

**Minutes of the 685th meeting of Toft Parish Council  
Meeting held on Monday 4 February 2013 in The People's Hall, Toft at 7.00 pm**

Present: Councillors: M Yeadon (Chairman), J Betson, J McCarten E Dolman, P Gouldstone and P Ellis-Evans.

In attendance: 8 members of the public, District Cllr T Hawkins and Mrs Kathleen Baptie (Minutes Secretary, LGS)

**Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors**

A resident thanked Cllr Betson for keeping the paths clear during the recent snow. It was noted that a post had been knocked down on the Village Green.

Cllr Hawkins reported on:

- The deadline for submitting a response on the SCDC Issues and Options 2 consultation is 18<sup>th</sup> February.
- SCDC have cut grant funding. Any applications will need to be submitted by 28/2/13.
- Small Business Service Support Grants are still available until the end of March.
- Cllr Hawkins attended a Cabinet meeting at the County Council where it was announced that BT have been selected to supply Broadband under the Connecting Cambridge project. Residents were still urged to sign up if they have not already done so.
- A Council officer has been out to inspect the car park but advised there were very little funds to spend on repairs.
- Parish Plan. Linda Browne at SCDC is concerned about the timetable and would like to see a draft before they are printed. Cllr Dolman confirmed that she had tried on a number of occasions to get in touch with Linda Browne and that the Plan was almost ready to print.
- Community Awards Certificate. Linda Browne asked if the Jubilee Committee could contact her with a number of suitable dates in order to arrange a presentation with Cllr Tony Orgee.

The Chairman proposed to vary the order of business to take item 6.1.2 here.

**6.2.1 SCDC Issues and Options 2 Consultation**

Maps of the village were handed out with areas marked to show;

- a) Potential important green spaces, i.e. the Village Green and the Recreation Ground.
- b) Parish important green spaces. The Parish Council had asked for Home Meadow to be noted, however SCDC had shown Home Meadow Residential Home on the map. Cllr Yeadon has been in touch in order to correct this.

The map also showed areas of the village framework option and the Parish Council's proposed changes to the village framework.

SCDC were not in favour of extending the village framework to include the Golf Club. It was agreed that the Parish Council would respond to SCDC asking them to reconsider their decision and include the Golf Club within the village framework. (Prop MY, 2nd JB)

It was noted that the previous consultation did not include Bennells Farm, but the current consultation indicates a proposal for 115 houses, and the Parish Council must consider its views on this development.

District Cllr Hawkins confirmed that SCDC was sticking to the proviso to provide 40% affordable housing.

Concerns were expressed about the number of additional cars on the road and the fact the sprawling villages were almost joining up to one another.

Cllr Yeadon confirmed that Comberton Parish Council was against any development on this site, particularly as they would be providing the services whilst Toft received the precept. It was agreed to convene an extra-ordinary meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm to discuss the Parish Council's response which would be after the meeting with representatives from Comberton Parish Council. (Prop MY, 2nd PG)

**1. To approve apologies and reasons for absence and declarations of interest**

Apologies were received from Cllr Whelan and Cllr Howling's resignation was noted.

1.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda

None.

1.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

None.

1.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None.

**2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 7 January 2013**

Following an amendment under item 3.2.1 to read 'Ecksteins' and on the last line of the item to read 'clause', the minutes of the meeting on 7 January were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters Arising**

3.1 (3.2) Land at 46 High Street/Community Orchard

Stephen Reid is to be asked when the transfer will be complete.

(3.2.2) Progress on the ecological report and management plan and proposals for work this winter

It was agreed to seek three quotes to clear the brambles the blackthorn bushes which needed cutting back or flailing. Cllr Ellis-Evans will meet the companies on site to discuss the specification.

(3.2.3) To agree membership and terms of reference for the proposed working group

Clive Sinclair and Mark Catley are to join Cllrs Ellis-Evans and Yeadon on the working group.

3.2 (3.4) Village Maintenance update

- Damaged post on The Village Green. It was agreed to ask Clive Blower to replace the post which is currently lying on The Green.
- The Parish Council are still awaiting an extra dog litter bin near the Church. To be chased up.
- Cllr Betson had asked Dennis Vacher about straw lorries passing through the village and suggested they should be sheeted, as the debris is getting into drains and causing blockages. Cllr Betson will follow this up with Dennis Vacher.
- Dennis Vacher confirmed that a pipe had collapsed underground outside number 19 Comberton Rd and has written to the resident advising that it would be fixed within 13 weeks.

3.3 (3.5) Play equipment project update

It was confirmed that the Grant money had been received and all invoices paid.

It was agreed to ask Clive Blower to replace the rubber stopper on the gate as there is currently a risk of finger entrapment. Cllr Gouldstone confirmed that she has spare goal hooks that were provided with the goals and that she is still awaiting larger clips for the new signs. Further information regarding a combination lock for the gate is awaited.

It was agreed to wait another month before removing the orange tape for the benefit of the grass.

Cllr Gouldstone was given a supply of weekly, monthly and annual inspection sheets and she will carry out playground checks with Rebecca Howling, and report any urgent faults to the Clerk.

3.4 (3.6) People's Hall project update

The work was confirmed as being on target despite there being a hitch with metal work.

3.5 Appointment of Internal Auditor

The verbal quotations from ACRE and Canalbs were considered and it was agreed to accept the quote from Canalbs at £35 per hour plus mileage. (Prop MY, 2nd PG all in favour)

- 3.6 (3.7) Report on Cambridge Future Transport bus consultation meetings  
Cllr Dolman reported that it was disappointing that the results of the survey had not been collated before the meeting. A Demand Responsive Transport System was discussed which was considered to be an unsatisfactory solution as you were not allowed to make more than 2 bookings at a time. It was felt that this would cause difficulties for part-time workers and students. CCC confirmed that they would continue to fund the existing Dial a Ride scheme. They also confirmed that they would not withdraw the bus subsidy until a solution had been found.

- 3.7 Community Awards  
Discussed earlier. Jeanne McCarten and Mike McCarthy will contact Linda Browne.

#### **4. Consideration of Correspondence**

##### 4.1 Rebecca Howling - resignation

It was agreed to write and thank her for her service, particularly the work on the playground. Cllr Gouldstone will speak to her regarding inspections and the official opening.

#### **5. Finance and risk assessment**

##### 5.1 To consider the finance report and approve the payment of any bills

It was noted that a letter had been received from the bank with an apology and a cheque for £75. All is in order regarding signatories with both the bank and the Cambridge Building Society.

The cost for producing the Parish Plan was likely to be in the region of £1,000. 3 quotes were considered for printing the Parish Plan and it was agreed to accept the middle quotation of £363.60 with Labute for 100 colour copies.

It was also agreed that if an invoice is received for The People's Hall between meetings that requires payment before the next meeting, then it would be delegated to Cllr Yeadon and Betson together with the Clerk to organise payment.

The financial report was received and considered and invoices and bank statements were checked before the cheques were signed. The payments as listed in the finance report, plus LG Stoehr (salary M10) £97.45, were unanimously approved for payment (Prop JB, 2nd ED),

It was noted that a cheque for £15.00 had been agreed at the last meeting but Cllr Yeadon has not received it.

Toft People's Hall (Room Hire)	£60.00
Comberton Parish Council (Shared SLCC/ILCM affiliation)	£36.63

- 5.2 Risk assessment matters  
None.

#### **6. To consider any Planning or Tree works applications received**

##### 6.1 Planning Applications

- 6.1.1 S/2596/12/DC – Land adj 46 High St – Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3,4,6,7 and 8 of planning permission S/0565/11

Although some members had looked at the website regarding this application, it was unclear what it was about. It was agreed to ask the Clerk whether a response was required and if so it could be considered at the extra-ordinary meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February.

##### 6.2 SCDC decisions to note

- 6.2.1 S/2459/12/FL – 54 School Lane, Conservatory and Garage. Permission granted by SCDC.

- 6.3 Tree works applications  
None.

#### **7. Members items and reports**

- 7.1 Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

PCSO Karen Mahoney could arrange for someone to come and give a talk about Neighbourhood Watch, but would need to devote a whole meeting to it. However, there has been no interest shown either via the website of the village magazine. Next Police panel meeting is 17<sup>th</sup> February.

7.2 Footpaths – progress on new gates

No work has proceeded on the replacement stiles as the land is too wet to gain access

8. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed .....Chairman .....date.

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