

**MINUTES OF SWAFFHAM BULBECK PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING NUMBER 448**

Held in the School on Tuesday 7th March 2017 starting at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Ian Woodroffe (IW); Cllr Mrs M Smith (MS); Cllr Mrs Sue Romero (SR); Cllr Mrs Lynn Reed; Cllr Robin Sewell (RS) Cllr Bill Wicksteed (BW) arrived at 7.33pm

Absent: Cllr Mrs Kay Ballard (KB);

Members: 9 **Quorum:** 3

Members of the Public: 4

Clerk: Mrs D Bayliss

C Cllr David Brown; D Cllr Allen Alderson;

Meeting opened at 7.30pm

4216 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Gordon Reid;

4217 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The vacancy will continue to be advertised.

Clerk

4218 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Lynn Reed – New development in Waterbeach (Personal)

4219 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INCLUDING QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

Four residents of Downing Court were in attendance to comment on the planning application at 48 Downing Court.

Concerns raised included:

- The 2 storey brick wall adjacent to the boundary of the neighbouring garden; the loss of sunlight will have a significant impact on the property.
- Car parking behind the building where the work would take place may impact on carers who visit neighbouring properties 3 times per day.

A parishioner asked if anything could be done about the hedge outside 43 Vicarage Close. It is not thought that there is anyone living in the property, however the council will write a letter and put it through the door asking the owner to cut the hedge back.

Clerk

4220 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING 447 7th FEBRUARY 2017

It was proposed by Cllr RS and seconded by Cllr MS that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2017 are approved and signed with an amendment at 4205 adding 'of East Cambs District Council' to Swaffham Bulbeck 'Parish Council'.

CARRIED

4221 MATTERS ARISING/CLERKS REPORTS

None

4222 PLANNING MATTERS

Planning Applications

17/00098/PDR Loft conversion with dormer extension to rear roof slope and roof lights to front roof slope at 35 Downing Court for Mr & Mrs Dodds – no objection

Clerk

17/00259/FUL Proposed two storey and single storey rear extension at 48 Downing Court, Swaffham Bulbeck for Mr J Cowling

Standing orders suspended The meeting was adjourned to allow comments from the District Councillor and County Councillors and a parishioner at 7.53pm

The parishioner who lives opposite the property has concerns about car parking while the building work is being carried out and asked that attention is given to the loss of two parking spaces per house during construction.

The County and District Councillors confirmed that conditions on the time building work is carried out are often a standard condition (working hours). A condition that a number of parking spaces are left available may also be requested.

The meeting was re-opened at 8.00pm.

The council object to the proposal on the following grounds:

- over development of site which is immediately adjacent to a conservation area
- overbearing to neighbouring property
- there is a small strip of land left undeveloped with no access neighbouring number 49
- loss of light to adjacent property

If the application is to be approved the council would like conditions on the times during which work can be carried out and that 2 car parking spaces are left clear for each surrounding property.

A copy of the comments from the parish council will be sent to Mrs Hill.

Other Planning Matters

16/01817/TRE & Trees Swaffham Bulbeck/CA Tree work approval at 6 Pound Way, Swaffham Bulbeck.

Notification of Development at Waterbeach – Concerns were expressed about the proposed development.

BW is attending a presentation on 21st March and will feed back to the next meeting.

4223

CLT UPDATE

A meeting of the trustees was held on Monday 27th February. The rules for the CLT have been written up by a solicitor and were brought to the meeting for consideration. There should be a meeting towards the end of March for the full membership of the CLT. The date will be circulated.

Clerk/
W

4224

COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Circulated before the meeting – no questions were raised.

Noted

Additional Comments:

- The County Council have agreed to permanently expand Chesterton Community College.
- A letter is to be sent to the prime minister asking for proper fair funding for Cambridgeshire.
- The County Council have agreed to a feasibility study for the A10 from the city to just north of Ely. Funding may come from the following sources:
- City Deal money to Waterbeach.
- The stretch from Waterbeach to Ely will be funded by the combined authority (Cambridge and Peterborough) and other sources of funding.

4225

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Circulated before the meeting

Noted

The District Councillor will find out how buildings can be added to the Buildings of Local Interest list and report back to the Parish Council.

He also confirmed that there has been a problem on the A10 for some time and that the new housing proposed for Ely will make this worse. However it is on the ECDC wish list for things that can be obtained from the money from the new joint authority.

4226

GUTTER BRIDGE & DENNY WOOD MATTERS

a)

Gutter Bridge Wood

- Tree Survey
- The parish council will have to pay for the remedial works to the trees. The National Trust will only pay to fell the trees.
- The wood was closed for 24 hours after the gale – the trees that needed work have been dealt with.
- Finance for work in the Gutter Bridge Wood needs to be agreed and the budget amended to reflect this. Quotations will be sought for the necessary works. Two alternative quotations will be sought from local tree surgeons – one quote for cutting the tree off and one for removing the tree that is leaning over.
- A request has been received from the Forest School Activities to use the Gutter Bridge wood as a venue for teaching practical Forest School skills to a group of adults.

It was agreed that the response should be delegated to the clerk with the following conditions:

- There should be no more than 10 in the group.
- That due regard should be given to the bird nesting season.
- That there should be a donation towards the upkeep of the wood.

LR abstained.

b) Denny Wood

- Nothing to report.

4227 RECREATION GROUND (Denny) AND PAVILION MATTERS

a) It was reported that the cricket club have financed the re-seeding of the cricket square. Noted

b) The play area inspection was carried out by Cllr Sewell who reported that the one of the gates needs adjusting, the summer house roof is in need of repair and the fence needs staining. The clerk will purchase the materials for this and RS will do the work.

c) It was agreed that the annual play area inspection should be carried out by Fenland Leisure Products. Noted

4228 CEMETERY MATTERS

a) • A tree has blown over in the cemetery and needs to be removed. Clerk

b) • The Exclusive Right of Burial was approved for the three new graves. Noted

4229 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

a) The Zebra Crossing is working however the lights are out of sync and need to be changed. Covers for the lights have to be ordered. Highways have given the contract to complete it to a new company which has caused a further delay in sorting this out. An observation has been made that the beacons are not visible during the day.

b) A complaint about speeding traffic onto the High Street has been received by the council. Clerk
The parish council will make enquiries with the County Council about the possibility of reducing the speed limit along Green End Road, High Street and Station Road to 20mph.

LR left the meeting at 9.12pm

The clerk will reply to Mr Taylor.

4230 GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT

The Grass Cutting Contract has been put out to tender and will be brought to the April meeting for consideration. In the meantime Herts & Cambs Ground Maintenance will cut the grass on an adhoc basis as it is needed. Clerk

4231 PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

LR returned to the meeting at 9.17pm

a) It was proposed by Cllr LR and seconded by Cllr IW that the communications policy is adopted. CARRIED

b) It was proposed by Cllr IW and seconded by Cllr BW 'that the social media policy is' approved as an appendix to the above. CARRIED

The Chairman thanked the working group for the work done on these documents.

4232 FINANCES INCLUDING APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

a) The NALC/SLCC national pay award of 1% from 1st April 2017 to the clerk was noted by the council.

b) A Finance Working Group meeting to discuss amendments to the budget will be arranged. Agenda for April. What is the fee? Is it annual? 'This matter will be re-considered at the April meeting when it is clear what the annual fee for the cloud package is'. Clerk

c) It was proposed by Cllr SR and seconded by Cllr MS that the bank reconciliations for January and February are approved.

5 in favour.

BW Abstained

CARRIED

d) RECEIPTS

a) Burial Fees £135 Noted

- b) CLT Funds £9
- c) VAT Refund £1474.52

e) **PAYMENTS**

It was proposed by Cllr MS and seconded by Cllr BW that the March accounts are approved and paid. Clerk

CARRIED

4233 CORRESPONDENCE

The request from Red2Green to install some temporary planters on the Denny was agreed. Clerk

4234 TO SET DATE FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

16th May 2017

4235 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

4th April 2017 (IW apologies)

2nd May 2017

Annual Parish Council 16th May 7.30pm

Agenda for the next meeting

To consider a Formulating a Neighbourhood Plan

The meeting closed at 10.10pm