

Swavesey Parish Council

7.30pm

Notes from Public Open Forum

- Comments and objections made with regard to the planning application for demolition of No.37 Market Street and redevelopment of the site with two detached dwellings and garaging. Objections included: north elevation of existing cottage is single storey, proposed north elevation of new dwelling to be two storey and 4M longer which will restrict existing views across the site from properties at the end of Market St. Two dwellings considered over-development of site and not in keeping with conservation area.

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

7.40pm

Minutes

Swavesey Parish Council Meeting, 23 April 2007

PRESENT

Mr M Johnston (Chairman)

Councillors : Mr S Boylan, Mr J Dodson, Mr T Parish, Mr J Pook, Mrs S Rogers, Mr K Wilderspin,

Clerk : Mrs L Miller

Parishioners : 11

County Councillor: Ms M Smith

Item

Power Action

1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs S Ellington, Mr P Marriott, Mr J Tait, Mr W Wright

Mr S Boylan (late arrival), Mrs S Rogers (to leave meeting by 8.50pm)

The Chairman wished to record the Parish Council's condolences to Mrs Susan Ellington (District and Parish Councillor) on the death of her husband David last week. Councillors voiced their admiration for her continued role as District and Parish Councillor as well as looking after her husband recently.

2 TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 23 April 2007

Amendment: Item 15(i), page 5, amended to add the words in italic "Mr Wright wished to record his view against *the principle of awarding both.....*"

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved that the Chairman sign the Minutes as amended.

2.1 Matters to report from previous minutes (for information)

- (i) Herald Contract Services do not undertake drainage work, therefore Clerk to find alternative contractors to investigate drainage work at the Play Area.

3 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Pook declared a personal interest in item 12.3(v), as a resident of Market Street.

Mr Wilderspin declared a personal interest in item 12.3(v), as a resident of Market St.

4 COUNTY COUNCIL BUSINESS

4.1 Guided Bus

- (i) Discharge of Conditions 7 (Drainage) and 4 (Landscaping) received for comment. Reported that Swavesey IDB were with-holding consent with regard to three items. Comments received from some residents in Over Road with regard to lack of replanting of Blackberry bushes and Elm Trees. Councillors considered that Blackberries would reappear on their own and Elms were still susceptible to Dutch Elm disease therefore would not be restocked. No further comments or objections received.
- (ii) Next St Ives-Longstanton liaison forum meeting will be on Weds 25 April, 7pm at Swavesey Village College. Mrs Rogers to attend on behalf of the Parish Council. It was requested that the issue of disability access across the busway along the byways be raised. County Cllr Ms Smith added that she would liaise on this as well.

4.2 Correspondence for information and items for County Councillor

- (i) Information leaflet from the Network Management section about changes to the way in which minor traffic management measures will be considered and delivered in the future.
- (ii) Cllr Smith reported that Cllr Mrs Shona Johnstone is to become the new Leader of the County Council.
- (iii) Cllr Smith reported that discussions are still ongoing with Mr Peter Duthie (Northstowe RoW projects) with regard to a Buckingham Road cycle/bridleway route.
- (iv) Cllr Smith was asked if the subject of upgrading Mow Fen footpath to bridleway status could be raised, which Cllr Smith acknowledged.

5 DISTRICT COUNCIL BUSINESS**5.1 Provision of Litter and Dog Bins**

Consultation on possible changes to the provision and emptying of litter and dog waste bins discussed. It was considered that no advantage would be gained by Swavesey Parish to change from the present situation.

5.2 Correspondence for information and items for District Councillor

- (i) None received

6 POLICE/CRIME REPORT

- (i) Newsletters emailed during month.
- (ii) Sgt Burns informed that the Fair is happy to close at 9.30pm on the Friday and Saturday evenings if it is considered this would help with any anti-social behaviour problems occurring in Market St on those evenings. Sgt Burns to contact Parish Council with further detail about Police staffing on the open evenings of the Fair near the time. Councillors reiterated that removing alcohol from underage persons is the priority.
- (iii) Police surgeries and use of the Memorial Hall. The Neighbourhood Policing Team would like to hold regular Police Surgeries in the village and ask if it would be possible to use the Parish Office at the Hall for such meetings. It was agreed that as this room is a private office and not available for lettings, that as parish support to the Neighbourhood Policing initiative the room could be used at no charge to the Police. The Clerk to liaise with PCSO John Mason to arrange suitable times for the room to be used. A request was made by Council that Surgeries be held both during the day and evening to ensure they were available to all residents of the village.

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

- (i) No problems reported.

7.2 Grass & Verge Cutting

Request from Herald Contract Services to spray with Roundup around lamp posts, seats, bollards, etc on the verges to enable more efficient grass cutting. Council raised no objections to this in general. Request to be made that around Swan Pond, only the edges of the barriers are sprayed, not the whole area underneath the road barriers.

7.3 To further consider proposal for bollards along the side of Market Street Green

Details of various types of bollard circulated for information. Agreed that Councillors and Clerk should meet on site to discuss number, type and height of bollards. Also to meet when Fair in place to discuss future access to the green if bollards are installed. Clerk to arrange a site meeting on the afternoon of 12th May.

8 MEETING TO CONSULT ON A BYPASS FOR WILLINGHAM

Letter received from Longstanton Parish Council in relation to the SCDC Northstowe Area Action Plan 2006, which included the possible exploration of a bypass for Willingham. Longstanton Parish Council wishes to meet with neighbouring parishes to discuss views on this proposal. James Dodson agreed to attend any meetings on behalf of Swavesey Parish Council.

9 CONSTABLE'S ROOD COMMITTEE REPORT

The Parish Council congratulated Mr Jones, Mr Green, committee members and volunteer helpers on winning the "SCDC Natural Heritage Award for initiatives that recognise, celebrate and enhance village life." Mr Jones and Mr Green attended the presentation evening on 17th April to collect the award. The certificate and poster presented will be displayed in the Memorial Hall.

10 POND RESTORATION PROJECT

Mrs Rogers gave a brief report on the work carried out over the past month on both Swan and School ponds. The Clerk confirmed that an SCDC Wildlife Enhancement Scheme grant for £845 has been awarded to the project. Deep water signs and depth markers have been placed in both ponds. The Scout Group will shortly be carrying out surveys to establish what plant and wildlife can be found in the ponds. It was suggested the Camera Club be approached to take some photographs of the ducks, moorhens and their chicks.

11 QUALITY STATUS APPLICATION

Next Panel meeting scheduled for mid-July, therefore application to be made by end June. Draft of the Annual Report circulated for review. Content and layout approved. Agreed to print 300 copies in colour, A4, four sides. Final quotes to be brought to May meeting for approval. 1

12 PLANNING**12.1 To consider correspondence received**

- (i) Updated Parish Planning Pack received from SCDC.
- (ii) Notice that application numbers S/02297/06 and S/02296/06 both relating to Dawson Plant Hire Ltd, will be considered by CCC Development Control Committee on 9th May. Some councillors still had some concerns relating to future traffic movements if the restrictive conditions to Dawson Plant Hire Ltd only were removed. Mr Pook wished to record that the planning conditions had been put on previous applications for a reason and therefore should stay with Dawson Plant Hire Ltd.

12.2 G Wimpey UK Ltd

Clerk reported on a meeting with Mr Eade from Wimpeys to discuss outstanding issues:

- The Poplar Trees have been reduced in height to the same level as were reduced to 3 years previously, it was agreed that this was satisfactory.
- Wimpeys are prepared to remove the three Leylandii Trees on the corner of Chantry Close, however as the land is not owned by Wimpey, they need a land transfer or letter of authorisation from the land owner before they carry out the work. Clerk to arrange this with the Solicitor.
- Play Area. Vandalism inspected and Wimpeys to make the equipment safe immediately. Full repair/replacement work will not be carried out until land transfer is agreed when this together with the RoSPA inspection will be carried out.

12.3 To consider planning applications received

- (i) Ref: S/0488/07/F – 33 Thistle Green, N Jordison. Two storey side extension. Objections received from neighbours at 34 Thistle Green. Swavesey Parish Council raises objections to the application on the following grounds:
 1. Loss of garage and potential off-road parking space.
 2. Concern over the proximity of the proposed extension and bedroom window to the neighbour's boundary and loss of privacy to the neighbour's garden due to overlooking from the bedroom window.

The Parish Council supports the comments from the owners of No.34 Thistle Green in requesting a site visit to view the proposed extension from the garden of No.34.
- (ii) Ref: S/0543/07/F – 46 Carters Way, Mr & Mrs Davis. Single storey rear extension. No objections.
- (iii) Ref: S/0541/07 – 113 Middlewatch, Bethel Baptist Church. Single storey side extension. No objections.

- (iv) Ref: S/0601/07/F – Plots 1-8 Junction with Rose & Crown Rd & Scotland Drove. Development of land as gypsy caravan site (8 pitches) (Retrospective application). Objections raised as with original application and objections submitted in November 2002. There have been no changes to the planning law, therefore the site is still illegal and the grounds for refusal of previous applications and appeals still apply. Question to be put to SCDC as to what enforcement action is being taken.
- (v) Ref: S/0578/07/F – 37 Market Street, John Henry & Son. Erection of 2 dwellings and garaging following demolition of existing cottage and outbuilding.

Comments and objections from two residents of Market St and the District Councillor were noted.

The following objections and comments were raised by the Parish Council:

1. The erection of two dwellings on the site, given its position within the Conservation Area and open end of Market Street is considered to be over-development of the site. Two new large brick buildings on this site would present a solid and abrupt end to Market Street and will permanently change the balance of the vista and character of the area.
2. The site is listed within the Conservation Area Appraisal as being a “significant building” and “in a very prominent position” in Market St. The Appraisal also states that “the repair and re-use of the cottage would be a significant enhancement of this part of the Conservation Area.” The Parish Council is concerned that this property has been allowed to deteriorate to its existing state over the past few years.
3. Plot 1. Proposals for the rear of this building would make it longer and higher than the existing building. Both of which would detract from the existing rural view across the site.
4. Plot 2. The Council objects to this second dwelling on the grounds of over-development of the site.
5. The tarmac area across the front of the site is a hard-surfaced area of the registered village green, which abuts directly to the boundary of the site. Any vehicular access required across this area would be subject to a Deed of Easement from the Parish Council. Serious concerns are raised with regard to potential parking problems outside of the proposed dwellings, as parking is not permitted on the registered village green. The Parish Council will investigate how to proceed with this subject.

In conclusion the Parish Council objects to the demolition of the existing property and considers that the proposal for two dwellings on the site would be over-development of the site and detrimental to the character and vista of Market Street and the Conservation Area.

Clerk to check on the ownership of the verge on the corner of Cow Fen Drove and Market Street.

(9.10pm – Mrs Rogers gave apologies for having to leave the meeting early.)

Clerk

- (vi) Ref: S/0577/07/F – Cloverfield Farm, Over Road. R Smart. Erection of portable unit adjacent to existing building to provide toilet facilities. No objections.

12.4 Permissions

Ref: S/0087/07/F – 36A School Lane. Permission granted for an extension.

Ref: S/1951/06/F – 38 Priory Avenue. Amendments approved.

Ref: S/1936/06/F – MG Owners Club, Over Road. Permission granted to workshop and warehouse extension.

Ref: S0625/06/RM – Land West of Longstanton (phase 3a Home Farm). Approval of reserved matters for siting, design, means of access and landscape structure (only).

12.5 Refusals

Ref: S/0256/07/F – 10 Moat Way. Extension refused.

12.6 Appeals - None received

13 FINANCE**13.1 To approve payment of outstanding accounts**

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the invoices and cheques as listed.

	Gross	VAT	Net
Administration and salaries	1,387.67	27.75	1,359.92
Memorial Hall – Running costs	2,337.18	89.44	2,247.74
Village maintenance	286.99	42.00	244.99
Grass cutting	52.88	7.88	45.00
Cemetery & Churchyard Grants	526.00	0.00	526.00
Total:	4,590.72	167.07	4,423.65

Accounts reconciled at 19/04/07: Current a/c £7,140.45 Treasurer's a/c £53,556.00

13.2 Notice of receipts received

Hall Booking Receipts	567.74	0.00	567.74
Precept 50%	23,175.00	0.00	23,175.00
Village Maintenance – Constable's Rood Grant	165.61	0.00	165.61
Total:	23,908.35	0.00	23,908.35

13.3 Year End Accounts to 31 March 2007

Final Committees Budget sheet copied to all Councillors for information. Final Balance Sheet and I&E Accounts together with Audit Return to be circulated and approved at May meeting, to be sent to Moore Stephens by 1 June. Internal Audit scheduled for 8th May.

14 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2997 (SI No 1159).
- (ii) Report from Parish Council Standards Committee representative.
- (iii) Cambs & Peterborough Fire Authority – Improving our Service consultation.
- (iv) Pathfinder March, Sat 16th June.
- (v) EERA – Regional Gypsy & Traveller Public Engagement Events.
- (vi) Community & Voluntary Forum – election of Regional Assembly Representative.
- (vii) Cambs & Peterborough Minerals & Waste Plan – changes to the timetable for plan preparation.
- (viii) CALC Training Courses.
- (ix) Correspondence from SDBA with regard to A14 improvements and Northstowe Rights of Way.

15 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NEXT MEETING AGENDA

- (i) Mr Pook reported that the Parish Plan project is progressing well.
- (ii) Reported that the culvert across Ramper Road continues to sink – CCC to be informed. Clerk
- (iii) Reported that a resident in Greenside Close has cut a gap in the hedge alongside the recreation green and installed a gate/bridge from the private garden to the recreation green. As this hedge is the responsibility of the Parish Council, not the houseowner, should this have had prior approval and should it be permitted? Clerk to write to resident to inform them of the hedge ownership. Clerk

Next meeting date: 21 May 2007

Powers of Expenditure

- 1 Local Government Act 1972, s111

MOTION APPROVED TO EXCLUDE PUBLIC AND PRESS

The meeting was closed to the public and press in order to discuss the following item, which was a personnel item.

16 CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT FOR VILLAGE HANDYMAN

16.1 To approve the new Contract of Employment

Draft as amended and approved at the March meeting has been agreed by the Handyman. Contract was then **proposed**, sec and unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.30pm

**Minutes approved & signed as a correct record by the Parish Council on
21 May 2007**

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

