
Swavesey Parish Council

7.30pm

Public Open Forum 6 members of the public present

The following concerns and comments were raised by members of the public present:

- Residents of Market Street and Cow Fen Drove have serious concerns with regard to speeding vehicles in Market St and Cow Fen. A letter has been sent to the Police, Parish Council, County Councillor and local MP, signed by residents of Market St and Cow Fen Drove detailing the concerns of those residents.
- Residents wish to ask the Parish Council if they could write to the owners of The Grange, Market Street, to ask if they would ask all employees there to please drive slowly and with care along Market Street, particularly the southern side, where there is no footpath. Also with the additional problem of vehicles speeding down Cow Fen Drove, the entrance to the Grange is becoming very dangerous. The Chairman replied that this will be discussed and a letter can be sent.
- The speeding along Cow Fen Drove continues at all hours of the day and night and local residents are in contact with the local Beat Officer about this, however the support of the Parish Council with regard to these discussions would be appreciated. The Chairman replied that the Parish Council would do all it could to help and will discuss these issues later in the Agenda.
- Details of a major disturbance that took place on 19th June in Cow Fen, were passed to the Parish Council. The disturbance took place over 2-3 hours during the night. Other similar disturbances have also taken place regularly over the past month and dates of 24th June (early morning), 26th June (2.30am), 27th June (2-4.30am) were all detailed. These disturbances consisted of loud and speeding vehicles, car headlights on full beam, screaming, fighting, major disturbances all of which are extremely frightening to local residents and take place for 2 hours or more in the early hours around 2am in the fields and land along Cow Fen Drove. The Police are called and have attended. Residents wish to appeal to the Parish Council to help all residents in this area of the village resolve this situation. The Chairman replied that the Parish Council would do all that it could to support residents and help resolve these problems.
- Residents also informed the Council of details of intruders in gardens in Market Street. Intruders appeared to be obviously looking for someone and again this happened late at night.

The Chairman stated that there was an Agenda item tonight to discuss anti-social behaviour and the concerns raised here would be discussed and the Parish Council would do all that it could to help and support the residents. Contact with the Police, planning authority and local MP would be discussed.

7.45pm

Minutes

Parish Council Meeting, held at The Memorial Hall
Monday 27 June 2005, 7.30pm

PRESENT

Mr M Johnston (Chairman)

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

Clerk : Mrs L Miller

Parishioners : 6 County Cllr Ms M Smith

APOLOGIES

J Dodson, Pc A Jones, Community Beat Officer

AGENDA 2

Minutes and Matters to Report from the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2005 were signed by the Chairman as a true record, with no amendments.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2005 were signed by the Chairman as a true record, with the following amendment approved: page 2, second paragraph, add a final sentence to confirm that Mr Brace agreed to provide a traffic monitoring camera at the Over Road give-way feature. Final sentence to read: "This request was agreed at the meeting by David Brace."

AGENDA 3

Declarations of Interest

Mr Wright declared a personal interest in Agenda item 8.1 (ii) as he is one of the applicants for the application for the transfer of the justice's licence.

AGENDA 4

County Council Business

4.1 Ramper Road, bus route

Results of the safety audit by Cambs County Council sent to the Parish Council. In conclusion the audit team does not believe that road safety is an issue for double-decker buses turning left from Middlewatch into Ramper Road. Questions to be asked about the safety of the entire length of Ramper Road and that a safety audit should be carried out on the entire length of the road. Question also to be asked about whether the route will be gritted this winter.

Letter from Mr Lansley MP asking the Parish Council if they wish to consider approaching an alternative operator to provide a bus service for Boxworth End. The Council agreed to write to Whippet, St Ives to find out if they would be interested in considering a route along Boxworth End, also to ask for support for such a proposal from local residents.

4.2 Traffic Calming update

Provisional date arranged, of 5th July, for a meeting with CCC Traffic Engineer to discuss the number of road signs now in the village.

4.3 Cycleways

A request has been made to the County Council to add Buckingham Road to their list of future cycleway/footpath routes. County Cllr Smith gave her support to this request and has spoken to County Council Highways with regard to this. An article will be written from the Parish Council in the next Meridian Magazine and on the website, asking for residents' support for a safer route along Buckingham Road, as the application for the scheme will need to show support and need for such as route. Cllr Smith has also contacted the businesses on Buckingham Business Park asking for their support as well.

With regard to a cycleway route to Fen Drayton, this has been considered before. Parish Council to approach the Safer Routes to School Committee at the Village College for their support.

4.4 Jointly Funded Minor Improvements Schemes – 2006/07 bidding round

Closing date for applications is 22 August. The maximum cost of any scheme is £35,000. Council to consider this further at the July meeting.

4.5 Correspondence for information and items for County Councillor

- (i) A14 Ellington to Fen Ditton Improvements – CCC letter re consultation. Reply from Parish Council submitted last month. Thank you letter from Swavesey & District Bridleway Association for the Council's support of a safe crossing for soft traffic over the A14. Copy of letter from Dry Drayton Parish Council to the Highways Authority stating the Parish Council's concerns over the proposals for the improvements. Cllr Smith added that both Fen Drayton Parish Council and herself supported Swavesey Parish Council's comments regarding the junction proposals at Swavesey and access to/from the A14 and Cambridge Services.
- (ii) Re-organisation of Highway Maintenance boundaries and information relating to new Highway Supervisor contacts, from 1 July 2005.
- (iii) Cambs and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Development Plan – issues and options consultation.
- (iv) Cambs National Cycle Network – details on works to complete the network in Cambridgeshire. Route 51 passes through Swavesey, along Fen Drayton Rd, School Lane, Gibraltar Lane, Middlewatch and Ramper Road to Longstanton. Queries raised over using Ramper Road as a cycle route, particularly now that buses regularly use the road and considering the very poor state of repair of the road and the safety of cyclists. Letter to be sent to CCC pointing this out.
- (v) Parent Directory of Childcare and Children's Services in Cambs.

AGENDA 5

District Council Business

5.1 Correspondence for information and items for District Councillor

- (i) Youth Debate 2005 – information for competition, November 2005.
- (ii) Cllr Shepperson reported that the Local Development Framework had gone out to public consultation again, due to problems with the response dates following the first consultation. The Clerk had received a copy, as had the Library and Cllr Shepperson.

AGENDA 6

Police/Crime Report

6.1 Correspondence for information and items for Community Beat Officer

- (i) Crime figures and newsletter from Histon Sector circulated to all Councillors.
- (ii) Anti-social behaviour

Discussion was held with regard to the comments and request made by members of the public before the start of the meeting about crime and other concerns around Market Street and Cow Fen. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to Insp Ormerod, Histon Police Station, regarding the fears and concerns of the public and Parish Council over the problems currently occurring in Market Street and Cow Fen and request immediate action by the Police to stop the present activities. Letter to be copied to the Director of Planning at South Cambs District Council and to Mr A Lansley MP.

A list of vehicle and scooter movements into and out of Market Street over Sunday 19th June was circulated. These to be copied to Insp Ormerod with the above mentioned letter.

The Parish Council also wished to know more about ASBO's and whether the Council can instigate a procedure re the setting up an ASBO if the above mentioned disturbances continue.

- (iii) Report on meeting with Village College Principle

The Chairman reported that he was disappointed with the meeting he had with, and the attitude of the Principle at the Village College. Although there appears to have been no serious effects or complaints following the College Prom Night this year, the College does not seem to be prepared to take a responsibility or concern for the actions of its students outside of the College premises.

The Community Beat Officer does attend the College every so often and meets with Yr9 and Yr10 students (13-15 yr olds) but these are mostly social discussions. It was suggested that perhaps the Chairman should contact the Head of Governors at the College to see if the Governing Body would be prepared to discuss with the Parish Council what can be done to ensure that College Students do not cause disturbance and anti-social problems outside of College.

AGENDA 7

Items for Discussion

7.1 Highways

- (i) Primary School, Middlewatch. Plan and further information regarding proposals from the County Council to lift the dropped kerbs and install a pedestrian barrier alongside the School entrance, to stop the problems of vehicles parking on the footpath and to keep the crossing safe and clear. Parish Council raised no objections to the plans.

Question asked re the discussions on bollards along the verge in Middlewatch from the School to Trinity Farm. No further information has been received re this yet, Clerk to chase up.

- (ii) Clerk to find out when the traffic monitoring camera for Over Road is to be installed.
- (iii) Parking along the High Street was discussed as this is still causing problems for traffic between Blackhorse Lane and Wallmans Lane. To be monitored with possible consideration for further double-yellow lines.
- (iv) Request from a resident in Thistle Green, as to whether double yellow lines could be put around the junction leading to the sheltered housing. Cars are parking close to and opposite the junction often making turning into the road dangerous. It was not felt that double yellow lines should be (or could be) installed in residential areas such as Thistle Green. Contact with neighbours to ask for more sensible parking was thought preferable.

7.2 Memorial Hall

- (i) Charity Status. Mr Owen attended a CALC workshop on Charity Trustees and Charity Law at the end of June and gave a report on the course and how the charity status of the Memorial Hall needs to be considered. The main points to be considered include:
- If the Hall is registered as a Charity the Parish Council would become the Custodial Trustee and this would be the Council as a body, not individual Councillors.
 - The Hall Committee would become the Management Committee and the members of that Committee would then become management trustees.
 - The Management Committee would need to open its own bank account and manage its own finances regarding the day-to-day running of the hall. The Parish Council as Custodial Trustee could be approached by the Management Committee to help fund the running of the Hall, if hall income did not cover expenditure. This is in effect the way in which the Hall is currently run, with the Parish Council covering additional expenses, as the Hall does not create enough income to cover expenditure.
 - The Hall Administrator would need to be employed by the Hall Management Committee rather than the Parish Council.
 - There could be two charities: The Charity of George Long, which would control the land; The Memorial Hall Charity, which would control the Hall building and activities.

The Clerk will be attending a second CALC workshop on Charities and Trustees in July.

Following this the Charity Commission will need to be contacted again to discuss in more detail what is required for the future of the Hall.

- (ii) Rebate now received on the non-domestic rates for the Memorial Hall. The rebate has been given as a credit against this year's rate demand, therefore direct debit payments have now been reduced for the remainder of this year.
- (iii) Letter from a resident regarding rubbish dumped between the Memorial Hall exit ramp and the neighbouring garden wall. The rubbish will be inspected and arrangements will be made to clear it as soon as possible. Council will also look at how this can be prevented in the future.

7.3 Recreation/Playgrounds

- (i) New Play Area. The Play Area Committee has made its final decision on the design and equipment for the new play area and has awarded the contract to Kompan Ltd. The Committee will pass over to the Parish Council all grant funding received for the play area. The Parish Council will then place the orders, in liaison with the Committee. The Parish Council will also take over the responsibility for the play area once installed and its future maintenance. Orders for the equipment and associated works will be placed during the next month, with an anticipated starting date in mid August. The new play area should then be open and available to use by early September. A Grand Opening Party will be arranged in September.

A question was raised as to security of the new site and whether CCTV cameras should be considered. It was agreed to approach the Primary School, as they already have a CCTV system in place and border the play area site, to see if additional cameras could be added to their system.

- (ii) The rubbish bin in the play area has been burned and melted. A replacement bin has been installed, using the bin that was purchased for Station Road. A new bin is now required for Station Road. Cost is £20.93 + VAT. It was proposed and unanimously approved to purchase a replacement bin.

7.4 Village Maintenance

All plant tubs have now been replanted for summer.

7.5 Youth Provision

Proposal received from the Central S Cambs Patch Youth Service, following discussions held last month, asking if the Parish Council would consider funding a part-time youth worker for Swavesey. Proposal is to provide two youth workers for one evening a week, organising youth activities in the youth centre on the Village College site. The Youth Service to provide the funding for the lead worker, line management and training costs, the Parish Council to provide the funding for the second youth worker. Funding request is for £1,184.63, which will provide one youth worker for 2.5hrs x 39 weeks (term time only).

It was proposed and seconded that the above proposal be accepted, £1,184.63 to be awarded from the Youth Reserve fund. This grant to be for a one year trial period only, conditional upon a programme of activities to be supplied and the project to be monitored during the year. Proposal accepted, 8 in favour, 2 abstentions.

7.6 BT Payphone provision – consultation

Consultation by BT on re-alignment of payphone provision and customer demand. Two payphones identified within Swavesey with low usage. Option for consultation is to replace the cash payphones with cashless phones, if the present obligation to provide cash payphones is removed following the current universal service review. As there is no proposal to remove either of the phones at present, the Parish Council made no comment.

7.7 Drainage - No items to report

7.8 Christmas Tree for Market Street Green

The Chairman and Mr Wright reported that they are investigating costs and sizes of suitable trees and should have further information by the next meeting. Agenda item for next meeting.

7.9 Constable's Rood Committee Report

Mr Pook reported that following further discussions with S Cambs District Council planning and conservation officers, it will not be possible to raise the level of the whole site. Instead plans will now be drawn up to look at a central raised area with a lower surround and a bridge/walkway into the area from Mow Fen Drove. Funding opportunities from S Cambs District Council are positive and an application will be submitted for grant funding. Discussions with regard to the site's future maintenance and education potential and also taking place with the Scout Group and Primary School.

The Clerk reported that Land Registry had confirmed that the land has not been registered and so an application for voluntary first registration will now be put through by the Parish Council.

7.10 Village Events Committee Report - No items to report.

AGENDA 8

Planning

8.1 Correspondence

- (i) SCDC Planning, details of the Chairman's delegation meeting. Ref: S/0802/05, 26 High Street, application withdrawn. Mr Shepperson reported that the application for a Radio Mast at The Farm, Boxworth End had been approved.
- (ii) Notice of application for transfer of justices' licence, White Horse Inn. No objections or comments raised.
- (iii) Copy letter received from a resident, sent to S Cambs District Council Planning Enforcement with regard to the outstanding appeal re land at Cow Fen Drove. The Clerk reported that to-date no decision has been made by the Planning Inspectorate, although an Inspector had visited the site with regard to the appeal on 24 May 2005 and a decision was expected at any time now.
- (iv) Consultation information from Huntingdonshire District Council on its Core Strategy Preferred Options Report, forming part of the Hunts DC Local Development Framework. Information sent to Swavesey as a neighbouring authority. No comments made.

8.2 G Wimpey UK Ltd – update on POS land transfer

Following recent correspondence, it has been confirmed that the land on which the Leylandii trees stand, on the corner of Chantry Close and Blackhorse Lane, is registered to Barwell Properties Ltd. G Wimpey UK Ltd has now been asked to obtain a Certificate of Non-interest in this land from Barwells. Once obtained the land will then be able to be transferred as part of the POS land, however the Parish Council has requested that the trees are felled before transfer to the Council.

The updated commuted sum figure and plan detailing land to be transferred, which the Clerk drew up and sent to the Council's Solicitor, has been confirmed and accepted by G Wimpey UK Ltd.

Copy letters received from the owner of 7 Blackhorse Lane to G Wimpey UK Ltd, regarding the Leylandii trees and the POS land alongside 7 Blackhorse Lane were discussed. Further correspondence from Mr Russell, Alexander J Hall consultants, regarding this POS land was also discussed. It was agreed that the section of land, currently fenced off alongside 7 Blackhorse Lane, would not now be included in the POS transfer to the Parish Council and the fence should remain in place.

8.3 S Cambs Local Development Framework – consultation

Full set of all consultation documentation received. Public consultation is open from 17 June to 29 July 2005. All documents available via the Clerk, District Councillor or Library, or via S Cambs Website. No comments or representations to be made by the Parish Council.

8.4 Applications

- (i) Ref: S/1173/05 Renewal of time limited permission S/0794/00/F – Extension to Play Area, recreation green, High Street. No objections or comments.
- (ii) Ref: S/0701/05 Amended – 28 High Street.
- (iii) Ref: S/1000/05 Amended – Land adj to 41 Priory Avenue. For information only, details of trees to be removed.

8.5 Permissions

Ref: S/0814/05/F – Hand car wash, Service Station, A14. Permission granted.

Ref: S/0675/05/F – 5 Station Road. Permission granted for re-roofing of existing stable block.

Ref: S/0670/05/F – 89 Boxworth End. Permission granted for creation of additional vehicular access.

8.6 Refusals - None received

8.7 Appeals

Ref: S/0682/95/O – Land west of Longstanton (Home Farm). Appeal withdrawn by applicant.

Ref: S/0246/04/RM – Land west of Longstanton (Phase 2 Home Farm). Public inquiry to take place on 7 July 2005.

AGENDA 9

Accounts

9.1 Receipts and Payments this Month

(i) All payments approved:	Net	VAT	Gross
Administration and salaries	1,983.68	13.89	1,997.57
Memorial Hall – admin	14.81	0.40	15.21
Memorial Hall – contract cleaning (June)	289.40	0.00	289.40
Memorial Hall – rates	56.80	0.00	56.80
Village Maintenance	78.61	12.59	91.20
Play area 3 rd party funding	2,234.71	0.00	2,234.71
Total:	4,658.01	26.88	4,684.89
Receipts			
Hall Booking receipts (June)	442.63	0.00	442.63
EDF Energy Wayleave payment	13.61	0.00	13.61
SCDC – Green box recycling credits	487.79	0.00	487.79
Total:	944.03	0.00	944.03

9.2 Correspondence

Report of the internal auditor for the year ended 31 March 2005 was circulated. There were no outstanding items raised by the auditor. The Council thanked the Clerk and RFO for her efficient work to ensure that the accounts and internal audit requirements were correct and up to date.

AGENDA 10

General Correspondence

DEFRA – Clean neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

CALC – Workshop for new councillors

ACRE – Invitation to 2 Councillors, to attend the Village of the Year Competition 2005

Papworth Hospital NHS – public consultation on proposed redevelopment.

Cambridge Open Studios – 300 artists in Cambridgeshire exhibiting during July 2005

Thank you letter from organisers of the Yesteryear Road Run.

Cambridge Water Village Life Fund – application details.
Countryside Events July – December 2005 – leaflet.
South Cambs Magazine; SLCC The Clerk; Networking East newsletter; Harvest ACRE
Pointers to Good Practice – guide for town and parish councils. Published by NALC and
Commission for Rural Communities.

AGENDA 11

Items for Information and Next Meeting Agenda

- Next meeting to have an Agenda item for Swavesey Your Library, to discuss support and members for the Library.
- It had not been discussed as to what action would be taken regarding the situation at 37 Market Street. It was therefore agreed that a letter should be sent to the owners of the property about the concerns regarding its security, safety and future.
- The drain verge along Turnbridge drain, between Thistle Green and High Street has been strimmed by SCDC.
- The verge in School Lane, between Priory Avenue and Gibraltar Lane needs urgent attention. The Clerk replied that she had already contacted City Services to ask that it be cut immediately.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9:45pm.

Signed & dated

Chairman

Minutes approved & signed as a correct record by the Parish Council on 25 July 2005