

Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council meeting held on 10th November 2014 at 8.00p.m. in the Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, Nr Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 5RY.

Present:	Chair	Mr L Ginger
	Councillors	Mr W Elbourn, Mrs K French, Mrs J Lewis, Professor A Milton, Mr R Scott, Ms A Walker
	Parish Clerk	Mrs G van Poortvliet
	District Councillor	Mr N Cathcart, Mr D McCraith
	Parishioners	10 present

- 1.0 Apologies for Absence** – received from County Cllr A Dent.
- 2.0 Minutes – approval and signing of minutes from previous Parish Council (PC) meeting of 13th October 2014** – 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 Councillors on business remaining from previous meetings:** a verbal report was given.
- Register of Members interest forms – an updated form had now been received from Cllr Ginger. Action: the Clerk to forward this to SCDC and put a copy on the website.
 - Salt Bin, Town Farm Close – the spare salt bin had already been used to replace a broken one in Bridge Street. A new bin was required – see agenda item 7.3.
 - Housing Needs Survey – the Chair, Clerk and Cllr Scott had attended a meeting at SCDC with a Housing Officer regarding the process for producing a Housing Needs Survey. Cllr Scott gave a verbal update from the meeting. Cambridgeshire ACRE would be able to provide advice and oversee the survey. Action: the Clerk to contact ACRE early in 2015 to arrange for a representative to come to a PC meeting.
 - Bridge Street Culvert (byway 22) – Cambridgeshire County Council Highways had removed the additional overflow pipe and returned the culvert to the previous version. A CCC Highways Officer had confirmed that CCC would now take the lead in looking for a solution which would help alleviate the flood risk in this part of Bridge Street. Consultation would be made with the relevant parties and an application made for any necessary works.
- 5.0 Reports from District and County Cllrs:**
- District Cllrs' Report: a verbal report was given:
- Local Plan – this was now being considered by the Inspector. The plan was a joint one with Cambridgeshire City Council as local authorities liaise regarding planning matters.
 - Ministry of Defence briefing – a briefing would be attended by District Cllrs regarding the situation resulting in the Libyan Troops being sent home from Basingbourn Barracks.
 - Green bin collections – these would move to a monthly timetable for the winter months (December, January and February). Action: Cllr Ginger to put a reminder in the newsletter.
- County Cllr's Report: a report had been received from County Cllr Dent and circulated. The key points concerning local issues were:
- Basingbourn Barracks – following a number of offences perpetrated by a minority of Libyan trainees, all troops had been returned to Libya. The future of the base and the clubs will depend on the MoD review. County Cllr Dent had asked to be at the review.
 - Basingbourn village – some new double yellow lines had been painted on the High Street.
 - Bridge Street culvert – CCC will try to have an overflow pipe fitted in the future.

- Street Lighting – Balfour Beatty were over 50% through a programme to upgrade street lights throughout Cambridgeshire. Action: the Clerk to find out if Whaddon's streetlights are included in this programme.

6.0 Correspondence

- Local Government Boundary Commission – notification of Electoral Review of Cambridgeshire County Council. Proposal to redraw electoral division. Request for views. Deadline for comments 19th January 2015. Action: the Clerk to table an agenda item for the next meeting.
- SCDC – minutes of Parish Council Liaison meeting 8th October 2014.
- CCC – details of Cambridgeshire Timebanking Conference, 24th November.
- Connecting Cambridgeshire – Broadband Champions update Oct/Nov 2014.
- CCC – draft Safety Audit report for Meldreth Road (agenda item 10.0).
- SCDC – advance notice of Estimated Tax base for 2015-16. Notification of any changes to be made by PC by 30th November 2014. Tax base 208.1 properties; 2014/15 201.2 properties.
- CCC – request to check street lighting inventory information for Whaddon and request for signed statement that the PC are happy for CCC to continue to administer monthly energy bills and then invoice the PC annually (with 5% administration fee). Deadline 20th October 2014. The Clerk had replied and asked that CCC continue to administer the bills.
- SCDC – request for comments on proposal to designate Recreation Ground and play area as a Local Green Space in the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. Deadline for comments 1st December 2014 (agenda item 8.3).

7.0 Finance:

7.1 Approval of Payments: Resolved: that the following payments be approved:

Cheques to be approved for signing today (10th November 2014)

Cheque No. 100892, £17.00, Mr M Monks, reimbursement for poppy wreath for Remembrance Service.

Cheque No. 100893, £80.00, Mr D Evans, gardening costs for Bridge Street pump garden, Mar-Oct 2014 (10 hours).

7.2 Noting of draft accounts to 30th September 2014 – the Clerk presented the draft accounts and took questions from the Cllrs.

7.3 Approval for expenditure on salt bin for Town Farm Close – the PC approved expenditure of £95 + VAT for a new salt bin. Action: the Clerk to order a salt bin from CCC Highways.

8.0 Planning:

8.1 Noting of Parish Council recommendations re (i) S/2202/14/FL – 173 Bridge Street, SG8 5RP to remove 1970's derelict garage and erect working artist's studio and timber car port (ii) S/2391/14/LB 173 Bridge Street, SG8 5RP for enlargement of porch to allow for wheelchair and redesign internal layout of extension to allow wheelchair turning (iii) S/1959/14/FL 25 Bridge Street to re-site 1250 litre domestic oil storage tank and associated concrete base – the PC had recommended approval of all three applications.

8.2 Noting of SCDC decision re S/1772/14/FL 116 Meldreth Road, SG8 5RP for widening existing dormer window – SCDC had granted approval for this application.

8.3 Designation of Recreation Ground as Local Green Space in SCDC Local Plan – agreement of PC support – SCDC had written to the PC to ask for their comments, as landowner, about the proposal to include the recreation ground and play area in the SCDC Local Plan as a Local Green Space. A 'Local Green Space' is one identified by a local community as of particular importance to them. It will give protection against new development other than in very special circumstances. Whaddon Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust had been consulted about this and had agreed at their meeting on 3rd November

to support this proposal. The PC resolved to support the proposal to designate Whaddon's recreation ground and play area in SCDC's Local Plan as a Local Green Space. Action: the Clerk to complete and return the consultation form to SCDC.

9.0 Public Participation:

- A member of the public asked whether the Golf Course was to be designated as a Local Green Space in SCDC's Local Plan. The Cllrs explained that the Golf Course (and Whaddon Green) had been on the PC's original wish list of green spaces regarded as of special importance to the village. However, as far as the PC was aware, these had not met SCDC's criteria and were no longer being proposed. All landowners whose land was being considered for designation as a Local Green Space would have been written to by SCDC as part of the consultation and would have their opportunity to comment. The PC had been asked to comment on the Recreation Ground and Playground.
- A member of the public reported that lorries were now turning right out of Eternit and coming through Whaddon and that the 'no right hand turn' sign at the Eternit exit was no longer there. The Cllrs explained that, whilst it would be possible to talk to Eternit about this, that Bassingbourn cum Kneesworth PC were also very concerned about the number of large lorries using the Mettle Hill junction. Action: the Clerk to ask Bassingbourn PC what its views on this were.
- A member of the public commented that SCDC had advised that it would be possible for residents to put food waste in the black bins over the Christmas period when there would only be a monthly green bin collection.

10.0 Meldreth Road Traffic Management – update following CCC Safety Audits and decision on scheme – Mr M Monks (Speedwatch co-ordinator) provided an update from a recent Speedwatch exercise on a Saturday morning (11a.m. – 12 noon.) in Meldreth Road (MR). Levels of speeding had been recorded, significantly in excess of usual observations, by vehicles coming into Whaddon from Meldreth direction. The PC had received a draft Safety Audit report on the proposed traffic calming scheme for MR. Nine points had been made in the report. Most concerns were considered fairly minor but the position of the build-out opposite no 116, although 'not strictly a problem or safety issue' was a more significant concern. A discussion took place regarding alternative measures e.g. flashing speed signs, for that location. The PC resolved to ask CCC Highways to proceed with one build-out at the entrance to the village only and to ask for road painting e.g. 30mph and SLOW at the other end of MR. The situation would be monitored and reviewed in a year's time to see if further measures were needed. Actions: the Clerk to advise CCC Highways of the PC's decision and also to ask if it would be possible to have road markings painted in other parts of the village at the same time as work was being done in MR.

11.0 British Legion Commemorative Planting Project – consideration of options and decision: the Tree Warden had made some recommendations for suitable trees. This was discussed. The PC agreed to plant a WW1 commemorative tree in Whaddon. Actions: the Clerk to approach the Parochial Church Council to see if they would give permission to plant a tree in St. Mary's churchyard. The Clerk to see if a Rowan Tree was available on the Centenary Gardens website and to order either a Rowan (if available) or a Sorbus Torminalis. The Clerk to investigate the cost of commemorative plaques.

12.0 Whaddon Village Hall & Recreation Ground Trust (WVH&RGT) – update: Cllrs Lewis, Chair WVH&RGT, gave a verbal update following a meeting of WVH&RGT on 3rd November:

- Accounts – these were currently with the auditors. The Charity Commission Report was in the process of being written.
- Rental income – this currently looked like it might cover outgoings although it would not be possible to review this properly until a full year had passed.

- Future works – it was hoped to refurbish the gable ends and fascia boards. A final quote was still awaited.
- Security – following the recent break-in some additional security measures were being considered.

13.0 Verges Grass Cutting Contract – review of specification and agreement of actions: the specification was reviewed. It was noted that the 2013 Parish Plan had included questions about the grass cutting and very few negative comments had been received. It was agreed to leave the specification the same other than with regard to requesting that the contractor wait for bulbs to die down before doing the first cut. Action: the Clerk to amend the specification and to put the verges grass cutting contract out to tender. The Clerk to remind SCDC of the PC's interest in taking over the grass cutting for Ridgeway Close.

14.0 Village Upkeep and Maintenance – reporting of issues:

- Litter bin on recreation ground – this had recently been destroyed by a vehicle collision. The post had also been knocked out. It might be possible to put a replacement on the footpath sign. Action: the Clerk to contact SCDC again regarding a replacement bin.

15.0 Items for next meeting:

- PC response to Cambridgeshire Electoral Boundary Review

16.0 Date of next meeting - Monday 12th January 2015 (8.00p.m.)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.23p.m.