

FENSTANTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13th MARCH 2014 7:30 PM AT FENSTANTON & HILTON PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Present : Cllrs : Blunt, Dartford, Harlock, Henderson, Kent, Lee, Pask, Peerthy, Pryke, Saunderson, White (Chairman) & West.

In Attendance : Mr S Dartford (Clerk) & 3 Parishioners.

13.131 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Were received from Cllrs: Place & County Cllr. Bates.

13.132 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

No declarations of interest were received.

13.133 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 13th FEBRUARY 2014.

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Cllr. Pryke

Seconded: Cllr. Peerthy.

Vote: Carried.

13.134 MATTERS ARISING.

Agenda item 13.120. 22 High Street. A Member felt that the building had deteriorated further.

13.135 CAPABILITY BROWN CELEBRATIONS.

In the absence of Mr Ferrier the meeting agreed to defer the matter.

13.136 CORRESPONDENCE & CLERK'S REPORT.

CCC. Notification that the Parish Council has been unsuccessful in its bid for grant funding to kerb Chapel Green under the Local Highway Improvement Scheme.

Clerk's report.

Cllr. Dartford and the Clerk had a site meeting with Mrs Lowe (County Highways) and the owner of Swan Cottage on 3rd March to discuss reducing size of the hedge which is overgrowing the footpath on the High Street and Swan Road. It is understood a contractor has been arranged to reduce the hedge on 26th March. Cllr. Dartford, the Clerk and Mrs Lowe walked through the Village and identified a number of issues, including the drainage in Bell Lane and the verge in Chequer Street.

A resident of Greenfields has complained at the number of cars parking at the top of Greenfields by the London Road which may cause safety issues. The problem is apparently caused by employees from the new care home. It has been suggested that a resident's only parking sign is erected. The meeting agreed to refer the matter to the St Ives Road Safety Committee through the Parish Council's representative. The situation will be monitored and Cllr. Saunderson will discuss the matter with the resident.

- 13.137 POLICE REPORT.**
13.137.01. To review the list of reported crimes.
 A report of crimes for the month of January, the latest information available from the Police, was distributed to all Members present for information. The meeting was advised that there has been an increase in in the number of thefts and attempted thefts from sheds and garages in Fenstanton and surrounding Villages. The Clerk will make notice of the increase in thefts in the next edition of Spectrum.
- 13.138 COMMITTEE REPORTS.**
13.138.01. General Purposes Committee. Draft minutes of the meeting held 20th February had been distributed to all members. The Chairman of the Committee supplied the meeting with supplementary information.
- 13.138.02. Burial Board.**
To approve the Burial Ground Briefing Paper.
 The meeting resolved to approve the Burial Ground Briefing Paper.
Proposed: Cllr. Kent **Seconded:** Cllr. Harlock. **Vote:** Carried.
 A copy of the paper is annexed to the minutes for information.
 Draft minutes of the meeting held 27th February had been distributed to all Members. Supplementary information was provided by the Chairman of the Burial Board.
- 13.138.03. Planning Committee.**
 A report of planning matters since the last meeting was given by the Committee Chairman.
- 13.139 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS.**
13.139.01. District Councillors report.
 There were no matters appertaining to the Parish.
- 13.139.02. County Councillor's report.**
 In the absence of Cllr. Bates no report was given.
- 13.139.03. Other.**
 St. Ives Road Safety Committee.
- 13.140 TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF POSITIONING BENCHES ON CHAPEL GREEN TO PREVENT FURTHER EROSION TO THE VERGE.**
 The General Purposes Committee resolved at its meeting to site an additional bench on Chapel green opposite the United Reform Church. The Committee considered the possibility that the siting of an additional two benches, at each end of the eastern side of the Green, may negate the need for kerbing. The Committee had resolved to present this suggestion to the full Council for consideration. During discussion it was felt that the siting of benches at the locations specified would be unsafe. It was, therefore, agreed not to proceed with the suggestion.
- 13.141. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL ASSUMES THE ROLE OF CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE.**
 During discussion considerable concern was expressed at the legal responsibility the Parish Council may inherit if its name were shown on the deeds. It was felt that further clarification was required and legal advice should be sought. Cllr. Blunt, in her capacity as Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees,

advised the meeting that she wished to withdraw the invitation to the Parish Council to act as the Custodian Trustee. Cllr. Saunderson, in his capacity as a Trustee, supported Cllr. Blunts decision. The meeting accepted Cllr. Blunts decision to withdraw the invitation.

13.142. TO CONFIRM AND AGREE A SITE(S) TO PLANT POPPIES IN THE VILLAGE / PARISH.

The meeting was advised that the following locations had been identified:

The area around the Pond.

The base of the Village sign.

Cambridge Road by Pitfield Close.

The meeting agreed to the described locations although requested that Cllr. Saunderson liaises with Mrs Butcher who tends to the plants at the base of the sign and that permission is sought from County Highways to plant poppies on the verge by Pitfield Close.

13.143. CIL FUNDING – TO CONSIDER PRIORITIES.

The meeting agreed to defer the matter until the CIL funding becomes available.

13.144 PARISH ACTION PLAN – 2013 / 2014.

The items identified by the General Purposes Committee and the Burial Board have been included in the Action Plan.

13.145 FINANCE.

13.145.01. To receive the financial report & approve payments.

The Financial Report had been distributed to all Members present. It was resolved the payments be approved.

Proposed: Cllr. Henderson. **Seconded:** Cllr. Pryke. **Vote:** Carried.

13.145.02. To approve the transfer of funds.

The RFO recommended a transfer of £6,900 from the Instant Access Business Account to the Current Account to cover expenditure for the month of March.

Proposed: Cllr. Pryke. **Seconded:** Cllr. Blunt. **Vote:** Carried.

13.146 CALENDAR OF KNOWN FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

Dates of forthcoming meetings had been distributed to Members.

13.147 PARISH MATTERS TO NOTE.

1. A Member had observed considerable amounts of litter on the approach roads to the Village. A suggestion was made for the Parish Council to organise a litter picking morning. Concerns were raised over safety and it was agreed that the General Purposes Committee consider extending the litter picking contract to cover these areas on a once/twice yearly basis.
2. A Member had observed vehicles parking on the corner of Swan Road by the High Street. This was causing a hazard to vehicles turning from the High Street into Swan Road.
3. A Member commented on the cars being offered for sale on the grass by the A14 slip road / dairy road. The meeting commented on the items being offered for sale on the High Street by Swan Gardens.

4. A Member noted that despite the Police promising firm action on illegal Parking action is not being taken.
5. A Member requested that all Councillors look towards playing a greater role in the Parish Council as Committee Chairmen or as Chairman and Vice Chairman in the new Council year.
6. A Member advised the meeting that she had been telephoned by the Police to take part in a survey.
7. The meeting was advised that the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Committee will take place on Tuesday 18th March.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:57pm.

Abbreviations used in these minutes are as follows:-

CCC.
RFO.

Cambridgeshire County Council.
Responsible Financial Officer.

Signed _____ (Chairman)

_____ (Date)