

COTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF COTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Wednesday December 10th 2003
In the W.I. Hall, High Street, Coton

Present: Messrs G. Diplock, (Chairman), G. Kinsey, J. Lewis, R. Chandler,
Mesdames B. Smart, R. Darling, P. Brown, Dr W. Connolley, Councillor J. Hughes,
Councillor J. Reynolds, and Mrs D. Wilson (clerk)

7-7.10pm OPEN SESSION

Kathy Raven voiced her concerns regarding Traffic Lights at Coton Crossroads, and other matters relating to traffic problems.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Ms N. Baumgarten.

2. APPROVING AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS:

The Minutes of the meetings held on October 7th, October 14th and November 19th were confirmed and signed. Minutes of December 3rd to be signed at the next meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PVIOUS MINUTES (for information only)

The Clerk reported that she was still waiting for an answer to the letter to Highways Authority regarding the M11 slip road traffic.

4. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST for items on the Agenda

Mrs Smart declared an interest in item 13. Planning Applications.

5. SCDC PLANS FOR RE-DEVELOPMENT OF AIREY HOUSES – SILVERDALE AVENUE

Clerk reported she had received a reply to her letter to SCDC stating it will be several years before Silverdale Avenue could be redeveloped.

Councillor Hughes also said it was not anticipated there would be any changes for a few years. Nothing at the moment. There will be a Housing Society chosen who will put forward their option. Everyone will be give the chance to move or stay where they are. 20 houses to be developed if possession regained of 1 house, then with development there will be 40 houses. Councillor Hughes was asked to liaise with South Cambs District Council and also put piece in Community News clarifying this.

6. COUNCILLOR REYNOLD'S REPORT

Councillor Reynolds reported on the A14 including the Girton interchange. He also said the A428 public enquiry announcement should be out in the middle of January 2004

7. COUNCILLOR HUGHES' REPORT

Councillor Hughes reported she had seen the plans for new development in Silverdale Close. 6 bungalows and 15 other houses. 1 single house slightly larger and others 2-3 bedrooms. It was an uphill battle because of having to apply for their own money – large schemes are being concentrated on not small ones.

Wheelie Bins – C. Hughes reported SCDC waiting for chief Environment Officer of Government to hear if peelings can go in green bins as well as black bins so smells can disappear. Permission should come before summer. Things will be able to be put in green bins which really worry people.

Plastics – too expensive to put collections in villages in S. Cambs. Collection points for plastic in most supermarkets.

Mr Gazeley would like to develop the Orchard which is in the Green Belt and would like the villagers co-operation by perhaps offering something back. Planners are much against it.

8. TO CONSIDER OTHER MATTERS

- a) Bennys Way Play Area – Ball Games Letter received from SCDC stating there is no reason why ball games cannot be played on The Green at Silverdale Avenue, but if there are complaints from residents the matter will have to be looked at again. To be put in Community News.
- b) Bennys Way Play Area – Inspection Report and Follow up of Faults reported at Last Meeting. Clerk waiting for representative from RSS to contact her to set up a site meeting.
Inspection Report – everything all right apart from problems from last report.
- c) Crossing – Brook Lane Letter had been received from County Council stating this will be done in the new year.
- d) Car Parking – Silverdale Avenue/Whitwell Way Still no answer to our letter regarding this matter. Clerk to ask Councillor Hughes the name of Mr Clarke's boss and write to him.
- e) Car Parking Outside Rectory – Markings Letter received stating this should be carried out in the New Year.
- f) Potholes in Village pothole outside no 49 Whitwell Way – to be reported.
- g) Ditch Clearing – Off Grantchester Road Letter had been sent to University Farms asking them to clear away the rubbish.
- h) New signs on Cambridge Road for 30mph Speed Limit Letter received stating work will be carried out in the New Year.

- i) Overhanging Hedges – 13 Silveradle Avenue. Clerk to ask Mr Cooper to have the hedge cut.
- j) Bus Timetables Timetables up at bus stop along Madingley Road but not in village. Clerk had written again to County Council and had been sent some timetables to put up until some are put up in bus shelters.
- k) Mirror on Bus shelter – High Street – Letter received from Mr & Mrs Smethers which everyone had seen. It was proposed by Dr Connolley that they be given 2 weeks to remove the mirror. There was no seconder to this proposal.

Mr Kinsey proposed that the clerk write to Mr & Mrs Smethers that the Parish Council would appreciate their earliest attention to the broken mirror and could it please be completely removed by January 31st prior to the next Parish Council Meeting. This was seconded by Mr Lewis and carried with 7 for and 1 against. See also 9(d)

- l) Parish Plan Meeting planned for 11th December in the Community Room.
- m) Ivy Growing on Path Outside Rectory Clerk had written to Rev Cozens but ivy had not been cut back. Mr Kinsey proposed to have another look at site and leave until the February Meeting. This was seconded by Mrs Darling and carried. Mr Kinsey will cut back the ivy growing on footpath.
- n) Mark Reid – Helping with Rubbish Removal. Clerk had found out from Clare Woodward that Mr Reid would have to pay £95 for a licence to dispose of rubbish and then would have to write to her department for permission to do the collection. Clerk to inform Mr Reid.
- o) Traffic Lights –Coton Crossroads Clerk had written to Madingley about having a site meeting but had no answer yet
- they meet in January again.
- p) Coton Village Hall – Request for Donation for Village Hall See under 9(e) below.
- q) Wildlife Reserve Planning application – Horse Meadow Concern was raised that the Preservation Society had not taken on board the Parish Council's wishes that the horse meadow in High Street, stays as it is. It was proposed by Mr Kinsey and seconded by Mrs Darling that the Clerk write to the Preservation Society to ask if they could confirm that no action was going to be taken on the meadow. This was agreed.

9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- a) Cathy Raven – e-Mail – Various Everyone had seen a copy of the e-mail received and had listened to Ms Raven in the Open Session.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow Ms Raven to speak again on traffic and other issues.

After some discussion Chairman returned to Standing Orders and it and Clerk asked to record Ms Raven's comments had been noted.

- b) Mr Butterfield – Allotment Mr Butterfield had pruned some of the weeping willow branches. He suggested he took over the part of the allotment no 25 where very little will grow because of the weeping willow tree. Mr Mitchell wishes to retain the allotment. It was proposed by Mr Kinsey and seconded by Mr Lewis that Clerk write to Mr Butterfield thanking him for his letter and stating that the attempt to prune the tree was totally insufficient and we require him to prune the limbs back to his boundary. This was agreed.
- c) Mr Baines – Allotment Clerk to write to Mr Baines and explain that 3 tractor loads of rubble etc. had already been removed by volunteers, from the pile on his allotment and placed in a skip, and that another skip was shortly to be ordered to complete the work.
- d) Mr & Mrs Smethers – Mirror on Bus Shelter See under 8(k) above
- e) Coton Village Hall Fund – Request for a Donation After discussion it was proposed by Mrs Darling and seconded by Mr Chandler that the Parish Council would support the Village Hall project in some way financially but at this time there is no commitment to the actual amount. This was agreed.
- f) ACRE – Membership Renewal It was proposed by Mr Diplock and seconded by Mrs Smart to renew the subscription All agreed.
- g) Open Spaces – Membership Renewal It was proposed by Mr Diplock and seconded by Mrs Darling not to renew membership with Open Spaces.

FROM ROVING FILES

- h) Office of Deputy Prime Minister – Empty Houses
- i) Harvest Sept/Oct , Nov/Dec Plus Literature
- j) S. Cambs Primary Care Trust Bulletin No 9 Oct 2003
- k) S. Cambs – Improving Care for Older People
- l) Inland Revenue Charities – Giving Giving through the SA Return
- m) Environment & Transport Director – Comm Tpt 2003-04
- n) County Council – Changes to Local Bus Services
- o) Interactive Autumn 2003
- p) S. Cambs -Know Your Local Council & Councillors

- q) County Council – Cambridge’s Environment Counts 2003
- r) County Council – Local County Transport Plan
- s) Police Authority – Histon Newsletter and Crime Report Sept 2003
- t) Mills & Reeve – Legal Update
- u) NHS Foundation Trust – Addenbrookes
- v) S. Cambs – Magazine Autumn 2003
- w) Local council Review November 2003
- x) S. Cambs District Council - Members Allowances
- y) D. Baldwin – Account of Progress re Sewers
- z) ACRE – Annual Review
- aa) SCDC – Landscape Character Assessments
- bb) CALC Bulletin Oct/Nov 2003 Plus Literature
- cc) Clerks & Councils Direct Nov 2003
- dd) Postwatch – Your Post Office
- ee) County Council – Tree & Hedge Pack Scheme

10. ROADS

Mr Kinsey stated that traffic was speeding through the village. It was agreed Clerk to ask Highways Authority to put tapes across the road in Cambridge Road and High Street outside the W.I. Hall.

There is a dip (adverse camber) in Grantchester Road on the first corner going out of Coton which mostly affects traffic coming into Coton – clerk to report.

There are bumps on the M11 bridge on the Grantchester Road. Clerk to report.

The sides of the road in Whitwell Way need work doing - they are increasingly being worn away. Clerk to report

The corner of The Footpath outside no 1 needs work doing on it. Clerk to report.

There are 3 signs down, one in Cambridge Road, and two on Madingley Road. Clerk to report.

Mrs Brown asked if a sign denoting “No Through Way could be erected on the island at Whitwell Way/Silverdale Avenue junction. Once again another overlarge foreign lorry had driven along Whitwell Way and had to go to Whitwell Farm to turn round.

11. OVERHANGING MEDLAR TREE

A medlar tree is overhanging the pavement near High Street bus stop. Clerk to write to Mrs Fox and ask for it to be cut back.

12. COTON CAR SCHEME

Request for financial help with Car Scheme. It was proposed by Mrs Darling and seconded by Mrs Brown that £50 be donated for this purpose. Agreed.

13 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/2394/03/0 Mr & Mrs Sadler, Mr & Mrs Phillips, Dr Julian & Dr Graham, - R/O 79/81 Whitwell Way and Silverdale Close, Coton – Outline permission for erection of 5 new dwellings. Council had no objections but there was a concern about access, the amount of extra traffic, and the size of the first house in such a small area of land. Clerk to point out these concerns.

14. TO CONSIDER TREE APPLICATIONS

The Rectory, 73, High Street, Coton - Trees between churchyard and Rectory Garden – To make safe. There were no objections to this tree plan.

15. TO CONSIDER REPORT FROM FOOTPATH REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs Smart reported a waymark had been replaced and hedge cut adjacent to post on Footpath No 6.

Green Belt Project work on 3 kissing gates is yet to be done despite being indicated previously that it would be done. Financial situation being investigated – not enough from grant £100 more needed to cover work. It was agreed this can go ahead.

Stiles on Mr Millers land have yet to be altered by contractor – arranged by Cambridge County Council.

Landowners had been notified that the stiles and kissing gates are their responsibility and not that of the Parish Council.

Mrs Smart had attended a workshop on producing leaflets re: village footpaths and other data.

Dog fouling on Footpaths – piece to go in community News about this

16. ALLOTMENTS

- a) Vacant Piece of Allotments Letter received from Carter Jonas stating Preservation Society will take back land as from September 29th 2003 and a plan/document will be arriving shortly.
- b) Skips Another skip on site to fill with rubble from Mr Baines allotment.
- c) Water Nothing further.

17 ACCOUNTS

Mrs D. Wilson	Clerk's Salary	264.00
Mrs D. Wilson	Petty Cash	53.00
Mrs D. Wilson	25% tel rent x 2	22.76
Mr S. Mitchell	Village Green Cut	60.00
Mr E. Bradford	Allotment Clearing	130.00
ACRE	Subs	

18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

January 8th 2004 – Precept Meeting, February 10th 2004

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information and next agenda only).

There was no other business.

MEETING CLOSED AT 10.00PM