

Swavesey Parish Council

7.30pm

Notes from Public Open Forum

- Concern raised over the extensive razing to the ground of trees, by the RSPB. The Parish Council was asked if it would discuss with the RSPB what could be done to rectify this work and what the future management plans for the nature reserve are? The Chairman replied that this would be investigated and discussed further at the next meeting on 25 February.

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

7.40pm

Minutes

Swavesey Parish Council Meeting, held at The Memorial Hall, High Street
Monday 28 January 2008

PRESENT

Mr J Pook (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors : Mr S Boylan, Mr J Dodson, Mr P Marriott, Mr T Parish, Mrs S Rogers, Mr J Tait,
Mr D Whiter, Mr K Wilderspin, Mr W Wright

Clerk : Mrs L Miller

Parishioners : 4

County Councillor: Ms M Smith

District Councillor: Mrs S Ellington

Item

Power Action

- | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Mr M Johnston (Chairman) | |
| 2 | MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Mrs Rogers declared a personal interest in item 4.1, as Secretary of the Swavesey and District Bridleways Association. | |
| 3 | TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 17 December 2007
It was proposed , seconded and unanimously approved that the Chairman sign the Minutes with no amendments. | |
| 3.1 | Matters to report from previous minutes (for information) | |
| (i) | Minutes will be copied to Mr Martin Bacon at SVC for his information. | |
| (ii) | Litter – Buckingham Road. SCDC is responsible for litter clearing along this road and acknowledges there is a problem from the roundabout at the services to the industrial estate. SCDC along with Cambridge Services have now increased the litter picks. The Services carryout a weekly collection/pick and also employ persons to pick past the roundabout towards Boxworth and over the A14 towards Buckingham Way. SCDC have increased their litter pick from 6 monthly to as required. | |
| (iii) | Traveller's Site, Rose & Crown Rd. SCDC confirm that there are no restrictions on caravan size for homes on these plots, provided the units comply with any limits defined within the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 and the Caravan Sites Act 1968. | |
| (iv) | Ash Tree, Taylors Lane. Advice is being sought for work to ensure the tree is made safe. | |
| 4 | COUNTY COUNCIL BUSINESS | |
| 4.1 | Upgrading of Mow Fen Drove from public footpath to public bridleway | |
| (i) | Approval and signature of the Creation Agreement. Strong concerns were raised over access and barrier arrangements for the junction of Mow Fen Drove with the Guided Busway maintenance track (similar concerns expressed for other drove crossings). In particular restricting access by motorcycles and quad bikes. Clerk to ask the CGB Team for the design plans for the drove crossings. | Clerk |

Proposed (1) and seconded that the upgrading of Mow Fen Drove be approved with the express wish that the Parish Council, Countryside Access Team and Northstowe Projects Officer be consulted on all drove crossing plans.

A second **proposal** (2) was made and seconded that the upgrading of Mow Fen Drove be approved on condition that the crossing designs are satisfactory with the Parish Council.

Proposal (1), vote recorded 6 in favour, 2 against, 2 non-votes. Proposal carried.

Proposal (2) was not voted on due to majority result of proposal (1).

Further discussion took place on potential measures to stop motorcycles and quad bikes being able to travel to/from the droves and CGB track. Clerk to write to the CGB Team expressing the Parish Council's concerns. Mrs Rogers to bring these concerns to the attention of the CGB Team at the next Liaison meeting on 6th Feb.

Clerk
SR

- (ii) Future maintenance support from CCC towards Mow Fen and Lairstall droves, following upgrade to bridleway - to be discussed between CCC Countryside Access and Swavesey Byways Committee.

4.2 Guided Busway

Details plans for the proposed Over Road crossing of the busway were considered. Correspondence received from local residents and landowners circulated for information.

With the approval of the Council, the Chairman suspended the meeting to hear comments from members of the public present.

- Concerns were raised over safety, with the number of existing driveways and accesses so close to the junction.
- No secure cycle storage is shown at the busway stop.

There were no further comments. The meeting re-convened.

Objections and comments included:

- Drop-off point – why is this not on the south side of the busway, directly behind the busway stop? Objection raised to proposed position, request to be made to re-site, south of busway. Reasons are for improved safety of traffic turning right into the site, if south of the busway there are fewer existing drives/accesses opposite and there would not be queuing traffic to cross.
- Drop-off point – if to remain as shown on the plans, then comments to be made as follows:
 - Landscaping – planting of hedgerow as well as post/rail fencing, to help screen the site.
 - Drainage – existing open ditch between site and highway – no details shown, is this to be piped?
 - Access – 'keep clear' to be designated on the highway in front of entrance, as queuing traffic likely in peak times.
 - All points raised within the Over Road Residents' letter supported.
- Junction layout :
 - Signs and poles – excessive amount shown, request review and reduction – conservation area consideration.
 - Safety of access to Clover Field Farm.
 - Boundary security with adjacent landowners. Particularly access from highway between north side of busway and Clover Field Farm and MG Owners Club premises. Request for additional security measures such as a wall, or bollards. Hedgerow planting rather than just post/rail fencing.
 - Maintenance track – concerns raised over access to the track by unauthorised vehicles from the highway. Further details on barriers shown requested.
 - Landscaping – planting of hedgerow as well as post/rail fencing, to help screen the busway and provide more secure boundary protection.
 - Crossing safety – Toucan crossing on cycleway welcomed.
 - Vehicle traps – inclusion of these on the busway was welcomed, so long as they were in place from the start of the busway's use.
 - Visual impact – Comments from the Conservation Officer at SCDC were supported in respect of the impact on the conservation area.
- Busway Stop. Secure cycle storage to be provided.

4.3 Correspondence for information and items for County Councillor

- (i) County Cllr surgeries now being held on the final Weds of each month in the Your Library at the Village College, from 6-8pm.

5 DISTRICT COUNCIL BUSINESS**5.1 Correspondence for information and items for District Councillor**

- (i) Whitton Close development – update given on the proposed mix of rental and equity share properties, following meeting at SCDC on 15 January, with Guinness Trust representatives. Chairman, Clerk and District Cllr had attended the meeting.
- (ii) Notice of audit commission re-inspection of SCDC for w/c 21st January 2008.
- (iii) Newsletter (for info) – future of council housing in SCDC. District Cllr Mrs Ellington added that final consultation and voting on future plans is currently being undertaken.
- (iv) Cllr Mrs Ellington reported that the District Council still intended to include the recycling of plastics within its 2008/09 budget.

6 DRAINAGE

- (i) Culvert, Boxworth End – CCC Highways confirmed that it does not have funding at present to investigate the culvert. Flood warning signs are being delivered to the parish, to be put on the roadside in the event of flooding onto Boxworth End Road. The problem appears to be under the entrance to the gas sub-station, CCC and Parish Council to write to request they investigate and clear any blockage found.
- (ii) Flood emergency procedures – draft information notice circulated for review. Information approved. Notice to be reduced to single side of A4 and posted onto parish noticeboards and village website.
- Recent high rainfall and river levels had been monitored by Councillors.

Clerk

Clerk

7 POLICE BUSINESS

- PCSO John Mason had given apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.
- (i) Crime figures circulated for information. Following anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents just prior to Christmas, a leaflet on reporting ASB to the South Cambs Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership had been delivered to houses in relevant areas of the village. A written report from the Chairman was circulated on attendance at a Bar Hill Parish Council meeting to discuss HGV overnight parking problems in Bar Hill and Buckinghamway Business Park. Copy received of letter sent to Highways Agency from Bar Hill Parish Council requesting support to try to stop HGV parking where it is causing obstruction and danger. Letter to be sent to Highways Agency in support of Bar Hill's letter.
- (ii) Correspondence – no further correspondence to report.

Clerk

8 VILLAGE AND PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE**8.1 To receive the monthly report from the Village Handyman**

Two rubbish bags set alight, behind the football pavilion, earlier in January.

8.2 Market Street Green

A complaint had been received from a local resident that the bollards on the north edge of the green restrict the turning space into/out of a driveway. Councillors had investigated and considered that there should be sufficient turning area, however if one or two bollards were causing a real problem then their position would be reviewed. No other comments had been received.

The corner outside of The Grange entrance had been resurfaced.

8.3 Memorial Hall Car Park Repairs

Quotation received from Paul Dawson to supply, lay and level gravel to repair the Hall car park of £300.00. **Proposed**, seconded and unanimously approved. 1

9 ANNUAL VISIT OF THE FAIR

Confirmation from Mr Dean that the Fair will arrive in Market St on Monday 5th May. Following recent discussions, this year the Fair will open on the Tues/Weds/Thurs evenings only, to see if this will help solve the previous problems of the Friday evening. Clerk to ensure notices are advertised in the Meridian Magazine, website and via the schools of the new opening dates. Notices also to be put on vehicles in Market Street requesting they be moved by early on the Monday morning.

Clerk

10 PLANNING**10.1 To consider correspondence received**

- (i) CPRE Planning Applications workshop, Sat 1 March, St Ives.
- (ii) The Chairman reported on the SCDC/CALC Planning workshop held on 23 Jan, which had been very interesting and helpful.
- (iii) The Clerk reported that no further progress has been made regarding the land transfer from Taylor Wimpey.

10.2 Northstowe

- (i) Verbal report given on briefings attended and notice of forthcoming briefing meetings.
- (ii) Verbal report given on the Joint Parishes Action Group correspondence.
- (iii) Northstowe Planning applications:
 Ref: S/7006/07/O - Creation of the New Town of Northstowe comprising of 9,500 dwellings and associated community and highway infrastructure (outline)
 Ref: S/7007/07/F – Road improvements and associated works for Hatton's Road/A14 (Bar Hill) Junction
 Ref: S/7008/07/F – Formation of Highway link between Hatton's Road /A14 (Bar Hill) junction and Longstanton and Oakington villages.
 Ref: S/7009/05/F – Formation of a parallel link road between Dry Drayton and Bar Hill.
 To be discussed further at the Feb and March meetings, following attendance at relevant briefing meetings. Comments to be returned to SCDC by 31st March.

Feb
Mtg**10.3 Cambourne Expansion**

It was reported that Swavesey IDB has strong objections to all further development at Cambourne (and Northstowe) until Anglian Water confirm sewage treatment arrangements (supported by the Environment Agency). Currently it is proposed to use the Uttons Drove treatment works, which is already working over capacity. Comments also made that the impact on infrastructure should be more seriously considered. Strong objections to be returned in support of the IDB's objections and those on provision of infrastructure.

10.4 To consider planning applications received

- (i) Ref: S/2380/07/F – The Old Windmill, Hale Road. Extension. No objections. Comment made that part of the building is listed and therefore should a listed building consent application also have been submitted?
 District Cllr Mrs Ellington reported that some local residents are reporting noise problems re barking dogs. The original permission for the kennels at the site included a condition to erect an acoustic fence, which appears never to have been installed. It was requested that the Parish Council comment on this and request it be investigated and enforced if this is the case. It was agreed that an additional comment would be made regarding the acoustic fencing.
- (ii) Ref: S/1970/07/A21 – Land West of Longstanton. Variation of condition 16 of permission S/0682/95/O to increase the permitted limit of 500 dwellings to 546. Objections and concerns raised over additional pressure on the existing local sewage system, which is already at capacity; increasing house numbers will increase surface water run-off into local drainage systems; a new flood assessment should be carried out as original report would have been based on 500 dwellings, this application is for a 10% increase.
- (iii) Ref: S/2430/07/F – Driftwood, Hale Road. Removal of agricultural and personal occupancy condition (condition 2 of T/APP/5142/C/82/2239, 12/04/84). No objections or comments.
- (iv) Ref: S/0097/08/F – 71 Boxworth End, J Dellow. Fence to rear of garden, wall and gates to front (retrospective application).
 Mrs Rogers declared a personal interest as the property is directly opposite her house. No objections or comments.
- (v) Tree works in Conservation Area. 19 Taylors Lane. Removal of Leyland Cyprus hedge. No objections raised. Comment made that the accompanying site plan did not clearly show exactly where the trees were located.
- (vi) Ref: S/00134/08/CC – Swavesey Village College. Temporary placement of two containers for storage purposes (part retrospective). No objections. Query raised as to length of temporary placement.

- (vii) Query raised over another large Ash tree along Taylors Lane, which is shedding dead branches. Clerk replied that this would be the same landowner as the Ash mentioned in item 3.1(iv) and that a number of trees are being consulted on with regard to safety work along this boundary.

10.5 Permissions

Ref: S/1931/07/F – Swavesey Primary School. Alterations to car park layout.

Ref: S/2162/07/F – 13 High Street. Flue.

Ref: S/1873/07/RM – Phase 3B, Home Farm, Longstanton. Details of reserved matters for the layout, access, scale and appearance.

10.6 Refusals

Ref: S/1834/07/F – Cow Fen Drove. Change of use of land to equestrian/stud business.

Ref: S/1823/07/F – Cow Fen Drove. Mobile Home.

Reported that the adjourned SCDC court hearing regarding breach of enforcement notices was heard on 10th January. Both parties pleaded guilty and were fined with costs awarded to SCDC. SCDC Legal Team will now meet with enforcement officers to decide on their next action.

Councillors were dissatisfied with the results of the court hearings, in that no action appears to be taking place to enforce planning regulations, despite guilty pleas. There are strong feelings throughout the village with regard to activities on this land and the District Council Planning and Enforcement Dept should be taking stronger action. Letter to be sent to SCDC asking what action is being taken and if they are now proceeding with obtaining an injunction to enforce the planning regulations regarding living on site. A letter also to be sent to the Magistrates Court, expressing the Council's dissatisfaction with the apparent leniency of the magistrate's decisions.

Clerk

Clerk

(9.45pm – County Cllr Ms Smith left the meeting)

10.7 Appeals - None received

11 FINANCE

11.1 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	1,440.93	10.64	1,430.29
Memorial Hall – Running costs	784.50	17.94	766.56
Recreation & Village Maintenance	35.25	5.25	30.00
Capital Spending – Hall windows 25%	4,481.74	667.49	3,814.25
Total:	6,742.42	701.32	6,041.10

Accounts reconciled at 22/01/08: Current a/c £25,054.71. Deposit a/c £55,690.46

11.2 Notice of receipts received

Hall Booking Receipts	1,543.49	0.00	1,543.49
VAT recovered	888.61	0.00	888.61
Total:	2,432.10	0.00	2,432.10

11.3 To Approve Budget for 2008/09

Final draft budget figures together with suggested precept amounts were circulated for discussion and approval. Earmarked fund allocations were approved as per draft figures circulated.

Noted: No P3 grant being applied for this year, due to under-spend on grant received in 07/08.

Proposed and seconded to approve budget and earmarked funds as detailed. All in favour.

11.4 To Set and Approve the Precept request for 2008/09

Proposed to set the Precept for 2008/09 at £47,300. A 2% increase over 2007/08.

Seconded and recorded all in favour.

12 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) Copy letters from Mr Lansley MP and Dept for Transport re A14 improvements.
- (ii) Cambs Association of Local Councils – Notice of AGM 02/02/08; Training course dates.
- (iii) National Probation Service Annual Report 2006/07.
- (iv) MHB Services Ltd, St Ives – streetlight maintenance, general information.
- (v) Newsletters and magazines.

13 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NEXT MEETING AGENDA

- (i) A large Eucalyptus tree in the front garden of No.8 Taylors Lane has roots that are now lifting the pavement making it very uneven. CCC Highways and SCDC Trees Officer to be informed. Clerk also to contact the resident at No.8. **Clerk**
- (ii) Comments still being received over the length of closure of village roads due to the guided busway works.
- (iii) On Sat 2nd Feb a 'clearing of the rubbish day' has been arranged with residents for the Carters Way/Priory Ave play area. All help would be welcomed.
- (iv) Bollards along the verge in Ramper Rd have been knocked into the ditch – to report to CCC Highways. **Clerk**
- (v) Further to the RSPB tree felling, there was no direct consultation with the parish council and concerns are also raised with regard to future drainage problems, which may be affected by the changes being made within the reserve. These should also be discussed at the next parish council meeting.
- (vi) Reported that Mr Renwick of the RSPB attended the recent Byways Committee Meeting.

Next meeting date: 25 February 2008

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 10.00pm

Signed & dated
Chairman

Powers of Expenditure

- 1 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, S19(f)

**Minutes approved & signed as a correct record by the Parish Council on
25 February 2008**

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