

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF COTON PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON MAY 7TH 2003 IN THE W.I. HALL, COMMENCING AT 7.00PM

Members present: Messrs G. Kinsey, G. Diplock, W. Connolley, R. Chandler, J. Lewis, Mesdames R. Darling, B. Smart, P. Brown, Ms N. Baumgarten, Councillor Reynolds and Mrs D. Wilson (Clerk) There were also 9 parishioners present at opening.

1. OPEN SESSION

See attached page.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Hughes.

3. SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE FORMS

All Councillors signed the Declaration of Acceptance Forms.

4. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Mr Kinsey asked for nominations for Chairman.

Mr Diplock was proposed by Mr Lewis and seconded by Mrs Darling.

Ms Baumgarten was proposed by Mr Connolley and seconded by Mr Chandler. There was a closed vote – Clerk counted the votes. Mr Diplock was elected with 6 votes for and 3 for Ms Baumgarten.

Chairman signed Declaration of Acceptance Form.

5. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The new Chairman, Mr Diplock asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman.

Mrs Darling proposed Mr Kinsey and this was seconded by Mrs Brown.

Ms Baumgarten was proposed by Mr Chandler and was seconded by Mr Connolley. There was a closed vote – Clerk counted votes. Mr Kinsey was elected Vice-chairman with 6 votes for and 3 for Ms Baumgarten.

6. ELECTION OF WORK PARTIES

a) Finance Chairman and Vice-Chairman on finance Work Party. Mr Kinsey proposed Mr Lewis and Mr Chandler also serve on Finance, this was seconded by Mrs Brown and agreed by all.

b) Footpaths Mr Kinsey proposed Mrs Smart and Mr Connolley for Footpaths Work Party. This was seconded by Mrs Brown and agreed by all.

c) Allotments it was proposed by Mrs Smart that Mrs Brown be elected and

proposed by Ms Baumgarten that Mr Connolley also be elected. These proposals were seconded by Mr Chandler and agreed.

- d) Trees It was proposed by Mrs Smart and seconded by Mr Kinsey that Mr Lewis and Ms Baumgarten serve on Tree Work Party. This was agreed by all.
- e) Recycling and Environment It was proposed by Mr Kinsey and seconded by Mr Lewis that Mrs Smart and Mrs Darling serve on this Work Party. This was agreed by all.
- f) School Governor It was proposed by Mrs Brown and seconded by Mrs Smart that Mr Connolley be the Parish Council representative on the School Governors. It was also proposed by Mr Kinsey that Mrs Darling be the PC representative. There was no seconder for this proposal. Mr Connolley was elected with 7 votes for and 2 abstentions.

7. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND SIGNING OF FORMS

Mr Connolley and Mr Chandler signed their Declaration of Interests Forms and other Councillors were asked if there were any alterations they wished to make on their forms – there were no alterations.

8. CONFIRMING AND SIGNING OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON APRIL 16TH 2003 AND THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON APRIL 16TH 2003

The Minutes of the last meetings held as above were confirmed and signed with the following amendments:

Parish Council Meeting Minutes –
add “& Councillor Hughes” to members present.
4(f) change “6” to “7”

Annual Meeting of P.C.

– 2. Para 2 delete “and William Connolley” and “and obtaining the necessary funding”

Add after “grants” “and William Connolley for raising the remaining balance, after the P.C. contribution of £900”.

It was proposed by Mr Diplock and seconded by Mrs Brown that 3(e) para 2 – be deleted “Unfortunately the expenses.....in our deeds”

And the following para be added’

“We have had a great deal of expense with the allotments. Cambridge Preservation Society having inspected the allotments, required the Parish Council to clear and tidy up the land and gave the Parish Council until September 2003 to do so.

The Parish Council asked CPS if when the vacant piece of allotments adjacent to The Plough was cleared they would take it back and reduce the rent the PC paid. This they agreed to do. The vacant piece needed much work, taking out all trees roots, buildings and removing concrete. The Council spent approximately £4000 having this done but the CPS were not happy with the result. There was still too much debris and concrete.

Finance was a problem but Mr Bradford kindly offered to do work on the land for a very reasonable amount, and helped by some Parish Councillors, turned over the land, and concrete and debris was handpicked and put in skips. The land still needs doing again and

more concrete handpicked. This will be done very shortly with Parish Councillors again helping.

Mr & Mrs Bradford and other allotment holders have also been instrumental in clearing and tidying the other allotments – resulting so far in five skips full of rubbish – there is still more to do.

It is hoped the Preservation Society will take back the land in September 2003 .”

And that 3(e) para 4 be deleted – and the following be added “ The Right of Way to the allotments through the property of 39, The Footpath, has been marked with pegs by Carter Jonas, the agent for Cambridge Preservation Society ,to denote the legal width of 15 feet. Carter Jonas with agreement of Cambridge Preservation Society also agreed a clearway of 10feet width is sufficient for” vehicles used for agricultural purposes” as stated in the deed, to pass through.

This was agreed.

6. line 5 Add after “Barton Road” “Despite what had been read in the Evening News”

line 7 change “are” to “is”, change “if” to “of”, delete “will fight it” and add “nor was she”

6. para2, line 3 – add after “vacant” “houses” , change “in” to “throughout”

8(a) COUNCILLOR REYNOLD’S REPORT

Councillor Reynolds had very little to report – he drew the Council’s attention to the Local Transportation Plan Consultation Meetings which contained all transport and wider issues.

Questions were asked him about “What good are consultations?”, and Off Street Parking, which he answered.

Chairman thanked Councillor Reynolds.

Chairman proposed a letter of thanks be sent to the two retiring members of the Parish Council, Mr Davis and Mr Burbage, for all their work over the years. This was agreed.

9. MATTERS ARISING

a) Bennys Way Play Area – New Trees Clerk had been informed that suitable trees had not been available in time for planting so the money has been held over by Mr Hellingsworth to provide the new trees in November.

b) Play Area – “No Ball Games” Sign Nothing further – Clerk had not been able to contact Mr Clark to find out more.

Mr Kinsey reported that Mr Baldwin had complained about children playing football on the Play Area. Piece to go in the Community News again about this. Who is responsible for enforcing the notice?

Clerk to write to Mr Baldwin.

It was reported by Mr Kinsey on his inspection report and also by Mr Connolley that there was more graffiti on the horse and a rude sentence on one of the wooden uprights. Clerk to write about this in Community News and to approach the parents of the child responsible. Name to be passed to Clerk. Mr Connolley volunteered to remove graffiti.

- c) Crossing – Brook Lane Nothing further – delete from agenda.
- d) New Tree – Silverdale Avenue Wait for November planting – also tree on Silverdale Avenue large green to replace weeping willow.
- e) Whitwell Way/Silverdale Avenue Corner – Concrete Posts Letter had been received from Mr Cooper and Clerk had spoken on telephone to him. He said that it was felt that the posts should not be erected until the other problems with that corner were resolved and then all work could be done together. He was contacting other departments about car parking plans being finalised.
- f) Slip Road Off M11 to Barton Road Roundabout Nothing further.
- g) Wildlife Reserve Nothing further. Letter had been sent to Mr Pearce about more planting or earthing along M11 to provide sound barrier, following Mr & Mrs Clegg's letter.
- h) Potholes in Village Meeting arranged with Mr Cooper to discuss potholes in village. Clerk & Chairman to meet him.
- i) Puddle Outside Rectory Now reported as being satisfactory. It was suggested that if white lines were painted in this area to denote parking areas more cars could park there. Discuss at meeting with Mr Cooper. It was also suggested that the white lines at the back of the area which used to be there denoting a path/pavement for the public to use should be re-instated. Ask Mr Cooper.
- j) Madingley Road Crossroads As reported in the Open Session the cycleway/footpath at the right hand side of Cambridge Road leaving the village, needs finishing off as pedestrians etc. now have to walk on to the road when going to and from the Madingley Road bus stop/cycleway crossing. Clerk to write to County Council about this.
- k) Grantchester Road – Ditch Cleaning. Clerk still to request Pat Nichols to dig out the ditch.
- l) Reviewing Clerk's Contract Clerk's contract was agreed and signed.
- m) Twinning of Village with Ostra Clerk reported she had spoken to Mr Wright from Comberton who had explained a little about their twinning and was going to forward some literature about it. He said it was run with a committee of 7 with the support of the Parish Council Clerk to write to Ostra again informing them of progress here. Piece to go in Community News asking if anyone is interested in supporting such a scheme.
- n) Service Posts in Village Those in Brookfield Road reported. Mrs Smart to look into what were the ones in Whitwell Way.

- o) Street Lamps / Cambridge Road – Numbers Nothing further.
- p) 30mph Speed Limit – Cambridge Road Discuss at meeting with Mr Cooper.
- q) Repair of Seat Near Bus shelter – High Street Now being completed.
- r) Recycling Mrs Smart reported she had spoken to recycling officer at SCDC and told him there was no longer a can bank here. He will look into it. The glass banks at The Plough and The Orchard are well used. She will write about this.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Countryside Agency – Parish Plan Clerk will pass information round for Councillors to decide whether or not to go ahead with one.
- b) Cambridge & Peterborough Waste Plan
- c) Go-East – Renewable Energy & Planning Strategy Advertising Meetings – Mrs Smart possibly to go.
- d) County Council – Local Transport Plan Consultations Advertising Consultation dates.
- e) N. Baumgarten – Allotment Right of Way Ms Baumgarten registered an interest and left the room.
The letter was pointing out the discrepancies in the Annual Allotment Report regarding the allotment Right of Way given at the Annual Parish Meeting. The Clerk had drafted a new paragraph to replace the incorrect one and it had been agreed when confirming the Minutes that the original paragraph be deleted and the new one inserted. (See 8 above).
Ms Baumgarten returned.

FROM FILE

- f) SCDC Magazine
- g) County Council – HRCC Project Update
- h) SCDC – New Wheelie Bin Service
- i) County Council – Periodic Electoral Review of Cambridgeshire
- j) Histon Police Newsletter – April 2003 + Crime Report
- k) DEFRA – Quality Town and P.C. Initiatives
- l) CALC – Bulletin April 2003 + Literature
- m) CALC – VAT Reclaiming
- n) SCDC – Opportunities to Attend and Speak at Meetings of SCDC

- o) [CVC – News@Com](mailto:News@Com)
- p) Mills & Reeve – Legal Update for Local Authorities – March 2003

11. GRASS VERGES

It was agreed Clerk ask for the grass verges to be cut.

12. FOOTPATHS

- a) Signposts Near School Mrs Smart reported she had met with John Cooper, and had mentioned the sign near the School. He would look at it.. It was rusty, but if repainted would still be the same colour. Some councils paint their own.
- b) Footpath Walk Mrs Smart had discussed with John Cooper the fact that two stiles on Mr Millers land are too high. This can be remedied by putting a third step on stile. He will ask Mr Miller if this can be done. Mr Miller may want to do it himself or may not want it done at all. Mr Connolley to find out about a handyman to use if Mr Miller agrees to this work being done. Mrs Smart will put a piece in the Community News about the Walk on July 6th and will inform Mr Pearce and Mrs Bradford about it. Agreed she invite Barton residents to take part. She will ask Greens Grasscutting to cut a footpath in late May/early June. Mrs Smart asked all Councillors to come along to walk or help.

13. ALLOTMENTS

- a) Clearing of Vacant Piece of Allotments A bill had been received from Mr Bradford and a note to say he would go over ground when necessary until land handed back to CPS. Clerk reported another skip had been requested for rest of brickwork and concrete from this piece.
- b) Clearing of Rubbish on Other Allotments A skip has also been ordered for rubbish from some of the other allotments.
- c) Water on Allotments Mr Kinsey reported that Mr Spencer had researched for water to tap into on allotments but it is available in the wrong place. Green sand which denotes where water is crosses the allotments in a diagonal line at the Plough end of the allotments but would be no good for those further down. A borehole would cost £450 and equipment approx £100 to extract water, but on pure gault there would be little water. It might be possible to do further surveys to locate springs at top end. More research to be done. Leave on agenda.

16. ACCOUNTS

Mrs D. Wilson	Clerk's Salary	156.00
CALC	Subs	174.09

CALC	Local Council Review	11.99
Recreation Ground - Refund of Crick & F/ball rent		120.00
Agreement for Out of Council cheque for Insurance to be paid.		

17. INSURANCE

Mr Chandler advised it might be possible to get premium reduced. Clerk to try

17. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

It was proposed by Mr Kinsey and seconded by Mr Lewis that future meetings be on the 2nd Tuesday of every second month. (Recreation Ground meetings be every 2nd Tuesday of the other months). Dates for P.C Meetings therefore June 10th, August 12th, October 14th, December 9th, February 10th 2004, April 13th Annual Parish Meeting, This was carried with 5 for and 4 against.

18. ANY OTHER BUISNESS

Mr Connolley reported that Jan Appleby from the School had reported there had been trouble at the pool with teenagers running over the pool cover and causing damage. There is nothing the P.C. can do.

Mrs Smart reported that overhanging hedges had been reported by her at the last meeting and the Clerk had failed to put on the minutes or do anything about it. On next agenda.

Mrs Smart commented about more houses possibly being built in the village – Her comments were noted.

Mr Chandler suggested more information be put on Agendas.

MEETING CLOSED AT 9.35PM