

Swavesey Parish Council

7.30pm

Public Open Forum

Mr G Jones, for Constable's Rood Working Party, reported that following a site meeting with Environmental Officers from the District & County Council, there would be a delay in clearing the site due to wildlife monitoring. It is hoped that the conclusions from the monitoring will assist the grant applications towards future use of the land.

7.38pm

Minutes

Parish Council Meeting, held at The Memorial Hall
Monday 26 April 2004, 7.30pm

PRESENT

Mr M Johnston (Chairman)

Councillors : A Day, J Dodson, J Foster, C Houghton, V Ladds, P Marriott, S Rogers,
R Owen, J Shepperson, W Wright

Clerk : Mrs L Miller

Cambs Constabulary: Community Beat Officer Pc Alison Jones

Parishioners : 10

APOLOGIES

County Cllr Mrs S Johnstone

AGENDA 2

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2004 were signed by the Chairman as a true record, with no amendments.

There were no matter to report from the Minutes.

AGENDA 3

Declarations of Interest

Declarations were made from Mr Shepperson, Mr Owen and Mr Day, all relating to Agenda Item 8.9 Annual Grant to the Swavesey Cemetery and St Andrew's Churchyard.

AGENDA 4

Parish Council Vacancy – co-option

Three applications received for the co-option to fill the one vacancy on the Parish Council. After three rounds of voting, an absolute majority was recorded in favour of Mr James Tait, who was duly co-opted to the Council.

AGENDA 5

Police/Crime Report

The Chairman welcomed Swavesey Beat Officer Pc Alison Jones and Mr David Major Head Teacher at the Primary School, to the meeting to discuss the vandalism and nuisance currently being experienced in the village.

5.1 Recreation Green & Primary School Grounds

The Clerk summarised the recent problems experienced of vandalism and nuisance on the recreation green and within the Primary School grounds. Teenagers gathering during the evening and night on the recreation green have to date:

- Demolished the bench in the children's play area
- Broken the windows of the telephone kiosk
- Moved a bench from Market St green to the rear of the recreation green, creating a 'den' area
- Broken windows in the football pavilion
- Stolen several For Sale/To Let signs from properties and left them on the recreation green
- Leave large amounts of litter on the recreation green every night, including broken glass in the children's play area and on the football pitches
- Broken through the boundary fencing into the School grounds and leave litter and broken glass around the play areas
- Caused criminal damage to the new Reception Class canopy – new roof panels now need to be fitted
- Broken the TV aerial from the school roof
- Broken into and damaged the PTA shed and equipment therein – shed now having to be replaced

The clerk also reported that it had taken numerous telephone calls and emails before any response from Histon Sector Police had been received by the Parish Council regarding these problems. The School had reported the damage caused to school property immediately and obtained crime numbers.

Pc Jones stressed that all incidents must be reported as crimes to the central Police telephone number and crime numbers must be obtained in order for the incidents to be added to the area statistics.

Pc Jones replied that she would patrol the village as often as possible and in particular the recreation green and request extra patrols when possible. Mr Major asked if Pc Jones would visit the Primary School to see the damage and discuss ways to try to stop the trespassing, which Pc Jones agreed to do. The Chairman asked if Pc Jones would also contact the Village College to ask if both the Chairman and Pc Jones could visit the College to talk to the students about the problems, perhaps in an assembly time. Pc Jones agreed to do this.

An article regarding the problems would be put into the next Meridian Magazine, asking residents to report all incidents and asking parents to ensure they knew where their children were in the evenings.

Mr Major had written to the Parish Council with a suggestion to install barbed wire across the top of the school's hedge at the back of the football pavilion, where a lot of the intruders gain access to the school grounds. The barbed wire would be at a high level and over a short distance. The Parish Council advised that he contact the School's insurers and the H&SE to gain advise on using barbed wire.

5.2 Fair, Market Street

The fair opens in Market Street from Thurs 6 to Sat 8 May and the Council requested Police presence during each of the three evenings. Pc Jones confirmed that she would be on duty and would attend during the Thurs and Fri evenings and would ensure that other officers would be present during the Sat evening.

Histon Sector Newsletter and March crime figures were circulated.

AGENDA 6

County Council Business

6.1 TWA Application – proposed guided busway, procedure for objections at the public enquiry

A copy of the letter of objection from the Parish Council to the TWA application was forwarded to Mr A Lansley MP.

The Dept for Transport had replied giving details of the public inquiry to be held in the autumn of 2004. The Parish Council confirmed it wished to appear at the inquiry and be represented as a statutory objector. Any oral evidence the Parish Council wishes to give to the inquiry must be sent to the Dept of Transport by 11 June 2004.

6.2 Traffic Calming Proposals – report from public consultation

A copy of the 72 responses from the public exhibition held by the County Council had been given to the Clerk. A meeting is to be arranged with Mr Brace, CCC, to discuss the comments and proposed plans.

It was noted that the new interactive sign in Boxworth End, on entering village is still not working and the 30mph sign at the village entrance is hidden by trees. The Clerk to report this to CCC Highways.

6.3 Correspondence and Items for County Councillor

- (i) S Cambs Area Joint Committee meeting Agenda for 30th April received.
- (ii) Acknowledgement received from The Boundary Committee re the objection to the new ward proposals for the County Council.
- (iii) Transport & Traffic Schemes in Cambridge 2004-2007 – map received.
- (iv) CCC Highways Division services questionnaire – to be completed by 31 May 2004.

AGENDA 7

District Council Business

7.1 S Cambs Development Framework – consultation

Pre-submission consultation document copied to all Councillors, detailing proposed changes and preparations for a Local Development Framework (LDF) to replace the Local Plan. Consultation runs until 12 May, there were no comments to be put forward.

7.2 Correspondence and Items for District Councillor

- (i) Kitchen waste bins – start date deferred by three months, due to further investigations by the State Veterinary Service before the licence can be granted to be able to collect kitchen waste.
- (ii) Apology letter from SCDC Finance & Resources, regarding the Council Tax Billing printing error.
- (iii) Information regarding Parish, District & MEP Elections which will be taking place in S Cambs on 10th June. The clerk confirmed that District and MEP elections would be taking place in Swavesey this year.

A letter to be sent to the local MEP to ask for his views on the Guided Bus scheme, with regard to its environmental impact on the area.

AGENDA 8

Items for Discussion

8.1 Highways

- (i) P3 Scheme. A grant for £250 is to be awarded by the County Council to the Parish Council for the P3 partnership this year. The Clerk to contact the Ramblers Association Cambridgeshire Branch to discuss a survey of the RoW's within the Parish.

- (ii) A new permissive bridleway route has been created around a field along Fen Drayton Rd between the village, the Nature Reserve road and Hale Rd. This permissive route, funded by the Countryside Stewardship Scheme, is part of conservation work on the landowner's farm. The Swavesey & District Bridleway Association thanked the Parish Council for their support in setting up this new access.
- (iii) Mr Shepperson and Mr Owen met with Mr Vacher, County Council Highways Engineer for Swavesey area, during April to discuss the verges along Boxworth End, the potholes and the poor state of the footpath. It was reported that CCC Highways agreed to tarmac over the area of verge near to the Doctors' Surgery and would also arrange to fill the potholes as soon as possible. Mr Vacher would also investigate repairing/resurfacing the footpath.

8.2 Recreation/Playgrounds

- (i) Use of Market Street green by the Fair. It was considered that the green was dry enough at present to allow the Fair to park on the green.
- (ii) The annual Barrel Rolling, organised by The White Horse Inn, would be held on Market St green on Sunday 2 May.

8.3 Village Maintenance

- (i) The Clerk reported that Mr Shepperson had carried out repairs to the Bus Shelter roof in Boxworth End, for which he was thanked by the Council.
- (ii) Mr Shepperson reported that he could also carry out repairs to the Middlewatch shelter, as discussed last month. The window areas would be boarded up with wood, instead of polycarbonate, which keeps being broken. It was proposed and unanimously approved to allow expenditure of up to £50.00 on the project.
- (iii) A request had been received from a resident in Market Street for a litter bin to be located at the bottom end of the green, as teenagers currently congregate here and leave litter all over the green. Following discussion a decision was deferred at the present time. Costs to be investigated and discussed again after the visit of the Fair.

8.4 Handyman

Daily clearing of rubbish from the recreation green, due to problems already discussed.

8.5 Drainage

Minutes of the Longstanton Technical Liaison Group Flooding and Drainage Meeting held on 17 February, received. Items noted relating to flooding issues for Swavesey and use of Uttons Drove STW for the new settlement.

8.6 Constable's Rood

As reported at the public forum, clearance work is being deferred for a few months, following the meeting with Environment Officers during April. Mr Owen wished to state that in reply to the article currently on the village website about the land, the Parish Council had acted to try to clear the site via the tenant.

8.7 Village Website

The Clerk reported that the software to enable her to use the site had now been purchased and training for both the Hall Administrator and the Clerk was taking place this week. Agendas are currently being published on the site and there were no objections raised to publishing the Minutes, once approved.

8.8 Primary School Governing Body – Nomination from the Parish Council

Mrs Houghton asked for further information on what would be involved in joining the Governing Body. The Clerk to provide information and the item to be discussed again at the next meeting.

8.9 Annual Grants towards Cemetery and Churchyard maintenance

It was proposed and seconded to maintain the same level of grants provided for this year, as last year. Carried unanimously.

AGENDA 9

Planning

9.1 Correspondence

- (i) No contact has been made by the new owners of 37 Market Street with regard to the Deed of Easement. No further action to be taken by the Parish Council at the present time.
- (ii) Correspondence from the SDBA and CCC to confirm that both organisations are making representation to SCDC to ensure that a bridleway is created around the Longstanton (Home Farm) development, rather than just a leisure walk. This is something the Parish Council has also written to SCDC about.
- (iii) Northstowe development – public exhibitions taking place by Gallagher Estates in Longstanton from Weds 21st April to Sat 24th April.
- (iv) It was reported that a resident had expressed their concern over the mobile home in one of the horse paddocks along Cow Fen Drove and if people were intending to move into the caravan. The Clerk replied that if people are concerned over the use of land then they should contact a Planning Enforcement Officer at the District Council and request that they inspect the site.

9.2 Applications

- (i) Ref: S/0539/04/F – 15 Whitton Close. Single storey extension to side and rear of house. A neighbour has written to SCDC and the Parish Council with concerns over the outside wall of the proposed extension. A Planning Officer will be visiting the site. No objections raised.
- (ii) Ref: S/ 0545/04/F - 42 Boxworth End. Ground floor rear and side extensions. No objections raised.
- (iii) Ref: S/0526/04/F – 89 Boxworth End. Single storey front/side extension and garage conversion. No objections raised.
- (iv) Ref: S/0583/04/F – Rose Lodge, 9 Boxworth End. Side extension and roof modifications. No objections raised.
- (v) Ref: S/2536/03/F Amended – Pre-School Building. Amended details of boundary fencing around proposed site. No objections raised.
- (vi) Ref: S/0646/04/LB – Rose Cottage, 6 High Street. Alterations – remove hardboard ceiling in bedroom to expose joists and plasterboard over rafters. No objections raised.
- (vii) C/1/40/58 – Tree works in conservation area. 18 Blackhorse Lane. Crown reduce and lighten branches to Beech tree in rear garden. No objections raised.
- (viii) Ref: S/0625/04/RM – Land West of Longstanton (phase 2 – Home Farm). Construction of on-site roads and sewers. Objections or recommendation.
- (ix) Ref: S/0696/04/RM – Land West of Longstanton (phase 2 – Home Farm). 200 Dwellings – duplicate application of S/0246/04/RM. Respond with same objections as original application.

9.3 Permissions

Ref: S/1478/03/F – Land r/o Mill Farm, Middlewatch. Permission granted to change of use from Agriculture to Horse Livery.

Ref: S/0384/04/LB – The Windmill, Hale Road. Permission granted for alterations.

Ref: S/0340/04/LB – Rose Cottage, 6 High Street. Permission granted for internal and external alterations (some works retrospective).

Ref: S/1550/03/F – The Grange, 20 Market Street. Permission granted for Storage Building.

Ref: S/0163/04/O – Land r/o 114 and Adj 118 & 120 Middlewatch. Permission granted for house.

Ref: S/2085/03/RM – Land west of Longstanton (Phase 1 – Home Farm). Approval of details of reserved matters for landscaping of new village green.

Ref: S/1961/03/RM – Land west of Longstanton (Phase 1 – Home Farm). Approval of details of reserved matters for landscaping of proposed residential development.

Ref: S/1960/03/RM – Land West of Longstanton (Phase 1 – Home Farm). Approval of details of reserved matters for landscaping of proposed residential development.

9.4 Refusals

Ref: S/0310/04/LB – Rose Cottage, 6 High Street. Refusal of listed building consent for alterations.

9.5 Appeals

Refs: S/1966/02/F – S/1973/02/F – Land at plots 1-8 Scotland Drove, Rose & Crown Rd.

Following a successful High Court challenge by the appellants, the appeals are to be re-heard by the Planning Inspectorate. Any representations to be made by 6 May 2004. No date for the appeal has been set yet.

Refs: S/0208/03/RM – Land west of Longstanton, 97 Dwellings. The appeal has been withdrawn.

AGENDA 10

Accounts

10.1 Payments & Receipts this Month

(i) All payments approved:

	Net	VAT	Gross
Administration and salaries	1,657.82	7.24	1,665.06
Stationery & office equipment	134.50	23.53	158.03
Impact s/w support	55.00		55.00
CALC – Local Council Review subscription	12.50		12.50
Interclean – Memorial Hall contract cleaning (Feb/Mar)	512.00	89.60	601.60
J Kilborn & Son – Memorial Hall maintenance	187.04	32.73	219.77
SCDC – Memorial Hall Rates instalment	138.00		138.00
Total:	£2,696.86	153.10	2,849.96

(ii) Receipts

Inland Revenue VAT Refund Jan-Mar'04	1,817.84		1,817.84
SCDC – 50% of Precept	21,500.00		21,500.00
Total:	23,317.84		23,317.84

March bank reconciliation correct for 31/03/04.

10.2 2004/05 Budget

Full Budget figures for 2004/05 copied to all Councillors.

10.3 Correspondence

- (i) Local Council insurance policy to be reviewed for renewal by 1 June. This year's premium is quoted at £659.24, an increase of 8.5%.
- (ii) Annual Audit. The annual return for the year ended 31 March 2004 is to be completed and returned to the external auditors by 1 August 2004. The Clerk to close the accounts and arrange the internal audit as required. Year-End accounts to be presented for approval at the next meeting.

AGENDA 11

Correspondence

Letter from Mr A Lansley MP, enclosing information from the ODPM on travel and subsistence for elected and co-opted Parish Council members.

Environment Agency, Flood Alert newsletter.

Home Office – forthcoming changes to the Law on preventing illegal working.

Cambs ACRE – Calor Village of the Year competition. Entries to be received by Monday 24th May. No proposal to enter the competition was put forward.

S Cambs Magazine.

AGENDA 12

Items for Information and Next Meeting Agenda

Mr Owen asked for an Agenda item to discuss the Northstowe development.

Mrs Rogers asked that the new permissive route be added to the next print of the Parish RoW Leaflet.

Mrs Rogers asked Mr Shepperson if the Swavesey Byways Committee could please carry out maintenance work to Middle Fen Drove early this year. Mr Shepperson to contact Mr Matthews (SCDC) to request this.

Mr Shepperson reported that he had replaced the missing post at the rear of the Hall car park.

Mr Marriott reported that he had been informed that at a recent event at the Hall, the front doors had been propped open with a fire extinguisher – this to be reported to the Hall Committee.

Mr Marriott also gave the Clerk a letter from Mr A Swaine, to pass on to the Hall Committee, regarding problems encountered at another event earlier this year.

Mr Marriott enquired about some road planings that had been laid along Hale Road and if the Byways Committee had authorised this. Mr Shepperson replied that he would investigate this.

Mr Wright asked if the flytip rubbish had been cleared from Mow Fen Drove and if the burnt out car along Middle Fen Drove had been removed. Mr Shepperson replied that the rubbish had been cleared and the car was in the process of being removed.

Mrs Houghton asked about the British Beef sign along Boxworth End. This was on private land, however did it need planning permission. The Clerk would enquire.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.55pm

Signed & dated

Chairman

Minutes approved & signed as a correct record by the Parish Council on 23 May 2004