
Swavesey Parish Council

7.30pm

Public Open Forum

- Question raised as to what action can be taken against dog owners who do not clear up when their dogs foul the footpaths and greens in the village.

The Clerk replied that South Cambs District Council administers the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act and within areas registered under the bylaw, can prosecute offenders. Members of the public need to report any incidents they witness to the District Council and be prepared to be called as a witness should this be required. Information advising residents on the bylaw and what action to take will be put onto the village website and published in the Meridian magazine.

- Mr Hutchins, Ramper Rd – spoke on the concerns of Ramper Road residents with regard to speeding vehicles and the state of repair of Ramper Road. Residents wished to stress that effective action must be taken to make the road safer, particularly where traffic is entering the residential part of Ramper Road. The present ‘gates’ do not slow the traffic down. A report outlining these issues was circulated to Councillors from Mr Hutchins.

The Chairman thanked Mr Hutchins for the information he had copied to Councillors and replied that this subject is a regular discussion item by the Parish Council, who will continue to press for road improvements. It was suggested that perhaps the Police could distribute similar information on how to report speeding incidents, as recently distributed in the Market St/High St area. Also that perhaps the residents could draw up some suggestions for traffic calming which the Parish Council could discuss further with them. Mr Hutchins replied that he would talk to Ramper Road residents again and report back to the Parish Council.

7.43pm

Minutes

Parish Council Meeting, held at The Memorial Hall
Monday 22 August 2005, 7.30pm

PRESENT

Mr M Johnston (Chairman)

Councillors : A Day, J Dodson, J Foster, P Marriott, J Pook, S Rogers, R Owen, J Shepperson,
W Wright

Clerk : Mrs L Miller

County Cllr: Ms M Smith

Parishioners : 4

APOLOGIES

J Tait (unwell)

AGENDA 2

Minutes and Matters to Report from the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2005 were signed by the Chairman as a true record, with no amendments.

AGENDA 3

Declarations of Interest

Mr Marriott declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9.3 (v) Planning – Transfer of Justices’ Licence in respect of Swavesey Newsagents.

Mrs Rogers declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9.1 (ii) Planning – correspondence from Swavesey & District Bridleway Association.

AGENDA 4

Vacancy for a Councillor

A letter of resignation from the Council had been received from Mr R Owen, who was moving away from Swavesey during August. Mr Dodson proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Owen for his valued contribution to the Parish Council over the 10 years he has served as a Councillor. This was unanimously agreed and a letter of thanks would be sent to Mr Owen.

The Clerk reported that the notice of vacancy had been posted up on the village noticeboards on 17 August and the District Council had been informed. The District Council will inform the Clerk as to whether a by-election has been called after 7 September. If not then the Council will be requested to co-opt to fill the vacancy. The Clerk was asked if applicants could be asked to give a short presentation on why they would like to join the Council at the next meeting, or complete an application form. The Clerk to find out what can be included within the procedure for co-option.

AGENDA 5

County Council Business

- 5.1 Bus Service.** Further correspondence received from Mr A Lansley MP and Stagecoach. Stagecoach states that it withdrew the Boxworth End and Buckingham Business Park service due to lack of use. Also that prior to the present new service Over and Swavesey had a less frequent service and that feedback from customers has been positive since the changes were made in July 2004.

The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with a Fen Drayton Parish Councillor, who wishes to put together a proposal for an improved bus service through Fen Drayton. This could link in with a route from Fen Drayton into Swavesey and out to the A14 to Cambridge. The Clerk asked Council if it would consider joining with Fen Drayton Parish Council to discuss these proposals in more detail. Council agreed, the Clerk to arrange to meet with the Councillor from Fen Drayton.

Query from a resident of Boxworth End, as to whether the bus shelter outside of 71 Boxworth End was to remain in place. The Clerk replied that the bus stop is still used by the bus to/from St Ives and therefore the shelter and stop would remain.

- 5.2 Traffic Calming.** County Cllr Mandy Smith reported on her meeting with Mr Mark Kemp, Head of CCC Highways. Clearance of overgrown hedges and tree branches will take place to the Over Road give-way feature to ensure it is more visible. Comments raised on the end of the cycleway at Middle Fen Drove and the use of the footpath in Station Road. It was agreed to ask Mr Kemp to attend the next Parish Council meeting on 26 September to talk in more detail about the cycleway and traffic calming issues.

Reported that one of the cycle barriers outside of the carpet shop, Station Road corner, needs repairing – to be reported to CCC Highways.

Questions were raised as to exactly what maintenance work is taking place along Ramper Road. Cllr Smith to find out and report back to the Parish Council.

The concerns raised at the public forum about speeding traffic in Ramper Road were discussed. It was agreed to ask the Police about speed checks and reporting speeding vehicles. Traffic calming would be discussed with Mr Kemp. Use of weight restrictions would also be investigated.

5.3 Correspondence for information and items for County Councillor

- (i) Support for the cycleway proposal along Buckingham Road is starting to come in from residents. Support also for safer routes between Fen Drayton and Swavesey. The Clerk and Cllr Smith to liaise on putting a formal request through to the County Council.
- (ii) Lost Highways Project. The Clerk will be meeting with the Definitive Map Officer from CCC on Tuesday 20th September to discuss the project and the registering of the Swavesey Byways.
- (iii) Grant Aid to small community groups. Brochures and application forms to file for reference.
- (iv) Cambridgeshire Environment Report – an up to date picture of a range of environmental issues across the county. Further information from the County Council’s website.
- (v) National Cycle Network. Reply received following letter to CCC about the use of Ramper Road as part of the National Cycle Network. Also notification of a cycle ride to mark the opening of the National Cycle Network, which will take place on Sunday 11 September.

AGENDA 6

District Council Business

6.1 Correspondence for information and items for District Councillor

No correspondence to report.

AGENDA 7

Police/Crime Report

7.1 Correspondence for information and items for Community Beat Officer

- (i) Crime figures and newsletter from Histon Sector circulated to all Councillors.
- (ii) Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership, Community Safety Strategy launch, Weds 31st August, Marshall Airport.
- (iii) Sgt Burns and Pc Alison Jones will be delivering leaflets in the Market Street and High Street area, to remind residents how they can report incidents of speeding, anti-social behaviour and noise disturbance to the Police. It was then reported that Sgt Burns is no longer working directly on Swavesey issues, a Sgt Guy has taken over, Clerk to confirm this.
- (iv) The Clerk reported on two incidents, which she had spoken to Pc Jones about. Firstly a report from an 11 year old boy of two adults with a child, who had approached him and friends on the recreation green at the end of July, asking where local children play and if they wished to attend summer games organised over the summer holidays. ID cards were shown. This now appears to have been the local Youth Workers and the Police have spoken to them with regard to the incident.

The second incident took place on Monday evening 15th August, when a 7 year old boy reported that a man in a car tried to abduct him. The Police are investigating this and at present no detailed information is available. Pc Jones will be issuing a report to the Clerk for display around the village in due course.

AGENDA 8

Items for Discussion

8.1 Highways

Reported that a street light was completely demolished and the pedestrian barriers at the end of the Carters Way passageway were damaged when a large articulated lorry u-turned at the junction of School Lane and Thistle Green on Monday 15th August. A local resident witnessed and noted the registration number of the vehicle, which has been reported to the Police and CCC Highways.

8.2 Memorial Hall

No report this month.

8.3 Recreation/Playgrounds

(i) Play Area Update.

The Committee will be donating its funds to the Parish Council as the grants are received, to enable the Council to confirm the orders and take over the project.

The Clerk reported that there has been a delay in the supply and installation of the steel fencing for the play area, which has set the completion date back approximately two weeks. The Committee is chasing to try to reduce this, however it now looks as though the official opening celebration on 10th September will have to be re-arranged for later in September. Everything else is on schedule.

(ii) CCTV. No further quotations have been obtained. Item to be discussed again at the next meeting.

(iii) Swavesey Spartans Football Club. Email received asking about the possibility of using the extension land at the back of the recreation green for mini-league football on Saturday mornings throughout the winter months. The Clerk confirmed that this land is still not owned by the Parish, it is still maintained by G Wimpey UK Ltd and registered to Barwell Properties Ltd. Therefore the Parish Council is unable to either grant or refuse permission for the land to be used by the Club. The Clerk to review the situation with regard to the land transfer and this item to be discussed again at the September meeting.

8.4 Village Maintenance

(i) Handyman's report.

- On 2nd August bags of dog waste had been laid out at the end of the recreation green, the Handyman had cleared these into the dog waste bins at the front of the green.
- The stile from the recreation green to the footpath leading to Brick Kiln Drove, FP11, has been completely removed and burnt. This has been reported to the Police and to CCC Countryside Access. The Clerk will be meeting with the P3 Officer on Tuesday 30th August and will discuss a replacement.
- The handrail on the bridge on FP8 leading from Cow Fen Drove to Church Green is loose and needs repairing. The Clerk to report this to CCC Countryside Access.

(ii) Dog Fouling. The comments raised at the public forum earlier were noted. The Clerk to try again to contact the Dog Warden at the District Council to discuss the problem and ask for patrols in the area of the recreation green. Information on how to report dog fouling and on the Bylaw enforced by the District Council, to be published in the Meridian Magazine and on the website.

8.5 Drainage

No items to report.

8.6 Youth Facilities

Reply sent to residents with regard to setting up a working party and calling a meeting to discuss youth facilities. No further response received to-date.

8.7 Christmas Tree for Market Street Green

Still looking at suppliers and trees, to be discussed again at next meeting.

8.8 Constable's Rood Committee Report

The Committee would like a letter from the Parish Council, confirming that the Parish Council owns the Rood and is fully supporting the plans being proposed for the development of the site on behalf of the village. This letter is required for support of the application to South Cambs District Council. The Council agreed that such a letter could be sent.

The Clerk reported that she is still researching documentation in order to put a land registry application through for the site.

8.9 Village Events Committee Report

Council wished to formally thank the members of the Events Committee for organising the successful Farmers' Market held in Market Street during July. Mr Marriott replied that another French Market would be held in Market Street on 4th December this year. Also another Farmers' Market is planned for July 2006.

AGENDA 9

Planning

9.1 Correspondence

- (i) Northstowe New Town. Missing plans and info received: Figure 9.15 Environmental Statement. Gallagher Longstanton Ltd, Northstowe Planning Application Newsletter.

Gallagher Longstanton Ltd will be visiting the Swavesey Your Library on three evenings during September, dates to be confirmed, to put up a display of the planning application and answer any questions from residents.

- (ii) Correspondence from Swavesey & District Bridleway Association asking for the Parish Council's support for their request that the District Council's draft Core Strategy document for Northstowe be amended to incorporate access for horse riders as well as pedestrians and cyclists. The Parish Council agreed to support this request.
- (iii) 37 Market Street. Reply from the property owners stating that they will ensure the site is kept secure. Also detailing their future plans for the site, which they are discussing with the Conservation Officer.

Mr Pook stated that he had written to the Conservation Officer about the present state of the site and would copy his letter and reply to the Parish Council for information.

9.2 G Wimpey UK Ltd. No further correspondence received to date.

9.3 Applications

- (i) Ref: S/1000/05/F amended – Land adj. 41 Priory Avenue. Repositioning of proposed access onto School Lane, including revised parking and turning area, repositioning of proposed dwelling to set further away from School Lane boundary and correction of inconsistencies between location and block plans. Objections raised:
 - 1. Access point in School Lane. There are currently no other access points/driveways to properties in the Priory Avenue and Carters Way development, into School Lane. Allowing this new development access from School Lane would set a precedent for future applications from other properties.
 - 2. The original permission for the Carters Way/Priory Avenue development only granted permission for access within the development, not via the rear of the properties into either Gibraltar Lane or School Lane. The Parish Council considers that as all other accesses to properties in this area are either into Priory Avenue or Carters Way, a new access should not be granted into School Lane.
 - 3. Additional dwelling on a garden plot. The Parish Council does not consider this plot a suitable plot for an additional dwelling to the Priory Avenue development, it is infill building and there is no safe or suitable access to the proposed development.
- (ii) Ref: S/1494/05/F – 26 High Street. Rear and side single storey extensions. No objections.
- (iii) Ref: S/1575/05/F – 41 Whitegate Close. Extension to dwelling involving raising of roof height to permit rooms in roof space. No objections.
- (iv) Ref: S/1581/05/F – 78 High Street. Two storey extension. No objections.
- (v) Transfer of Justices' Licence in respect of Swavesey Newsagents, 3 Market Street.

9.4 Permissions

S/1173/05/F – Renewal of planning permission for extension of children’s play area granted.
Ref: S/2482/04/F – 71 Boxworth End. Approval of amendments.

9.5 Refusals

Ref: S/0563/05/F – Adj 50 Whitegate Close. Permission for house refused, as application not accompanied by a flood risk assessment.

9.6 Appeals

Ref: 1161943 & 1161983 against Enforcement Notices E485 & E485A issued 17 August 2004. Appeals dismissed. Applicants now have until 22 October 2005 and 22 December 2005 to comply with the relevant enforcement notices. Agreed to send a letter to S Cambs District Council’s Planning Enforcement Dept requesting that action be taken to enforce the enforcement notices immediately after the deadline dates, should they not have been complied with.

AGENDA 10

Accounts

10.1 Receipts and Payments this Month

(i) All payments approved:	Net	VAT	Gross
Administration and salaries	1,638.79	76.43	1,715.22
Memorial Hall – admin	12.97	0.08	13.05
Memorial Hall – contract cleaning (July)	293.60	0.00	293.60
Memorial Hall – rates, electricity	283.18	8.66	291.84
Village Maintenance	6.23	0.00	6.23
Total:	2,234.77	85.17	2,319.94
Receipts			
Hall Booking receipts (August)	242.40	0.00	242.40
VAT Recovered	169.35	0.00	169.35
Total:	411.75	0.00	411.75

Bank accounts reconciled at 17 August 2005: Current a/c £4,641.43. Treasurer’s a/c £42,765.29.

10.2 Correspondence

Notification from Powergen that electricity supply prices will be increased from 31 August 2005. Information copied to Hall Administrator.

AGENDA 11

General Correspondence

- (i) Copy of letter to Meridian Magazine regarding horse manure on the roads.
- (ii) Cambs ACRE – invitation to the Village of the Year Awards and Annual General Meeting Thursday 8 September, 6.00 – 10.00pm, Burgess Hall, St Ives
- (iii) Grant Information from the Local Network Fund
- (iv) CALC – AGM Saturday 15 October, 9.30am, Abbots Ripton Hall.
- (v) S Cambs District Association AGM, 15th September, 7.30pm, S Cambs Hall, Cambourne.
- (vi) CALC Bulletin
- (vii) A copy of the analysis of the Longstanton Village Questionnaire 2004, part of the Longstanton Parish Plan. Passed to the Chairman.

AGENDA 12

Items for Information and Next Meeting Agenda

- Details of a white van, which has been parked regularly on the front of the recreation green in the evenings where groups of youths are congregating – information passed to the Police.
- Ramper Road – to be on the Agenda for the next meeting
- Do Councillors consider that an August or December meeting is necessary? Could these be missed if there is no urgent business to attend to? For consideration.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.20pm.

Signed & dated

Chairman

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

26 September 2005