

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 13 February 2006 in the Village Hall

Present- Chairman	Mr E Webb
Vice Chairman	Mrs C Byatt
Councillors	Prof. A Milton, Mr P Neale
County Councillor	Mrs Linda Oliver
District Councillor	Mr D McCraith
Parish Clerk	Mrs Y Albery
Parishioner	1 Present

1.0 Apologies for absence from Councillors Mrs M Peyton, Dr. N Strudwick and Mr L Ginger. District Councillor Mr N Cathcart.**2.0 Approval of previous minutes**

All councillors present agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly, including one copy for the Main Notice Board.

3.0 Matters Arising**3.1 The Village Sign.**

As the varnish on the seat is showing signs of peeling badly, it was suggested that the varnish be removed and the seat, which is of hardwood, be oiled.

3.2 Tree Planting and Parking at Ridgeway Close

Three new trees are to replace those recently taken down in Bridge Street. All Councillors present agreed.

There have been several complaints brought to the attention of the Parish Council about parking on the grass verges and outside the garages in the Ridgeway Close area. There is a small piece of land owned by the South Cambs DC which is at present being used as an allotment, but could make an extra parking space. Enquiries are to be made about the situation.

3.3 Village Street Lighting

The Clerk has spoken to Matt Siggery of South Cambs DC, who is the Travellers Liaison Officer, concerning the four street lights at the New Farm site. As these lights are owned by the SCDC he will let them know that the Parish Council will probably not retain them. Mr Siggery felt that as most of the other lights are owned by Cambridgeshire County Council this would not be a problem.

3.4 Wall adjoining Village Hall

The Chairman and the Clerk will make an appointment to speak to the neighbour whose land adjoins the Village Hall to discuss the serious cracks in the wall. The matter of the sewer connection will also be brought to his attention and at the same time, the neighbour on the opposite side of the road will be informed.

4.0 Correspondence

A letter has been received from David Allanach of Cambridge County Council regarding the Mobile Library possibly stopping at Cardiff Place. He requires the addresses of at least four families who are likely to use the facility. The Clerk has written a letter to the Cardiff Place residents, asking for any interested parties to come forward. Copies have been delivered by Mrs Jean Faithful

A phone call has been received from County Farms to say that a replacement litter bin should be in place at the Whaddon Gap car park very shortly.

A letter has been received from the Land Registry (Peterborough) suggesting a voluntary First Registration of Title of Land which is owned by the Parish Council. This voluntary registration would have a 25% discount on the normal fee. Vice Chairman Mrs Byatt will investigate.

5.0 Planning

S/0018/06/F, 105 Cardiff Place, Bassingbourn, (A D Gurney-Crabtree), retrospective permission for a Conservatory.

S/2185/05/F, 114 Church Street. (J Cooper), revised plans for two houses.

S/2352/05/A, Whaddon Golf Club, (Mr K Green), Consent granted to display a sign.

6.0 Finance

Cheque No 100496 - £14.00 for CALC Local Council Review booklet.

A Cheque for £104.84 has been received for **recycling** between April 2005 and September 2005.

As **County Councillor Oliver** had to attend another meeting, she was now given the floor.

- The County Council tax was expected to rise by 5%.
- Cemex Project: – Planning is expected to be applied for in the next 2 weeks. Whaddon is on the list for receiving information. The Environment Agency will be monitoring the situation.
- County Councillor Oliver has been asked to write a letter for the Whaddon Parish Plan, but wished for some inaccuracies to be corrected. She will e-mail Councillor Byatt (who is a member of the Parish Plan) with the information to be corrected.
- In view of our Parish Council wishing to make improvements to our village hall County Councillor Oliver stated that Guilden Morden was in the process of doing a similar exercise and we may like to get in touch with them.
- She is in contact with Col. Richardson at Bassingbourn Barracks regarding the motor racing schedule for the coming summer. The racing is necessary to bring in extra funding for the Barracks.

7.0 Village Hall Development Committee

The Parish Councillors felt that they could not accept the recommendations of the Committee to sell the Village Hall and purchase land to build a new hall, as the recent Parish Plan suggests that the majority of parishioners wish to retain the Village Hall. The Clerk will write to the Development Committee thanking them for all their time and effort.

The meeting was now opened to the public.

The member of the public asked if it would be a good idea to ask the Development Committee for any documentation, including prices, to be passed to the Parish Council. The Councillors agreed that the Clerk should ask for this information.

The meeting recommenced.

8.0 Any Other Business

Councillor Milton mentioned weather staining on the new Church gates. It was felt that this could be expected but the matter should be raised with the PCC.

Councillor Byatt said that the staff appraisal of the Clerk had been carried out, the Clerk is experiencing difficulties with the Quality Status Course within her allocated hours and it was suggested that the hours be raised to 6 per week, all councillors agreed. She also suggested that the Clerk should form discussion groups with other parish clerks, such discussions would help to complete some of the required sections of the Course.

Chairman Webb talked about the purchase of bollards for the Village Hall. This will be looked into and discussed with the Village Hall Management Committee.

District Councillor McGrath arrived (he had previously informed the clerk of his expected late attendance). He was asked if it was true that South Cambs District Council were supporting Cemax – regarding possible disposal of rubbish. He said he did not know.

The previous discussion regarding Ridgeway Close parking problems were conveyed to him, he said he would make enquiries about the problems and report back at the next meeting.

The date of the next meeting is 20th March 2005 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

The meeting was closed at 9.05pm.

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 20th March 2006 in the Village Hall

Present- Chairman	Mr E Webb
Vice Chairman	Mrs C Byatt
Councillors	Mr P Neale, Mrs M Peyton, Prof. A Milton, Dr. N Strudwick and Mr L Ginger
County Councillor	Mrs Linda Oliver
District Councillors	Mr N Cathcart and Mr D McCraith
Parish Clerk	Mrs Y Albery
Parishioner	5 Present

1.0 **Apologies for absence from Councillors** – all councillors present.

2.0 **Approval of previous minutes**

All councillors present agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly, including one copy for the Main Notice Board.

3.0 **Matters Arising**

3.1 Whaddon Gap Car Park.

The new waste bin is now in position. South Cambs District council are clearing the other rubbish from the car park on a regular basis.

3.2 Parking at Ridgeway Close

District Councillor McGraith has made enquiries, and felt South Cambs District Council were not very keen on the idea of using the allotments for car parking. He will continue to pursue the matter and also to find out who is using the garages.

3.3 Village Street Lighting

A letter has been received from South Cambs District Council offering a partnership for lights which are kept on, which would include priority renewals and replacements. Therefore the Parish Council would not have to take out extra insurance. The Councillors voted to keep the 2 lights in Ridgeway Close, but will not be keeping the lights at New Farm. The Clerk will notify Mr Quigley of the decision.

4.0 **Correspondence**

South Cambs District Council: – Community Facility Grant. Whaddon Parish Council have been awarded a grant of £5000 toward connecting the Village Hall to mains drainage, with certain conditions.

Cemex: – the proposed planning application has been suspended.

South Cambs District Council: – there are proposed election changes. This matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

5.0 **County Councillor Report**

Illegal signs on highways will be taken away as they are a distraction to drivers. They will be collected and taken to Whittlesford Depot - £20 charge to collect.

Concessionary Bus Travel tickets will not enable free travel outside the district.

Change in the Primary Care Trust will aim to support a bigger, single, ambulance trust (regionalisation).

The meeting was now opened to the public for any County Council questions.

Questions were asked about the new footway being built at Bassingbourn to replace an existing one, particularly as we are still waiting for completion of promised footway for Whaddon. County Councillor Oliver will chase up the status of the Whaddon footway. Councillor Peyton stated that a cyclist had been ordered off the Bassingbourn footway by the police. Councillor Oliver will check the legality of cycling on this footway.

The meeting was now closed to the public.

6.0 Planning

District Councillor Cathcart will enquire into the North Road, planning application (re: listed building).

7.0 Finance

Cheque No 100497 - £31.71 – Dr N Strudwick – expenses relating to setting up of website.

Cheque No 100498 - £47.50 – Mr K Charles – for printing Village newsletter

Cheque No 100499 - £15.53 – Mr E Webb – Chairman's expenses

Cheque No 100500 - £598.91 – Mrs Y Alberty – 14 weeks salary £559.30, exp £39.60 includes printer cartridge.

A Cheque for £40 has been received from Whaddon Golf Club for Advertising in the Parish Newsletter.

8.0 Website

The site has been moved to a new internet server and will soon be operational. Councillor Strudwick had brought a laptop computer to the meeting and was able to show the Councillors and members of the public what the Website might look like.

9.0 Parish Plan

Councillor Byatt – The final list of corrections has been made and approved. The Parish Plan will shortly be going to the printers and when the Plan is finally distributed, it was mentioned that a letter is to be included, inviting people to the Annual General Meeting in May.

The meeting was now opened to the public.

10.0 Comments from the Public

A member of the public suggested a litter pick as there is a lot of rubbish around the village. It was agreed that this would take place on Monday 3rd April at 10.00am meeting at the Whaddon Gap Car Park.

The matter of the recent blockage of the sewage in Bridge Street was raised and after reading the Parish Newsletter a member of the public asked why they should pay an extra charge when their property was not on mains drainage. The Chairman stated that general costs such as these are usually shared by everybody.

It was also stated from the floor that the church gates would be re-stained.

The meeting recommenced.

11.0 Any Other Business

Councillor Peyton mentioned that there was ivy on the tree by the recreation ground.

Burglary last week in Whaddon reminder to villagers to be extra vigilant about locking up property etc.

There have been reports of illegal shooting on land in the area, the police have been involved.

Councillor Cathcart stated that there is a sports centre being proposed at Bassingbourn near the College.

The Chairman mentioned that the village handyman has resigned and an advert has been inserted in the Newsletter for the vacancy to be filled.

The date of the next meeting is 24th April 2005 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

The meeting was closed at 9.15pm.

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 24 April 2006 in the Village Hall

Present- Chairman	Mr E Webb
Vice Chairman	Mrs C Byatt
Councillors	Mr P Neale, Mrs M Peyton, Prof. A Milton, Dr. N Strudwick
District Councillors	Mr N Cathcart
Parish Clerk	Mrs Y Albery
Parishioners	7 Present

- 1.0 Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Linda Oliver, Councillor Lee Ginger, also District Councillor David McGraith who had said that he would be late to the meeting.**
- 2.0 Approval of previous minutes**
All councillors present agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly, including one copy for the Main Notice Board.
- 3.0 Matters Arising**
- 3.1** Parking at Ridgeway Close. There was no further progress as District Councillor McGraith had not arrived at the meeting.
- 3.2** Proposed election changes. There were two issues to be discussed, a) having a full election every four years or b) electing a third of the seats every three years out of four (called 'election by thirds'. The council felt that scheme a) would make the Council more political and scheme b) more expensive.
A vote was taken among the Councillors and two voted for a) and one voted for b) with three abstentions. Councillors felt that village issues were more important for our independence than allowing politics to take over. The final decision was, that we should retain the status quo.
- 3.3** Village Hall Boundary Wall. It had been agreed with the owner of the adjoining property that the tree in question would be removed at his expense. Once the tree has been removed, the Parish Council will decide whether to repair or rebuild the wall. Safety fencing is available if the wall demonstrates instability or looks likely to be a danger.
- 4.0 Correspondence**
ROSPA will be conducting their safety checks on the playground equipment in May.
Cambridge County Council has issued display posters for the concessionary bus fares. These notices have been placed on the notice boards and also distributed to various houses.
Information has been received from **CALC** relating to possible grants toward the running costs of street lighting.
- 5.0** As County Councillor Oliver was unable to attend the meeting, she had sent an e-mail message to confirm that the proposed footway in Meldreth Road would definitely be going ahead to completion. However at this point, a member of the public stated that when speaking to workmen who were measuring at the site, a person stated that as Highways were short of money, we would not be getting a full run of footway. The Clerk will take this matter up with the Highways Department.
- 6.0 Planning**
S/0659/06/PNT for 02/UK LTD. A 12.5 mtr. high Telecom mast on the Old North Road, Bassingbourn
Minstral Court, Old North Road, District Councillor Cathcart stated that the Planning Application for a conservatory has been looked at. SCDC are aware that the conservatory has not been authorised. He will report back again but in the meantime the Clerk will give the relevant papers to the Chairman who will draft a new letter to SCDC.
- 7.0 Finance**
Cheque No 100501 - £115.50 – to CALC for 2006/07 subscriptions.
The Clerk asked the Councillors if they wished Mr Chilvers to continue as our internal auditor for this year. The Councillors agreed unanimously. The Councillors also agreed that the Clerk should have a cost of living rise from the current £7.99 ph. to £8.23 ph from April 1st 2006.

Finance Cont..

The Parish Council has received the quotation for insurance of the Parish property and liabilities for 2006/07. The Chairman has reviewed the figures and has suggested that as the Village Hall is currently insured for £153,000, this should be raised to £200,000.

All Councillors agreed and the Clerk will inform the insurance company.

8.0 Website

Councillor Strudwick felt that everything is going well but a few more things need to be added and it was agreed that the website should be released to the public in two weeks or so.

9.0 Village Hall Management Report.

Chairman of the Committee gave his report which included that the new lighting for the exterior of the Village Hall would be starting on Friday next. The connection to the main sewer was progressing and paperwork had been submitted to Anglia Water. The new electric hand driers were now working. The revised draft of the Village Hall Constitution had now been finished and had been circulated to all Councillors. It is hoped that it will be ratified at the AGM on 15th May. The minutes of Management meetings will be posted on the notice boards.

The meeting was now opened to the public.

10.0 Comments from the Public

A member of the public asked if a short clip of video of last years Morris dancing could be shown on the Website. Councillor Strudwick said that this was possible.

Another enquiry was made as to when the grass cutting of the Village verges would be starting as the grass was now getting very long. The Chairman said that as our grass cutting allowance had been reduced, there would only be four cuts this year. However an early May cut could be made.

The meeting recommenced.

11.0 Any Other Business

Councillor Peyton mentioned that the ivy on the tree by the recreation ground needs attention. She also suggested that dog walkers could take a plastic bag with them and pick up any small items of litter that they might find. The recent litter pick had been very successful as several black bin bags had been filled. The village looks better for it. Under **Neighbourhood Watch** she mentioned that two men had been seen in Bridge Street offering cheap tarmac paths and drives and were later seen in Meldreth Road offering double glazing. Their vehicle registration had been noted. There has been a 'break-in' in Church Street and several items were taken. If parishioners see anything or anyone, acting suspiciously, they should not hesitate to contact the police.

Councillor Byatt stated that a group discussion had taken place relating to the first formal part of the Clerk's Certificate of Achievement. The next meeting will take place on May 16th.

Councillor Milton stated that he was glad that the Clerk was now on electronic mail.

Chairman Webb stated that the village sign has been inspected and the deficiencies will be corrected.

Mr Pinner and Mr O'Conner have been informed of the intention to put bollards in front of the village hall to which they have no objection. The Chairman will look to purchase the bollards which will be stored until needed.

District Councillor McGraith now arrived at the meeting and was asked about parking at Ridgeway Close but had no more information to give, but agreed that more parking space was needed.

The date of the next meeting is 15th May 2005 at 7.00pm in the village hall, to be followed by the Annual General Meeting at 8.00pm.

The meeting was closed at 9.00pm.

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 15 May 2006 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

Present- Chairman	Mr E Webb
Vice Chairman	Mrs C Byatt
Councillors	Mr P Neale, Mrs M Peyton, Prof. A Milton, Dr. N Strudwick and Mr L Ginger
District Councillors	Mr N Cathcart and Mr D McCraith
Parish Clerk	Mrs Y Albery
Parishioners	7 Present

1.0 Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Linda Oliver

2.0 Approval of previous minutes

All councillors agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly, including one copy for the Main Notice Board.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 Village Hall Boundary Wall

The tree adjacent to the wall has now been removed. Three quotes will be obtained to rebuild the wall.

3.2 Meldreth Road Footpath

The footpath has now been completed and a letter of thanks has been sent to Highways Department by the Clerk.

3.3 Grass Cutting

There will be one less cutting of the grass this year. (4 instead of 5).

4.0 Correspondence

SCDC are inviting Parish Councils to a meeting to share views concerning the general provision of gipsy and 'traveller' sites

5.0 Planning

S/0838/06/F 64 Bridge Street, Mr and Mrs Smee extension – Store Room

Permission granted

S/2185/05/F 114 Church Street for J Cooper. Erection for 2 dwellings and garage/workshop/store following demolition with various conditions attached.

The planning application concerning the erection of telephone mast adjacent to A1198 at Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth, was discussed.

6.0 Finance

Cheque No 100502 £1045.44 Allianz Cornhill Insurance PLC

Cheque No 100503 £69.00 Local Council Clerks

Received 1st instalment of precept £7,500.

An advance was made for the Parish Plan Steering Group on 20th June 2005 covering expenses of £434.03. VAT has been recovered (the outstanding amount is £386.15). It was agreed to ask the Steering Group to repay to the Parish Council £280.56 which would leave £105.59 as a contribution from the Parish Council. All councillors agreed to the proposal.

Concern was shown over an article in the 'Councils Direct' magazine regarding a limit to the amount of VAT reclaimable in a year. This possibly affects any proposed improvements to the Village Hall.

7.0 Village Website

The village website is now running – various items are already on there, the Parish Council Minutes, Parish Plan, Church Guide etc.

8.0 Village Hall Management Report

The committee is pleased about the new village handyman. The sewer connection is held pending Anglia Water to contact the Parish Council. All information has been sent to AW. The outside lighting to the Village Hall is now complete, but a few adjustments are needed to timers.

Mr Hough's ideas for the Village Hall should be with us by 6th June.

The new constitution for the Village Hall Management Committee will be ratified at the Annual General Meeting which follows this meeting.

There was discussion about the hire of the football pitch regarding charges, maintenance etc. The recreation ground will continue to be maintained by the Parish Council as at present.

9.0 Any Other Business

Councillor Neale stated that the water leak in Bridge Street would be repaired properly on Thursday.

Councillor Byatt said she would like to attend the Local Development Framework Workshop. Clerk to book Councillor Byatt onto the course.

Councillor Milton mentioned County Council using 0845 numbers for enquiries about County matters.

Councillor Ginger spoke about the proposed fire fighters strike being covered by the fire engine from Trumpington.

Chairman Webb has concerns regarding Affordable Homes Scheme, whether local Whaddon residents on the list would definitely qualify. It has been suggested that some villages are being told to allocate people living outside the village who in the Council's opinion are higher on the waiting list. District Councillor Cathcart felt it would not apply to Whaddon as we come under Section 106. He suggested that we send a Parish Council delegation to meet the Allocations Officer. He will support out Parish Council over this issue. Clerk to arrange the meeting.

Councillor Strudwick (Chairman of the Management Committee) has asked for a special dispensation in order to take up a visiting professorship in Egyptology. Chairman Webb has already approached all councillors for their views. They were now asked to ratify their decision at this meeting. All Councillors agreed to grant this leave. Chairman Webb will chair the Management Meetings in his absence.

10.0 Comments from the Public

Do Village Hall Management Committee funds belong to the Parish Council or Committee?
Answer – Parish Council.

Discussion took place regarding free bus travel for the over 60's, but under the current scheme recently introduced by the Government, it does not allow concessionary travel outside a district/area as there are no funds available for 'Cross District' travel

The date of the next meeting is 19th June 2006

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 19 June 2006 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present- Chairman	Mr E Webb
Councillors	Mrs M Peyton, Dr. N Strudwick
District Councillors	Mr N Cathcart and Mr D McCraith
Parish Clerk	Mrs Y Albery
Parishioners	2 Present

1.0 Apologies for absence received from County Councillor L Oliver, Vice Chairman C Byatt, Councillors L Ginger, P Neale and Prof. A Milton.

2.0 Approval of previous minutes

All councillors agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly, including one copy for the Main Notice Board.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 Village Hall Boundary Wall

Three enquiries have been issued for the rebuilding and we are awaiting replies. The adjacent neighbour has been very cooperative in helping to deal with the problem.

3.2 Affordable Homes

A meeting had been arranged to meet members of the SCDC regarding eligibility for the affordable homes. Unfortunately the meeting had to be cancelled. Another meeting will be arranged, hopefully during July and District Councillor Cathcart will assist in setting up the meeting. Concern was expressed that funding for this scheme does not appear to be available yet. The Clerk is keeping in communication with Bedford Pilgrims regarding progress.

4.0 New Correspondence

Cambridge Water Company is running the annual competition 'Cambridge Water Village Life Fund'.

Councillor Strudwick asked if all correspondence for the past month, could be listed and form part of the Minutes. Councillor Peyton stated that a lot of the post received has no relevance to this village. This matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

5.0 Planning

S/0859/06/F College Farm, Church Street, Whaddon for Mr and Mrs Elbourn. An extension.

S/0971/06/F 111 Meldreth Road, Whaddon, for Mr and Mrs Warren for a conservatory.

S/1134/06/LB Whaddon Grange, Bridge Street, for Mr N Shaw. Alterations to kitchen hearth, raising and replacement of bressumer beam, renovation of bread oven.

6.0 ROSPA Report

The ROSPA report has not yet been received, but the day after the playground was inspected, Chairman Webb received a telephone call telling him that the 'monkey climbing frame' was rotted and should not be used. Subsequently after further inspection by the Chairman, it was decided to have the frame removed for safety reasons. This has now been done. The children of the village who have been using this equipment, were asked to form a group and come up with suggestions for a replacement.

7.0 Finance

Cheque No. 100504, £120 for removal and disposal of Climbing Frame, to Mr Roger Taylor.

Cheque No. 100505, £60 for auditing of accounts for 2005/06, to Mr P Chilvers.

Cheque No. 100506, £15.32 for telephone expenses, to Mr E Webb.

Cheque No. 100507, £50.00 for Whaddon News Letter, to Mr K Charles.

Cheque No. 100508, £615.46 for Clerk's salary, to Mrs Y Albery (includes £22.90 expenses)

Monies Received

£601.99 for Grass Cutting

£100.41 for Recycling for year 2005/2006

7.01 Agreement of 2005/06 Accounts

The Clerk asked for approval of the above accounts and all councillors present approved them.

7.02 Reclaiming VAT

As a result of an article in 'The Clerk' magazine, enquiries are being made into the amount of VAT which may be claimed in a given year.

VAT booklet 729 which appears to cover the subject has been given to the Chairman for his perusal.

8.0 Village Hall Management Committee

The latest situation report on the sewer connection was requested. The clerk has been in contact with Anglia Water and has been told to expect that permission to proceed will be granted in the next few days.

Thanks were given to Mr Ron Albery for overseeing the work on the Village Hall lighting, which is now up and running.

A meeting has recently been held covering ideas for improvements to the Village Hall.

The positions of the proposed bollards will be finalised by the Parish Council.

The Village BBQ will be held on Saturday July 1st 2006 at 7.30 pm on the Recreation Ground.

9.0 Any Other Business

County Councillor Oliver sent some notes to the meeting which included:-

- Distraction Burglaries (people posing as Utilities Officials, gardeners, children collecting balls from gardens etc.)
- Herts. Fire and Rescue Service has moved services and manpower closer to S Cambs. during periods of the Hertfordshire strike, to cover emergencies.
- At Stansted Airport, BAA has applied for maximum use of the existing runway and has requested a major increase in aircraft movements and passenger numbers. Cambridgeshire County Council is not supportive of any relaxation of current controls.

Councillor Peyton stated that in her opinion the grass verges were not very well cut on the last occasion. The Chairman will investigate.

Councillor Strudwick expressed disquiet at what appeared to be some heavy-handed action by the police in Bassingbourn. He was somewhat reassured by the District Councillors that there have been a few problems there which are being addressed. He also felt that the police had used inappropriate language to describe miscreants in an e –mail, and had made a complaint, and received an apology. He still felt local police behaviour should be watched carefully. He then asked what highway work was happening at Meldreth cross roads.

Councillor Cathcart said that a new entrance was being created for the Meldreth affordable homes.

A reminder was given of the date of the Church Fete (15th July).

The meeting was now opened to the public.

A member of the public said that he was interested in the replacement of the climbing frame as he felt that it was a good piece of equipment for a wide age range of children. He would also be interested in helping with the acquisition of any new equipment.

The meeting was closed at 8.50 pm. Date of next meeting is 17th July at 7.30 pm

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 17th July 2006 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:- Chairman Mr E Webb
 Councillors Mrs M Peyton, Mrs C Byatt, Dr. N Strudwick
 District Councillors Mr N Cathcart and Mr D McCraith
 County Councillor Mrs L Oliver
 Parish Clerk Mrs Y Albery
 Parishioners 3 Present

1.0 Apologies for absence received from Councillors P Neale, L Ginger, A Milton.

2.0 Approval of previous minutes

All councillors agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly including one copy for the Main Notice Board.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 Village Hall Boundary Wall

Three quotes have been received and a fourth is being revised.

- 1) 'South Cambs. Landscape' for a sum of £3478 including VAT
- 2) 'Lander and Lindsay' for the sum of £7340 ex.VAT
- 3) 'Butler Bros.' for the sum of £3990 exVAT
- 4) Quote from 'E.C Crow' is awaiting revision.

It is suggested that a meeting is held with Mr O'Connor to discuss the quotes when the last one is available.

3.2 Affordable Homes

The Bedford Pilgrims have not yet obtained finance but is still hopeful that funds will be made available. The Parish Council has had a meeting with Laura Razzell of ACRE who is examining the current position on affordable homes. She has sent an e-mail stating the conditions of entitlement and will also be in contact with Paul Barham of Bedford Pilgrims to find out the current situation. Discussion took place among the Councillors as to whether an alternative site was worth looking for. It was agreed to wait for the outcome of Laura Razzell's investigation before making any decision on this in view of the work already undertaken.

3.3 ROSPA Report

Apart from the removal of the monkey frame from the Play Area, other comments were of a minor nature.

3.4 Listing of all Correspondence in the Minutes.

There was much discussion on this subject and it was felt that if any correspondence was listed then it must include every item. The Parish Council were divided on the merits of the proposal for listing all correspondence. When the question was put to the District and County Councillors as to the procedure at other councils, it was stated that no common procedure could be established. At least one council which has achieved 'Quality Status', does not list the correspondence in the minutes.

4.0 New Correspondence

Letter from SCDC Re; Footway lighting. Maintenance of the two street lights at Ridgeway Close would cost £17.62 per lamp and energy charge would be £15.35 per lamp. Total cost of the two lamps would be £65.22 for the year 2006/07.

5.0 Planning

S/0838/06/F 64 Bridge Street, for Mr and Mrs Smee. For an extension (Permission granted)

S/0859/06/F College Farm, for Mr and Mrs Elbourn. (Permission refused).

S/1274/06/LB) 94 Meldreth Road, for Mr and Mrs T Walker. Permission applied for **S/1275/06/F)** demolition of single storey bedroom and conservatory replaced by bedroom with en-suite bathroom with sunroom.

S/1237/06/F Withdrawal of application for telecoms. tower at Old North Road, for O2 (UK)

A suggestion was made by a Parish Councillor that when planning applications are received, they should be e-mailed to each Councillor. This was not adopted.

6.0 Finance

Cheque No. 100509, £94.00 to ROSPA for playground inspection.

Cheque No. 100510, £528.75 to Anglian Water Services Ltd. for sewer connection.

Cheque for £280.56 received from Parish Plan Steering Group as loan repayment.

6.1 Purchase of Picnic Table. The Councillors agreed to the purchase of a picnic table made from recycled plastic for the Picnic Area. The price will be £389.00 +VAT.

7.0 Village Hall Management Report

All the paperwork for the sewer connection is now in place, and we are awaiting a start date. The proposed plans for the Village Hall are now at the stage where they can go for planning approval. Grants and loans will need to be sought. A list of jobs has been created for the Village Hall handyman to take on.

Mr E Webb will take over as acting Chairman in the absence of Dr Strudwick.

8.0 Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the members of the Public present.

9.0 Any other Business

Councillor Peyton stated that a parishioner from Littlington was knocked off her bicycle by a white van whilst cycling on the byway (Byway 22) at the bottom of Bridge Street. The bridge over the stream at the bottom of Bridge Street is collapsing at the edges. County Councillor Oliver will speak to Mr Tabbitt of Highways to see if remedial action can be taken.

Councillor Strudwick asked why the Councillors were being ‘summoned’ to the meeting instead of being invited as before. The Clerk stated that this was the correct terminology as defined in the Certificate of Achievement Course which she is currently undertaking.

Councillor Ginger will be responsible for updating information on the Village Website in Councillor Strudwick’s absence.

Councillor Byatt stated that rubbish has been left on the bridleway on the right hand side. A question was asked as to how many of the bungalows are still in Council ownership. District Councillor Cathcart will enquire.

District Councillor Cathcart spoke about the Local Plan and said that it is possible that some people would have objections to Whaddon's position in the Plan, but this was unlikely.

County Councillor Oliver said that the Guided Bus Scheme from St. Ives to Cambridge is likely to receive the 'go ahead' and would include a Cycleway.

Chairman Webb stated that the Parish Councillors needed to have a meeting to discuss the recommendations of the Parish Plan. It has been difficult to bring all the Councillors together at this time of year for such a meeting.

There followed discussion regarding the poor attendance record of some of the Councillors. Councillor Byatt suggested that at the end of each Council year, each individual Councillor's attendance record should be noted in the minutes. After more discussion it was decided that the Chairman would contact all Councillors on this matter.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

The date of the next meeting is 18th September at 7.30 pm

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 18th September 2006 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:-Chairman Mr E Webb
 Vice Chairman Mrs C Byatt
 Councillors Mrs M Peyton, Mr P Neale
 District Councillors Mr D McCraith
 County Councillor Mrs L Oliver (see below)
 Parish Clerk Mrs Y Albery
 Parishioners 9 Present

1.0 Apologies for absence received from Councillors L Ginger, A Milton, District Councillor N Cathcart. County Councillor L Oliver had sent apologies for late arrival because of attendance at other Council meetings.

2.0 Approval of previous minutes

All councillors agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly including one copy for the Main Notice Board.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 Village Hall Boundary Wall

Another quote has been received for the repair of the damaged Village Hall wall. The Clerk and Chairman are to arrange a meeting with Mr O'Connor now that we have all four quotes.

3.2 Affordable Homes

The Bedford Pilgrims have had a restructuring of their offices and they now have an office in Peterborough which covers the Cambridge area. Whaddon affordable homes project has been taken over by Ms Tracey Harrison. We have been reassured that the scheme is still viable and funding being sought. More information will be made available for the next PC meeting.

3.3 Picnic Area

The picnic bench has arrived. A quote has been received from M G Radford to fix the bench and pave the area, for the sum of £695.00 plus VAT. Mr Ron Albery is willing to assist in erecting the bench in the picnic area if some additional help could be arranged. A small group of villagers have volunteered.

3.4 Number of Council owned bungalows

District Councillor Cathcart had made enquiries and had reported through the clerk that seven bungalows at Ridgeway Close are still owned by the District Council. He also said that if the Parish Council wished, it may be possible to include the bungalows as part of a 'Roving Warden' scheme.

3.5 Bridge Street Bridge Problem

Discussion took place about the poor state of the Bridge and it was decided to ask County Councillor Linda Oliver to enquire whether anything could be done to strengthen the sides of the Bridge to remove any risk to large vehicles which need access.

4.0 New Correspondence

There was no new correspondence

5.0 Planning**Planning permission requested**

S/1633/06/F, 122 Bridge Street, Whaddon, Mr and Mrs Gibson, for garden store.

S/1601/06/LB, White Cottage, 153 Bridge Street, Whaddon. Mr and Mrs J Warrack installation of flue liner in dining room to serve boiler.

S/1339/06/LB, 42 Bridge Street, for Mr and Mrs Webb, for replacement double glazed timber casements.

Permission granted.

S/1221/06/F, 154 Bridge Street, Mr and Mrs Sarter, for extension. No development can commence until details of foul sewerage disposal have been submitted and approved.

S/0971/06/F, 111 Meldreth Road, Mr and Mrs Warren, for a conservatory.

S/1275/06/F, 96 Meldreth Road, Mr and Mrs Walker, for extension.

Planning refused

S/1134/06/LB, Whaddon Grange, Bridge Street, for Mr N Shaw.

6.0 Finance**Cheques already paid**

01/08/06 Cheque No 100511, for £1029.30 (VAT 153.30) to Autopa Ltd. (for bollards)

09/08/06 Cheque No 100512, for £141(VAT £21) To Moore Stephens (2005/06 audit)

Cheques to be signed tonight

Cheque No 100513 £623.47, to Mrs Y Albery for salary and expenses

Cheque No 100514 £589.15, for Village Hall Man. Committee, (repayment of VAT)

Cheque No 100515 £504.08, for Marmax Products Ltd. (Picnic Table) (VAT £75.08)

Cheque No 100516 £19.25, for E Webb, Chairman's telephone expenses

Cheque No 100517 £60.00 , S Baker, for cutting grass of recreation ground.

Cheque No 100518 £40.00, Mr K Charles, for printing Village News Letter.

Cheque No 100519 £160.00, Mr R Green, for hire of equipment

We have received the second instalment of the Precept. (£7500.00)

We have also received VAT of £1060.46 (Parish Council entitlement £470.61)

7.0 Recreation Ground Grass Cutting

Mr Docwra is no longer able to cut the grass for us, therefore the Parish Council is looking into alternative solutions to this problem. It was agreed by the Councillors to ask Meadow nurseries to give one cut in view of the continued growth.

8.0 Village Hall Management Report

Mr Webb was acting Chairman for the last meeting. He reported that a representative from South Cambs. District Council has viewed the proposed Village Hall plans but wants a car parking arrangement scheme to be submitted by Mr Clive Hough. The Parish Council will look at the scheme on 27th September. 'Prohelp Business in the Community' offer costing services free through ACRE, to parish councils involved in building works. The Chairman will write requesting help with estimates for the cost of the proposed modifications.

The sewer connection is expected to take place on Monday 2nd October and traffic lights will be in operation. The bollards will also be installed at the same time.

A budget figure of £500.00 for 12 metres of metal railings to match the recreation ground has been received from Meldform in Whaddon. All councillors agreed to purchase.

The Village Hall accounts have been agreed by the accountant.

A Car Boot Sale is planned for 21st October

A Christmas Draw will take place on 9th December

A Quiz Nite is planned for 20th January 2007

9.0 Comments from the Public

A member of the public mentioned that the pothole opposite Ridgeway Close was now becoming dangerous. The Clerk will contact the Highways Dept.

The Council was asked if the new picnic table would be able to be seen from the road and if a second table was being proposed. The answer was 'yes' to both questions.

Questions were asked as to what type of play equipment was being proposed. Various options were being considered. It was hoped that grant aid would be available. Mr Neil Gallery has suggested that we get the children of the village together in the village hall for discussion, to find out their wishes for play equipment.

Car parking on the bend at the top of Bridge Street is causing concern, at present there has been no simple solution to this problem.

A member of the public reminded the Council that one important public service vehicle which might require access across the Bridge Street bridge, was a fire engine, which is extremely heavy.

Several members of the public asked County Councillor Oliver what was being done about speeding through the village. One suggestion she made was that it may be possible to investigate participation in the Community Speedwatch arrangement where, after training, a speed gun could be issued to certain villagers if they were prepared to take responsibility. She also said that she would request more speed checks by the police. She held little hope for a reduction in the current speed limit due to the financial constraints on the County.

10.0 Any Other Business

County Councillor Oliver was asked what the policy was regarding the memorials on the A1198 after the recent accident there. She did not think that there was a specific policy, but the flowers etc. had now been moved further back from the edge of the road.

District Councillor McGraith stated that the concessionary bus fare scheme is changing. It starts on Sunday 1st October and replaces the original scheme with free travel on local buses with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Leaflets are being distributed.

The meeting was closed at 9.40 pm

The date of the next meeting is on 16th October 2006 at 7.30 pm.

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 16th October 2006 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:-Chairman Mr E Webb
 Vice Chairman Mrs C Byatt
 Councillors Mrs M Peyton, Mr P Neale, Prof. A Milton, Mr L Ginger
 District Councillors Mr D McCraith, Mr N Cathcart
 Parish Clerk Mrs Y Albery
 Parishioners 9 present

1.0 Apologies for absence received from County Councillor Mrs L Oliver

2.0 Approval of previous minutes

All councillors agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly including one copy for the Main Notice Board.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 Bridge Street bridge problem

The Highways Dept. will shortly be strengthening the sides of the bridge as requested at the September Parish Council meeting. There was general discussion about further modifications to the bridge which might improve flooding in the area and the matter was left for future discussion.

3.2 Affordable homes

A meeting is being set up with Ms Denise Lewis of SCDC and BPHA re funding for the Whaddon affordable homes.

3.3 Recreation Ground grass cutting

Thanks were expressed to Mr Jim Docwra for his freely given time for cutting the recreation ground during the last few years.

Quotations have been received from Meadow Nurseries for a fee of £60.00 per cut assuming 12 cuts per year. A quote has been received from Buchams Landscape for a fee of £75.00 per cut assuming 12 cuts per year. Mr K Green of Whaddon Golf Club has quoted a price of approximately £50.00 per cut with a view to keeping the total price under £500 for the year. The Councillors present agreed that the Chairman should negotiate terms with Mr Green.

4.0 Correspondence

- 1 SCDC Gipsy Traveller Development Plan Document
- 2 Village Life Fund- Letter received to notify us of our unsuccessful application for funding of a picnic table.

5.0 Planning

Neighbouring properties are often not being notified when planning applications are submitted. District Councillor Cathcart will investigate.

6.0 Finance

Cheques already paid on 03/10/06

Cheque No 100520 £25.00 to CPRE East of England for Councillor's Course

To be signed tonight

Cheque No 100521 £24.26 to Archers Signs & Panels Ltd. (notice for Village Hall)

Cheque No 100522 £60.00 to S Baker for grass cutting recreation ground.

Cheque No 100523 £26.10 to Mrs Byatt relating to Course attendance.

7.0 Parish Plan Recommendations

The Parish Plan recommendations were ratified by the Parish Council. (See list of recommendations in the attached appendix).

8.0 Field Pest Control (Bridge Street area)

Discussion took place concerning the legalities of the use of firearms in the vicinity of footpaths and roadways. Complaints had been received from Bridge Street and Meldreth Road regarding the use of firearms particularly during hours of darkness. It was stated that the farmers had a legal right to clear their land of pests, but responsible behaviour was not always evident. A member of the public suggested that we should try to get all involved parties together for a formal meeting which would include representation from the farmers, shooters and concerned residents. It was decided to ask Mrs Shaw of Neighbourhood Watch if she would organise a firearms officer to speak at the meeting to explain the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved in local pest control.

9.0 Comments from the Public

It was mentioned that as there was a 'Car Boot Sale' next Saturday (21st October) it would be necessary to have the relevant area of the recreation ground cut as it was now quite long. Chairman Webb would speak to Mr K Green to see if this was possible.

A member of the public commented on the possibility of selected members of the public being trained in the use of speed guns and the likely risks involved from irate motorists.

Various comments were made on the Parish Plan Recommendations, one comment asked for an explanation of what 'Visual Aids' meant. It was explained that this was the use of colour markings and also the word 'SLOW' painted on the road.

10.0 Village Hall Proposed Plans

The Plans were produced by Mr Hough. Discussion took place and many of those present expressed surprise at the large size of the car park and its proximity to the children's play area. It was stated that the SCDC Planning Dept. had asked for one car space for every eight square metres of floor space which resulted in the design as tabled. More detailed plans will be made available at a later date.

11.0 Any Other Business

Councillor Peyton asked for a progress report on the Village Hall sewer connection. The Chairman reported that the sewer connection in the road had been completed and the contractor would be shortly returning to complete the rest of the work including the bollards. Councillor Byatt reported that the CPRE (East of England) course which she had attended was very informative and constructive.

There being no other comments the meeting was closed.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

The date of the next meeting will be 20th November 2006 at 7.30 pm

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 20 November 2006 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:-Chairman Mr E Webb
 Vice Chairman Mrs C Byatt
 Councillors Mr P Neale, Mr L Ginger
 District Councillors Mr D McCraith, Mr N Cathcart
 County Councillor Mrs L Oliver
 Parish Clerk Mrs Y Albery
 Parishioners 6 present

1.0 Apologies for absence received from Councillor Mrs M Peyton, Councillor A Milton

2.0 Approval of previous minutes

All councillors agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly including one copy for the Main Notice Board.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 Bridge Street bridge problem

The Contractors should be on site in the next two weeks to repair the bridge.

3.2 Field pest control

A meeting has been arranged for 20th December in the village hall and police Fire Arms Officer (Mr A Dobson) will be present to outline the use of firearms and answer any questions of concern as to their use. Mr Ken Charles will chair the meeting.

3.3 Planning notification to neighbours

District Councillor Cathcart reported that judgement was often made by the planning officers as to whether planning applications would affect anyone, however, any change to listed buildings would normally be notified to the neighbours as well as other means, such as by notices on telegraph poles, field gates etc.

4.0 Correspondence

Received from Highways Department, a questionnaire regarding their performance.

5.0 Planning

Planning permission granted.

Application No. S/1633/06/F for Mr and Mrs S Gibson, 122 Bridge Street. Permission granted for a Garden Store.

Application No. S/1601/LB for White Cottage, 153 Bridge Street. Permission granted for flexible flue liner in dining room hearth to serve boiler.

Application No. S/1274/06/LB for Mr and Mrs T Walker, 96 Meldreth Road. Permission granted for demolition of single storey bedroom and conservatory, to be replaced by bedroom with en-suite bathroom and sunroom.

Refusal of Consent

Application No. S/1339/06/LB for Mr and Mrs Webb, 42 Bridge Street. Replacement of 12 windows with double glazed timber casements.

Application No. S/1134/06/LB for Mr and Mrs N Shaw, 'The Grange', Bridge St. for alterations to a bressumer beam and renovation of bread oven. An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State.

A Councillor asked if, in connection with the two new houses being constructed on the Pickering Farm site, a scheme for soft and hard landscaping had been submitted to the SCDC for approval in accordance with 'condition 3' of the application. District Councillor Cathcart will investigate.

6.0 Finance

Monies received

£5000.00 grant from SCDC for help toward sewer connection.

£6000.00 payment from Village Hall Management Committee toward sewer connection.

Cheques already paid

Cheque No. 100524 £248.29 to Mr Mike Carter (Village handyman)

Cheque No. 100525 £267.91 to SCDC Building Control Dept.

Cheque No. 100526 £705.00 to Morley Marketing for supply and fit railing on recreation ground.

To be signed tonight

Cheque No.100527 £13,919.40 (inc. VAT £2073.10) BWC Contracts Ltd. for sewer connection.

Cheque No. 100528 £29.46 to Mr E Webb for telephone expenses.

7.0 Parish Paths Partnership Scheme

The Parish Council discussed the scheme and decided that they would ask someone to come to a meeting and give a talk on how the scheme could operate in Whaddon. The Clerk was asked to request an application form and set up a meeting with Mr Steve Tabbitt of Cambridge County Council.

8.0 Highways (Parish Plan)

The Parish Council has received a letter from a resident of Meldreth Road which included a survey of early morning traffic. The survey showed a significant increase in traffic, in particular, articulated lorries which caused disruption to her sleep. It was also evident that most of these vehicles were speeding. She asked if the Parish Council could write to Eternit asking the company to ensure that its vehicles used the Mettle Hill route where possible.

Discussion on the subject of highways then took place with County Councillor Linda Oliver. She agreed that since the Baldock bypass had been opened, much more traffic was using the A1198, but held out little hope that funding could be made available for speed restrictions or other improvements at the 'Whaddon Gap'

Parish Councillors raised the matter of general speeding through the village and County Councillor Oliver stated that it was a case of Whaddon having to wait its turn until its name came to the top of the list of requests for speed reduction. The Village has been on the list since Year 2001. Interactive signs requesting SLOW were suggested to be placed at both ends of the village. A member of the public asked why we could not change the signs ourselves, but due to legalities and local bylaws, this was not possible. PC David Martin would be asked to undertake more speed checks through the village.

9.0 Village Hall

The main comment on the latest plans for the hall, was that the proposed design would be far too large, but the area could be reduced by about 1000 sq. ft.

The sewerage connection to the main sewer in the road is now finished.

The bollards have been installed and the contractor performed this work free of charge.

Additional railing has been installed by Morley Marketing but an additional post will need to be fitted at the end of the railing. It has been suggested that the old gate post at the entrance to the hall could be used when the boundary wall is refurbished.

Mr Clive Hough is to produce a scheme for replacing the flooring in the main hall.

The Clerk is to start the process of formally making an insurance claim for the repairs which are required to the boundary wall.

10.0 Childrens Play Area

A questionnaire will be attached to the next News Letter requesting views from parents and children of their wishes for equipment for the Play Area.

A meeting has been set up to enable the children to attend and give their opinions. Funding for the new equipment is looking hopeful.

11.0 Comments from the Public

A member of the public asked if a chevron direction sign could be installed in Meldreth Road on Chapel Bend. On that corner there have been several minor incidents due to the sharp bend. Councillor Oliver will look into this matter.

12.0 Any Other Business

Councillor Ginger said that he had written to the County Council stating that as Whaddon was one of the few villages without a proper bus service, he had requested that the service to Bassingbourn be re-routed through Whaddon to provide an enhanced facility.

Councillor Oliver informed the meeting that cuts in subsidies were being considered to some of the bus services.

Chairman Webb stated that there had been a comment brought to his notice that perhaps a letter could be sent to Highways requesting a NO RIGHT TURN at the Barn Shop for traffic going north. As the A1198 is now exceptionally busy, traffic turning right creates a hazardous situation.

The Chairman then asked the Clerk to give a report on the current status of the proposed affordable housing for Whaddon. The Clerk had spoken to Tracey Harrison of Bedford Pilgrim Trust and was lead to understand that the Housing Corporation has spare funds for schemes which are already in the 'pipeline'. Acting on this information, the Bedford Pilgrims will buy the land using their Land Bank Fund. The money available is for building work to take place between April 2007 and March 2008

BPHA will have a meeting with Highways department and their architect in the next few weeks. The Chairman asked that when this meeting takes place, the parish Council would like to have a representative present as this would provide some local knowledge.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

The date of the next meeting was set at 15 th January 2007