

Swavesey Parish Council

7.30pm

Minutes

Swavesey Parish Council Meeting, held at The Memorial Hall, High Street
Thursday 12th October 2017

PRESENT

Mr W Wright (Chairman)

Councillors : Miss L Boyes, Mr J Dodson, Mr S Faben, Mr D Hunt, Miss H Parish, Mr C Parsons,
Ms S Smith, Mr K Wilderspin

Clerk : Mrs L Miller

In attendance: Cllr Mrs S Ellington (SCDC)

Mr B Pettipher, A14 Team Stakeholder Manager

Parishioners : 1

Item

Power Action

- 2017/P10-1 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Mr M Johnston (work), Mr J Pook (personal), County Cllr Ms M Smith
- 2017/P10-2 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS**
- 2.1 Declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda** None
- 2.2 Requests to Speak** No requests received to speak on any items as declared above.
- 2.3 To receive requests for dispensations** No requests received.
- 2.4 To grant requests received** The granting of dispensations to be made by Full Council.

2017/P10-3 Meeting suspended to allow 10 minutes for the public participation forum and for persons declaring prejudicial interest relating to the business to be transacted, to address the meeting.

No addresses regarding prejudicial interests were made

Items raised by members of the public present:

- Drainage concerns over surface water run-off from the A14 works and finished scheme. Wish to listen to discussion at the meeting.

Public forum closed in order for the Parish Council meeting to commence.

2017/P10-4 A14 IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

Chairman welcomed Mr Pettipher to the meeting to discuss the surface water drainage concerns with regard to the A14 works and the management of overnight road closures and HGV diversions.

Questions had been submitted in advance (see appendix 1):

Surface water balancing on site compounds. Accommodation (east) site has one balancing pond, 2,040m³ capacity. Works (west) site has two balancing ponds 774.7m³ and 1,259.7m³. All designed on average rainfall levels and expected not to overflow. Release rate is controlled.

At the end of the works both sites are due to be returned to agriculture.

However the County Council has an expression of interest currently in for part of the works site, no decision has yet been made. The interest is to use the site as a Highways Depot.

Borrow Pits area has two balancing ponds, one at 1,500m³ and one at 450m³

Borrow Pit no.5 is about to finish with extraction and will be restored to agricultural land during next year. Question about how it will be filled. BP replied top soil, subsoil and then fill from elsewhere on the site – no landfill.

Total surface water capacity is approx. 3,000m³ around the whole site.

Concern still expressed that the balancing pond capacity is based on water run-off from greenfield, not hard surface plus the main concern is the outflow into the Swavesey drain system and its capacity.

BP to ask Engineers about the drainage sign-off for the site as Council believed this had still not been formally approved and signed off. **BP**

Council asked if it could have copies of the plans for balancing ponds on the works sites. BP to supply these. **BP**

Question asked about potential fuel leaks into water system. BP replied that on the sites there are protection measures in place. On the A14 any accidents would be dealt with as with all major accident clear ups.

Overnight closures. Following the issues experienced by local residents earlier in the month, stronger measures are now in place when road closures are required and Police Officers are brought in to assist. Around the end of November the Bailey bridge at Swavesey will be removed and this will necessitate complete road closures again. The HE are considering very carefully how this can be managed. Council asked if a time-limited HGV weight limit might be possible for some villages, such as in place in Hilton village? BP will add this to the discussion. **BP**

Road planings. Noted that Kier will be carrying out resurfacing works between Girton and Huntingdon for 10 days from 16th Oct. Council asked if it was possible to obtain road planings for the byways? **BP to provide contact details** for an enquiry. **BP**

Tipplers Drove. Council mentioned that large lorries have been using Tippler's Drove to access Utton's Drove – were these A14 vehicles? **BP to check.** **BP**

Community project help. **BP to find out** if any community support work could help with clearing out vegetation from village ponds this autumn/winter? **BP**

Chairman thanked Mr Pettipher for his time – left at 8.20pm

2017/P10-5 PLANNING

5.1 Appeal Notification S/3391/16/OL Gladman Developments Ltd & Burgess. Land off Boxworth End. Additional comments to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate by 23rd October 2017.

Chairman, District Cllr and Clerk had met with a Planning Lawyer re potential representation at Appeal Hearings – report circulated. After discussion and in consideration of costs involved it was decided not to appoint a Lawyer to represent the Council. The Council would attend the Hearing and would continue with its objection on grounds of unsustainability and cumulative impact on the village, in particular relating to the huge rate of growth being expected if this and other major applications should gain approval. Additional comments to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate:

- Proposal site is more than 800m from the centre of village, which would most probably mean most residents would drive to from amenities/services, thereby adding to the congestion and parking issues already experienced.
- No access close-by to public transport. Extremely limited bus service along Boxworth End and very limited service along Middle Watch. Guided Busway is a considerable distance away.
- Very poor access via narrow and badly maintained footpaths to/from village services and amenities for disability access.

- The density being proposed is extremely high, considering it is within a rural setting on the edge of the village, overlooking open countryside and bordering existing dwellings which are predominantly single storey bungalows. The proposal is for areas of this site to be between 39-45dph and for some dwellings to be 2.5 storey in height. This is not in keeping with properties in the village and particularly not in the surrounding area of this proposal. The Parish Council objects strongly to the proposal

5.2 To consider planning applications received

- (i) Ref: S/3320/17/TC – **The Grange, 20 Market Street**. Tree works in Conservation Area. Lime to fell to ground, tree to replant. Poplar to reduce lower lateral branches to clear building. No objections raised.
- (ii) Ref: S/3321/17/TC – **30 Market Street**. 2 x Yew trees to fell to ground and replant. No objections raised.

5.3 Correspondence

Ref: S/2625/16/FL – **11 School Lane**. Correspondence re comments on style of windows being proposed in re-development work. Following discussion and review of plans, Council maintains its original comments that the windows should be in keeping with the style in the rest of the street.

5.4 Permissions, Refusals, Withdrawn

- (i) Ref: S/2801/17/FL & S/2802/17/LB – Barn to rear of 126 Boxworth End. Withdrawn.
- (ii) Ref: S/2549/17/FL – Rosegate Farm. Pre-fabricated cabin withdrawn. Clerk reported that CCC Highways had raised objections with regard to the 60mph limit on Rose & Crown Rd and lack of sufficient visibility splay at farm gate. Applicant is now in discussion with CCC Highways to find out what requirements or amendments might overcome the objections.

2017/P10-6 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NEXT MEETING AGENDA

No items raised.

Next meeting dates:

Full Council – 7.30pm Monday 23rd October 2017

Planning – 7.30pm Thursday 9th November 2017

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.10pm

Signed & dated

Chairman

MINUTES APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN AT THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 23rd OCTOBER 2017

Questions re A14 works compound and surface water and other issues affecting Swavesey Parish

Discussion with Bob Pettipher, A14 Stakeholder Team

Thurs 12th October 2017

Surface Water Questions

1. Re balancing pond attenuation on works compound and accommodation sites. What capacity has been built in to store water on site when the Webb's Hole sluice gates to the River Gt Ouse are closed at times of high water, in order to stop A14 site water filling up the Swavesey drain and flood fen when it cannot empty into the river?

The Webb's Holes gates could potentially shut for up to three weeks. Can water be held on the A14 sites for up to three weeks? New housing development applications in the village are being conditioned to do this with their balancing ponds, therefore the Parish Council is requesting the A14 site also arrange this.

Relating to the request to retain water onsite, please could you confirm the depth of the attenuation pond?

2. In February 2017, the Parish Council requested something in writing to say that the surface water attenuation scheme on the A14 site has been provided for the lifetime of the works only and that it is not suitable for long-term use of the site, for whatever purpose, after the completion of the A14? This has not yet been provided and the Council ask again if this please could be provided?
3. Confirmation of the direction of water flow from the attenuation of the borrow pits is requested, as there is a concern has to how much water is to flow into/through Covel's Drain out to the river Gt Ouse.

Other questions

4. Overnight closures and traffic diversions – what measures are now in place to ensure HGVs do not use 'short cuts' through the villages at night trying to avoid the signed diversions?
5. The Parish Council has been informed that the Bailey Bridge is to be moved from Swavesey to Bar Hill around the end of Nov, necessitating another series of overnight closures. Council would like to discuss how this is being managed in the light of the HGV incidents earlier in September.
6. You mentioned in February about possible support for community projects by way of volunteers helping out. I emailed Charlotte Marney in April asking about help with pond clearing work, although I received an acknowledgement and reply that this would be passed on to the relevant person, I have never had a reply. We would like to ask if there is any possibility of manpower and use of suitable machinery to help clear overgrown vegetation from a village pond this autumn/winter?