

MINUTES OF MEETING OF IMPINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD MONDAY 15 DECEMBER 2003

7.30P.M. AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL, BURGOYNES ROAD, IMPINGTON

PRESENT: Chairman Cllr D W Payne, Vice Chairman Cllr T W Silk, Cllrs H S Abdullah, P D Gooden (also County), D A Starling, J P Teague, S A Unwin, G B Waters Dist Cllrs N S Davies, J A Muncey
Histon Parish Cllrs Mason, Harris and Ruel Mrs A Young Clerk

1 APOLOGIES

177.1 Cllrs M Withers (holiday), C M Cole (illness), M R Lawton (work) Dist Cllr Chatfield (work)

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

178.1 Cllr Payne personal interest Item 6 (County Council employee); prejudicial interest Item 20 (involvement of spouse with Choir 2000)

3 OPEN SESSION FOR PUBLIC

179.1 No members of the public wished to raise any issues other than concerning item 6.
179.2 Chairman proposed, all agreed, to bring forward item 6. Standing orders suspended.

6 CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – RAPID TRANSIT SCHEME UP-DATE

180.1 Graham Hughes, Project Director for the Guided Bus Scheme reported on the current situation. Although things had moved on significantly since the last meeting with County officers in September, the fundamentals had not changed. Scheme Definition A proposal to use the station building site to provide car parking for 40 cars had gone through the first stage of political processes. The routes to Addenbrookes Hospital from south Cambridge and north Cambridge to the city and railway station had been amended. Final scheme details to go to Cabinet on 27 January for Full Council on 10 February. Transport & Works Order to be submitted 19/20 February. Delay would not affect delivery of the system in 2007, to co-incide with occupation of Northstowe settlement. Way Forward Following submission of the Transport & Works Order in February, there would be a formal period of 6 weeks for organisations like Parish Councils and individual stakeholders to make their views formally known. Mr Hughes stressed the importance of engaging at that point and stated Cambs County Council would be willing to give full presentations and documents would be available for inspection. Views would be sent directly to Government, then coming back to County Council to try and resolve any issues. Process would lead to Public Inquiry from September for 6-8 weeks. Dependent on the decision from Government in summer 2005, construction work would be planned in 2006, to be operational late 2007. Funding Envisaged the Government would shortly be making a major announcement on the settlement for the Local Transport Plan with decision on funding for the guided bus to follow.

180.2 Chairman asked for questions Histon Parish Cllr Mason asked whether any land had yet been acquired in Histon/Impington and queried the position with planned cycleways. No land had yet been acquired but it seemed the station building would need to be acquired, or would be affected. Caution was being shown on cycle provision, with discussion continuing. Histon Parish Cllr Ruel asked about space allocation at the proposed car park and how this now related to the general view of the scheme. Mr Hughes explained the County Council had been forced to weigh up the strength of opinion from local people on the need, and also the fact that Histon & Impington were a much more linear settlement than others along the route, with a significant amount of people living outside of 1.5 km from the stop. Allocation was not yet concluded, the T & WO process not requiring this level of detail. Following further comment on this response from Cllr Ruel, Mr Hughes reminded Council that all would have the opportunity to object during the consultation period. Cllr Silk queried the layout of the platforms, westbound on Bishops side and eastbound on the Copse side, asking when detailed plans would be available. Detailed engineering drawings would be available during the consultation period but currently no land take was planned at Bishops, the existing fence line remaining, and about 100 sq m of land loss in the Copse was seen, with trees lost being on railway land. Cllr Payne asked about availability of Cabinet papers. Mr Hughes to investigate availability on website/CD Rom/hard copies. He stated all documents would be lodged for inspection by the public, and the County Council would be able to bring to specially called meetings if requested. Cllr Payne felt 6 weeks as a consultation period was not long if papers were not being made available. Histon Parish Cllr Mason queried the Hills Road section of the guided bus. Mr Hughes confirmed this would be a single track guideway under Hills Road bridge, signalled, for single decker vehicles. He confirmed the southern section (T&WO St Ives – Addenbrookes) was largely the same route as envisaged under Annexe E. The whole route was in for Government funding at present until otherwise indicated. It may be that developers would be asked for instance to fund Clay Farm to the Park & Ride site. Cllr Abdullah sought clarification that the T&WO process covered the 2 guideways but not the centre part. Mr Hughes confirmed the Local Transport Plan process would fund the alterations needed for Drummer Street etc. She queried the position on the level crossing in Histon/Impington, stressing the need for a footpath on the western side. He confirmed there would be lights, but no barriers and a raised footpath would not be possible. Transport Assessment would be looking at traffic levels to gauge pedestrian timings. As far as he was aware, no further parking restrictions were planned outside the shops, as this was not a pedestrian crossing.

180.3 Mr Hughes was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting at 8.15 p.m.

180.4 All agreed to bring forward item 17 at this point in the agenda

17 PROPOSED APPROACH TO NETWORK RAIL

181.1 Cllr Abdullah declared a personal interest with family membership of Cast.Iron.

181.2 A letter from Cast.Iron requesting the Parish Councils to obtain permission from Network Rail for a contractor to clear part of the line for demonstration purposes received and copied for all. Memo from Cllr Mason also copied for all. Cllr Mason advised he was a member of Cast.Iron. Following some discussion on the fact Histon Parish Council had already written supporting the request, and noting the benefits to some householders in Impington whose gardens bordered the line, agreed to write in support of Histon's request.

181.3 Standing orders were re-instated and all 3 Histon Parish Councillors left the meeting. Return to agenda order.

4 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2003

182.1 All agreed Chairman sign as true record of meeting. "In Committee" page 36 also.

5 MATTERS ARISING

183.1 Item 157.1 Community Beat Manager PC Baker to meet Chairman 18 December and Cllr Abdullah (Youth Committee) 19 December.

183.2 Item 160.1 No 4 of 5 Recommendation to Council Deferred to January meeting

183.3 Item 170.8 CALC Questionnaire Cllrs Abdullah and Gooden had not felt able to easily answer the questionnaire.

183.4 All other Matters Arising under Clerks report Item 11

7 PLANNING

a) Committee Reports

184.1 Notes for meeting held 18 November and 9 December circulated to all and accepted.

184.2 Arising from notes 9 December. S/2441/03/CW Landfill Site No problems had been identified by Councillors. The power units were in an unobtrusive location on the site. All agreed to raise no objection. S/1684/03/F Hogger Homes Cllr Unwin declared a prejudicial interest as owner of property at the site. No discussion took place.

b) Other Planning Matters

185.1 Arbury Camp Chairman up-dated Council on recent matters. Schools in Histon and Impington were now being kept up-to-date with any primary school plans on the site. If no school provided there would be no community wing. An amount of uncertainty remained and Dist Cllrs for Histon and Impington Muncey and Davies had advised the Planning Committee 3 December of this. The need for the re-establishment of a forum to encourage a more joined-up approach was discussed. Comment made on how the site was increasingly moving away from becoming a self-contained entity. It was not clear whether SCDC officers had been given delegated powers on the Section 106 on 3 December. Some discussion on the planned provision of an ice skating rink at Arbury Camp was held. The Parish Council felt it was up to them, with Jane Thompson (Community Partnerships Manager SCDC) to fight on behalf of the community, but this was very difficult without knowing if school and community wing to be on site. It was understood the Section 106 agreement would require agreement of Impington PC. All acknowledged the County Councillor and District Councillors for Histon & Impington, together with the Parish Council, would need to work together on any position taken. Cllr Payne advised a figure was awaited from SCDC on estimated annual maintenance costs for trees, skatepark, LEAPS, NEAPS etc. Until received, the Parish Council were unable to comment further. The developers were offering administrative funding help.

185.2 S/2439/03/F 12 South Rd, replacement garage Prop Cllr Abdullah, sec Cllr Teague, all agreed RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

8 PLAYGROUND INSPECTORS REPORT

186.1 Cllr Silk reported areas were tidy.

9 RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT SUB COMMITTEE REPORT

187.1 No meeting had taken place. Next meeting due February 2004. Cllr Unwin reported on forthcoming events run by Friends of Histon & Impington Recreation Ground including the First Impington 5k Family Run on 29 February.

10 JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

188.1 Minutes of meeting 20 November copied to all and accepted. No-one present willing to be representative following vacancy caused by resignation of Cllr Cole from the Committee. Next agenda.

188.2 Ways of Working Together (Histon & Impington Parish Councils) Histon PC had now approached Impington PC

indicating a willingness to hold a workshop to discuss the issue. Several Councillors felt this would be a good idea. Prop Cllr Abdullah, sec Cllr Teague, and agreed Chairman to meet Histon Parish Council Chairman to draw up a scope, to report back to individual Councillors before organising the event. A draft paper from the Chairman on pros and cons of merger would be circulated. Scope to exclude merger at this stage.

11 CLERK'S REPORT

- 189.1 Min 160.1 Crier Report had been submitted to Crier editor.
- 189.2 Item 164.1 Graffiti removal due to be carried out by City Services before Christmas
- 189.3 Item 164.2 Parish Notice Board had been repaired, painted and sited at Recreation Ground
- 189.4 Item 164.4 Clay Close Lane Parish handyman had removed items from ditch, removed elders from entrance. Environment Committee to contact Herald Contract Services re clearance of ditch
- 189.5 Item 164.5 Crime figures November: criminal damage (3); theft of motor vehicle (5); theft from motor vehicle (4); theft of cycle (4); theft (3); burglary non-dwelling (4); deception (1). Histon Sector Newsletter and warning sheet copied for all. No contact from Cottenham PC re CSPOs.
- 189.6 Item 164.6 Risk Assessment Checklist ordered from CALC. Leaflets received from HSE Books, held on file. It may be sensible to elect a Health & Safety Officer for the Council
- 189.7 Item 170.5 2003 Allowances Regulations If Parish Council wishes to continue paying mileage allowances to Councillors, a resolution to be passed at a future meeting. Chairman's expenses under Sec 15(5) LGA 1972 remain in force unchanged. Cllr Payne advised an annual payment of £200 was now payable by the Standards Board Committee for its members.
- 189.8 Item 172.1 Burial ground Histon PC had been consulted. That Council would like to see the Burial ground Committee carry out a Risk Assessment on the use of the shed. Some discussion took place on the possibilities of using a generator. Cllr Unwin to arrange an assessment as soon as possible, with precept decisions pressing
- 189.9 Item 173.1 Statutory Declaration Chairman had contacted the Solicitor to discuss re-wording of the document

12 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

- 190.1 Report on problems with land at Moor Drove, Cottenham Road, Histon where members of the travelling community had moved onto Green Belt land without planning permission. A Stop Notice had been put on the site by the Legal officer at SCDC but many felt the professionals at District Council should have acted earlier. 9 caravans now on site. Residents had met with James Paice MP and a meeting had been requested with the Planning Director and Chief Executive of SCDC to look at the current position and also future procedures for land adjoining the site in the ownership of the applicant. Problems being cited by District Council on the conflict between planning law and human rights were outlined.

13 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

- 191.1 Sound Barrier A14 Cty Cllr Gooden had met Mr Chenery of the Highways Agency and was awaiting his report of the various discussions. A further meeting to be held at a resident's home in January/February. The resident and Cty Cllr Gooden remained committed to pressing for a sound barrier in the right place.
- 191.2 Jointly Funded Minor Improvements Scheme The 2 schemes submitted by Impington Parish Council had not scored sufficient points to qualify. The ceiling for bids had been raised to £35,000 with immediate effect and had this remained at £25,000 the scheme for Chequers Road junction would have been accepted.
- 191.3 Weight Limit, Burgoynes Road Mr Sharp had advised a traffic count had been carried out. Results to follow.
- 191.4 Cllr Gooden wished it on record that projects carried out in the villages were normally the result of joint approaches, not just one person or political party.

14 ACCOUNTS

- 192.1 Paid in: Cambridge Funeral Services Plot + Inter W Scott + 1 reserved plot (non-residents) £404 To be paid in: Hibbitt Ashes Plot, inter and memorial fee £106; Memorial Sparrow £42
- 193.1 Retrospective payments: Salaries and expenses **£498.67** + VAT £0.85p = £499.52
- 193.2 Prop Cllr Teague, sec Cllr Unwin all in favour to accept this payment
- 194.1 Current: H R Window Cleaning 2 bus shelters bi-monthly clean **£31** £31.00
- 194.2 Site & Maintenance Services Repairs to notice board, fixing to site at parish office **£300** + VAT £52.50 = £352.50
- 194.3 Petty cash Imprest account **£18.60** £18.60
- 194.4 Salaries and expenses **£552.85** £552.85
- 194.5 CALC Health & Safety checklist **£10** £10.00
- 194.6 Histon Parish Council Quarterly expenses **£136.77** £136.77
- 194.7 Proposed Cllr Teague, seconded Cllr Unwin, all in favour to pay these accounts

15 RECENT CORRESPONDENCE

- 195.1 Circulation File **available on request**: Histon Parish Council Agenda and Minutes only
- 195.2 Cambs Local Access Forum. Public meeting to be held 20 January 2004.
- 195.3 CALC. Details of new address 33 Stephenson Road, ST IVES, Cambs PE27 3WJ
- 195.4 Copy E Mail from Acting Headteacher Histon & Impington Infant School detailing problems. Cty Cllr Gooden clarified the problems with lighting were an issue for the Education Authority, not County Council
- 195.5 Items raised by Infant School Governor following first meeting at school
- 195.6 Cambs Fire & Rescue Service – Integrated Risk Management Plan – responses by 14 January
- 195.7 HICAP Closing accounts, for information
- 195.8 SCDC. Application for Public Entertainments Licence Meadows Community Centre
- 195.9 Coppice. 5 year cycle of tree works. One quote received, 2 others approached unable to quote for the work. As survey now 6 weeks overdue and had identified some areas of safety concern, agreed to accept quote from Acacia Tree Surgery in sum of £2,416 based on safety needs and past experience of Acacia's good work and competitive pricing. SCDC Trees & Landscape to be asked to sympathetically consider grant despite lack of a second quote.

16 HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC

- 196.1 B1049 Resurfacing Dist Cllr Chatfield and a resident had met County Cycling Project Officer to discuss possibilities for cycleway on B1049. Mr Patrick Joyce was to come back with any suggestions. Histon Highways Traffic & Transport Committee had this as an agenda item with meetings attended by Impington PC representatives.
- 196.2 Lorries Concern was expressed at the increasing amount of heavy lorries using Cambridge Road (SCA, Bishops and those coming off the A14) Agreed to write to County Council expressing concern

18 YOUTH ADVISORY BODY REPORT AND YOUTH MATTERS

- 197.1 Minutes for November and December copied for all.
- 197.2 Jane Lampshire (SCDC) and Susanna Harris (Local Democracy Project) were due to attend January meeting. Ian Bell (IVC Youth co-ordinator) had been in contact with the Committee and the youth club was now open at the St Andrews Church Halls, Tuesdays, until July at least.
- 197.3 The Committee were looking at the Local Network Fund for grant possibilities. A request was being drawn up for the Precept Committee for 2004 – 2005.
- 197.4 Bus Project. Despite no longer being supported by the District Council officers, the Project were still intending to charge £50 per session for Histon and Impington. Committee supported this figure, which was budgeted for. Cllr Abdullah advised 20 – 30 young people regularly attended each Thursday. A new Project Manager appointed.

19 PRECEPT COMMITTEE

- 198.1 Cllrs Abdullah, Silk, Payne, Gooden to meet 6 January. Bids to be made by 9 February, so agenda item for decision at January's meeting. Tax Base for 2004 – 05 Histon 1737 (last year 1721) and Impington 1495 (last year 1483). Formula would therefore be Histon 53.75% Impington 46.25%

20 HALF YEARLY REVIEW OF DONATIONS

- 199.1 Cllr Payne declared a prejudicial interest in Choir 2000 and left the room. Cllr Silk took the Chair for this item. Cllrs had a report showing £510 remained in Donations budget. 3 applications had been received.
- 199.2 Prop Cllr Gooden, sec Cllr Starling, all in favour that Impington Parish Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:- “to donate £25 to The Open Spaces Society for saving green spaces from the threat of development” Some discussion took place on the Copse in Impington
- 199.3 Prop Cllr Teague, sec Cllr Unwin, all in favour that Impington Parish Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:- “to donate £200 to Choir 2000 for its ‘Junior MMs’”
- 199.4 Prop Cllr Teague, sec Cllr Gooden, all in favour that Impington Parish Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:- “to donate £100 to Victim Support”, noting the good work carried out in the village in the past. Victim Support to be asked to provide statistics relating to Impington in any future approach.
- 199.5 Cllr Payne returned to the meeting

21 DATE & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

- 200.1 Chairman wished all a good Christmas and a Happy New Year. Next meeting Monday 19 January 2004 at St

Andrew's Church, Burgoynes Road, Impington, commencing 7.30 p.m.

Meeting closed 10.06 p.m.