

FENSTANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

held at Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School, School Lane on Thursday 14 March 2019 at 19.30

Abbreviations : CCC – Cambridge Country Council; CC- County Council; HDC – Huntingdon District Council; DC – District Council; Cllr – Councillor; ASB – Anti Social Behaviour; PC – Parish Council; CA – Combined Authority

Present

Cllr Kent - Chairman
Cllr Ferrier
Cllr Hayes
Cllr Henderson
Cllr McGee
Cllr Mitchell
Cllr Pryke
Cllr Saunderson
Cllr White

In attendance

Police Sergeant Alice Draper
Cllr Bates – CCC
Sara Partridge and Sharon Walker – Hilton Parish Council
Annette Eggett - Clerk
3 parishioners

19.138 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Morris, Pask, Davies, Dickinson and Mead.

19.139 Public Consultation

The Chairman closed the meeting at 19.31.

Some residents from The Fen were present. They thanked the PC for being invited to attend. They had noted that a company called Skanska had taken some test samples from the track which had prompted a few questions from residents:

- *Would the project be for a bridleway, cycleway or the former upgraded to the latter?*
Cllr Henderson confirmed discussions about this had not actually taken place yet. There would be another meeting on 20 March at Shire Hall with CC and the PC would be able to update as soon as more information came out of that.
- *What was the time scale?*
Cllr Henderson confirmed that until the results of the testing samples were known, it was not possible to answer. Cllr Bates agreed that it was early days and the feasibility study had to be done. This would cover many different areas. He confirmed that funding had been approved by CCC. He had given some maps to the PC showing where Highways responsibility began and ended and where private landownership exists (the latter had to be part of the feasibility discussions). He felt it was vital that residents were involved and engaged in what the PC and CCC were trying to do and hoped to achieve. The Chairman agreed that everything was to be transparent and as soon as options emerged from the feasibility study these would be shared with residents.
- *Were drainage issues to be taken into account?*
These would be encompassed in the larger discussion.

- *Would the cycleway be the full width of the road or a track down the middle/edge?*
The Chairman confirmed that this also could not be confirmed as it was tied to any solution proposed and had to be tailored to the funding available. Cllr Bates added that although CCC were involved and looked at cycleways throughout the county these all differed and in some areas there were constraints on Highways land (in others there was not).
- *Was the PC aware that residents needed to understand whether the cycleway was intended to run the entire length of the road and that homeowners would not be liable for maintenance.*
The Chairman confirmed that was understood.

The Chairman reopened the meeting at 19.41.

19.140 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Sanderson and Mitchell for 19.145 – both sit on the Village Hall Trust

19.141 To Approve the Minutes 21 February 2019 already circulated

These were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Pryke

Seconded : Cllr McGee

Vote: All in favour

19.142 Matters arising from the Minutes – for information only

19.122. Cllr Kent queried the issue of parking on Chequer Street. The Clerk confirmed she had contacted HDC and a response was awaited.

19.137.7 Cllr Caswell confirmed that there were no more police booklets available on scamming but they could be downloaded on the hyperlink circulated.

19.143 Antisocial Behavior within the Parish – PS Alice Draper (AD)

The Chairman welcomed Alice Draper and asked for an update on reported items and what activity might take place in future to if any control could be achieved.

19.143.1 AD confirmed she was pleased to be able to attend. She gave an overview of the general picture and made the following points:

- The underpass particularly is a problem including drug dealing;
- There was a spike in ASB during autumn;
- There are no neighbourhood officers for this area but currently there are officers who can be called in;
- Patrols had been carried out for a few weeks during which time an offender was arrested and deported;
- AD kept an eye on all incidents that came into her area and tried to keep a pattern trace;
- AD had not noticed a significant number of incidents for this area since that autumn spike, possibly because of patrolling. No particular names kept appearing so not a great deal to build a picture on.

19 143.2 After AD's update the following points were made:

- The Chairman had observed suspicious activity around the Clock Tower area and the PC's General Purposes Committee had discussed a dummy camera. AD felt any idea was worth trying but ASB would never be stopped completely. Cllr Caswell added that a CCTV camera had also been discussed but that a dummy camera would be far cheaper. AD reminded members that if the PC wanted to collect evidence then a dummy camera was not the answer;
- Cllr Mitchell asked if there was any evidence around county lines. AD confirmed there was nothing specifically on Fenstanton from where very little was reported. She had to look at a large area and Fenstanton is not being flagged up. However AD asked that the PC and

residents continued to raise and report any concerns through the proper channels (not just on social media);

- The Chairman asked if there would be increased patrolling; AD confirmed there would not as the spike had gone down and not much was being reported. Reports did not necessarily have to be of a crime as concerns can also be reported;
- The Chairman asked if any progress had been made on the pavilion fire. AD confirmed there had not. Fires were notoriously difficult to solve due to damage to any evidence;
- Cllr Hayes asked if parking a car with two wheels on the pavement was illegal. AD confirmed it was not. Advice was given on this if it caused people to go out into the road. Cllr McGee confirmed this often happened in the Parish and wheelchairs could not get past. AD suggested that this was reported and accompanied by photographs;
- Cllr White asked about reporting cars on a double yellow line; AD confirmed this was a police matter but that reports should be made sensibly.

19.144 Reports – depending on attendance

19.144.1 District Councillors - none

19.144.2 County Councillor

19.144.2.1 Minerals and Waste Plans

Cllr Bates confirmed that Mick George's (MG) minerals and waste plan was in second consultation. Hemingford Grey and Abbots PCs may be in touch with Fenstanton again. However CCC have requested that no more investment be made in these waste facilities. Mineral facilities in the Fen Area would continue. He confirmed there was currently no planning application from MG for Hemingford Abbots.

19.144.2.2 Welcome Trust

The Welcome Trust – which received many requests from universities throughout the world – suggested the PC may want to encourage people to keep up to date with these.

19.144.2.23 Buses

Buses have been delegated back to CCC and Peterborough by the Combined Authority (CA) Peterborough for the next financial year. There is a section on the Bus review on the CA website and this will progress over the rest of year.

19.144.3 Parish Councillors

19.144.3.1 Planning

Cllr Ferrier confirmed there had been no further planning meetings although some plans were currently being circulated for comment. The application to register the King William pub as an asset of community value had been submitted. Cllr White congratulated Cllr Ferrier (Chairman of planning) on his direction and comment on the planning applications which helped other Cllrs. Cllr Ferrier confirmed he always visited any sites.

19.144.3.2 General Purposes (GP)

Cllr Pryke updated members on the following:

- **Kerb erosion remedial work**
A 1 April start date had been confirmed and the Clerk would contact Highways about permission. Update since meeting – permission granted.
- **Pond and Clock Tower area refurb**
A delay to the various timescales on this project had been confirmed because of invasive weed.

- **Chequer Street play area**
The final work on tubes at the site (to be covered with earth) was being arranged as was a gate between the car park and the road. The swing still to be delivered has now passed all safety tests and will be installed in due course.
- **Picnic tables**
These will be put in-situ with concrete bases.
- **New bins**
The HDC charge to empty the new and additional bins was high. The Clerk would talk to Cllr Mead about this and Cllr Pryke will talk to another contractor.
- **Request to trim trees – Dove Close**
It had been established that not only were these not PC responsibility there was currently no risk posed.
- **Outdoor Gym pathway matting**
The sample obtained by Cllr Pask would be the one ordered and fitted.
- **Grass cutting contract**
Three quotes had been received and the one from Martin Heywood had been accepted. A small mower for the churchyard would be purchased with CIL funds and it was hoped income could be raised for the PC by renting it out. A mulching mower would be considered. The contract would be one year with a yearly review to continue. The GP Committee would monitor. Cllr Mitchell reminded members that Martin did a lot of other work around the village and it was proposed to put a second contract in place to cover those costs. Cllrs Pryke and Mitchell and the Clerk would be meeting with Martin.

Once all areas have been established the PC would revisit areas that CCC pay the PC to cut. Cllr Bates confirmed that CCC would be happy to discuss this. He believed this covered two cuts a year and included (mainly) verges. Cllr Caswell suggested grouping together trees and green areas which needed work so that it could be done all in one go. Cllr Bates felt this was a good idea as long as all trees and grass areas were properly identified. All areas to be mapped.

19.145 Fenstanton Village Hall Trust (FVHT) – garage sale

The request from FVHT to hold the annual Village Garage Sale on Sunday, 12th May, from 9am to 1pm using the Clock Tower as a base was approved with the usual proviso that all rubbish is cleared away and area left in good order.

Proposed : Cllr Pryke Seconded: Cllr Henderson Vote: All in favour

19.146 Fenstanton Hobby Day

The request to hold village Hobby Day at the URC green on 14 September was approved with the proviso as above (that all rubbish is cleared away and area left in good order.

Proposed: Cllr Pryke Seconded: Cllr Ferrier Vote: All in favour

19.147 Focus Groups / Communications strategy– top line feedback – Cllrs Mitchell and Ferrier

Cllr Ferrier reported that these took place on 4 and 7 March. Contributors were recruited against the democratic criteria determined although not everyone turned up. Greenfields invitees did not attend. Across both sessions similar opinions were being expressed and were close enough to highlight clear common issues. He felt no more focus groups were needed but he would be happy to host a PC update meeting. This to be arranged. **ACTION : Cllr Ferrier/Clerk**

The top line feedback was:

- **Majority of residents enjoyed living in the parish but the lack of facilities for teenagers was a real concern; they felt this added to the ASB;**

- **The lack of a village centre or village hall was frustrating;**
- **What was of immediate concern for the PC and what was clearly demonstrated was a massive problem with perception of the PC: it was unapproachable; it does not consult; it does not involve parishioners; it was driving its own agenda.**

All of this needed to be changed immediately. The Chairman was concerned about this and asked for indications of how to address this as he felt that changes needed to be made. Cllrs Ferrier and Mitchell felt there were many things that could be done very quickly to overcome this perception. The Chairman felt the village meeting might help the situation (see below)

19.148 Village Meeting Feedback – Cllrs Mitchell and Ferrier

Cllr Mitchell stated that whilst there was feedback from people on when this should be held and what topics should be covered there was no point in having a meeting given the results of the focus groups. The meeting would need to cover specific topics. He proposed that the date be clarified after the focus group feedback meeting for all councillors. The Chairman was in favour of this. Cllr Ferrier added that once the PC had looked at the issues arising from the focus groups a decision could be made on those issues for the village meeting.

19.149 Assets of Community Value – Cllr Mitchell

Cllr Mitchell asked for initial thoughts on what should be included. There was no absolute definition and assets were not just bricks and mortar (eg a library) as underutilised assets like a derelict shop could be included and temporarily taken over. He would circulate the list he had put together which was very much only a starter document.

It would include a rating system and asked for things to added, removed or considered so that the PC could get a consensus of ideas before going back to the village for views and thoughts.

The Chairman felt this was a great idea and thanked Cllr Mitchell.

19.150 London Road speed limits – Cllr Saunderson

Local Highways Initiative (LHI) applications needed to be in by October - November (April deadline too soon). Cllr Saunderson confirmed he had contacted a colleague regarding speed indication devices (SIDs) and had suggested a people count and survey between 3pm and 3.30pm and also when days were lighter and longer. He also suggested he and one other councillor – **volunteer please** – should attend the next workshop on speed limits. The Chairman thanked Cllr Saunderson for his help with this.

Cllr Bates urged the PC to communicate with Hemingford Grey PC on this. Cllr Saunderson confirmed he had already talked to a colleague at that PC (the Clerk had also been in touch). Cllr Bates further urged that the Clerk at Hemingford Grey be included. The Clerk confirmed she had done this but the Clerk there had no knowledge of any previous work undertaken on this (although there was some). Cllr Bates urged the PC that they must be clear about what they were bidding for if the LHI was used and research had to be undertaken first.

19.151 MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) – Cllr Caswell

Cllr Caswell gave a full update on this suggested project but it was decided to get parishioner feedback at the same time as securing more contractor quotes for the work. The principle of a **MUGA was agreed.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.02 and reopened at 21.03.

19.152 CIL updates and decisions (Cllr Mitchell)

19.152.1 Electrical Charging Point

Cllr Mitchell confirmed it was too early for a decision on this and also too early for much interest. He would keep the PC updated.

