

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 15th January 2007 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:- Chairman Mr E Webb
 Councillors Mr P Neale, Prof. A Milton, Mr L Ginger, Mrs M Peyton
 County Councillor Mrs L Oliver
 District Councillors Mr D McCraith, Mr N Cathcart
 Parish Clerk Mrs Y Albery
 Parishioners 9 present

1.0 Apology for absence was received from Vice Chairman Mrs C Byatt.

2.0 Approval of previous minutes

All councillors agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were a true record and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly.

3.0 Matters arising

3.1 Field Pest Control Meeting

The above Public meeting on 20th December 2006 was addressed by Fire Arms Enquiry Officer Alan Dobson. The meeting went well and each household will receive a copy of the report which will also be published in the Newsletter.

3.2 Bridge Street Bridge Problem

The bridge has now been successfully repaired with thanks going to County Councillor Oliver for her assistance in this matter.

3.3 Transport for Whaddon

With regard to the routing of an improved bus service through Whaddon, Councillor Ginger has arranged a meeting on 16th January 2007 with Ms Anita Crundall. The proposed scheme would incur minimal cost to the bus company. County Councillor Oliver stated that there was to be a complete review of all transport including the possible use of the school buses.

3.4 Children's Play Area

A report was received from Mr Neil Gallery and was read to the meeting. The new Questionnaire recently sent out has had a good response with offers of help. There will be a meeting in the Village Hall on 3rd February to select or choose the most popular type of apparatus suggested in the questionnaires. Quotes will be obtained and funding will be applied for to South Cambs. District Council and other official bodies.

The present target is to secure funds by the end of March and have the new equipment installed by Easter weekend.

4.0 New Correspondence

The new correspondence which has a relevance to the meeting will be discussed under the headings to which it relates.

5.0 Planning

S/0659/06/F College Farm for Mr W Elbourn, with reference to an extension which was refused by SCDC, has now gone to appeal.

S/0659/06/PNT 12.5 Metre high telecoms mast for O₂. The Parish Council wrote to the SCDC Planning Office asking why our objections were returned to the company out of time, and the reply was that it was due to a postal error in one of their departments.

S/2185/05/S Erection of two dwellings in Church Street re: 'Hard landscaping'. The Parish Council has asked the SCDC why the builder was able to construct a wall without consent. No reply has yet been received and the matter is being looked into by District Councillor Cathcart.

S/2232/06/PNA Chapel Field, Whaddon, General Purpose Agricultural Building. The proposal is for an organic farm on the site and Mr F Mounteney the owner of the field was present to answer any questions from the Council or public. He explained the proposed uses of the field and the likely impact on the local area.

6.0 FinanceCheques already paid

Cheque No. 100529 £40.00 to Mr K Charles for printing Newsletter

Cheque No. 100531 £634.50 to R G Oliver & Son for grass cutting

To be signed tonight

Cheque No 100532 £789.49 to Mrs Y Albery for salary and expenses

The Parish Precept must be presented to SCDC by 5th February 2007. A meeting will be arranged before that date.

7.0 Parish Paths Partnership scheme

Councillor Neale has agreed to run this scheme and has been given all available paperwork so far received. He will contact the relevant department at the County Council.

8.0 Highway Matters

County Councillor Oliver reported that the 'Chevron sign' requested by the Parish Council would cost £53.55 for the sign and £150 approx. for erecting the sign. A member of the public offered to install the sign.

Speed reductions checks through the village have been promised. A councillor asked why we seem to be continually 'pushed down the list' of requests for a reduction in the village speed limit. County Councillor Oliver stated that there is going to be a complete overhaul of the allocation of funds relating to Highways.

Byway 22

The state of this path is now such that it is un-walkable. County Councillor Oliver felt that we now had grounds for a TRO to be applied to this byway, but as part of this path was shared by Bassingbourn we should liaise with their Parish Council to jointly put forward the case for a TRO. County and District Councillors would be attending a meeting at Bassingbourn and would be raising the matter at that meeting.

Bus Layby Outside Ridgeway Close Bungalows

County Councillor Oliver said that the Highways Department will visit the site to inspect the situation and assess the merits of a layby on this sharp bend.

9.0 Comments from the Public

A member of the public expressed concern about the likelihood of unpleasant smells if pigs are introduced in Chapel Field.

Another member of the public asked County Councillor Oliver if she was aware of a set of traffic lights on the slip road from the A428 at Cambourne. These appear to be permanently set at green which gives the wrong impression of giving 'right of way' when this is not the case. It is potentially a dangerous situation. She stated that she was aware of this anomaly and had reported it.

10.0 Village Hall Report

The insurance Company is sending a Loss Adjuster to examine damage to the Village Hall boundary wall on 23rd January 2007.

The plans for refurbishment of the hall, are going to be revised to reduce the size of the previous proposal. It has been suggested and agreed that a structural engineer be engaged to give a report on the condition of the wooden floor. The Chairman Mr E Webb will approach ProHelp for the services of a structural engineer to inspect the floor.

11.0 Any Other Business

Councillor Peyton reported that there was rubbish in a layby near the 'Barn Shop' on the A1198. She also requested that the graffiti on the sign at the Whaddon Gap car park be removed.

The Parish Council officially thanked the SCDC for keeping the Whaddon Gap car park clear of litter.

Councillor Neale stated that Cemex meetings are continuing.

Councillor Milton asked if SCDC could take down the notices relating to the change of bin collection to a Friday.

Councillor Ginger stated that he had attended a CALC meeting. He gave a report on planning and council capping.

The meeting was closed at 9.30pm.

The date of the next meeting is 19th February 2007 at 7.30pm