

MINUTES - HISTON PARISH COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY 30th JUNE 2011 7.30p.m. at Parish Office, New Road, Impington

Present: Cllr Cedric Foster (Chair), John Emmines, Alan Eade, Max Parish, Robert Plumbly
IPC: Cllr D W Payne, P J Nudds (in part)
Clerk: Angela Young

Pages: 3

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

E11/55 Cllr J Diplock (work)

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

E11/56 Cllr J Emmines (personal) Allotment Holder

TO ELECT CHAIRMAN OF YEAR 2011-12

E11/57 Proposed Cllr Emmines, seconded Cllr Eade, all in favour and **agreed** to elect Cedric Foster

TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING 24th MARCH 2011

E10/58 **All agreed** to sign as correct record, following deletion of Cllr Jones as absent (Cllr Jones not on Environment Committee)

With agreement of Committee, Chair suspended standing orders and brought forward part of item 62 Allotments, followed by item 66, Emergency Planning presentation

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES – for information only

E11/59.1 Item 13.1 Outstanding items list
Notice Board Ian Lewis to provide samples. **Agreed** to request engraving of "Histon Community Notice Board".
Community Board relocation School Hill **Agreed** to proceed with contract to relocate onto Aqua land, accepting possible additional expense for planning permission and/ or design costs

TO RECEIVE CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA REPORT

E11/60.1 Weekly report from Cllr Emmines noted. ROSPA Annual inspection showed no high priority areas. Cllr Emmines to report back. Trees leaning from 20 The Green still in place, resident has been alerted twice. Cllr Eade to investigate 2 dead trees in B1049 boundary hedges.
60.2 Play Area Project – up date Cllr Emmines reported on meetings held and progress with quotes. TCL confirmed as preferred contractor. Noted need to differ from equipment at Recreation Ground to fit grant funding criteria. Cllr Emmines to ensure all efforts made to retain slide and roundabout if possible.

VILLAGE GREEN and WAR MEMORIAL

E11/61.1 Bookings noted, including Whyatt Fair insurance documentation received prior to opening night
61.2 Brook Clearance Cllr Emmines was strimming back regularly. Noted a small self set willow tree now growing out in the south eastern bank. Work on soil distribution had not materialised. Expected during winter period now.
Phase II Brook Renovations **Agreed** to delegate to Cllr Foster to liaise with professional to draw up specification and assess safety features for duck feeding apron. Ringfenced funding available. Possibilities of Courier article seeking professional help
61.3 Post & Bollards Following review of available options, **agreed** to ask Site and Maintenance Services to paint existing bollards held in stock and re-instate. Full review of provision of posts and boundary treatments before next budget setting. Next agenda
61.4 Litter Bins & Village Green Resident requests consideration of extra bins, covers for existing bins, and weekend litter collections. **Agreed** to review all issue of Village Green at next meeting, to include bin provision
61.5 Work on School Culvert Scheduled for School holidays. Details of brief to be provided to all Environment Committee members
61.6 Christmas Lights **Agreed** to request Marcus Jaggard, electrician, to investigate costs for replacing all current looms with double space LED lights and to plan to erect new looms at School end of Green, existing looms to be used at Rose and Crown end. Additional tree connection would be required. Clerk to meet Cllr Parish to draw up desired loom design prior to

request for costs. Noted Feast grant expected of £500. No possibility of motifs or strings of lights this year

TREES & ALLOTMENTS REPORT

- E11/62.1 No written report
Allotment Rules Review draft rules for implementation September 2011 provided to Cllr Eade and Parish for comment. All **agreed** to delegate for implementation in timely fashion. Noted request from new allotment holder for chicken coop. Agreed allowable, no cockerels. Plot holder to be warned of fox earth on site. Cllr Parish raised concerns over trees on fallow land. Pene Nudds had addressed members at start of meeting regarding paths at the site. Standing Orders had been suspended. Access to rear plots appeared a problem for plot holders. No solutions put forward. Pene Nudds suggested the Committee may make use of residual tarmac from work in Homefield Park at entrance to site. Also may wish to consider hiring a JCB to bulldoze in a haulage way to improve matters at entrance and car park area. Probation Service could be asked to help with any work. After Pene Nudds left the meeting members discussed and felt unable to take up any suggestions for a JCB hire due to costs for the benefit of a very few people. Members felt any rubble/hardcore available from Homefield could usefully be left at the entrance for spreading by plot holders.
- 62.1 Flooding Works at east end of Allotment Site. Report provided (**Appendix 1**) with map of site. **Agreed** to advise 19 and 18b that fence will need to come out in 2012 to carry out work and to offer any plots that come free in meantime, unless they wish to take on plot 14 now. Parish Council could not undertake clearance work and would continue to look for prospective plot holders willing to undertake the clearance work.
- 62.2 Parlour Close Cllrs Emmines and Foster to undertake minor tree works at rear of 21 Parlour Close. Risk Assessment carried out
- 62.3 Number 3 The Green Repeated request for pruning to lime tree opposite No 3 The Green. Discussions between Cllr Parish; Mr Dover (resident); Cllr Eade; Roz Richardson and the Clerk outlined, including details of previous pruning of the tree for highways access purposes. Mr Dover has again written outlining events since decision made in September not to carry out any works on Parish Council owned tree. Noting the previous decision was made due to concern over the balance of the tree, and with no recollection of any suggestion they may be killed by pruning, **agreed** to respond stating the problem experienced with honey dew on the car parked at Number 3 could not be solved unless the tree was removed entirely. The Parish Council could not agree to pruning works in this instance.

FOOTPATHS & BRIDLEWAYS

- E11/63 Written report received (**Appendix 2**). **Agreed** Courier article September regarding overhanging trees and shrubs. Noted Parish Path scheme date expired 3 June 2011
- 63.2 Footpaths – Cycling & Control of Dogs Correspondence reported by resident. Police has visited and advised. Courier article planned by PCSO Martin. Regarding control of dogs, SCDC to be asked for advice on control recommendation e.g. length of lead
- 63.3 County Farm Estate – Permissive Access Cllr Parish reported on land use changes to County Farms land between Girton and Histon, necessitating fencing to contain sheep. **Agreed** to respond to Sarah Shepard at Cambs County Council advising on access suitability round the boundary via St Audrey's Close footpath rather than through the middle of the WI Woods
- 63.4 WI Woods Police note received that fires set and concern over bench. Parish Council could not support removal of bench (not Parish Council ownership)
- 63.5 Etheldred House Boundary Cllr Eade outlined report made at Full Council on disappointing landscaping by Excelcare. Meeting awaited.
- 63.6 Local access forums Annual report of County Councils Countryside Access and Rights of Way Annual Report 10-11 received
- 63.7 Parish Rights of Way Grass Cutting 2 cuts per annum, noted second cut now due August/September

HICCA REPORT

- E11/64 No report

SOUTH CAMBS DISTRICT COUNCIL and CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

- E11/65.1 Resident of Manor Park request "No ball Games" sign in cul-de-sac part of Manor Park. Following discussion **agreed** to respond advising not practical

- 65.2 Letter received from resident of Orchard Road regarding weeded area at top of Cycle Path. To forward to Mike Davies for action. Also comment on Pages Close overgrown trees and hedges. Cllr Foster to check house numbers.

PRESENTATION BY LAWRENCE GREEN SCDC: EMERGENCY PLANNING

- E11/66 Standing Orders had been suspended for the item. Lawrence Green SCDC, Council Safety Advisor and Emergency Planning Officer outlined the events leading to a decision to promote emergency planning for South Cambs parishes, noting this was not a statutory duty, to help SCDC help Parish Councils to respond to events and recover normality. A plan would enable SCDC to get a "quick route" into the community when contacted by the Police, e.g. evacuation following explosion
- A generic guide was provided to work with and examples given of relevant facts, e.g.:
- Village Halls/ Church Halls facilities
 - Farmers with barns (for sandbag distribution)
 - Retired Doctors/Nurses (First Aiders)
 - Vulnerable People
- The Community would produce the plan, not necessarily the Parish Council. Council members commented on level of value of plan; location of major Police Station in Impington; sheltered housing schemes already designated as location in emergency situations (Lawrence Green explained alteration required to cover area more widely); need to up-date annually. Lawrence Green outlined work in Stapleford on "Community Watch" with links to residents. Suggestion of article in Courier to explain the scheme and ask people to come forward if interested. No SCDC village has yet formed a plan. Lawrence Green provided Committee with a "Public Table of Risks" for review. (Cambs and Peterborough Local Resilience forum)

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

- E11/67.1 Litter Picking & Provision of Litter Bin in High Street Car Park Request from resident for litters bins. All **agreed** not appropriate but noted Parish Council litter picker schedule now amended to include car park once a week, for review. Members noted the "knock on" effect to staffing and administration of decisions made when taking on new land responsibilities and other project development in the villages.
- 67.2 Feast Fair Agreement for use of Village Green by Whyatts due for negotiation. **Agreed** Cllr Foster and Clerk to meet Mrs Whyatt and draw up a one year agreement based on current terms, with % rise as before. 3 year agreement then to be put in place from 2012, once clearer information on any possible joining of Parish Councils and any report received for Feast Committee.
- P10/68.1 Next Environment Committee meeting due **Thursday 29 September 2011**
- Meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.