

FENSTANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the full Parish Council Meeting

Fenstanton & Hilton Primary School, Fenstanton

Thursday 8 March 2018 @ 19.30 pm

Present: Cllr Kent – Chairman
Cllr Darford
Cllr Lee
Cllr Henderson
Cllr Pask
Cllr Pryke
Cllr Saunderson
Cllr West
Cllr White

In Attendance: Annette Eggett – clerk
Mike Evans – A14 Improvement Scheme - Highways England
Bob Pettipher – A14 Improvement Scheme - Highways England

The Chairman, Cllr Kent, welcomed all present including members of the public.

17.130 Public Consultation

There were no items at this point in the meeting. See 17.141.2

17.131 Apologies for Absence

These had been received from Cllrs Buchanan, Caswell, Bates (CCC) and Mead (HDC)

17.132 Declarations of Interest

None.

17.133 To Approve the Minutes of 8 February 2018 already circulated.

These were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Pryke; Seconded Cllr White. All in favour.

17.133.1 Greens

Cllr Pask updated members that the green to be inspected on 9 March was Chequer Street green (not all village greens). This did not affect approval.

17.134 Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

17.135 A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme Highways England

The Chairman thanked Mike Evans (ME) and Bob Pettifer (BF) for attending the meeting and updating the Parish Council. They spoke to a brief visual presentations when the following points were made:

- The construction was almost a year and five months old and was on time;
- The new road would be open by December 2020 and possibly bit earlier;
- The construction sequence had changed at the section between Girton and Swavesey and there had been less progress than hoped.

- Work by others – water, gas, telephone and electricity companies – was taking a lot longer than hoped;
- The crossing of the River Ouse was well on way to completion;
- Carillion which had been in the press recently due to its folding had been a contractor in partnership with Balfour Beatty. The latter had taken over responsibility and the staff at Carillion so the impact had been negligible;
- The new southbound carriage would open at the end of March when the existing southbound carriage would become the northbound. The existing northbound carriage would become the local access road;
- There would be a Swavesey junction bridge with crossing for pedestrians and cycles plus horses that are walked across (the parapets too low for riding);
- There would be a major closure just after Easter when it would take seven days to tilt the road up achieve a diversion for the building of a roundabout. CCC requested this be done at half term and Highways England had agreed to this. The A14 would remain open during this even days;
- On May 31 a mobile visitor centre will be open at Tesco Bar Hill. The archaeological time truck will also be there.

Q&A Session – the following points were made during this session:

- A new access road would run south of the crematorium; a new entrance will be created at the back and a new car park would be developed. Local access would open in August of this year.
- There was a specifically large structure standing currently; this would take the A14 west bound traffic over to the A428 east bound;
- It was noted that there were a lot of traffic cones near the traffic lights on the A1 at Brampton; ME would get his management team to have a look;
- It was acknowledged that the condition of Conington Road was an issue but this road was used by construction traffic for which authorisation had been given. The Swan and the school cross roads would be looked at but any repairs there would be only temporary as work continued for three years.
- It was confirmed that no money had been received from speeding fines; there had been 2,000 speeders in the first section of the road with speed cameras, however the money went to the police and in fact there was a cost to A14 Highways as they had to pay admin fees on the first 200 to the police;
- Speeding vehicles can be fined in multiple locations;
- The cutting off of the Conington Road corner on the road to the new bridge would not be permanent. This had been cut down so that trucks carrying bridge beams could get around it.
- The pothole damage to the side of this road continued over the cross road meaning more heavy traffic was going towards Napwell. These were not A14 construction vehicles; people in general avoided the road works and used the

local road network through villages (which they were entitled to do). CCC should be contacted;

- It appeared the flood plains were suffering in some place from water coming off the road and the balancing tanks were full. ME and BP confirmed the tanks were lined and were large enough to take the water from the road. The balance tanks would feed this water out. The parishioner concerned would talk outside of this meeting to ME and MP;
- There would be many different bits of work going on all over the area which may look odd but they were all designed to keep traffic moving.

The Chairman and Councillors thanks both Mike and Bob for attending; ME and BP left the meeting.

17.136 Boundary Changes – Local Elections

The wards of Fenstanton North and South with Fenstanton North being included in St Ives South for District Council elections was noted.

17.137 HGV parking solution/Cycle way

To receive an update on an informal meeting held on 22 February 2018 regarding possible solutions.

17.138 Fenstanton Village Hall Trust (FVHT) Garage Sale Maps

The request sell maps for the village garage sale from the Clock Tower area (and use this as a base) on Sunday 20 May from 9 am to 1pm was approved.

Proposed: Cllr Dartford; Seconded Cllr Pryke. All in favour.

17.139 United Reform Church (URC) Hobbies, Crafts and Collections

The request to use Chapel Green for a display of old tractors and cars on Saturday September 15 was approval with the usual proviso that any damage to the green would be made good by the Church.

Proposed: Cllr Dartford; Seconded Cllr Pryke. All in favour.

17.140 Village Meeting

It was noted responses for discussion topics were still very low. Although no date had been decided the Clerk was asked to contact other parties who might be interesting in taking part (such as the school, the Churches, WI).

ACTION: Clerk

17.141 Correspondence & Clerk's Report

17.141.1 Trees

The Clerk ran quickly through her report. She confirmed that the tree guards at Cranesbrook would be removed by the owners' maintenance firm who had already undertaken work to the trees, hedges and brook. Birch trees in Chequer Street which needed some attention were provided by HDC. Clerk to get clarification.

ACTION: Clerk

17.141.2 Community award – agenda at June meeting please

This was to be placed on the June agenda.

ACTION: Clerk

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.34 to allow a member of the public who had missed the start of the meeting to speak on an item noted in the Clerk's Report.

17.141.3 Severed bridleway on Conington Road

The bridleway used to connect the Fens with Conington but had been severed. It was now being rerouted and the parishioner made the suggestion that the A14

planning team might reinstate some of the severed path. He felt it would have the same merit as the building of houses. At present people had to join the footpath by walking over the flyover or over the busy road that leads to Hilton. This was acknowledged.

He had already put this idea to Cllr Bates who had suggested putting this to the Parish Council here and in Conington. He had been told by Mike Evans that some funding could be available from the A14 Heritage Fund and there were some options (which would be too expensive. The parishioner had countered with some cheaper ideas.

Cllrs advised that care should be taken over decided what was wanted here as the existing bridge was felt to possibly be sufficient for people, dog walkers and cyclists. It could be that proper footpaths either side of the bridge were needed. These could be joined with paths for both the Kier and Morris developments. It was suggested that contact be made with Philip Blunt who was Chairman of the P3 (Paths) committee.

The parishioner reiterated he was not suggesting creating a bridleway but merely reminded the Parish Council that the bridleway was severed. It was felt that the expression 'bridleway' may only mean access for horses to some people. It could be turned down or perhaps not many people would use it. It was felt a footpath may be much easier to achieve. If the footpath were to be used by horses this would have to be made very clear.

The Chairman summarized that a solution would be costly and that the PC would not be able to fund this. Another source would need to be found.

The meeting opened again 20.43.

17.142 Committee reports & updates

17.142.1 Planning applications

Planning (1 March 2018) including Local Plan 2036

Planning Application: 17/02688 – 2 Hilton Road - this application outlined a change not in the building design but in the removal of trees. This was not supported. A neighbor attended the meeting to voice his concerns.

Planning Application: 18/00339/HHFUL – 4 Dove Close - there was no objection to this but a request would be put in for considerate parking.

Planning Application: 18/00310/S73 – Dairy Crest Dairies, High Street - variation of condition 5 of 16/01206/FUL – to omit dry pond from public open space and replace with underground cellular storage crates to provide a more sustainable public open space. The quality of the plan was terrible. It was not possible to comment on whether the proposal was fit for purpose. A suggestion was made to approach Anglian Water for its opinion.

Planning Application: 18/00302 TREE – Removal of two trees at 1 Cedar Close. An objection was raised as a preservation order was in place.

17.142.2 Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036

The following points were made during the update:

- A letter had been sent to HDC Corporate Development highlighting concerns over removal of allotments, (there was a plan for 35 houses on glebe land which was currently allotment land), 'Vindis' (still showing as belonging in the

St Ives Parish so there was the danger that CIL money would not come to the right village), and there was no provision for new burial ground. A concerned allotment holder had attended the meeting;

- Cllr Henderson had made enquiries with respect to this land which was the responsibility of the Diocese of Ely. They had been aware of the plans but it was understood no plans had been made. Even though the Diocese was short of funds, taking away allotments from people would not be good from a PR point of view;
- It had been confirmed in the letter that the Parish Council did not hold a waiting list of allotments; it had been stressed that allotments were a great way of keeping people healthy and included in the community;
- The name of the inspector and the date of the public enquiry is not yet known;
- Cllr Saunderson had been in contact with the Chairman of the Allotment Association in St Ives who had advised that resisting a planning application was difficult and the Parish may require expert legal help. He added that the National Association of Allotments and Leisure Gardens may be worth contacting.

17.142.3 Dairy Crest / Houses opposite Ash's Shop

Cllr West queried the position with the houses as above and whether the plans had been left as it (row of terraced houses with parking at the back). Cllrs confirmed there had been no change even though strong representations been made. HDC had failed to make the house owners park at the back of the properties.

17.142.4 HGV parking meeting / cycle path / Kier development

The following points were made:

- Cllr Lee summarised the informal meeting held on 22 February where, after much discussion, the general feeling amongst Councillors was that a cycle path at a cost of between £30,000 and £90,000 could not be supported. It was felt that a decent footpath, road crossing and a 30 mph limit enforced from the slip road would be a better plan. At that meeting an email form CCC had been tabled that pointed out that 3m footpaths should have been included at planning stage. This was something that had been missed by HDC. This is to be taken up with HDC and it was therefore highly likely that this would be an ongoing topic; a further planning meeting would be called;
- There was discussion over whether the 3m footpaths had been ignored because of a lack of money at HDC or following comments from CCC Highways but irrespective of this, contact should be made.
- All had agreed that a safe access for adults and children in this area must be ensured;
- It was also felt that long (extended) cycle way would not benefit the whole village. Belisha beacons and traffic lights would be considered at a later stage;

- Mike Griffiths of Kier Living had kindly offered to draw up a new plan although he emphasized that Kier Living could not contribute any work; the plan would be for a joint footpath and cycle way slightly smaller than 3m.
 - Others sources of funding would be looked at;
 - It was noted there was a physical connection between Kier Living's development and that of Morris Homes. A dialogue should be opened between the two companies as well as HDC and CCC Highways (the Kier development was in conjunction with Highways). The Clerk will write to all concerned.
- ACTION: Clerk**

17.142.2 **Burial Board** will meet on 13 March 2018 - noted.

17.142.3 To note committee meetings to be arranged – General Purposes and Finance & Constitution – noted – to be confirmed.

17.143.1 **Representatives reports**

17.143.1 District Councillor report – none

17.143.2 County Councillor report – none

17.144 Finance

17.144.1 The Clerk would double check on procedures for cheque presentation; whilst Committee had their own budgets any payments should be presented to Full Council. There may be exceptional circumstances from time to time. The salary and PAYE payments usually fell outside of Full Council meeting dates. The financial report and payments were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Pryke; Seconded Cllr Saunderson. All in favour.

17.144.2 To transfer of funds was approved

Proposed: Cllr Kent; Seconded Cllr Pryke. All in favour.

17.144.3 Confirmations of external auditors (FPK Littlejohn) and internal (ENSOR) were noted.

17.144.4 The renewal of Zurich insurance policy in April was noted. The Clerk confirmed a secondary policy renewal had just been received.

17.145 Police report

Cllrs were pleased to note this was a very short report but acknowledged that the Bowls Club was vulnerable.

17.146 To accept notices and matters for the next agenda

No decisions can lawfully be made under this item. LGA 1972 s12 10(2) (b) states that business must be specified. See Clerk's notes.

17.147 Parish Council Meeting Dates to note

It was pointed out that there was no Full Council meeting in April showing on the schedule of meetings. The Clerk will remedy this; the Assembly should follow a few weeks after. This did not have to be a Thursday.

ACTION: Clerk

17.148 Parish matters to note

17.148.1 Clock Tower Key

It is believed there is a spare key at present with a parishioner. This is to be retrieved.

- 17.148.2 **Play Equipment inspection**
Cllr Pryke confirmed play equipment was inspected regularly at all locations.
- 17.148.3 **Potholes in Behagg Way**
These were to be reported.
- 17.148.4 **Parking Control**
Cllrs Sanderson reported that at the St Ives Town Council meeting the idea that HDC would take over parking control and decriminalize this was mooted.
- 17.148.5 **Accident Rate**
Cllr Sanderson also reported that from an article in the Hunts Post he saw that the accident rate in Cambridgeshire was rising against the general trend. He would look into this and get some statistics together.
- 17.148.6 **World War I Centenary. 2014-2018**
Cllr Lee suggested that the Parish Council consider what was happening generally around this commemorative date and what the Parish Council might do to mark it. **ACTION: Cllr Sanderson / Clerk**
- 17.148.7 **Construction vehicles in the village**
Cllr West noted that some construction vehicles were not being contained within the Dairy Crest work site and are travelling through the High Street. Cllrs pointed out that these vehicles could be from anywhere unfortunately but hoped this was only a temporary problem.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 21.25