

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL** HELD  
IN THE SCHOOL ROOM, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE  
**22ND MAY 2012 AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr L Wragg, Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr P Flynn, Cllr O'Regan,  
Cllr J Peacock, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr N Webb and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Tim Stone, several members of the public

|     |  | <b>Actions</b>                  |
|-----|--|---------------------------------|
| 1.  | <b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</b><br>Apologies were received from Cllr Bearpark  |                                 |
| 2.  | <b>ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:</b><br>Cllr Wragg proposed Cllr Roberts remain as Chairman. Cllr Sunderland seconded this motion, there were no further nominations and all agreed. Cllr Roberts accepted the post.   |                                 |
| 3.  | <b>ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN:</b><br>Cllr Roberts proposed Cllr Wragg as Vice Chairman. Cllr Webb seconded this motion, there were no further nominations and all agreed. Cllr Wragg accepted the post.  |                                 |
| 4.  | <b>ELECTION OF COMMITTEES / REPRESENTATIVES:</b><br>Cllr Roberts asked for any changes to committees, there were none. Cllr O'Regan would like to be removed from Planning due to other commitments. Cllr Wragg is happy to remain on the Duxford Liaison committee for another year and also the Village Hall Committee for one more year.  |                                 |
| 5.  | <b>ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE SIGNING:</b><br>All documentation was signed and witnessed by the Clerk.   |                                 |
| 6.  | <b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS:</b><br>No items were declared.   |                                 |
| 7.  | <b>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 17TH APRIL 2012:</b><br>The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record. It was noted that Cllr Peacock was in attendance, not absent as stated.   |                                 |
| 8.  | <b>REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS:</b><br>The Standing Orders had been circulated. Cllr O'Regan proposed the Orders were re-adopted. Cllr Peacock seconded and all agreed.  |                                 |
| 9.  | <b>MATTERS ARISING:</b><br>Clerk to reply to SCDC re Thriplow Triangle saying that 50% for purely rental is too low and inconsistent with the ration of needs in the village. Clerk to respond to Shula Newstead to say the PC's opinion is unchanged on this as this is a change to the original conditions that the PC agreed to and supported the development based upon.<br><br>Clerk to chase Saffron Garner again as no response has been forthcoming, including a date by which time this will be answered.<br><br>Clerk to remind Dave Salmons re the tree dedication. | Clerk<br><br>Clerk<br><br>Clerk |
| 10. | <b>COUNTY COUNCIL AFFAIRS:</b><br>Cllr Stone gave the following report:<br><br><b>"Buses</b><br><i>The meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> April at the URC went pretty well and we now have a core of volunteers</i>   |                                 |

ready to help design a transport system for all our villages.

Meanwhile the County has created a stop-gap timetable which it will now be registering. Another meeting is planned for next Wednesday when people can start planning for a complete transport network. This will include community transport and rail.

### **Broadband**

The new <http://www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk> website has now gone live. Now we need as many people as possible to click on the link on the home page to show their demand for better broadband. Superfast broadband delivers speeds better than 25 Mbps, which is probably faster than anyone in Fowlmere can achieve.

People without access to the internet can register online or on paper forms available in libraries, council offices and other public places.

The more people that register that they want superfast broadband the more chance of it being delivered. This is really important for our villages as there are so many people who run businesses or work from home. Although Fowlmere does not generally suffer from the dreadful speeds seen in other villages, it is still worth signing on. By doing so people are committed to nothing.

I have written a piece for the Fowlmere and Thriplow magazine which should be published in June.

### **Street Lighting**

Fowlmere is not due to get new improved streetlights for quite a while. People and parish councils in some of the first places where Balfour Beatty have installed them have complained about inadequate notice and insufficient explanation of what is going on. As a result the County has now agreed to give six months' notice for consultation rather than the three months notice given at the moment. The explanatory booklet has also been re-written and the County's website is being revised to make the process much clearer.

### **Parking**

I understand that David Lines has drawn up some yellow line ideas for the Lynch Lane area. Please let me know if you need any more help.

### **Bogus Police**

A report today from e-cops:

A number of burglaries occurred yesterday (Monday 21st May) which are being linked, and involved the unusual method of impersonating police officers to gain entry to homes. Offences have been reported in Huntingdon, Welney, Norfolk, High Street, Barton, Wadloes Road, Cambridge and Holme Way, Sawston. In 4 cases, either 3 or 4 white males, some dressed in what is described as police uniform with the word POLICE displayed on outer jackets, entered homes claiming to be police and needing to search the property as part of ongoing investigations. No identification was produced. All the offences occurred between 1pm and 6pm. A black car was seen at 2 locations and items likely that these persons visited other parts of the district and were travelling together. Did you see any suspicious vehicles in your area yesterday? Can you add anything to the above information? If so, please let us know by telephoning 101. Please make your neighbours aware these crimes. If suspicious behaviour is seen and happening, please ring 999 straight away. P.S. Police officers conducting genuine

|     |  |            |
|-----|--|------------|
|     | <p><i>enquires will always properly explain the nature of their visit and produce identification. Please encourage your members to always ask for identification, although we do understand how intimidating these criminals can be.</i></p> <p><b>Protected Road Verges</b><br/> <i>I have discovered that Parishes who have declined to look after their Protected Road Verges will have them cut anyway – by the County Council. I find this quite despicable after all the arm-twisting which has gone on. The one mitigating circumstance is that the County will cut the verges to a depth of only about one metre. That means that those parishes where the Protected Road Verges are deeper than one metre have made the right decision. It also allows parishes to take over longer stretches of verge which they would like to protect."</i></p>   |            |
| 11. | <p><b>TRAVELLERS IN FOWLMERE:</b><br/> Cllr Roberts handed over to Cllr Wragg who reported on the situation regarding the travellers and especially on the helpfulness of George Hay from County (and asked Cllr Stone to feed that back). The situation was resolved very quietly and efficiently with the help of a bailiff.</p> <p>Mr Scrimshaw (resident from The Butts) spoke that action needs to be taken to stop further instances. The third side of The Butts should be fenced or the gated off. Clerk to ask Dave Salmons to come and meet with Cllr Wragg, including Mr Scrimshaw and Mr Grisoni. SCDC have not established who owns that land with regards putting a gate across the road, so it needs to go along the Butts edge.</p>  | Clerk      |
| 12. | <p><b>UPDATE ON THE VILLAGE HALL:</b><br/> Cllr Wragg reported about a deficit owed to the Village Hall by the Sports and Social Club re electricity, which is to hopefully be repaid. Cllr Wragg was asked to kindly report back the PC's concerns about this situation. Further renovations are taking place.</p>  | Cllr Wragg |
| 13. | <p><b>PLANNING COMMITTEE</b><br/> <b>a) MINUTES FROM 1ST MAY 2012</b></p> <p><b>MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE DOROTHY PLUCK ROOM, ST MARY'S CHURCH, FOWLMERE ON MONDAY 1ST MAY 2012 AT 7:15PM</b></p> <p>PRESENT: Cllr D Roberts (Chairman), Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr P Flynn, Cllr E O'Regan, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk)</p> <p>APOLOGIES: There were apologies from Cllr N Webb.</p> <p>IN ATTENDANCE: There were no attendees</p> <p><b>1. Declarations of interest (if any)</b><br/> Before discussion, Cllr Roberts declared that if an application is later placed before South Cambridgeshire District Council she will approach any new information afresh.</p> <p><b>2. S/0858/12/LB</b><br/> Alterations- internal alterations to open space for further seating and serving, replace windows</p> |            |

|     |   |       |
|-----|---|-------|
|     | <p>with doors to patio, extend ladies toilet<br/> <b>Queens Head, Long Lane, Fowlmere, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 7SZ</b><br/> <b>Mr Tim Adams, Greene King</b></p> <p>The Parish Council are in favour of supporting this application - following discussion, all Cllrs agreed. The Parish Council felt that the minor changes are not as such that they will give any concern, that they are minimal and will not be detrimental in any way to the conservation asset of the building. It is quite clear that a business of this kind needs to be upgraded to be able to continue to be viable and Fowlmere Parish Council are behind the improvements.</p> <p>3. S/0753/12/FL<br/> Extension to Dwelling<br/> <b>24 Pipers Close, Fowlmere, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 7RT</b><br/> <b>Mr Steve Beales</b></p> <p>The Parish Council have no objections to this application as this is a resubmission and a precedent has therefore already been set. It will not be detrimental to other neighbouring properties.</p> <p>4. C/11/40/029<br/> Application to undertake work on trees situated within a Conservation Area<br/> <b>Glebe Cottage, Rectory Lane, Fowlmere</b><br/> <b>Mrs Mercer</b></p> <p>The Parish Council have no objections to this application but, as ever refer to the knowledge of the SCDC tree officer in these matters.</p> <p><b>5. Other Matters and Updates</b><br/> Other Matters and Updates <i>(for information only)</i><br/> An additional meeting will need to be held as two more new planning applications have been received.<br/> The meeting closed at 7:35pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>The minutes were duly agreed and signed</p> <p><b>The Meeting was then opened to the members of the public and closed as they had spoken earlier at item 11.</b></p> |       |
| 14. | <p><b>BURIAL BOARD:</b><br/> There were no issues re the cemetery.</p>  |       |
| 15. | <p><b>TREES, GRASS AND HEDGES:</b><br/> <b>a) RESULTS OF THE ANNUAL PLAY EQUIPMENT INSPECTION:</b><br/> The Clerk reported that the report had been sent in and she would forward a copy to Dave Salmons and ask him to quote for the necessary work.</p>   | Clerk |

|     |  |  |
|-----|--|--|
|     | <p>The Cllr's agreed that a rogue elder bush could be taken down in the alleyway between Chapel Lane and Ryecroft Lane at the residents expense, who have requested they can undertake this. Clerk to report back</p> <p>The Clerk to respond back to the school about an increase in the PC's contribution towards the cutting of the school grass. This would need to be considered at the next Finance meeting in July.</p> <p>Clerk to respond back to the resident who suggested outdoor adult gym equipment for the outdoor space, to thank him and say it will be considered when the PC are looking at the next investment in the village.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts to take a look at the overgrown green space opposite 1 and 2 Savile Way to see what needs to be done.</p> <p>Clerk to respond to the different jubilee requests in the village, saying that barbg's cannot be on the grass.</p> <p>Clerk to ask Geoffrey Blackford to clarify the exact work he currently undertake in the Moat on behalf of EH and find out how the work is financed.</p>  | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Roberts</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
| 16. | <p><b>FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES:</b><br/> <b>a) MINUTES FROM 17TH APRIL 2012</b></p> <p>Minutes of the meeting of <b>Fowlmere Parish Council Finance and General Purposes Committee</b> held in the Dorothy Pluck Room, St Mary's Church, Fowlmere, Tuesday 17th April 2012 at 7:15pm.</p> <p><b>Present:</b> Cllr O'Regan (Chair), Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr J Bottrill, Cllr P Flynn, Cllr D Roberts, Cllr M Sunderland, Cllr L Wragg and Mrs J Wright (Clerk).</p> <p><b>1. Apologies for absence</b><br/> Apologies were received from Cllr Webb and Cllr Peacock</p> <p><b>2. Minutes of previous meeting/Matters Arising</b><br/> The previous minutes of 3rd January 2012 had already been agreed and signed at a previous PC meeting.</p> <p><b>3. Review of income and expenditure.</b><br/> <b>a) Audit</b><br/> The audit is now complete. The finances for the financial year 2011-2012 are now complete and have been approved by the Council. Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Wragg seconded, all agreed that the Chairman can sign the audit form as required.</p> <p>Money for the youth club will need to be included in next year's budget (£300) but we need to check that Fowlmere children are using the facility.</p> <p>It was discussed that there should be better options for the savings account, as the present rate of interest is not good.</p> <p><b>4. Precept</b><br/> The first half of the precept is now in.</p> |  |

|     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
|     | <p><b>5. Trees, Grass and Hedges</b><br/> Money re the round moat needs chasing, Cllr O'Regan to contact Michael Bates.</p> <p>The survey on trees in the village need to be completed and this should be built into the 2012-2013 budget.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts and Cllr O'Regan to take a look at trees opposite the mouth of John Close to see whose responsibility it is re tree work requested by residents in John Close.</p> <p><b>6. Future Projects</b><br/> The Milestone in High Street opposite the entrance to Ryecroft Lane looks quite dirty - it is presumed that this is the County Council responsibility to sort out, Clerk to check with Cllr Stone.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts said that in the future we may have extra responsibilities re grass around the mouth of the new road leading from the Thriplow Triangle.</p> <p><b>7. Other Matters</b><br/> Ideas for future projects to be brought to the next Finance meeting.</p> <p>The Councillors agreed that, as required by the Auditors, all relevant risks are covered by the annual insurance. Further details are to be tabulated.</p> <p><b>8. Date of next meeting</b><br/> There were no other matters and the meeting closed at 7:30pm. The date of the next meeting will be 17th July 2012 at 7:15pm, prior to the PC Meeting at the URC, Chapel Lane.</p> <p>*****</p> <p>The minutes were duly agreed and signed.</p> |   |
| 17. | <p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b><br/> Most items have already been discussed but in addition, Cllr Roberts reported that she is trying to contact Schuyler Newstead at SCDC about meeting to discuss the proposed footpath from the Thriplow Triangle and asked Cllr Wragg if he could attend too, when a meeting is set.</p> <p>Cllr Sunderland had a request from a resident organising a street party for the jubilee, asking for a donation on the grounds that it is the only party that the whole village is invited to. The PC agreed that they cannot donate to one party and not the others and this request seems very last minute as the event hasn't been advertised yet. Cllr Sunderland to report back.</p>  | <p>Cllr Roberts / Cllr Wragg</p> <p>Cllr Sunderland</p> |
| 18. | <p><b>ACTION LIST UPDATE:</b><br/> The Action List was updated accordingly.</p>  |   |
| 19. | <p><b>OTHER MATTERS:</b><br/> The meeting closed at 8:55pm</p>   |   |