

Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council meeting held on 11th February 2013 at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, Nr Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 5RY.

Present:	Chair	Mrs M Peyton
	Councillors	Mr L Ginger, Mrs J Lewis (from 7.35pm), Professor A Milton (until 8.55pm), Mr R Scott
	Parish Clerk	Mrs G van Poortvliet
	County Councillor	Mrs L Oliver (from 8.50pm)
	District Councillor	Mr N Cathcart
	Parishioners	3 present

- 1.0 Apologies for Absence** – received from Cllr K French and District Cllr D McCraith.
- 2.0 Minutes – approval and signing of minutes from Parish Council (PC) meetings of 14th January and 28th January 2013 (Precept Meeting) – Resolved:** that the minutes be signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.
- 3.0 Declarations of interest** – none declared.
- 4.0 Report from Clerk and Cllrs on business remaining from previous meetings:** a verbal report was given.
- Whaddon Travellers Site (A1198) – a response had been received from SCDC stating that they did not intend to change the way that the site was currently managed following the proposed change of ownership. SCDC had received funding to upgrade the site and provide two more pitches.
 - Bench on corner of Meldreth Road – the Clerk had been through the minutes from 1995 to 2000 and could not find mention of this bench being donated to the village.
 - Parish Plan – Cambridgeshire ACRE had advised the Parish Plan Committee that it would definitely not be considered a working party of the PC. It was important that the Parish Plan be community led and not driven by the PC. It was accepted that in a small village it could be difficult to get volunteers to join the Parish Plan Committee and that some members could be Parish Cllrs. An advisor from ACRE would attend the next meeting of the Parish Plan Committee. A draft questionnaire had been produced with the intention to send it out to residents around Easter.
- 5.0 Reports from District and County Cllrs:**
- County Cllr Report: no County Cllr present at this stage.
- District Cllr Report: a verbal report was given:
- Litlington Wind Farm – this was scheduled to be discussed at SCDC’s April Planning Committee meeting.
 - South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Consultation – villages were able to put forward open spaces for protection from development. These spaces needed to be important to the community and special in some way. An extended deadline was in place until 11th March but it would be preferable to respond by the original deadline (Monday 18th February).
 - Traveller and Gypsy policy – a workshop was due to take place at the end of the month to address the provision of traveller and gypsy accommodation within the county.
 - Bassingbourn Barracks – a communication was expected from the MoD concerning the future of the Barracks on 18th March 2013.
- 6.0 Public Participation** – a member of the public was asked for an update about the damaged bench on the corner of Meldreth Road. Her father had put the bench there but, as yet she had been unable to find documentation confirming the donation of this bench to the village. The Chair explained

that the bench had not been insured by the PC and that, as yet, we could find no evidence that it belonged to the PC. Parts of the bench might be salvageable. Action: the Clerk to write to the family concerned to ask what they wanted to do with the bench. If the family wanted the bench removed the PC would ask CCC to do so.

7.0 Finance:

- 7.1 Approval of payments – Resolved:** that the following payments be approved:
Cheques to be signed today (11th February 2013)
 Cheque No. 100803, for £86.00, SLCC, annual subscription
 Cheque No. 100804, for £80.00, Mr P E Coningsby, church yard grass cutting.
- 7.2 Financial Update to 31 December 2012 – noting of report:** the PC noted the report. Questions were invited by the Clerk.
- 7.3 2013/14 Precept – update since Precept Meeting of 28th January and approval of 2013/14 precept:** since the precept meeting SCDC had confirmed that the Localised Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS) grant would be paid in 2013/14 but that the future of this grant was uncertain. Due to this uncertainty and the fact that Parish Council precepts may be subject to capping in future years, the PC had decided to take the 2013/14 LCTS grant to reserves rather than deducting it from the precept. The PC resolved that the 2013/14 precept be £16,200. The LCTS grant (estimated at £1,015) was to be split between a donation to the Village Hall kitchen refurbishment and traffic management.

8.0 Correspondence

- CAPALC – notification of Cllr Training Courses 2013
- TGC Renewables – photomontage of proposed Solar PV Development, land to south east of Hoback Farm, Wimpole and offer to answer queries or attend a PC meeting.
- CCC – notification of responses to consultation on local enforcement plan for minerals and waste development in Cambridgeshire.
- CCC Rights of Way Team – invitation to Big Parish Meeting on 7th March.
- Wildlife Trust – invitation to workshop focussing on conservation efforts for Bourn Brook and River Rhee on 21st February.
- SCDC – notification of appeal to Secretary of State by Falck Renewables re site at land off Ermine Way, Arrington (wind speed mast). Deadline for further comments, withdrawal or amendment of earlier comments 11th March 2013.

9.0 Planning Matters:

- 9.1 Noting of approved Planning Committee minutes from meeting of 17th December 2012** – the PC noted the minutes.
- 9.2 Planning applications – noting of Planning Committee recommendations and SCDC decisions (if known) re:**
- **S/2437/12/FL, 116 Church Street, Whaddon for a small front extension, loft remodelling and conversion** – recommended for approval by the Planning Committee; planning permission granted by SCDC.
 - **S/2384/12/FL, 97 Meldreth Road, Whaddon for a single storey rear extension and new side porch** - recommended for approval by the Planning Committee; planning permission granted by SCDC.
 - **S/0009/13/FL, 134 Church Street, Whaddon for an extension** – recommended for approval by the Planning Committee.
 - **S/0046/13/RM, 132 Meldreth Road, Whaddon for approval of reserved matters for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale in respect of outline planning permission S/2500/11** – recommended for refusal by the Planning Committee.

9.3 Updates re proposed Solar PV Development, Wimpole and Wind Speed Measurement Mast, Arrington:

- Solar PV Development, Wimpole – the Planning Committee had requested a photomontage of the proposed development from the footpath near Hoback Farm, Whaddon. This had been received and showed no significant visual impact.
- Wind speed measurement mast, Arrington – an appeal had been made to the secretary of state for planning. The PC had not made any comments on the original application and did not wish to comment now.

10.0 Whaddon Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust (WVHRGT) – update: a verbal update was given by Jenna Lewis, Chair WVHRGT.

- The budget had been set for 2013/14
- The Annual General Meeting would be on 21st May 2013.
- Big Lottery Fund (BLF) – WVHRGT had spoken with a BLF representative and discovered that their previous funding application had been quite close to being successful. In order to strengthen their application WVHRGT had to be able to identify a social need for the Village Hall (VH) and explain the consequences of not meeting that need. This would require more in-depth research interviews with residents. It was hoped to conduct this research and re-submit the BLF application within three months.
- Phase one refurbishment – the full works specification was expected soon and then the work could be put out to tender. It was anticipated that there would be a shortfall of c£20,000 between funds raised and anticipated costs. The refurbishment might qualify for some green energy grants to help with this shortfall. The VH would be out of use during the refurbishment and the PC would need to find an alternative meeting venue.
- WVHRGT minutes – copies of approved minutes were requested for the PC.
- Recreation Ground Grass Cutting – Mr P Haselden would be the nominated contact to oversee the grass cutting. Action: the Clerk to inform the contractor of this contact.
- 2012/13 PC Grant Application for running costs – this needed to be submitted to the PC by the March 2013 meeting.

11.0 Traffic Management Schemes, Meldreth Road – consideration of proposals and agreement of next steps: two different types of scheme were discussed. It was agreed that a site meeting with a CCC Highways Officer would be the best way to find the most suitable option. Actions: the Clerk to ask County Cllr Oliver who the current CCC Highways Officer was and to arrange a meeting with the Chair and Mr M Monks (Speedwatch).

12.0 SCDC Local Plan Consultation – discussion and agreement of response from Whaddon PC: (Cllr Milton left the meeting)

- Protection for Green Open Spaces within Whaddon – SCDC had asked villages if they wished to put forward green open spaces to be protected against future development. These spaces needed to be important to the community and special in some way. A discussion was held. Resolved: that the recreation ground, Whaddon Green and the Golf Course be put forward for protection as Green Open Spaces. Action: the Clerk to ask SCDC to consider these spaces for protection.
- Proposed changes to Village Framework – the PC had already proposed some changes to the village framework in parts of Meldreth Road and these were discussed. No further comments to be made to the consultation. CCC had very recently asked the PC to support a proposal to amend the village framework to include Pickering Farm, Church Street, as a potential development site. This was discussed. The PC felt that it required more time to fully consider the implications. Resolved: that the PC could not support the proposal made by CCC at this time. Action: the Chair to inform CCC of the PC's stance. (County Cllr Oliver left the meeting)

- Response to consultation re proposed housing development and employment sites near Whaddon: a discussion was held. Resolved: that the PC comment on the proposed developments at Cambourne, Bourn Airfield and two sites in Meldreth to raise concerns about additional traffic on the A1198, the problems of exiting onto the A1198 at Whaddon Gap, traffic noise from the A1198, additional traffic through the village and the impact on the train service from Royston. Action: the Clerk to submit the comments to SCDC.

13.0 Village Benches – discussion and agreement of action if necessary: the PC believed that it was responsible for five benches – two on the recreation ground, two by the VH and one by the bus shelter (Church Street). Resolved: to take down the two benches by the VH when the car park was installed (they were in poor condition). Consideration of provision of replacement or additional benches to be done at the year end when the financial position was clearer. Actions: Cllr Ginger to organise the removal of the two benches near the VH by local volunteers.

14.0 Code of Conduct Complaints Procedure – this item was postponed until the next meeting.

15.0 Co-option of new Cllrs – discussion and agreement of next steps: no applications had been received. A member of the public expressed interest in joining the PC and was asked to submit an application to the Clerk.

16.0 Village Archive Material – discussion of temporary storage solution: the Ralls' had donated their Whaddon archive collection to the village. It was agreed that a permanent home for the archive would be found in the refurbished VH if at all possible. In the meantime temporary storage had been found at the home of a resident.

17.0 Village upkeep and maintenance – reporting of issues:

- New Speed Limit in Force Signs – these had already been removed by CCC. The Clerk had asked for them to be reinstated. Action: the Clerk to follow up with County Cllr Oliver.
- Bus Shelter (Church Street) – this needed maintenance work. Action: the Clerk to check which year this work was planned in the maintenance schedule and to ask the handyman to carry out the work as appropriate.

18.0 Items for next meeting:

- Code of Conduct Complaints Procedure
- Co-option of new Cllr.
- WVHRGT grant
- Charitable Donations – Action: Cllrs to suggest local charities for a donation.

19.0 Date of next meeting (Monday 11th March 2013)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.00 pm