
Swavesey Parish Council

7.30pm

Public Open Forum

Resident, Middlewatch Reported that another month has now passed of near misses with buses mounting the pavement at the corner of Middlewatch and Ramper Road, whilst turning into Ramper Road. The junction is not suitable for buses to use safely. Would like to see a Councillor take this issue onboard and speak to the Cambridge Evening News and local Television as Stagecoach do not appear to be prepared to re-route the bus service back to its original route of Boxworth End and stop using Ramper Road. Mr Shepperson's suggestion at the site meeting held last year, of installing double yellow lines around the junction would not necessarily solve the situation. Mr Shepperson replied that the yellow lines had been suggested by the Parish Council previously to help solve the problems of traffic parking close to the junction, which was a separate issue prior to the bus service being routed down Ramper Road. The Chairman replied that he would contact the Cambridge Evening News.

7.36pm

Minutes

Parish Council Meeting, held at The Memorial Hall
Monday 24 January 2005

PRESENT

Mr M Johnston (Chairman)

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

Clerk : Mrs L Miller

Parishioners : 8

APOLOGIES

S Rogers, J Tait, County Cllr Mrs S Johnstone

AGENDA 2

Minutes and Matter to Report from the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 December 2004 were signed by the Chairman as a true record, with no amendments.

Matters reported: the public telephone box, vandalised during Halloween 2004, has now been repainted by British Telecom.

AGENDA 3

Declarations of Interest

Mr A Day declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 9.3 (iv), Ref: S/0061/05/PNA.

The Chairman requested that Agenda Item 7.7 be discussed at this point, as members of the Constable's Rood working party were present and would not be able to stay until later in the meeting. This was agreed.

AGENDA 7

Items for Discussion

7.7 Constable's Rood

Mr Jones and Mr Green were invited by the Council to report on the work being carried out to clear and restore Constable's Rood. Mr Jones reported that following the first clearance in November, further work would take place over the next month to clear the remaining rubbish. Dawson Plant hire has kindly offered to provide machinery to clear the remaining scrap. The next stage will be to take advice from the County and District Councils with regard to raising and levelling the ground. Longer-term plans are to create a village amenity and the main idea at present is to plant an historic orchard, with footpath and seating. One of the first actions is to provide a sign alongside the site giving details of the history of the site together with future proposals.

Grants are available and are being researched in order to provide funding.

The Chairman thanked Mr Jones for the report and the Council unanimously supported the work being proposed and the time being given to the project by all those involved.

AGENDA 4

County Council Business

4.1 Ramper Road, No 15/15A Bus Route

The Clerk reported on correspondence received regarding the maintenance of Ramper Road and route of the bus service, however to-date no maintenance funding had been confirmed by the County Council and Mr Jackson had not forwarded any updated information to the Clerk on the situation regarding the bus service. Mr Lansley MP had written to say that he had written to Stagecoach asking them to reconsider the route of the bus service and reinstate the Boxworth End Service. Mr Lansley would also contact the County Council regarding maintenance to Ramper Road. Additional correspondence had been received from local residents, which had been forwarded to Mr Jackson at Cambs County Council.

The Chairman to contact the Cambridge Evening News to highlight the issues of the change in bus service and maintenance to Ramper Road and to put pressure onto Stagecoach to reconsider the decision to use Ramper Road and not Boxworth End.

4.2 Council Tax 2005/06 Consultation

Cambs Fire and Rescue proposes an increase of 4.9%, Cambs Police Authority proposes an increase of less than 5%. No correspondence received yet from Cambs County Council, however Cllr Johnstone had indicated at the December meeting that the County would consult with the public on a possible 4% increase.

4.3 P3 Scheme

An application to be made to continue with membership of the P3 Scheme and request a grant of £250 towards maintenance work to the Rights of Way during 2005/06.

4.4 Correspondence for information and items for County Councillor

- (i) **Traffic Calming.** The Clerk had received plans for the traffic calming installations on 21 January. Discussion took place on the detail shown in the plans. It was noted that:
 - The changes to the Village College entrance in Gibraltar Lane are not going ahead due to lack of funding.
 - The plans for the widened footpath between Swan Pond and Taylors Lane did show that cycle barriers are to be installed.
 - Hardstanding for the bus stop is shown in Boxworth End, although the bus no longer travels along Boxworth End.
 - The footpath in Gibraltar Lane would go directly in front of the cottages. A resident had contacted the County Council and the Parish Council to ask about parking outside of the cottages once the footpath was in place, as they had no off-road parking available.

It was reported that Mr Brace, CCC had replied that the resident would have to park alongside or partially on the footpath.

- Copy of a letter to CCC from another resident in Gibraltar Lane, querying the line of the footpath at the School Lane end of the Lane, as there is an open ditch running in front of the first three houses into the Lane.
- The use of 'rumble strips' along Buckingham Road on the approach to the village was queried, against the previous suggestion of a 'rumble square'. This to be clarified with CCC.

Due to the changes shown in the plans, from what the Parish Council recalled it had agreed to, the Clerk to contact Mr Brace, CCC to clarify points raised and request a meeting as soon as possible.

The Clerk reported that the non-working interactive speed limit sign in Boxworth End had again been reported to CCC and a reply had been received that it would be repaired.

- (ii) East of England Plan, public consultation 8 Dec to 16 March. Draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the East of England. Briefing documentation copied to Councillors.
- (iii) A14 Improvements. Further copy letters from Mr A Lansley MP to Dept of Transport with regard to the A14 Ellington to Fen Drayton improvement scheme and the delays and uncertainty over improvements to the A14. Mr Lansley, Mr Paice and Mr Djanogly are all seeking an Adjournment Debate in the House of Commons to pursue this issue.
- (iv) Agenda for S Cambs Env & Transport Area Joint Committee, 28 January, to give an update on the A14 Village Traffic Calming works. Mr Shepperson and Mr Johnston hope to attend.

AGENDA 5

District Council Business

- 5.1 Kitchen waste bins.** Two dates booked at the Memorial Hall for distribution of the kitchen bins: Sat 19 and Sat 26 February, 10am to 12noon. Advert placed in Meridian Magazine and posters will be put up around the village. Councillors to assist with distribution at the Hall during the two hours of each session.
- 5.2 Northstowe Community Development Workshop.** Mr Owen had attended the workshop and gave a report on the discussions and information received.
- 5.3 Correspondence for information and items for District Councillor**
 - (i) Launch of modern.gov information system on the District Council's webpage. Links through to village websites also included. Clerk also reported on the new Planning Application Search facility with the District Council's website.
 - (ii) Copies of the new village housing leaflet received.

AGENDA 6

Police/Crime Report

- 6.1 Correspondence for information and items for Community Beat Officer**

Next Histon Sector Local Consultation Group meeting will take place on 10 Feb, Bar Hill Church Centre, 7.30pm.

AGENDA 7

Items for Discussion

- 7.1 Highways**
 - (i) Middlewatch. The Clerk had received no reply yet from the County Council with regard to installing bollards along the verge between the Primary School and Trinity Farm.

- (ii) J Dean & Sons Fun Fair. Will be arriving in Market Street on Sun 1 May, opening on Thurs 5th through to Sat 7th and departing on Sunday 8th May. Clerk to confirm the dates with Mr Dean. Council to ensure that Market Street green is in suitable condition for the Fair to park their vans on the grass at the April PC meeting.
- (iii) Cow Fen Drove. Correspondence received regarding the deteriorating state of the drove surface. This is a Swavesey Byway and maintenance for the droves is the responsibility of the Byways Committee, which maintains them to agricultural standards by providing materials as required together with the voluntary help of local landowners who carry out the work. The Byways Committee had met earlier in January, Councillors who sit on the Committee gave a report on the discussions. At present the Committee had agreed to provide stone to fill the potholes, which Mr Wilderspin had kindly agreed to distribute. Following discussion the Clerk was asked to write to the Byways Committee to enquire about the longer-term maintenance programme for Cow Fen Drove. It was also agreed not to write to local landowners regarding maintenance.
- (iv) Uttons Drove. It had been reported that an 18” deep trench had been dug and left unmarked in the verge alongside Uttons Drove, this was being investigated.

7.2 Memorial Hall

- (i) New Cooker. A second-hand cooker has been donated to the Hall and has now been installed. As the cooker was free-of-charge, the Hall Committee has agreed to return the donations received from user groups towards the purchase of a new cooker. The installation having been paid for by the Parish Council.
- (ii) Heating. It was reported that there may be a problem with operating the heating in the large hall. The Hall Administrator to be asked to investigate.
- (iii) Youths gathering in the car park and request for a fence along the rear of the car park. On Saturday 15 January the Clerk had received a call from a resident in Wallmans Lane who reported that on Friday evening 14 January, approximately 30 youths had congregated in the Memorial Hall car park. This group had then surged along Wallman’s Lane creating quite a disturbance and entered the front garden of a property. The resident called 999 at 20.50hrs however the youths dispersed before the Police were able to send anyone to the scene. Community Beat Office Pc Jones had reported to the Clerk that at 2115hrs Police Officers had visited the scene and spoke to youths on the recreation ground, there were no problems reported. Another incident had also been reported at 2150hrs of youths trying to set fire to a bin on the recreation green, again Police attended and spoke to youths in the area. PC Jones will contact the resident in Wallmans Lane to discuss the incident, the Chairman would also visit.

A request had subsequently been made to the Parish Council to install a fence along the boundary of the car park with Wallmans Lane to deter future incidents. Following discussion it was agreed to investigate costs of metal and/or wooden fencing and discuss this again at a future meeting. It was also suggested that costs of CCTV should be investigated for around the Hall.

The Clerk updated Council on discussions started last year with regard to providing youth facilities in the village. The Area Youth Officer has had problems in recruiting and retaining staff for village youth programmes, which is why progress has been slow since the September meeting. The Clerk also handed out information on the Connections Bus Project, which operates a mobile youth centre/facility for villages around Cambridge.

7.3 Recreation/Playgrounds

Letter received from a resident asking the Parish Council to consider “Might it be expedient to place additional bollards at the entrance to the playing field. This, to stop possible entry of vehicles and caravans.” Council considered that restricting access was unnecessary at present. Reply to be sent explaining why additional bollards would not be suitable, due to access by grass cutting machinery, play area maintenance and football club requirements.

7.4 Village Maintenance

City Services had sent through their quotation for the grass and verge cutting for the 2005 season – a 3% increase over the 2004 charges. It was proposed and unanimously agreed to continue to use City Services for the village maintenance contract.

7.5 Handyman

Reported that 1½ bags of bottles and cans were collected from the Carters Way/Priory Avenue play area on 9 Jan. Bottles and cans regularly collected from the Memorial Hall car park and recreation green.

7.6 Drainage No items to report.

7.7 Constable's Rood Discussed earlier in the Agenda

7.8 Use of CCTV for public areas

Following general discussion on the possibilities of installing CCTV around the Memorial Hall car park area, it was agreed to investigate the costs involved and discuss this further at the next meeting.

7.9 Events Committee Report

Mr Marriott, Chairman of the Events Committee, reported that following the success of the French Market in December, the Committee is investigating organising a Farmers Market in the village during July and a return of the French Market on 4 December 2005.

AGENDA 8

Planning

8.1 Correspondence

- (i) CPRE Workshop for Parish & Town Councillors on the Local Development Framework, Sat 5 March 2005.

8.2 G Wimpey UK Ltd – Update

The fence marking out the boundary of the public open space land to be transferred to the Parish Council at the corner of Chantry Close/Blackhorse Lane, has now been moved to the position agreed back in March 2004. The Clerk has written to G Wimpey Ltd to find out the situation with regard to all other outstanding issues relating to the land transfer and also to find out what is to happen to the area of POS land now fenced off. No further details or response from G Wimpey Ltd was available by the date of this meeting. The Clerk to continue to press for a response. The Parish Council also wished to record that it is not prepared to sign and accept any land transfer until the Parish Council has received transfer of the commuted sum associated with the land transfer.

It was also noted that two large Laylandii Trees on the corner of Chantry Close/Blackhorse Lane appear to be within the boundary of the POS land and therefore would be the responsibility of G Wimpey UK Ltd until the land transfer takes place. Clerk to write to G Wimpey UK Ltd to request that the trees be felled, as they are extremely large, before the land is transferred.

8.3 Applications

- (i) Ref: S/0682/95/O – Home Farm, Longstanton. Consent pursuant to condition 16 of outline planning permission ref: S/0682/95/O to allow 630 dwellings. Objections as for previous applications.

Ref: S/1268/02/F – Home Farm, Longstanton. Variation of conditions 2 & 3 of planning permission S/0682/05/O in relation to the timescale for the submission of reserved matters and commencement of development – this application has now been withdrawn.

- (ii) Ref: S/S/0039/05/F – The Guinness Trust. Land at 5-8 Whitton Close. 12 Affordable dwellings. No objections, however comments of previous application, S/2285/04/F, to be re-submitted.
- (iii) Ref: S/0035/05/F – 12 Middlewatch. Dormer window extension and ground floor rear extension. No objections.
- (iv) Ref: S/0061/05/PNA – Mill Farm, Middlewatch. General Purpose Agricultural Building.
Mr A Day declared a prejudicial interest and left the room during this discussion.
It was noted that the new application shows a change of location (closer to the highway) and an increase in size of the previously approved barn. It was also noted that the site boundary along Middlewatch is not part of the sensitive boundary to open countryside. No objections were raised.
- (v) Ref: S/0889/04/F Amended – 75 Moat Way. Rear facing window replaced by French doors. For information only.
- (vi) Ref: S/0954/04/F Amended – Trinity College Farm. Revised portico design. For information only. Amendments approved 4 January 2005.
- (vii) Ref: S/2482/04/F Amended – 71 Boxworth End. Extensions including raising of roof to provide first floor to existing bungalow. No objections.

8.4 Permissions

Ref: S/2110/04/F – Land r/o 114 and adj to 118 & 120 Middlewatch. Permission granted for house.

Ref: S/1268/04/F – Buckingham Business Park. Permission granted for erection of buildings for B1/B2/B3 uses (renewal of time limited permission S/1782/01/O).

8.5 Refusals

Ref: S/2252/04/O – Land adj to level crossing, Over Road. Permission refused for a bungalow.

8.6 Appeals - None received

AGENDA 9

Accounts

9.1 Payments this Month

(i) All payments approved:	Net	VAT	Gross
Administration and salaries	949.01	25.16	974.17
Memorial Hall – contract cleaning (Dec)	363.50	49.61	413.11
Memorial Hall – administration, running costs	515.12	19.78	534.90
Memorial Hall – cooker installation, maintenance	226.42	13.37	239.79
Total:	2,054.05	107.92	2,161.97
(ii) Receipts			
Hall Booking receipts (Dec/Jan)	441.48	0.00	441.48
Donations	34.76	0.00	34.76
Capitalised interest for 2004	1,183.68	0.00	1,183.68
Total:	1,659.92	0.00	1,659.92

Bank accounts reconciled as of 18 January 2005.
Current a/c £6,583.37; Treasurer's a/c £35,765.29

9.2 Approval of 2005/06 Budget and Precept Setting

Following discussions at previous meetings and circulation of the draft budget, it was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved to set a Precept for 2005/06 of £44,000. Statement to be made in the PC News of the next Meridian Magazine, to explain this and previous year's precept levels.

9.3 Correspondence

- Donation of £30 received from a village resident, to be put towards the Youth Facilities fund. A letter of thanks has been sent from the Clerk.
- Information received from S Cambs District Council on the Small Business Rate Relief Scheme, for which the Memorial Hall may be eligible. The Clerk to complete the application.

AGENDA 10

Correspondence

- CALC – The Bulletin. Training Course : Workshop on Charity Trustees and Law. Saturday 4 June, St Ives. Clerk to attend together with a member of the Hall Committee. Cost is £40/person.
- Update from NALC on Asian Disaster and parish and community support for fundraising.
- Freedom of Information Act 2000. Information note on the implications of the Act and the General Right of Access, which comes into force in January 2005. Also authorisation from the ODPM of the officers to act as the qualified persons for the purposes of section 36 of the Act for parishes in England and Wales:

<u>Authority</u>	<u>Primary Authorisation</u>	<u>Secondary Authorisation</u>
Parish & Town Councils	Clerk to the Council	Chairman of the Council
- Newsletters: Clerks & Councils Direct, Local Council Review, ACRE Harvest
- Email from a local business with regard to the traffic calming currently being installed within Swavesey and Over. Clerk to reply giving the background behind the County Council’s A14 Villages Traffic Calming Project.

AGENDA 11

Items for Information and Next Meeting Agenda

- Swavesey Spartans had reported that at approx 7.30am on Saturday morning 22 January, numerous broken bottles and empty cans had to be cleared away from the area around the football pavilion and children’s play area on the recreation green, before it was safe for the junior football teams to use the green. Car tyre marks were also found around the area in front of the pavilion.
- Agenda items for the next meeting: update on play area fundraising; update on plans for a new football pavilion.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 10.05pm.

Signed & dated

Chairman

Minutes approved & signed as a correct record by the Parish Council on 28 February 2005