

FENSTANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the full Parish Council Meeting

Fenstanton & Hilton Primary School, Fenstanton

Thursday 8 February 2018 @ 7.30 pm

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

In Attendance: Miss A Eggett – clerk
County Cllr Bates
Edward Byam-Cook (Hemingford Abbots & Grey)
Martin Crawshaw
Mick George
John Gough
One member of the public

Cllr Kent welcomed all present including one member of the public; he congratulated Cllr West on celebrating his 90th birthday. The Chairman made a small change to the agenda order to include Public Consultations. There were no items.

17.116 Apologies for Absence

These had been received from Cllrs Caswell, Dartford, Henderson and District Councillor Mead.

17.117 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Kent declared an interest; Martyn Crawshaw (attending) had expressed his willingness to be co-opted onto the Parish Council. The Clerk would send the appropriate forms to Mr Crawshaw in advance of the March Full Council meeting so that co-option can take place (12 month period).

17.118 Brought forward - To Approve the Minutes of 9 November 2017 already circulated (17.119 on agenda)

The following clarifications were made:

Attendees Cllr Pask confirmed he had been present;

17.103.1 Pear Tree Close – Cllr Lee clarified that the footpath leading up to the Gables needed to be addressed as it was in a very bad state. Work on the footpath in the other direction (towards Hilton) had not yet been carried out.

- 17.103.6 The record being prepared by Cllr Mead of the village to be described as a map not a plan.
- 17.108.5 Fenstanton Youth Football Club should be asked to apply to the Parish Council for funding to cover the incidental expenses of running the defibrillator.

With the proviso that the above amendment be made the minutes were approved. Cllr White noted the minutes had been a very comprehensive set of notes.

Proposed: Cllr. White

Seconded: Cllr. Pryke

Vote: All in favour.

17.119 Brought forward - Matters Arising from the Minutes (17.120 on agenda)

17.103.3 *Trees at Cranesbrook*

Cllr White confirmed he had met with the new tree officer on site on 22 January. It had been explained that it would be impossible to get a TPO on the trees; HDC will not and cannot do anything about the problems. The Clerk had received a letter from the landowner regarding work to this area (Mooresbrook and hedges only) but there was a line of communication open at least.

17.111.5 *Work to Chequer Street car park lights*

Cllr Saunderson informed the meeting a much lower quote had now been received for this work and a quote had been accepted by the General Purposes committee.

17.120 Public Consultation (17.118 on agenda)

Mick George – proposals for recycling plant at Hemingford Abbots

Mr Mick George (Managing Director) and Mr John Gough (Planning Director) were in attendance to address the council. A flyer entitled 'New Farm West – Key Facts' was circulated and A3 plans were available to view. The following are some of the key points made:

- The site would be 17 hectares with nearly one quarter in one large shed;
- Majority of operations would be undertaken under cover;
- Commodities involved would include paper; glass; plastic; concrete batching; plant aggregate storage. 200 tonnes of waste would be processed through the site – primarily card and paper;
- Plant would include a weighbridge, car parking, a central lorry park and overnight parking for lorries;
- There would be no need for traffic to go through any villages;
- The site would consist of a large structure sunk into the hillside;
- Water would be harnessed for dust suppression;
- All lorries would be fitted with a GPS system ensuring all vehicles would be tracked; there would be 'no go' areas and drivers would be alerted of any approaches to these from head office;
- Fenstanton was nearly 4km west of the site;
- The Meadow Lane site in St Ives operates 24 hours a day and runs HGVs overnight. The St Ives site handled black bag waste, hard core storage and crushing, concrete batching, bioremediation, hazardous waste, soil, scrap metal, top soil and wood waste yet there had be no complaints about this

facility. The proposed new site would handle a fraction of this, as specified above;

- Mick George believed the new site would remove HGVs from the St Ives area;
- The site had been purchased without planning permission so the company had taken a risk. The pre-application stage has been completed and everything had been included in this – such as hazardous waste and black bins (since removed);
- Mick George worked with communities and did a lot for them. The company has speed restrictions in, for example, Hilton and any issues were speedily and easily rectified;
- Whilst there would be a lot of traffic movement it would not be much in comparison with St Ives;
- The company had a policy of doing whatever work they could under cover;
- The concrete plant would be housed in a building.

There followed a general Q&A session during which the following points were raised/made:

- Councillors appreciated the update;
- There would be approximately 150 loads (lorries) leaving the site but this would not turn right on exit but would head out along the A14 to Godmanchester and then down to Cambridge if needed;
- Although the business would grow this would be limited in any one area hence the company were looking at other areas such as Suffolk, Norfolk and Leicester;
- Pelletising wood chips would be added to the site at a later date;
- The Chairman queried the possibility of fires given the wind direction tended to be in the direction of Fenstanton; Mick George confirmed they had had three fires in the history of the company and they were easily dealt with;
- The building set into the hillside would be visible but not specifically noticeable. It would be 14 meters high and cut into the hillside by approximately 8.5 meters. There are photo montages and visualisations available of this;
- The application would go into County Council the week after next (w/b 26 February). If the plans were changed in any way they would have to be resubmitted;
- There would be a very strict restriction to noise levels;
- The site could potentially provide up to 150 new jobs including for HDV drivers;
- The company would be building the site themselves and would ensure any subcontractors abided by the many strict rules and regulations;
- Councillors were welcome to visit Mick George's office to see how GPS system worked.

The Chairman thanked both Mr George and Mr Gough for attending and for their time and candour. Mick George confirmed he would alert the Parish Council when the application was submitted and receive a copy of the submission made to CCC.

ACTION : MG

Mr George and Mr Gough left the meeting.

Some members felt that, notwithstanding the fact that the Hemingfords may suffer more than any other villages, Mr George appeared to be very proactive in keeping a good reputation; until the plans were submitted it was difficult to see

any serious problems at the moment. A watching brief would be kept.

17.121 Councillor Vacancies

Mr Martyn Crawshaw was in attendance at the meeting at the invitation of the Clerk. Although all Councillors are up for re-election in May, forms to enable immediate co-option would be organised.

ACTION: Clerk

Cllr Bates joined the meeting

17.122 Parish Village Meeting

The Clerk was asked to resend Cllr Caswell's note already circulated. Cllrs Lee and West's copies would need to be delivered. Following the announcement in Spectrum calling for topics for discussion, other than immediate complaints, there had been no responses. Cllr Buchanan urged that this should not be a reason to abandon the meeting. The Chairman agreed and felt it worthwhile pushing ahead with leaflets and advertising for the meeting. Plans are to go ahead.

ACTION: Clerk/Councillors

Discussions moved on to the plans which had been submitted by Kier Living for a proposed Cycle Way as a solution to the problems of parking of HGVs. The Chairman informed the meeting that not all councillors were in agreement on the plans being circulated and specifically the amount of money that may be invested into something that will not be used by many people. The meeting arranged for 22 February (7.30pm at the school, to include Cllrs Bates and Mead and James Griffiths of Kier Living) would therefore be a full and open discussion on all alternative ideas for solving the HGV problem. Cllrs agreed the prime objective was the solution to the HGV problem with the cycle path being the latest of several ideas.

ACTION: Clerk to ask Kier to attend with all proposals and costs

17.123 Correspondence and Clerk's Report

17.123.1 *Ferguson Invoice*

The Clerk was concerned about a large amount of inflation which had been added to the last invoice. The Clerk and Cllr Saunderson to liaise with their contacts; it would be established if there was a contract to cover this.

ACTION: Clerk/Cllr Saunderson

17.123.2 *Village Greens – edge erosion*

It was decided that the Clerk and Cllr Pask would meet with the Highways representative to look at all the village greens where edge erosion is occurring. The green on the corner of Church Lane was known as Pond Green; Cllr Pask suggested shortening and widening this green from a road safety point of view and that this would be his preference for spending CIL money (as opposed to a cycle way) There was some disagreement to this suggestion. Advice would be sought from the Highways representative.

17.124 Committee reports and updates

17.124.1 *Planning – 2036 plan*

Cllr Lee had read the new draft of the 2036 plan – there appeared to be a lack of communication over this new version – and confirmed there were some serious concerns:

- 35 homes are planned on an area previously reserved for village allotments (Cambridge Road East);
- HDC's website states the Parish Council has a waiting list for allotments – it does not;
- 35 new homes would increase the number of new homes in Fenstanton to 295 (currently 260);
- There are no provisions for space for burial plots;
- This is a strategic document which included transport; Fenstanton is no longer identified as having transport;
- 'Vindis' is still labelled as 'St Ives' therefore the CIL money connected to this would have to be clarified. Whilst this may not have planning permission 'Vindis' is identified as an area of potential planning – this land is in Fenstanton's Parish, not St Ives';
- There was reference to HDC's continued support of the Wyton airport scheme. This was pulled out of an earlier draft but has appeared again;
- For parishioners there were no solutions to concerns such as parking, education and school places. Cllr Bates confirmed there was a formula for working out the latter which was used throughout the country.

There were some concerns not solely related to Fenstanton:

- It was noted that Bluntisham would have a problem. There was an extra category covering small villages with local services; Bluntisham was going to get 180 new homes. If Earith should flood this would impact on Bluntisham and Fenstanton;
- There was no mention of additional burial grounds in general, not just for Fenstanton;
- HDC development was looking at 20,000 new homes in Huntingdonshire.

It was decided to circulate the document to all councillors to collate all comments in one place. Any initial response should be about the allotment space. The Clerk would contact HDC to enquire about an extension to the response deadline if required. Cllr Buchanan informed members he had already lodged his comments on the website at the time the Clerk first circulated the link; he felt one of the key points had to be the lack of transport given Fenstanton is identified as a service point.

ACTION: Clerk/Councillors

17.124.2 *Planning – applications received*

18/00204/HHFUL 71 Headlands, Fenstanton

Small extension and garage conversion – this was very similar to other plans submitted for this site; if there were any neighbour concerns a meeting would be called.

17.124.3 *General Purposes – meeting held 17.1.2018*

Cllr Pryke confirmed the committee had met on the above date and had discussed:

Kier Living – offer of a day's help in the village – the committee had prioritised some jobs which could be done;

Chequer Street hedges – this problem was ongoing as HDC consider they do not

need attention at the moment;

Village noticeboards – these would be purchased for Greenfields, Headlands, Ash's Shop and the Church Rooms;

Pitfield play area – three quotes and plans had been considered and a decision was made to go with 'Kompan' who had been asked to add a goalpost and fixed basketball hoop;

Chequer Street car park – the lights had been repaired and Martin Heyward would be quoting for work to the metal barrier.

Rubbish bins – HDC was of the opinion no new bins were needed. The Clerk is establishing costs of new and/or second hand with HDC. Additional bins would be required at the new play area.

Bollard chains and laurel planting – Rookery Place

The Clerk to establish responsibility for the concrete bollards; Cllr Pryke would look into the laurel planting.

ACTIONS: Clerk/Cllr Pryke

17.124.4 *Burial and planning meetings* – dates for these to be arranged.

17.124.5 *District Councillor report* – none as Cllr Mead not present.

17.125.6 *County Councillor report*

Cllr Bates explained that CCC had been concentrating on its budget which was agreed on Tuesday. Each committee at CCC discussed its own budget for the areas for which they are responsible.

CCC received funds from central government, the Council Tax and other sources. It received £75 million less than the average London Borough and £13.7M less than the average County Council (such as Yorkshire and Buckinghamshire).

He confirmed Council Tax would be increased by 5% which was directly due to increases in demand-led services (particularly children and the care of, and the elderly specifically hospital care and discharges of ten followed up with care in the community). There was a consensus across all political groups over the 5% increase which would be applied on 1 April 2018.

Cllr Bates confirmed that CCC was the fastest growing county and that in time it would become clear if more services would need to be cut. CCC had tried some efficiency measures such as joining with Peterborough on joint issues and services. All agreed a fairer distribution of some government funds was needed.

17.126 Finance

17.126.1 The financial report and payments were approved.

Proposed: Cllr. Pryke

Seconded: Cllr. White

Vote: All in favour.

17.126.2 The transfer of funds was approved.

Proposed: Cllr. Pryke

Seconded: Cllr. White

Vote: All in favour.

17.127 Fenstanton and Hilton Scout Group

The group's request to hold a Big Breakfast at the clock tower on 23 June 2018 was approved with the proviso the area is cleared up afterwards.

Proposed: Cllr. White Seconded: Cllr. Saunderson Vote: All in favour.

17.128 Police Report

The Chairman summarised the report as 7 vehicle incidents; one road blockage and one potential crime. All felt this was good news and reflected the current low crime rate in the village.

17.129 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.

Whilst Councillors understood this must appear on agendas the Clerk was asked to clarify this.

ACTION: Clerk

17.130 Parish Matters to Note

17.130.1 *Village Hall Trust*

Cllr Saunderson confirmed he had attended a meeting of the trust on Monday 5 February where it had been reported that Morris Homes were close to transferring land to the Village Trust.

17.130.2 *Trees at Cranesbrook/Pear Tree Close Path*

Issues in these areas already minuted above were reiterated.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 21.26