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# *Swavesey Parish Council*

## **7.30pm Public Open Forum**

22 members of the public were present. The Chairman asked if there were any comments relating to items other than the Police and Anti-social behaviour item already on the Agenda. There were no other comments put forward.

The Chairman requested that Agenda item 4 – Police/Crime Report, be opened to the public for an open forum discussion. This request was unanimously approved.

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**7.32pm**

## **Minutes**

Parish Council Meeting, held at The Memorial Hall  
Monday 25 July 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,  
J Tait, W Wright

Clerk : Mrs L Miller

Parishioners : 22

County Cllr Ms M Smith

Sgt C Burns and Insp P Ormerod, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Histon Sector

### **APOLOGIES**

Mrs S Rogers gave apologies for having to leave the meeting at 8pm.

### **AGENDA 2**

#### *Minutes and Matters to Report from the Minutes*

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2005 were signed by the Chairman as a true record, with no amendments.

### **AGENDA 3**

#### *Declarations of Interest*

None

### **AGENDA 4**

#### *Police/Crime Report*

#### **4.1 Correspondence for information and items for Community Beat Officer**

The Chairman welcomed Inspector Paul Ormerod, S Cambs Sector Commander and Community Sgt Chris Burns, Histon & Cambourne Neighbourhoods, to the meeting.

- (i) Crime figures and newsletters were circulated to all Councillors.

## Public Forum

The Parish Council meeting was adjourned in order to open a Public Forum session on the current issues regarding anti-social behaviour within the village.

The Chairman outlined recent discussions with residents and confirmed that the Council had written to Inspector Ormerod, South Cambs District Council's Director of Planning and Mr A Lansley MP following the concerns raised at the June Parish Council Meeting. Inspector Ormerod had replied and both Inspector Ormerod and Sgt Burns would answer questions and update Councillors and residents on the present situation at tonight's meeting.

Sgt Burns gave an overview of recent crimes and incidents reported over the past two months in Swavesey and give comparison figures for the same period the previous year, which showed the increase this year. Two action plans have now been put in place to tackle the issues of speeding and anti-social behaviour. During July Police patrols have been increased. Some prosecutions have already been made with regard to the speeding incidents, which include both cars and mopeds and S.59 warnings, with regard to mopeds, have also been made.

Concerns were raised from Councillors and residents about the time it takes to report incidents. Sgt Burns spoke about the new 0845 call centre number, which has been set up to take non-urgent incident calls and did acknowledge that it can take time to get through on this number. However the aim is to ensure it is fully up and running by December 2005 and the problems are currently being addressed.

Inspector Ormerod acknowledged that there is a particular problem in Swavesey at present and the Police are addressing the issues related to Cow Fen residents and gatherings of youths. The Police are working with the County Youth Workers for additional youth contact in the village and also spoke in general about issues relating to Cow Fen.

A question and answer session then took place. Items discussed included:

- Are attacks by dogs on dogs considered as a crime? There is an offence of dogs out of control and this can come within that, so please report all incidents of dog attacks.
- Speeding cars along the High Street, can speed checks take place at midnight, as well as during the day? Yes, however it very much depends on Police staffing levels at that time.
- The anti-social behaviour and moped nuisance issues are the symptom of the problem, not the cause, what is being done to stop the cause? Sgt Burns accepted the points raised but could not discuss this in detail at present.
- The main problem of speeding vehicles in Market St is during Frid night/Sat early morning, Sat night/Sun early morning. Police presence is required at these times.
- Discussion on regular traffic to Cow Fen, regular times and vehicles and how residents can help and provide information to the Police.
- 37 Market Street was discussed, the Parish Council has written to the owners with regard to the property and garden being used as a meeting place. The Police are aware of the situation.
- Discussion over the use of CCTV.

The Parish Council stated that local residents in the direct line of the present problems need reassurance and help from the Police that these problems are being seriously addressed and stopped. Insp Ormerod and Sgt Burns replied that yes these problems are being addressed as a high priority and action will be taken.

The Chairman thanked both the Police Officers and members of the public for their time in attending the meeting and discussing these issues with Councillors. The public forum session was closed and the Parish Council meeting reconvened.

Residents and the Police left the meeting at this point.

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## Swavesey Parish Council Meeting

Mrs Sue Rogers had left the meeting during the public forum session.

County Cllr Ms M Smith and 1 parishioner remained for the Parish Council meeting.

### AGENDA 5

#### *County Council Business*

##### **5.1 Bus Service**

- (i) The Clerk had no further progress to report yet on using an alternative bus operator for a service along Boxworth End.
- (ii) Cllr Smith reported that Ramper Road will be shut for five weeks from 1 August, whilst maintenance work is carried out to part of the road. No further details were available and the Clerk had not received any notification of the works. Cllr Smith to find out more details and let the Clerk know.

##### **5.2 Traffic Calming**

- (i) Cllr Smith reported that the safety audit highlighted some issues that need attention. A copy of the audit results will be sent to the Parish Council. The Over Road give-way feature was highlighted as requiring further attention. Cllr Smith will be meeting with Mr Kemp from CCC Highways to discuss aspects of the traffic calming.
- (ii) Letter received from Mr Brace stating that the County Council would not be able to provide a traffic monitoring camera for the Over Road give-way feature, due to the cost involved in arranging a specialist contractor to provide the equipment.
- (iii) Mr Day had met with Mr Lines (CCC Highways) to discuss the various signs around the village relating to the traffic calming. Mr Day reported that some of the signs could be removed or amalgamated with others to try to reduce the number. Council agreed with the suggestions put forward by Mr Day and Mr Lines, the Clerk to confirm the details with Mr Lines.

##### **5.3 Jointly Funded Minor Improvement Schemes**

No bids put forward.

##### **5.4 Correspondence for information and items for County Councillor**

- (i) Some emails received in support of the suggestion for safer cycle/pedestrian/bridle routes between Swavesey and the A14 and Swavesey and Fen Drayton. Hopefully further messages will be received once the Meridian Magazine is distributed in August.
- (ii) Information received on proposed changes to the Mobile Library Service. Proposals are that the Village College stop be deleted and the Library van to stop weekly in Market Street, 9.00-11.00am. No objections or comments from the Parish Council.
- (iii) Leaflet detailing how the County Council deals with requests to restrict Heavy Commercial Vehicles from rural roads.
- (iv) Mr Pook proposed a vote of thanks to our new County Councillor Mandy Smith, for the good work she is carrying out on behalf of the village. All Councillors thanked Cllr Smith.
- (v) There was still concern over the end of the cycleway at Middle Fen Drove junction and the fact that cyclists do continue along the footpath to Taylors Lane, even though there are barriers there. Also to redirect cyclists for this section to the other side of the road is dangerous, which is why they stay on the footpath. Cllr Smith to raise this concern with Mr Kemp, CCC Highways.

## **AGENDA 6**

### ***District Council Business***

#### **6.1 Correspondence for information and items for District Councillor**

- (i) Correspondence from the Chief Executive confirming that the Parliamentary Order to cap the District's council tax has been passed. The District Council will now have to work to review the present council tax bills and its budget. Further details will be issued as this progresses.
- (ii) Leaflet on the Funding Fair for South Cambs, Girton College, Weds 21 September 2005.

## **AGENDA 7**

### ***Items for Discussion***

**7.1 Highways**            No items to discuss.

#### **7.2 Memorial Hall**

- (i) Charity Status. The Clerk gave a report on the CALC Charity Workshop that she had attended on 16<sup>th</sup> July. The Clerk agreed that the conclusions outlined by Mr Owen at the last Parish Council meeting were the best way forward. The Clerk to report to the Hall Committee and work with the Committee and Parish Council in contacting the Charity Commission and establishing the new Charities. All Councillors were in agreement with this action.
- (ii) The Chairman of the Hall Committee reported that recently a disabled person attending an event at Hall had been unable to park in the disabled parking bay in the car park, due to a local resident parking their car there. A letter to be written to the resident informing them that the disabled space is for people attending the Hall only, not local residents.

#### **7.3 Recreation/Playgrounds**

- (i) The Clerk updated Council on the progress of the Play Area refurbishment. Orders have now been placed for the groundwork and equipment and the site will be cleared w/c 8<sup>th</sup> August. The installation work will then commence and should be completed by the end of August. An official opening party is being planned for the afternoon of Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September and invitations will be sent out to all Primary and Pre-school children during the first week back of the September term.
- (ii) CCTV. A quotation had been received for two additional cameras to cover the new play area, complete with lighting and poles to mount the cameras on, to link in to the Primary School's CCTV system. The cost was considered extremely high and further quotes should be obtained. To discuss again at the August meeting.

#### **7.4 Village Maintenance**

- (i) The Handyman had spent 20hrs clearing rubbish and broken glass over the last month. The broken glass being mainly in the layby area at the front of the recreation green.
- (ii) It was reported that the grass under the trees on Market Street green had not been cut, following the recent grasscutting. The Clerk to contact the contractors and request that this is rectified.

#### **7.5 Drainage**

- (i) Information received with regard to works by the Environment Agency to Swavesey Drain Bank. Access for plant and machinery will be via Cow Fen and Lairstall Drovers.
- (ii) Concern was expressed over the lack of drainage requirements specified for the Longstanton Home Farm development. Particularly with regard to possible future flooding of the areas downstream around Swavesey. Letter to be sent to the Planning Authority asking for details of the measures being taken to ensure flooding risk is minimised and the balancing pond maintenance requirements are being adequately addressed.

- (iii) A local resident had asked the Clerk if any decisions had been made with regard to the Covell's Drain bank. No further information had been received by the Clerk from either the County or District Council or the Environment Agency.

#### **7.6 Swavesey Your Library**

Mr Pook reported that the new bookshelf, funded by the Parish Council, was being built. The new PC had also been ordered. The Library has now been running for two years and is in need of new volunteers to help keep it open, both to help run the Library and to join the management committee. More library users were also required. The Parish Council was asked if it could help by speaking to local residents about this and helping to advertise for volunteers.

#### **7.7 Youth Facilities**

- (i) The Clerk reported that Julian Ayres wished to use the recreation green for Youth BBQ's on 26<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> July, weather permitting. Council raised no objections.
- (ii) The Clerk had contacted neighbouring Parish Clerks to find out what type of Youth facilities they had within their parishes and the funding support they put towards these facilities. Also to find out what anti-social behaviour problems they may have and whether Councillors would be interested in meeting to discuss common problems and solutions. Some replies had been received, this to be discussed again at a future meeting.
- (iii) Local residents wishing to help set up a Youth Committee to look at providing youth facilities or raising funds to help provide facilities for teenagers in Swavesey had contacted the Council. Council agreed to allow the Memorial Hall to be used for a public meeting to bring interested people together to discuss this. The Clerk and Chairman to reply and help organise this.

**7.8 Christmas Tree** - No further progress this month.

#### **7.9 Constable's Rood Committee Report**

The Committee are still working with S Cambs District Council with regard to grant aid and permission for the work. The purchase of weedkiller for the site was requested and approved.

#### **7.10 Village Events Committee Report**

Mr Marriott reported on the success of the recent Farmers' Market and that another event would be planned for next summer.

### **AGENDA 8**

#### ***Planning***

##### **8.1 Correspondence**

- (i) Cllr Shepperson reported on the site inspection visit by Planning Committee members re the application for a house on land adj to 41 Priory Avenue. Cllr Shepperson also reported that at the planning meeting, a decision on this application was deferred pending an amendment to move the access from Gibraltar Lane to School Lane.
- (ii) Letter from Mr Lansley MP detailing his response to the current consultation on the A14 Ellington to Fen Ditton Improvements.
- (iii) Consultation draft of the South Cambs Design Guide received. Comments to be returned by 19 September.

##### **8.2 G Wimpey UK Ltd – update on POS transfer**

No reply yet from G Wimpey re the Leylandii trees.

### 8.3 Applications

- (i) Ref: S/01257/05/CW – Land at Middle Fen Drove. Retrospective application for extension of existing approved site for the storage & recycling of inert building and construction waste and extension of existing workshop/storage building. No objections raised, however a comment to be returned asking for assurance that the waste on the site is correctly and carefully managed so as not to adversely affect the local area and in particular Middle Fen Drove.
- (ii) Ref: S/1382/05/A – Travelodge A14 Huntingdon Road. Signs. No objections or comments.
- (iii) Ref: S/0410/04/F amended – 15A Gibraltar Lane. Amendments to windows and internal wall. No objections or comments.
- (iv) A number of boxes containing the Northstowe New Town outline planning application had been received. These would also be available in the Library for viewing by local residents.
- (v) Ref: S/0039/05/F amended – The Guinness Trust, land at 5-8 Whitton Close. Revisions to highway layout – visibility splays.

For the Council's information it was reported that the Frere Cottages Trust would be contracting to re-tile all of the cottage roofs. The Planning Authority had stated to the Trust that planning permission for this would not be required, even though it is within the Conservation Area.

### 8.4 Permissions

Ref: S/0976/05/PNT – 15M high monopole and associated development, Land at The Farm, Boxworth End. Approval given for siting and appearance of proposed development.

Ref: S/00844/05/CC – Swavesey Village College. Permission granted for extension to sports hall changing area, refurbishment of sports courts including new surfacing, fencing and floodlights, artificial turf football pitch and two sports courts, paved access and two secure storage containers.

### 8.5 Refusals - None received

### 8.6 Appeals

Ref: S/2252/04/O – Land adj the level crossing, Over Road. Bungalow. Appeal made following the refusal of planning permission by S Cambs District Council.

## AGENDA 9

### Accounts

#### 9.1 Receipts and Payments this Month

(i) All payments approved:	Net	VAT	Gross
Administration and salaries	1,323.75	17.47	1,341.22
Memorial Hall – admin	74.32	9.66	83.98
Memorial Hall – contract cleaning (July)	225.20	0.00	225.20
Memorial Hall – rates, water	219.90	0.00	219.90
Village Maintenance	55.39	9.69	65.08
Play area 3 <sup>rd</sup> party funding	1,481.20	0.00	1,481.20
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3,379.76</b>	<b>36.82</b>	<b>3,416.58</b>
Receipts			
Hall Booking receipts (June)	135.95	0.00	135.95
SCDC – small business rate relief, Memorial Hall	428.06	0.00	426.06
Farmers' Market	135.00	0.00	135.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>699.01</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>699.01</b>

Bank accounts reconciled at end July: Current a/c: £7,993.51 Treasurer's a/c: £42,765.29

Income from the Farmers' Market had been banked by the Clerk, on behalf of the Events Committee. The funds placed into an earmarked Events Committee Fund.

## **9.2 Income & Expenditure Update**

First quarter budget figures copied to all Councillors.

## **AGENDA 10**

### *General Correspondence*

- Cambs ACRE – AGM to be held 8 September, 7pm, The Burgess Hall, St Ives, followed by presentation of the Cambs Village of the Year Awards.
- Newsletters and magazines: ACRE Harvest, SLCC The Clerk, Clerks & Councils Direct, Local Government Review, NALC conference info
- CALC Training Courses – Mr Pook to attend the New Councillors course in October.

## **AGENDA 11**

### *Items for Information and Next Meeting Agenda*

- Reported that broken glass appears to be in the gravel used to fill potholes further along Cow Fen Drove. This could be extremely dangerous to all users of the byway. To be reported to the Byways Committee.
- Wooden gates have been installed across the end of a driveway along Ramper Road, within the property boundary. As there are no other gates on any of the properties in Ramper Road, should planning permission have been sought? It was considered that planning permission was not required for driveway gates.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.50pm.

Signed & dated

Chairman

**Minutes approved & signed as a correct record by the Parish Council on 22 August 2005**