

Swavesey Parish Council

7.30pm

Notes from Public Open Forum

The Council was asked if it would be supporting or objecting the planning application from Mr & Mrs Cuff for a house on land at Cow Fen Drove? Members of the public present are all against the application and it is considered that the document enclosed with the application does not fully reflect the present use of this land. The Chairman replied that the application is to be discussed in full under the planning item on the meeting agenda.

The public forum session was then closed in order for the Parish Council meeting to commence.

7.35pm

Minutes

Swavesey Parish Council Meeting, held at The Memorial Hall, High Street
Monday 21 August 2006

PRESENT

Mr M Johnston (Chairman)

Councillors : Mr S Boylan, Mr J Dodson, Mrs S Ellington, Mr T Parish, Mrs S Rogers, Mr J Tait,
Mr K Wilderspin, Mr W Wright

Clerk : Mrs L Miller

Parishioners : 5

County Councillor: Ms M Smith

Item	Power Action
1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Mr P Marriott, Mr J Pook	
2 TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 24 July 2006 Minutes approved and signed with no amendments.	
2.1 Matters to report from previous minutes (for information)	
(i) Gibraltar Lane – the County Council accepts that the highway requires resurfacing, however this would not be able to be carried out until the new year.	
(ii) To-Let signs at The Grange, Market Street – a Conservation Officer will visit to see if the signs are within the permitted guidelines.	
3 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Mr Wilderspin declared prejudicial interest in Planning Item 10.3(vii). Mr Wright declared prejudicial interest in Planning Item 10(i) and personal interest in item 10(vii). Mrs Ellington declared personal interest in Planning Item 10(vii).	
4 COUNTY COUNCIL BUSINESS	
4.1 Correspondence for information and items for County Councillor	
(i) Prohibition of Waiting, Taylor's Lane/Station Road junction. Notice of public advertisement. Objections to be received at CCC by 25 August.	
(ii) Trading Standards newsletter received for info.	
(iii) Northstowe public sector workshop – 30 th August, Bar Hill.	
(iv) Proposed changes to Bus Service 15, for info.	
(v) Cllr Mandy Smith informed Council that she would be taking up the School Crossing Patrol concerns directly with the Governing Body when school commences in Sept.	
(vi) Cllr Smith also asked if the Clerk could forward to the County Council, all of the correspondence relating to the Cycleway application for Buckingham Road.	Clerk

5 DISTRICT COUNCIL BUSINESS**5.2 Correspondence for information and items for District Councillor**

- (i) Copies of recent correspondence from St Andrew's PCC to SCDC sent to the Parish Council for information. There are still problems with regard to the collection of plastics from the site. Cllr Mrs Ellington reported that she believed the District Council had written back to the PCC with regard to the future of the site, which the PCC will discuss at their next meeting.
- (ii) Fly tipping –asbestos waste had been dumped along Middle Fen Drove at the end of July, this has been reported to SCDC a number of times however it still has not been removed. Clerk to chase this up. A note warning of asbestos waste and how to report any seen fly tipped anywhere is being put in the Meridian Magazine for general information. Clerk
- (iii) Cllr Mrs Ellington reported that Free bus passes were now available for senior citizens across the whole County, following collaboration by the District Councils.
- (iv) Cllr Mrs Ellington reported that she is part of the District Council's Training Advisory Committee to investigate planning training. It is hoped to cascade this down to Parish Councils as well.

6 POLICE/CRIME REPORT

- (i) The Clerk informed Council that Community Beat Officer PC A Jones would be on secondment to Cambridge City for one month from 28th August. The three Cambourne Beat Officers would all be doing a one-month secondment each over Aug/Sept/Oct. No formal notification of this has been received from Cambs Constabulary. Letter to be sent to the Chief Constable expressing concerns over reduced policing of the village during this period. Clerk
- (ii) The incidents around Priory Avenue, as reported at the last Parish Council meeting, had not been reported to the Police. It appears that some residents are still unwilling to report incidents and gain crime numbers, which is the only way that the statistics will be registered and further action taken. It was agreed to emphasise this again in the next Meridian Magazine and make the telephone number more obvious. The Clerk also reported that no action had been taken regarding the quad bike attempted theft, mentioned last month, due to lack of evidence.
- (iii) Newsletter and Sector information circulated.

7 VILLAGE AND PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE**7.1 To receive the monthly report from the Village Handyman**

The footbridge on FP11 across the recreation green has been repaired. A log of drinks bottles and cans collected is now being kept.

7.2 Play Equipment Maintenance Items

- (i) The new parts for the spinning pole have been received and fitted.
- (ii) A safety advisory note from the manufacturers of the seesaw has been received, stating that a new central balance board is required and will be fitted FOC.

8 MARKET STREET**8.1 Christmas Tree**

A local resident has offered a new Christmas Tree, currently growing in his garden, to the Parish Council for Market Street Green. The Clerk to pass on the Council's thanks for this kind donation and arrange to plant the tree in the Green.

8.2 Speeding Vehicles

Mr Pook wished to put up a 'Slow Children Playing' sign on the front of Market Street Green, to try to slow down the vehicles that continually speed down Market Street towards Cow Fen Drove. The Council supported this initiative.

9 CONSTABLE'S ROOD COMMITTEE REPORT

A working party of volunteers will install the seats in the Rood on Saturday 2 Sept, together with routine maintenance. A query had been raised earlier in the month with regard to ownership of the boundaries and the Clerk replied that these would be confirmed with the land registration in due course.

10 PLANNING**10.1 To consider correspondence received**

- (i) Ref: S/1379/06/F – 49 Whitegate Close. Copy letter received from 51 Whitegate Close to SCDC expressing objections against the application – for information only.

10.2 G Wimpey UK Ltd

To report on progress of POS transfer. Letter received from G Wimpey UK Ltd agreeing to all of the outstanding issues raised by Council's solicitor. Wimpey are obtaining quotes for works to the Leylandii and Poplar trees. Also informed that land behind the POS area in Chantry Close is being offered by Wimpeys to the owner of 7 Blackhorse Lane. Final land transfer deed to be drawn up and approved once final confirmation of tree works received. Clerk to reply to Solicitor.

Clerk

10.3 To consider planning applications received

- (i) Ref: S/1552/06/LB – 10 High Street. Mr & Mrs Vollerthun. Alterations - strengthening of roof structure and reroofing using replacement salvaged clay tiles on front roof slope (retrospective) and Cambs Gault Clay Pegtiles on rear slope. Install insulation, 3 conservation roof lights and new floorboards in attic space. Removal of ground floor partition in kitchen (retrospective) and lay red quarry tiles in hall, utility room and bathroom.

Mr W Wright declared prejudicial interest and left the meeting during this item.

Objections raised as follows:

- Replacement salvaged clay tiles should also be used on the rear roof slope, to ensure continuity with the adjoining roof of No.12, with the front roof slope of No.10 and with the standing of this Grade II listed building in the centre of the Conservation area of the village.
- The new roof lights to be positioned high enough up on the rear roof slope so as not to give any lack of privacy to the adjoining garden of No.12, which the roof area overlooks.

The Council also wishes to comment that it supports the letter sent to the Planning Office by Mr W Wright, owner of No.12 High Street and that it is also concerned that neither Mr Wright nor any other adjoining landowner has received written notification of this application to-date.

Mr Wright returned to the meeting.

- (ii) Ref: S/1419/06/F – Land adj. 41 Priory Avenue. T Mendham. Detached double garage. No objections raised.
- (iii) Ref: S/0625/06/RM Amended – Land west of Longstanton (phase 3A Home Farm). West Longstanton Ltd. Erection of 87 dwellings and ancillary works. Revisions to general layout, design and highways issues. No recommendation. Comment made as per previous applications with regard to increase in traffic along Ramper Rd and to ensure that all 'soft traffic' rights of way around the development are suitable for horse riders.
- (iv) Ref: S/1488/06/F – 107 Moat Way. Mr & Mrs Cavanagh. Erection of garage and extensions including conversion of existing garage. No objections however comment made with regard to loss of at least one off-road parking space.
- (v) Ref: S/1413/06/F – 1 Gibraltar Lane. Mrs P Hadder. Single storey side extension. No objections however comment made re loss of off-road parking spaces when garages are converted.
- (vi) Ref: S/01457/06/CC – Land at Swavesey Village College. Extension of bus park including barrier fencing and earth mound; retention of metal storage container; additional storage container for CDT equipment. No objections in principle however comments to be made as follows: flood risk assessment requested (noted that the Swavesey IDB has already objected and requested flood risk reports); request for funding towards the repair and strengthening of Fen Drayton Road which has been affected by the increase in the number of buses using the road since the opening of the bus park at the rear of the college site.

- (vii) Ref: S/1613/06/O – Land at Cow Fen Drove. Mr & Mrs Cuff. New dwelling in association with equestrian business.
- Mr K Wilderspin declared prejudicial interest and left the meeting during this item.*
- Strong objections raised on the following grounds:
- Site is outside of the village development framework (Structure Plan Policy P1/2, Local Plan Policies SE8 & HG20 refer).
 - No flood assessment report included (Structure Plan Policy P1/2 refers).
 - The applicants are in breach of existing enforcement orders (E485 & E485A).
 - The business is not viable the facilities not suitable for the purpose they propose.
 - The applicants are behind with payments for their rates to the Swavesey Internal Drainage Board, an important aspect of running a viable stud on the site.
 - It is believed the applicants are also behind with byway rates.
 - The site has been occupied by the applicants for 4 years and has been an environmental eyesore for the whole time they have occupied it.
 - The nuisance they have caused to the community has resulted in their activities being restricted by an ASBO.
 - The applicants have made no attempt to comply with enforcement notices and planning regulations, which lead to the question as to will they therefore comply with any future planning regulations?
 - The access road, an agricultural byway, is not suitable for increased traffic use associated with a business and permanent residential occupation.
 - Implications on other surrounding land use if permanent development of new buildings is permitted on this site.

Mr Wilderspin returned to the meeting.

10.4 Permissions

Ref: S/01257/05/CW – Land at Middle Fen Drove – Dawson Plant Hire Ltd. Retrospective application for extension of existing approved site for the storage and recycling of inert building and construction waste and extension of existing workshop/storage building. Permission granted subject to conditions listed in approval document. The Clerk was asked to check that conditions with regard to management of waste on the site were included, as per comments made by the Parish Council during the consultation.

Clerk

Ref: S/1206/06/F – 92 Moat Way, Mr & Mrs Christian. Permission granted for extension.

10.5 Refusals - None received

10.6 Appeals - None received

11 FINANCE

11.1 To approve payment of outstanding accounts

Proposed, seconded and approved as detailed below:

	Gross	VAT	Net
Administration and salaries	1,328.65	6.33	1,322.32
Memorial Hall – Running costs	832.85	10.36	822.49
Village maintenance	129.48	11.24	118.24
Recreation – play area maintenance	167.68	24.97	142.71
Grant to Neighbourhood Watch Scheme	200.00	0.00	200.00
Total:	2,658.66	52.90	2,605.76

Accounts reconciled at 16/08/06: Current a/c £7,115.70. Treasurer's a/c £51,733.39

11.2 Notice of receipts received

	Gross	VAT	Net
Hall Booking receipts	690.73	0.00	690.73
Held on behalf of Events Committee	180.00	0.00	180.00
Total:	870.73	0.00	870.73

11.3 Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Grant request received from the newly formed village neighbourhood watch scheme, for £200 to help cover the initial setting up costs including producing a short newsletter and purchasing lamppost signs. Full cost details provided together with plans to contact local businesses for sponsorship. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved that a grant of £200 be awarded. It was also agreed that if business sponsorship could not be found to cover all of the additional costs, then the Council may consider a further grant.

1

12 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) EnCams (Environmental Campaign) – Town and Parish Guide re improving the local environment, including leaflet on Litter and the Law. Clerk to invite PCSO John Mason to attend the next meeting to update Council on Fixed Penalty Notices.
- (ii) CALC – New constitution information
- (iii) ACRE – Local Network Fund Fun Day – Sun 3 Sept, Huntingdon
- (iv) SDBA – notice of horse riding event on Sat 16 September, Mill Farm area, also route along Market St to Fen Drayton and back.
- (v) Newsletters and magazines

Clerk

13 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NEXT MEETING AGENDA

- (i) Parish Plan. The Clerk reported that both Melanie Baker from SCDC & ACRE and Bill Wilson, Chair of Over's Steering Committee are able to attend a meeting with Councillors to discuss how to set up a Parish Plan project. Clerk to confirm a date later in September.
- (ii) Youth Meeting. Arranged for Mon 2 October, 7.30pm. Speakers will be Gillian Hunter (Arts Development), Lyn Godfrey (Over Youth Club), TBA from Area Youth Service and maybe one other from another neighbouring youth club.
- (iii) Mr Wilderspin informed Council of recent Government cuts to Defra which will lead to immediate cuts in the EA flood defence budget for this current financial year. This gives serious concern to low lying areas such as Swavesey and it was requested that the Parish Council write to Mr A Lansley MP expressing its concerns and supporting the IDB's letter of the same. Agreed.
- (iv) Mr Parish reported on trees: an Oak tree in the highway verge in Taylor's Lane is causing problems to pedestrians. Mr Morris is willing to cut it back however as it is a County Council tree the Clerk should check with CCC Highways first. Ash trees in Constable's Rood previously damaged by fire should be removed and replaced with native species.
- (v) There are still diversion road signs around the village from the recent Ramper Rd and A14 diversions, Clerk to chase Highways Agency for their removal.
- (vi) Village sign in Rose & Crown Road is obscured by overgrown hedges – inform CCC. Branches are overhanging the footpath between Chantry Close and High Street – Clerk to arrange for these to be cut back. Shrubs along School Lane are also protruding into the highway. Clerk replied that these have already been reported to CCC Highways.
- (vii) Mr Tait asked if the Clerk could forward to Councillors the cost to date of vandalism to the new Play Area for future discussion.

Clerk

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Clerk

A Get Well card to be sent to Mr Marriott following his recent operation, with best wishes from everyone on the Parish Council

Next meeting date 25 September 2006

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.00pm
Signed & dated, Chairman

Powers of Expenditure

1 Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s31

Minutes approved & signed as a correct record by the Parish Council on 25 September 2006

Accounts are published here in summary, full details can be obtained from the original Minutes