

Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council meeting held on 11th April 2011 at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, nr Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 5RY.

Present:	Chairman	Dr N Strudwick
	Councillors	Mr W Burchett, Mr L Ginger, Mrs J Lewis (from 7.35pm), Mrs M Peyton, Mr C Rose
	District Councillors	Mr D McCraith
	Parish Clerk	Mrs G van Poortvliet
	Guest Speaker	PCSO James Lynch
	Parishioners	1 present

- 1.0 Apologies for Absence** – received from Cllr P Neale, District Cllr N Cathcart and County Cllr L Oliver.
- 2.0 Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Burchett is a member of Whaddon Playground Project (agenda item 10.2).
- 3.0 Approval and Signing of minutes from Parish Council (PC) meeting of 14th March 2011 - Resolved:** that the minutes of that meeting be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.
- 4.0 Guest Speaker – local Police Community Support Officer** – PCSO Lynch gave a short talk about the role of PCSOs and about local police initiatives. Two Police speed checks had recently been carried out in Church Street. Questions were invited from the PC and the member of public. The Chairman thanked PCSO Lynch.
- 5.0 Reports from Clerk and Cllrs on matters arising:** the Clerk and Cllrs provided verbal reports on the status of matters arising from previous PC meetings:
- Damaged Salt Bin (top of Bridge Street) – this had now been swapped with the spare salt bin. Thanks to Cllr Burchett.
 - Speed camera signs – the appropriate contact at Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) was currently seconded to another department. Action: the Clerk to request new contact information from County Cllr Oliver.
 - Litter on the A1198 – this was the responsibility of SCDC and not CCC. Action: District Cllr McCraith to report to Environmental Health.
 - Letter to CCC re reduction of rural speed limits to 30mph – a letter had been written to County Cllr Macguire. The Chairman expressed disappointment that this had not been acknowledged. A draft copy of CCC's policy regarding a move towards 30mph speed limits in rural areas had been received by the Chairman and would be circulated.
- 6.0 District and County Councillor Reports:**
District Councillor report: District Cllr McCraith provided a verbal report:
- There had been no meeting of SCDC since the last PC meeting and there was nothing further to report.
- County Cllr Report: County Cllr Linda Oliver was not present.
- 7.0 Public Participation** – no public comments.
- 8.0 Village Hall (VH)**
- 8.1 Update from VH Charitable Trust (VHCT):** Cllr J Lewis (Chair of the VHCT) provided a verbal report:
- 27th March – there had been a volunteer weeding and tidy-up session at the front of the VH. This was followed by a short update meeting of the VHCT.

- Cllr L Ginger and Mr A Buchanan had completed a lot of work on the grant application for the Big Lottery Fund. The first level application was ready to be submitted shortly. If this was successful, a more detailed second stage application would need to be submitted.
- More information on potential VH uses was needed for the second stage application. It was intended to use a questionnaire to get the views of local residents.
- Cllrs Ginger and Burchett had met with the VH architect about potentially installing a new window at the front of the VH in advance of other renovation work.
- Planning permission for the VH will probably need to be renewed in December 2011.
- ACRE is running a training workshop for Trustees on 17th May – all VH trustees informed.

8.2 Discussion and agreement on payment of expenses and grant for VHCT: a discussion was held. The situation may need to remain fluid until solutions become apparent and costs are known. Actions: the Clerk to ask ACRE for advice on a simple framework for splitting costs between the VHCT and PC and making grants to the VHCT. Cllr J Lewis to try to get specialist VH insurance quotes in time for the PC AGM (9th May).

9.0 Planning – noting of Planning Committee recommendation re S/0436/11 and S/0437/11, 8 Church Street, retention of and alterations to conservatory and erection of conservatory (part retrospective) – approval recommended.

10.0 Finance:

10.1 Approval of payments: Resolved that the following payments be authorised:
Cheque already signed (29th March 2011)

Cheque No. 100716, for £840.00, Limbach Banham, legal work re Village Hall Trust.

Cheque No.100717, for £160.00, Mr D Evans, handyman wages.

Cheque No. 100712, for £81.32, Cambridgeshire County Council, street light energy and maintenance, Ridgeway Close. It was noted that this cheque was written on 14th February 2011 but not approved for payment until 29th March (on receipt of revised invoice).

Cheques to be approved today (11th April 2011)

Cheque No. 100718, for £35.00, Cambridgeshire ACRE, subscription.

Cheque No 100719, for £90.00, D M Charles, newsletter production.

Cheque No 100720, for £48.68, Litlington Parish Council, CPALC Cllr training session stage 2 (4 cllrs attended).

10.2 Approval of expenditure for playground - Agreed: that up to £250 be approved for purchase of tool kit and broom for carrying out playground inspections.

10.3 Approval of expenditure for recreation ground railings – cost details not yet known. Cllr Burchett to meet with a blacksmith latter this week. Many local welding businesses had not returned his calls.

10.4 Approval of expenditure on Bridge Street Fountain Garden – the handyman had requested permission to spend around £35.00 on perennials and bulbs. Cllrs felt that any new planting should be in accordance with the original planting schedule for the garden. Action: the Clerk to try to locate the planting schedule for the garden. Cllr Lewis to introduce the handyman to local volunteer who had been tidying the Fountain Garden.

10.5 Presentation of draft accounts to 31st March 2011 – draft accounts noted by the PC.

11.0 Correspondence:

- SCDC – notification of removal of glass recycling banks from Whaddon Golf Centre (verbal).
- SCDC – survey on future of Standards Committee and alternative procedures (deadline 10th June).
- CCC – details of public consultation meeting on strategy for future of Library Services in South Cambridgeshire, 23rd May, 7.30pm, Orchard Park Community Centre.

- Bumpkins – invitation to tea party to celebrate the Royal Wedding, 27th April, 3.30pm and request for nomination for worthy village invitees.
- CCC – request for decision on Street Lighting Energy and Maintenance Options (deadline 30th April). Action: the Clerk to inform CCC of preference for Option A.

- 12.0 Affordable Homes – agreement of PC comments on draft S106 Agreement** – the draft agreement was discussed. There would be a financial contribution towards open space and recreational facilities of c£20,500 and towards community space of c£3,400. These funds would be transferred by SCDC to the PC and would be separate to the grant already awarded by SCDC for the VH refurbishment. Actions: the Clerk and Cllr Peyton to respond on behalf of the PC that the wording was suitable but reiterating that people from Whaddon, in need of housing, had already had to move away. Specific concerns to be raised with the Housing Manager.
- 13.0 HCV Traffic Survey – discussion and agreement of PC response** – Agreed: PC to respond to CCC that it was not possible to comment on the technical side of the proposed new strategy as it was difficult to understand without having attended the meeting. However, local views and concerns were to be expressed. Action: the Chairman to draft a response. The Clerk to respond.
- 14.0 Bridge Street (BS) traffic-safety signage – consideration of options and agreement of expenditure if necessary** – A survey of BS had been carried out by Cllrs Lewis and Neale. Cllr Lewis presented a map of BS proposing locations for road safety signs. Actions: Cllrs Lewis and Neale to produce copies of the maps/proposals for BS residents to find out residents' views. Cllr Lewis to request that Cllr Neale provide an update at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 15.0 Bridge Street Fountain – discussion of potential listing (English Heritage) and agreement of action** – it had been ascertained that it would be possible to seek listed status for the BS Fountain. This was discussed. Agreed: that listed status would not be pursued at the moment. Action: Cllr Peyton to thank Mr David Grech for his help and advice.
- 16.0 SCDC Standards Committee – update on future of Committee and implications for the PC -** Agreed: to postpone this item until the next meeting.
- 17.0 Village upkeep and maintenance – reporting of issues**
- There was water spillage across the highway outside Adelaide House, Meldreth Road due to rising artesian wells. Action: the Clerk to report to CCC Highways.
 - Grass cutting (verges) – Action: the Clerk to ask the contractor to make the first cut towards the end of May.
- 18.0 Councillor Communication** – the Chairman asked that all councillors endeavour to check their emails every day and respond within a reasonable timeframe.
- 19.0 Items for next Meeting**
- **SCDC Standards Committee Update and survey response**
 - **Approval of production cost of additional copies of newsletter**
 - **Approval of expenditure for recreation ground railings**
- 20.0 Date of next meeting and Annual PC meeting (9th May 2011).**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45 pm