

LITTLE ABINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 27 July 2015 at 7.15pm in the Abington Institute, Great Abington.

Present. Mr Brunning (Chair), Mr Chesham, Mr Ellis, Mrs Gunning, Mr Pritchard, Mr Wigley, Mrs Dalton (Clerk).

In attendance. Cllr Orgee and Cllr Topping for part of meeting. 1 member of the public - Mr Garrett

1. **Apologies for absence.** Mr Adams. Apologies for late arrival - Cllr Orgee, Cllr Topping.

The Chairman agreed to change the agenda order to discuss Speedwatch following Public Participation.

2. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22 June 2015.** Agreed.

3. **Actions from previous meetings and any matters arising.**

- **Lights, roads and pavements.** No action apparent following reports of hazards on footways in the High Street and in Church Lane. It was agreed this should be escalated to the Highways Team. **Cllr Topping** to provide contact name. **CLERK** to chase
- **Protected Road Verges.** No reply to the Parish Council's offer of payment. C/f September meeting. **PB**
- **Interactive signs.** Tree branches have been removed.
- **Committee for Abington Housing.** Awaiting updated Terms of Reference and report and analysis of comments following the consultation events held in June. **RC,PP,JE.**
- **Cambridgeshire County Council Electoral Boundary Review.** The Clerk replied on behalf of the Parish Council. Receipt was acknowledged.

4. **Declarations of interest.** None declared.

5. **Public Participation**

5.1 Representation from members of the public

Speedwatch Mr Garrett gave an update on progress. On 29 June, a few members of the group met Speedwatch coordinator Brian Robins. He provided some advice on set up and locations. The majority of volunteers have signed the indemnity. Unfortunately one volunteer has dropped out.

The previous equipment was on loan from the police. It was returned for recalibration. The police only have 50 sets of equipment and there are now around 200 Speedwatch groups. This means that the Little Abington group is now in a queue with other campaigns. Mr Garrett was concerned about the time it would take for equipment to be reallocated, the risk of further disengagement of volunteers and delays in finding solutions to the speeding problems in the village.

8. **Highways and traffic**

8.1 Speedwatch to reconsider purchase of equipment

After some discussion the Parish Council agreed to purchase the equipment recommended by Cambridgeshire Police. There was one objection. Neither Great Abington nor Hildersham parish councils were interested in sharing the cost of the

equipment. One option towards recovering the costs might be renting it to other parish councils. The Clerk confirmed there was £2500 in allocated reserves for Speedwatch.

ACTIONS

Confirm the quotation is still valid; check delivery times; order the equipment

CLERK

6. Finance and Compliance

6.1 Receipts to current account.

Income was noted

Cambs County Council Verge Cutting Grant	£ 506.44
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6.2 Payments

JG proposed and PP seconded payment of all items on the agenda. This was agreed

Mrs G Dalton Clerk salary, STO July 2015	£ 163.35
CGM village maintenance STO July 2015 VAT £33.85	£ 203.10
Abington Institute room hire Q1	£ 60.00
CGM grass cutting verges April & May VAT £24.00	£ 144.00
CGM grass cutting verges June VAT £12.00	£ 72.00
CGM Ford & River Bridge spraying VAT £31.00	£ 186.00
Mrs G Dalton Clerk expenses Q1	£ 63.92
Mr Ellis reimbursement for web site subscription	£ 33.59
TOTAL	£ 925.96

6.3 Finance Report:

- Balances year to date

Balance	TOTAL	Current	Cambs B'ding Society
Opening per bank statement	£29,258.01	£14,228.83	£ 15,029.81
Closing balance	£27,998.97	£12,969.79	£ 15,029.81

Note: Bank statement does not include uncleared payments

- Q1 finance report.** Finances are running close to plan. One variance, for hall hire, is due to a change in invoicing arrangements by the Abington Institute. This is not a concern.

The clerk's hours are marginally over. This can be attributed to year end and preparation for annual audit and return. In line with the Internal Auditor's report the Clerk is recording her hours more accurately.

- Follow up from Internal Audit** - The Clerk confirmed that a copy of the Recreation Ground insurance policy has been received

6.4 Insurance arrangements

- Market testing.** The Clerk will obtain quotations from Zürich, Aviva (current insurer) and Norris and Fisher (Abington Institute insurers). The asset register will be updated. The Speedwatch equipment be included.
- Merger of Came & Co with Stackhouse Poland Group.** The Parish Council has been informed that its current insurance broker, Came & Co, has merged with Stackhouse Poland Group

6.5 Village maintenance contract.

CGM has sent final details of the contract. RC was concerned that the specification is not correct. Documentation provided is contradictory about collection of grass cuttings. All cuttings and debris are to be removed from the site, except where agreed otherwise.

It was agreed to sign the contract and to monitor performance carefully. CGM to be reminded that provision of checklists is a condition of payment.

CLERK

6.6 Repainting millennium footbridge

Three quotations had been received. All of them are close to the £3000.00 budget. None of the companies are willing to provide a guarantee. It was agreed that RLP or Bell were the preferred providers. Annual inspection would be required.

The work needs to be completed over the summer. PP agreed to seek some advice. It was agreed to consult and make a decision by e-mail.

PP/CLERK

7. Planning

7.1 Planning applications/consultation:

- **S/1674/15/FL** 15 Bourn Bridge Road. 2 storey rear extension, single storey side extension. Two neighbours have reviewed the plans. The Parish Council was not aware of any objections. Agreed to recommend approval
- **S/1559/15/FL** 49 Cambridge Road. First floor rear extension. Agreed to recommend approval

7.2 Planning updates:

- Granta Park Ltd applications. The Chief Executive of TWI has written to both Parish Councils confirming their willingness to continue work with the local community. SCDC is yet to make a decision
- LAPC Planning Committee: minutes of meetings 1 June and 14 July 2015. To be agreed and signed.
- SCDC Approved applications TWI Robert Jenkins Building; The Old House, High St.

PP/CLERK

7.3 Local Developments

- **Local Development Plan** the SCDC Monthly Planning Update provided a useful summary on progress in addressing the inspector's concerns.
- **Cambridge International School.** Documentation about their proposal to replace the marquee has been shared. A formal planning application has not been received. PP met the deputy head who outlined the school's plans to develop the site and the adjoining land. The school will support the Parish Council in its endeavours to resolve traffic issues and other traffic related initiatives.
- **Granta Park - Biomed Realty** - The chairmen of the both parish councils met the director who updated them on proposals for development of the site including a new building with associated car parking and other developments including the nursery. The application will be submitted early in August. They hope decisions will be made by November. The Clerk met him separately. They discussed non-Parish Council matters as well as the process for consulting and decision-making on planning applications and their plans for the new building.

There was some discussion about the history of the acquisition of the site and the possibility of there being covenants restricting the height of buildings on some parts of the site.

Cllr Topping joined the meeting at 8.30 pm

8. Highways and traffic

- **2014-15 Highways Improvement Scheme**

The Parish Council sought some assurance that the project was progressing. **PB** to reply to communication about speed restrictions. **PT** understood work was due to commence in late summer /early autumn

- **2015-16 Highways Improvement Scheme.** Great Abington Parish Council is keen to collaborate and to extend the speed restrictions to the bottom of the old A11 where it joins the dual carriageway /Slip road to Abington Park Farm. It was agreed "school" signs should be included in the scheme. There was general agreement on the content of the draft document. It was agreed it should be a joint application with Great Abington Parish Council.

Stewart Rushby is the key contact in the County Council he will be able to visit the site and advise on technical details and costs. **PB/PT**

- **Cambridge International School** No updates on traffic issues. Parking - as discussed at the last meeting the school needs to raise their concerns with the police.
- **A1307 drop-in events** **PB** and **RC** had attended. There is now joint working with Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire. Proposals on display included a dual carriageway parallel to the Roman Road. This was not felt to be an acceptable solution because it would not reduce the volume of HGV traffic coming from Linton going through Little Abington. Cycleways were discussed; traffic surveys are in progress. It seems that the option of reopening the railway from Sudbury to Cambridge may also be revisited.

Cllr Orgee joined the meeting at 8.50 pm

5.2 Receipt of written report from Cllr Tony Orgee (SCDC) Not

- **The Abington Housing Committee** is revising its remit and terms of reference for agreement by both parish councils. Its next meeting is on 13 August.
- **Local Development Plan.** There was some concern about misrepresentation in the media. It is unlikely that inspection in public will reopen before February 2016

5.3 Receipt of written report from Cllr Peter Topping (Cambs County Council)

- **The roundabout on the A1307** at Babraham has been re-textured and road markings have been improved. It is hoped this will improve the safety record.
- **The Wellcome Trust** has a proposal for agricultural research and associated facilities near Hinxton.
- **School places.** Abington school is full. There is a shortage of nursery and preschool places. Plans to accommodate increased demand with the proposed local housing developments will need to be considered.

9. Village environment

- **Footpaths.** Hedges and over growing trees on some paths need trimming back. Footpath surfaces are in a satisfactory condition
- **Bus shelters.**
 - High Street a switch has been damaged. There was some discussion about electricity supply to the shelter, which is thought to be disconnected. It was noted that the roof may need some attention soon
 - Cambridge Road towards Cambridge. Needs some hedge trimming and sweeping out. **JG**
 - Cambridge Road towards Linton. **CLERK** to inspect.
- **Pavements**
 - Hazardous surfaces discussed earlier in meeting.

- Over growing hedges, trees and cars parked on pavements are a hazard for pedestrians and users of motorised wheelchairs. It was noted that the footway opposite Bourn Bridge Cottages is quite overgrown.

10. 2015- 16 priorities and follow up from Liaison Meeting

- The notes from the Liaison Meeting were considered
- **Parish Nurse Scheme** It was agreed in principle to support the project and to consider if any support should be given to the development of Great Abington Church. **CLERK** to seek advice from CAPALC regarding Parish Council support for projects with a religious connection.
- Funding of additional hours for **community policing**. **GW** will attend the police meeting on 6 August and feedback.
- **Abington Woods**. It is not clear what, if any, support may be required from the Parish Council.

11. Lights roads and pavements

- **The millennium footpath** needs some work. Trees are starting to hang over at head height and hedges are beginning to encroach the path
- **Street lighting** the County Council has no plans for overnight dimming or to switch off street lights in Little Abington.
- **Open Days** The highways depot at Whittlesford has advertised some open days
- **Trees**. There was discussion about a couple of ash trees in the village. Seek advice from the SCDC Trees Officer about actions to take if dieback is suspected. **CLERK**
- **Police**. As discussed GW to attend meeting on 6 August

12. To acknowledge receipt of minutes from committees

- **Institute Management Committee**. Minutes received from meeting held on 13 July. The Clerk queried a comment in the minutes about Parish Council liability for the defibrillator. JE confirmed that the liability was with Great Abington Parish Council. The Committee confirmed there will no price increase for room hire in the coming year.
- **Recreation ground committee**. The damaged youth shelter has been removed. It will be replaced. It was agreed it would be appropriate for LAPC to consider contributing the S106 funding for open spaces held in allocated reserves towards the cost of the project.
- **Committee for Abington Housing**. The Parish Council noted the letter the committee sent to SCDC about provision of open space on the proposed housing development in Great Abington. LAPC representatives on the committee confirmed that the letter was agreed by the committee. Following the recent consultation events, plans for the proposed development on Pampisford Road have been revised. There will be further consultation with local residents.

13. Any other business.

- None
- The next full meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 14 September. A Planning Committee Meeting will be required in the interim to discuss developments at the Cambridge International School and on Granta Park.

The meeting closed at 10:00pm

Next meeting: Monday 14 September 2015 at 7.15pm