

Girton Parish Council

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The Pavilion
Girton Recreation Ground
Cambridge Road, Girton
Cambridge CB3 0FH

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17 October 2007

Present: D de Lacey (Chair), E Bullman, J Ford-Smith (to item 175), V Godby, R Gordon, R Hodgkinson, R Martin, J Mayfield, C Starling, M Wilson

Action/Power

Mrs A Bonnett, Chair of Governors at Girton Glebe School and Mr P Atkin, Head Teacher at Girton Glebe School were present to 162.3.

07/160 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Barrett, Hiley, Sparling, P Starling, Cllr Reynolds and Cllr Bygott and Rev S Holland.

07/161 Members' declarations of interests

None.

07/162 Open Session for Public

Cllr de Lacey prop to suspend Standing Orders, sec Cllr Gordon, carried unanimously.

1. Members of the Public.

2. Update on the Glebe School. Cllr de Lacey introduced Ann Bonnett and Philip Atkin, who tabled a document on School intake figures (attached) and took questions. The replies established the following.

In the last 12 months outside normal admissions 7/8 children from the village have been refused entry at the time they made the applications for their admission. Subsequently all those on the reserve list have been offered a place. By 1 September 30 places had been allocated in this community to children who wanted to get in the Glebe.

Children in the village not at the Glebe tend to go to Mayfield School or Oakington School, or to private or home education.

Children who are initially given a place at another school often don't want to change even if a place at the Glebe becomes available.

A potential problem is that if a child in KS1 cannot be offered a place, siblings from KS2 may leave the Glebe which compounds the problem of funding.

The poor Ofsted report probably had had an impact.

Between 10 and 15% of children currently in the Glebe do not have English as their primary language. It has been as high as 20%.

Mr Atkin would be the contact regarding teaching aids produced by the Woodland Trust.

The Wellbrook estate is expected eventually to have up to 30 children. The NIAB development will have its own primary school. Thornton Road is closer to NIAB but we don't know where the catchment boundary will be drawn.

The School would wish the PC to keep this issue on their agenda and it was useful to know the opinions of Councillors. The Council was urged to press for S106 funding in future developments to go towards the Glebe wherever possible.

3. Police report. No report had been submitted. Cllr Godby expressed her concern at cyclists without lights.

4. District Councillors' reports. Cllr Bullman read out a report from himself and Cllr Bygott. They are opposed to any substantial part of the village being incorporated in the City, and are concerned to protect the amenity of Girton residents whose property are adjacent to new development. Cllr Ford-Smith noted that the issues should inform the Village Plan.

5. County Councillor's report. No report submitted.

6. Girton Town Charity. No report submitted.

7. Youth Works. No report submitted.

8. Footpaths and Rights of Way. Nothing to report.

07/163 Standing Orders reinstated

Prop Cllr de Lacey, sec Cllr Ford-Smith, unanimous.

07/164 Unconfirmed Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 19 September 2007

The minutes were approved. Prop Cllr Martin, sec Cllr Bullman, unanimous.

07/165 Matters arising from the minutes

07/157.7 Cllr de Lacey reported that he had attended the County Council Environment Scrutiny Committee meeting (report previously circulated and attached) at which Councillors had expressed concern at the way the proposed Transport Infrastructure Fund (TIF) charging cordon would cut the village in half. It was agreed that this important issue should not be allowed to rest.

The Clerk has taken action on all the items arising from the minutes (marked HB).

07/166 That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Wellbrook Committee be received

The minutes were received. Cllr Mayfield expressed surprise that no members of the public had been present.

07/167 That the Council confirm the reappointment of Michael Woodisse as a Town Charity Trustee

Cllr de Lacey prop, sec Cllr Ford-Smith, unanimous.

07/168 That the Council approve a donation of £35 to The Poppy Appeal

Cllr de Lacey prop, sec Cllr Godby, unanimous.

07/169 That the Council approve the revised Application Form (previously circulated) for the Hire of Council Facilities

Cllr de Lacey prop that the Council use the new form in the future, sec Cllr Ford-Smith. Cllr Godby asked who would pay the insurance excess in the event of a claim. Cllr Wilson had suggested that clubs be asked to state the beginning of their financial year and that any future increases in fees be postponed till such dates. With these comments noted Cllr de Lacey prop that the booking form be used straight away, carried 9 in favour, with 1 abstention.

DdL

07/170 That the Council approve the application for planning permission for the proposed bowling green on the community land at Wellbrook Way

Cllr de Lacey prop, sec Cllr Wilson. Cllr de Lacey explained this was only an application for planning permission and that the Committee would be looking at issues such as funding and would come back to the Council once a firm business plan was established. Cllr Ford-Smith commented that he did not think a bowling green was the most appropriate facility for the residents of the Wellbrook estate. The motion was approved 9 in favour, with 1 abstention.

07/171 That the Council approve the spending of up to £1000 on a November Firework and Bonfire event at Wellbrook Way

Withdrawn from the agenda as Wimpey had retracted its offer of a location and funding.

07/172 That the Council take on responsibility for the power and maintenance of footway lighting for one further year (see item 06.159 of 20/12/06)

Cllr de Lacey prop, sec Cllr Godby. Cllr de Lacey read out the Minute 06/159 dated 20 December 2007 regarding this issue. Cllr Ford-Smith said he would action this issue, and it was agreed to postpone the motion until the December meeting to give Cllr Ford-Smith time to make a recommendation. This was agreed unanimously.

JFS

07/173 To discuss priorities for our planning for Girton's future

Cllr de Lacey said that although this was largely a concern of the Village Plan, that might take up to two years to implement and in his view there are urgent concerns that cannot wait. He asked Councillors for their views on the current major issues concerning Girton which should be progressed as soon as possible.

Cllr Godby: sustainability of development within the parish boundary, and light pollution from the NIAB development.

Cllr Starling: traffic flow. He suggested investigating a cycle lane along the Girton College boundary on the wide verges of Girton Road.

Cllr Martin: the traffic and noise impact and implications of all the planned developments.

Cllr Mayfield noted the traffic problems already caused by accidents on the A14, and the impact on Girton Glebe school. He said that some residents of the Thornton Road area think they are out of catchment for Girton Glebe school. He agreed with the Environment Committee that the village needed a more unified identity.

Cllr Ford-Smith expressed his desire that the village remain a united/separate village. He will propose to the Environment Committee an action group to discuss the Village Plan.

Cllr Gordon: concerned about the village divide. Perhaps we should canvas opinion on whether people south of the A14 want to be part of Girton or of Cambridge.

Cllr Wilson: commerce. The geography of the village is against us in many ways.

Cllr Hodgkinson agreed with canvassing wider views of people. He was concerned about the transport implications and noise pollution from the widening of the A14.

Cllr de Lacey said his own view is that given the nature of Huntingdon Road we need to think about the possibility of offering the University Farm site to the City if in return we could receive compensation for the rest of the village. We need to be proactive about S106 monies.

DdL

07/174 That reports from Parish Councillors be received

1. Cllr Bullman said the SCDC had lost contact with the owner of the caravan on Oakington Road.
2. Cllr Godby commented on the closure of Gatehouse Lane.
3. Cllr C Starling noted that many footpaths were in a poor state of repair. He also noted that the contractors did not appear to have been working particularly hard at the Oakington site and offered to monitor the progress at Gatehouse Road.
4. Cllr Martin expressed concern about the increase in crime of various sorts and asked for a more regular presence of the police at meetings.
5. Cllr Mayfield said we should be seeking S106 money from all property development in the village, no matter how small.
6. Cllr Gordon said he had received a complaint about the new style street lamp in Pepys Way which was too bright for the house opposite. They would like a shield to protect them from light pollution.

HB/Police

HB

07/175 Correspondence

1. Peter Round – Grounds maintenance
2. Direct Information Service newsletter
3. NHS Anglia Support Partnership – appeal dismissed against decision not to approve application from Key Pharmaceuticals for a pharmacy at Thornton Way
4. Cambs CC – County plan for older people: questionnaire
5. Mrs A Jones – copy of letter to SCDC re caravan on Oakington Road
6. Moore Stephens – completed Annual Return. Cllr de Lacey read out the comments by Moore Stephens from the completed Annual Return. The comments will be considered by the Finance Committee.
7. Andrew Lansley – correspondence regarding planning and housing in South Cambridgeshire
8. Clerk and Councils Direct – Local Councils Update newsletter
9. Poppy Appeal – wreath donations
10. The Standards Board for England – newsletter
11. DEFRA – 'Ways to Tackle Climate Change' booklet
12. SCDC – Housing Futures newsletter
13. SCDC – Provision of Travellers sites within Northstowe
14. SCDC – Polling district and polling place review (no changes in Girton)
15. SCDC – independent examinations local development framework

07/176 That payments for the period 13 September to 10 October 2007 be approved

Payments	17 Oct 2007	New combined PC/Rec payments			
Cq no.	Paid To	Description	Gross	VAT	net
1875	Moore Stephens	Audit costs	471.25	70.19	401.06
1876	Coulson and Son Ltd	Drainage work to front of pavilion	2,469.85	367.85	2,102.00
1877	Helen Bracey	Clerk's wages (month 6)	627.69		627.69
1878	Inland Revenue	Tax and NI month 6	263.76		263.76
1879	Douglas de Lacey	Cigarette bin for pavilion wall	14.99		14.99
1880	Peter T Round	Grounds maintenance	529.49	78.86	450.63
1881	Cannon Hygiene	Sanitary disposal	154.17	22.96	131.21
1882	True Value Histon Hardware	Supplies for Pavilion	20.58	3.07	17.51
1883	WF Electrical	Lamps for Pavilion	112.87	16.47	96.40
1884	Cotton Hall Foundation	Hire of Cotton Hall for meetings	22.50		22.50
1885	J Wells	Repairs and fixings at Pavilion	125.00		125.00
1886	Nigel Childs Commercial Cleaning Ltd	Cleaning at Pavilion 20/8-28/9	705.00	105.00	600.00
1887	P A Collacott & Co	To install lighting at pavilion	93.66	13.95	79.71
			5,610.81	678.35	4,932.46

Payments were approved, prop Cllr Martin, sec Cllr Gordon, 8 in favour, 1 abstention.

The meeting closed at 2055hrs.