property in Borley Way from Spurgeons Close. There would also be maintenance issues to the outhouse of No 8.
- 185. Land Maintenance at Foxgloves**
This item was discussed at the beginning of the meeting.

186. Cambridge City Council – City Services

Grass Cutting 2008/2009

Councillors unanimously agreed to accept the quotation given by City Services for the cutting of Parish grass for 2008/2009 of £5,172.32. Complaints received from the football clubs about the length of grass would be addressed when the Clerk met with Richard Cole of City Services.

187. Youth Group

Installation of New Noticeboard

Councillors considered the proposed sites for the new youth group notice board. The new notice board was favoured to be sited back to back with the existing one at Spurgeons Close. The Clerk would liaise with Brigid Malone to enquire if this was acceptable.

188. Hope Community Church

The offer of help from the Church would be added to the agenda for the Community Care Committee meeting, to be held on 21st April 2008.

189. Police Neighbourhood Priorities

Councillors noted the priorities set at the panel meeting held on 18th March 2008. Cllr Martin reported that there had been several more incidents of crime in the village and the Clerk confirmed that the Police had confirmed that a representative would be present at the coming APM.

190. Proposed Transfer of Housing Stock

The Parish Council noted the success it had stopping the District Council from re-developing the Airey Homes. Councillors discussed at length if the Parish Council should write and comment on this issue. No formal request for a response had been received, but Councillors decided that a response would be forwarded, outlining the Parish Council's view that the District Council should retain ownership following informative narrative from both District Cllr Hunt and Cllr Dave Kelleway.

191. New Street Light in Marshall's Close

The Clerk read a letter that had been received, asking if an additional lamp could be installed in Marshall's Close. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should arrange for a site visit from the County Council to gather the exact costs involved ready to discuss at the next meeting.

192. Report from South Cambridgeshire District Councillor Caroline Hunt

District Councillor Hunt reported on the main points raised in the audit commission's report following the Corporate Governance Inspection and that the planned handover of the management of Milton County Park to Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust took place at the end of March. Arrangements were being put in place to deal with the flood of applications received and difficulties with supply from the external supplier. A brief report was also given regarding the Boundary Review and the invitation that had been extended to Parish Council's to attend.

193. Report from County Councillor Robert Turner

County Councillor Robert Turner gave a report covering the revised environment strategy and the Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform. An update was also given on the Cambridgeshire Guided Busway and progress on the improvements to the A14. County Councillor Turner also

confirmed that public consultations had started for dwellings, employment and office space and a wide range of education and community facilities at Northstowe.

194. Highways

An updated list was circulated to Councillors. No new issues were reported,

195. Accounts

i. Receipts

Councillors noted receipt of the following receipts.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Fulbourn Rovers | 81.00 |
| Transfer from Investment Act | 5000.00 |
| TOTAL | £5081.00 |

ii. Payments

Councillors authorised the following payments.

| Payee and Description | Amount £ |
|--|-----------------|
| Mr N Symonds – Cleaning of Bus Shelters | 40.00 |
| HM Customs and Excise (C Hinch Gratuity Tax Liability) | 193.16 |
| E-on (estimated reading for Pavilion) | 25.52 |
| Cambridge City Council (lifelines) | 718.64 |
| Kim Quiggin – Salary and Expenses March 2008 | 645.09 |
| Martin Parcell – Litter Picking March 2008 | 133.02 |
| Nigel Duff – Litter Picking March 2008 | 68.48 |
| Mike Pittas – Litter Picking March 2008 | 82.90 |
| PAYE – Months 10,11,12 | 434.60 |
| Trevor Ball – Marking Football Pitch | 35.00 |
| TOTAL | £2376.41 |

iii. Invoices

Councillors noted that invoices had been raised as follows:

| Description | Amount |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Fulbourn Rovers | £45.00 |
| Beechwood School | £140.00 |
| TOTAL | £185.00 |

iv. **Donations**

a. **Age Concern**

Letter received from Gloria Culyer, Chief Executive acknowledging receipt of the £1,600 donated by Marshalls. Parish Council has already written to Mr J Barker at Marshalls to thank them for their generous donation to the scheme.

b. **Acknowledgement of Donations**

Letters of thanks have been received from the following organisations for the donations sent following the March meeting:

The Cherry Playgroup

Mr M Buttress on behalf of Churchyard at All Saints

Teversham Baptist Church

Teversham Playgroup

War Memorials Trust

Telephone call from Fulbourn and District Amateur Boxing Club

Broadway Farm Group

Victim Support

v. **Investment Account**

Councillors noted that the National Savings Investment Account had been updated to the end of the Financial Year. Interest for year 2007/2008 was paid at £3,551.40. £5,000 had been transferred to the Current Account. The balance of the Investment Account after these transactions stands at £74,998.86.

vi. **External Audit**

Letter received from Audit Commission to confirm that Moore Stephens have been appointed to carry out the external audit for Teversham Parish Council ye 31.03.08.

196. Planning

i. **APP/W0530/A/07/2057861 – Appeal Decision**

34 Tamarin Gardens, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge

Appeal had been made against the decision made by SCDC who refused to allow the applicant to 'move an existing side wall and gate'. The appeal was dismissed.

ii. **S/0332/08/F - S Goode**

15 Sable Close, Teversham – Extension and Conservatory

Planning Committee (Simon and Ian) carried out an inspection and spoke with the applicant and one neighbour. Michael had also visited the site prior to the inspection proper. Planning Committee recommend refusal of the application as it is an imposing extension, too large and would set a precedent. Development would also deprive the neighbour to the right of natural light.

iii. **S/0411/08/F – S Spaxman**

4 Fennec Close, Teversham – Extension

The planning committee agreed to meet on Wednesday 23rd April at 4pm.

iv. S/0478/08/F – Mr & Mrs P Rolfe

Bungalow, Adjacent to 2 High Street Teversham

The planning committee agreed to meet on Wednesday 23rd April at 4pm.

v. S/0497/08F Mr R Skrodzki

28 Sunmead Walk – Conservatory

The planning committee agreed to meet on Wednesday 23rd April at 4pm.

.vi. S/0490/08/F Teversham Parish Council

Land off High Street, Teversham – Erection of village hall with associated parking area.

Councillors agreed to recommend approval.

197. Correspondence

Councillors noted receipt of the following correspondence.

i. Countryside Voice – the magazine of the Campaign to Protect Rural England

ii. South Cambridgeshire District Council

Challenges and Choices – Next Step in Housing Futures

Independent Tenant Adviser Meetings are to be held at various locations. The meeting that is closest to Teversham is at Fulbourn Communal Room, Chaplins Close on 10th April 2008 between 2pm and 4pm.

iii. COPE – April edition of the Newsletter

iv. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Community Life Awards 2008

Awards scheme is now open for entries. For more information, entry and nomination forms visit www.communitylifeawards.org.uk.

v. Independent Memorial Inspection – information regarding the companies services to inspect headstones for local authorities.

vi. Cambridgeshire County Council

Post Office Closures in Cambridgeshire

Letter from Cllr Sir Peter Brown, Portfolio Holder for Communities, CCC. Public consultation period will be extended to 26th August 2008.

vii. Fulbourn Village Library

Request to display posters giving opening times in village noticeboards.

viii. Cambridgeshire ACRE/local fund network

Booklet giving information on the success of projects around the region (including South Cambs) who have received funding for their work with families.

ix. Information Commissioners Office – update on free services

x. CALC – Please ensure you use the email addresses detailed below when contacting CALC.

Support – Jacquie Wilson – support@cpalc.org.uk or Training – training@cpalc.org.uk
Their address is 33 Stephenson Road, St Ives, Cambs PE27 3WJ and telephone is 01480 375629.

- xi. Cambridgeshire Highways**
Document prepared ‘Frequently Asked Questions’.
 - xii. Wilbraham River Protection Society**
Minutes of their recent meetings.
 - xiii. Cambridgeshire County Council**
Tackling Congestion in Cambridgeshire
No Councillors wished to attend the presentation of the results of the consultation, due to be held on 6th May 11am to 1.30pm in Buckingham House, New Hall, Cambridge.
 - xiv. Standards Board for England – update March 2008**
Copy circulated to all members of the Council
 - xv. Cambridgeshire County Council**
Cambridgeshire’s Registered Trader scheme
Posters and leaflets giving information about the Registered Trader scheme.
 - xvi. Fieldwork** – March edition of the magazine from CPRE.
 - xvii. Community Action** – Spring 2008 edition of the magazine from Cambridgeshire ACRE
 - xviii. South Cambridgeshire District Council**
News release concerning the follow-up corporate governance inspection of SCDC by the Audit Commission.
- 198. Reports from Council Committees**
- i. Recreation and Environment Committee** – Date of next meeting Monday 21st April 2008 at 7pm at Baptist Chapel.
 - ii. Community Care/Lifelines** – Date of next meeting Monday 21st April 2008 at 6pm at Baptist Chapel.
 - iii. Bowls and Luncheon Club** – There was no report.
 - iv. Newsletter** – the next edition is planned for April 2008. Cut off for articles 11th April 2008.
 - v. Youth Group** – No formal report, but Cllr Hunt reported that the recent visit made by the multi-media van had been a great success and the Youth Group were hoping to give a presentation at the coming APM.
 - vi. Finance Committee** – next meeting 28th April 2008.

199. Reports from Council Elected Representatives

There were no reports from **Teversham School, Lady Joan Jermy Eleemosynary Charity, Airport Consultative Committee, RAVE** or **Cherry Hinton Community Junior School**.

200. Other Issues

Cllr Dave Kelleway asked that the Clerk hasten CCC for the bill for the installation of the new lights at Lady Jermy Way and also reported on the trees that had been planted at Lady Jermy Way.

The meeting closed at 10pm