

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 18th June 2007 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:-	Chairman	Mr E Webb
	Councillors	Mr P Neale, Professor A Milton, Mrs M Peyton, Dr N Strudwick
	County Councillor	Mrs L Oliver
	District Councillors	Mr N Cathcart, Mr D McCraith
	Parish Clerk	Mrs Y Albery
	Parishioners	1 present

1.0 Apologies for absence were received from Vice Chairman Mrs C Byatt, Councillor L Ginger

2.0 Approval of minutes

All councillors agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting were a true record and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly including one for the Main Notice Board.

3.0 Matters arising

3.1 Children's Play Area.

The Play Area Group is awaiting the final estimate from Lappsett before applying to SCDC for grant aid. The 'Party In The Barn' in aid of fund raising for the project, raised a total of £2,500.00 approximately. Royston Rotary has donated £150.00. Ideas are still being sought for other events. Unfortunately in the same play area, vandalism has already struck the newly installed picnic table. The police have been informed.

3.2 Traffic Problems

County Councillor Oliver suggested to the Clerk that she should contact Mr David Lines to once again request that a 30 mph Speed Limit be applied through the village. Further, it was stated that since the increased use of Satellite Navigation equipment, many more heavy lorries are being routed through the village, therefore a restrictive weight limit should be requested.

3.3 Grass Verge Cutting

The person contracted to cut the grass for the current year, has decided that he does not wish to continue with the contract. Because of this unexpected situation, Chairman Webb has spoken to Mr Ian Oliver who has agreed to take on the contract at a fee of £150.00 per cut, plus VAT.

3.4 Burning of Noxious Material

Chairman Webb visited the Company against which a complaint had been made, and explained the consequences of continuing with this practice, ie. (The Environmental Department would have to be informed).

4.0 New Correspondence

1 The ROSPA annual report has been received and there are no urgent matters requiring attention.

2 Cambridge CC is requesting input from the Parish Council as to usage of the Mobile Library by villagers.

3 An e-mail has been received from the Bedford Pilgrims Housing Association. The Plans are now with the Highways Department and eight units are now proposed in line with the Parish Council's recent meeting with the SCDC planners (5x2-bed units and 3x3-bed units).

5.0 Planning

Application No. S/0970/07/F. for Mr C Whitehouse of 105 Meldreth Road, for a larger extension. S/1057/07/LB, for Mr and Mrs Knight, 132 Church St. for an extension.

S/1058/07/F, ditto as above.

Regarding the O₂ mast, Councillor Ginger sent a report that discussions were still in progress.

6.0 Finance

The sum of £300.00 has been received from CCC toward improvements to the Parish footpaths. The following cheques to be signed tonight:

Cheque No 100545 £70.50 for Playsafe Ltd.(ROSPA report).

Cheque No 100546 £50.00 for D M Charles for Newsletter.

Cheque No 100547 £43.75 for E Webb for Chairman's expenses.

Cheque No 100548 £805.58 for Mrs Y Albery for Clerk's salary including expenses.

The Parish Councillors present, approved the accounts for the year 2006/2007.

Discussion took place regarding expenses on work undertaken on behalf of the Council and further discussion will take place at a later date to establish an expenses framework.

The Chairman welcomed back Councillor Strudwick after his leave of absence in America. Whilst there he continued to run and update the Whaddon Website for the village which many villagers may not have realised. Thanks were extended to Councillor Strudwick for continuing with this work.

7.0 Village Hall**7.1 Boundary Wall**

A letter has been received from the Loss Adjuster who has inspected the wall. He will now make his report and will contact the Parish Council on receipt of the Insurer's instructions.

7.2 Other Matters

Discussion took place on providing handles for the bollards. Two handles would cost £100. Making a containment box for the bollards would cost £200. After much discussion the Councillors decided that they would not have a box made and a vote was taken that two bollard handles should be made. Four voted for the proposal and one voted against. The Chairman will look into the matter further. The question of who should pay for this work has not been resolved.

8.0 Comments from the Public

A member of the public raised the subject of traffic jams on the A1198 caused by lack of police presence in the morning at the Arrington round-about on the occasion of the Cereal Exhibition held locally. Councillor Milton stated that another problem associated with the Exhibition was the lack of co ordination with the exhibitor's heavy vehicles which were unable to gain entry to the exhibition site as the gates were locked. This caused hold ups at the peak of the rush hour traffic on the busy A 1198. Councillor Oliver will make a report to the relevant authorities.

9.0 Any Other Business

Councillor Peyton enquired about planings on Byway 22. It was confirmed that they had been delivered and most had been used on the track opposite the Shambles. After much discussion as to whether more planings were needed, it was decided to assess the situation and let the Clerk know, and if so she would contact Mr Dennis Vacher of Highways for another delivery.

Chairman Webb will contact the Village handyman to view the Log Book for the Play Area and discuss the situation with regard to bin emptying. The Chairman also stated that the new Code of Conduct should be discussed and minuted at a future meeting. He also suggested that the positioning of the bus shelter on the green at Ridgeway Close should be decided by the Councillors.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.20pm.

The date of the next meeting is 16th July 2007 at 7.30pm