

Impington Parish Council Environment Committee

Minutes of Meeting, Tuesday 8th April 2008 7.30 p.m.

held at The Parish Office, New Road, Impington

Present: Cllrs P J Nudds (Chairman), H S Abdullah, D W Payne. Mr T W Silk; Tree Warden Ms A Conder, Cllr V A Kelly; Mr Peter Duthie, Northstowe Rights of Way Project Manager, CCC (in part)
Clerk: Mrs A Young

Pages: 2

Action By Cllrs:

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Members Declarations of Interest

None. All in agreement to bring forward item 5, standing orders suspended for the meeting

5. Peter Duthie, Northstowe Rights of Way Project Manager – Discussion of completed project, and briefing on Countryside Access Improvements Delivered

Handout provided (Appx 1). After a brief background of work of Rights of Way Team, Mr Duthie outlined a new follow-on programme. A large scale map was to be provided to all parishes in next month, including information on churches, pubs. Etc Links were now to be considered and ideas sought now for consideration, until say June when quotes could be gathered, with a priority on getting people to take exercise and sustainable travel. Ideas for improvements to links between Impington, Milton/Landbeach/Girton raised. Suggestions welcome, email peter.duthie@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Vanessa Kelly voiced concerns over cycleway widths and suitability. Mr Duthie was thanked for his attendance and left meeting. Chairman returned to agenda

3. To Sign and Approve Minutes 29 January 2008

All in favour and to be signed as a true record

4. Matters Arising

Cricket Club planning application Since withdrawn

NIAB No response, Agreed Enviro Group to inspect fence and repair any damage possible

Street Lights Invoices paid for 2006-07 and 2007-08. Nothing further heard regarding St Andrews Way lights following provision of letter from Daphne Spink to County Council

MHIS No contact from County Council

Byelaws No progress. Cllr D Payne to work with Lynda Marsh and Angela Young on specifics

Dog Bin/Litter bin requests SCDC had refused request for litter bin at Station Road (Whaling Commission) and Lone Tree Avenue. Dog Bins agreed for Villa Road and the Copse. Unfortunately Copse bin had been installed in error at Homefield Park. Clerk to advise SCDC

Deed of Dedication Cllr Abdullah recommended no action

Grass Contract First cut complete. Verges cut due. Buchans to be asked to leave Clay Close Lane and Doctors Close inner first time, collect South Rd key. Meeting to be arranged and final contract signed

5. Countryside Access Team (continued)

Noted letter from Kate Day asking for feedback on waymarking and grass cutting of paths.

Northstowe Area footpath and cycleway Network Project – reception due 15 April

6. Budgets Review

Some discussion on Enviro Volunteers equipment. Agreed that as Parish Council did not own it could not insure it, but Parish Council should pay for any necessary servicing. Agreed to make changes to Budget 2008-09 to remove £1,000 Dog & Litter Bins (now SCDC responsibility), reduce grass to £3037 (as quote); increase wildflower seeding to £1,000. After noting 5 trees required felling in Copse (maybe cost £750) any left from £20,000 overall figure to be added to Enviro Group item. Year 3 to be considered next agenda

7. Trees & Hedges

Tree Warden Scheme SCDC suggesting evening meetings and training sessions. Committee supported attendance by Allison Conder.

Commemorative Tree for ex-Cllr Silk. Matt Pickering (County Council) to report on siting. Noted root guard required if less than 5m from utilities

Alan Eade Histon Tree Warden had renovated tree plaques for Impington PC and would provide one for new commemorative tree also. Agreed to write and thank him and offer to reimburse costs
Quotes Tree Works adjacent 7 The Coppice Further quote now received for pollarding. Agreed to obtain comparison quote and all future tree quotes to ask for:

- Anything over 6" diameter – log stack
- Anything under 6" diameter – shred and leave on site as chippings

As standard. Agreed to delegate acceptance of quote for works to Clerk and Cllr Nudds to re-pollard and leave arising

The Crescent Enviro Group to remove fallen limbs. Some discussion on other fallen trees

Luminus application for removal of Mulberry Tree, Glebe Way SCDC had confirmed tree could be removed, despite Tree Warden's recommendation. Tree Warden to respond

Homefield Close meeting with SCDC 24 April

Guided Bus trees, The Copse to be monitored in case of destabilisation

Tree Warden Application for tree works at Burgoynes House, agreed.

Coppice Enviro Group to remove ivy from tree; Scots pine at 35 The Coppice, leaning towards house (behind access to oil tank). Advice and quotes to be requested.

Churchyard Tree Warden reported there appeared no opportunity to plant a replacement tree without causing a problem to the wall

Histon Football Club had felled trees along access. As not a Conservation Area, South Cambs advise no consultation necessary. Cllrs expressed concern over hazards caused: exposure of rec users to pollution, light, fumes, noise. Also distraction for car drivers. Cllr D Payne was due to meet Gareth Baldwin at Histon FC 26 April and would discuss this issue.

Tree Warden undertook to take up queries raised with Trees & Landscape Officer SCDC

8. Environmental Plan and Mission Statement

No further progress. To be removed from Agenda until progress made. Possibilities of involving HICCA and Histon Parish Council raised

9. Chairman's Report

Probationary Team. All agreed team to be asked to undertake slab removal and replanting at The Coppice (along B1049). Slabs to be stored for use by Parish Councils or donated. Agreed to provide notice for the area of land. Once work identified, to write to nearest neighbours and advise. Team to also clear brambles at Coppice and work on Copse posts and filling in ramps

Homefield Cllr Nudds attended Hereward & Homefield Residents meeting. Cllr D Payne agreed to advise on request for double yellow lines in Hereward Close at next H&H meeting. Agreed to ask Secretary for meeting dates. Cllr D Payne left the meeting

Guided Bus Issues Cllr Nudds had attended Liaison Forum. Path Closures details at Histon reported; Guided Bus Team had stated no problem with detritus on bus shelter roof envisaged due to roof pitch; secondary fencing between Copse and guideway, a kissing gate being considered (their responsibility in perpetuity)

Gatekeepers Hut On –going

Homefield Park Cllr Nudds to attend Recreation Ground Management Committee 9 April

Enviro Group up-date Next session 19 April at Coppice, on ivy. Group to deal with sweet chestnut at rear of 7 The Coppice

Milk Float No progress

Daffodil Bulbs Mr Silk had identified gaps in planting

Clay Close Lane Ditch Meeting planned to include Pat Matthews – Land Drainage Manager SCDC.

A possibility Probation Team may help

Flytipping Milton Road Matt Pickering to install bollards to prevent

Ironworks New Road Agreed to accept patchworking as no funding for resurfacing. Cllr Nudds to contact Matt Pickering

10. Playground Inspector's Report

ROSPA report due April. Mr Smith continued to report weekly

11. Other Correspondence

“Our Wild Neighbours” Conference Workshop 1 May, invitation. Cllr Nudds to attend

Date of next meeting

3rd June 2008

Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.