

**Minutes of Girton Parish Council's Meeting of Wednesday 19th May 2010
at St Vincent's Close Community Centre at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllr de Lacey (Chairman), Cllr Clift (Vice Chairman), Cllrs Thorrold, Sparling, Bromwich, Martin, Godby, Ford-Smith, Starling, Taylor, Gordon, & Wilson. Cllr Bygott (SCDC); & three members of the public. In attendance: Robert Stone (Clerk); and Natalie Stone (PFO)

Following Cllr Bullman's recent death Councillors stood in silent tribute to their former colleague.

Items

10/54 Welcome from the Chairman

Cllr de Lacey welcomed Councillors to the last meeting of the current Council.

10/55 Apologies Cllrs Hiley & Sparling. Cllr Reynolds (CCC);

10/56 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda

None declared.

10/57 Public Participation session on agenda items & matters of mutual interest

1. Members of the public - No issues were raised.
2. District Councillors' reports (Cllr de Lacey's attached at Appendix A). Cllr Bygott reported that South Cambridgeshire DC was organising a "Step up business" competition with a prize of £30,000 to stimulate economic development in the district. SCDC was also going to set up a website for petitions similar to the one for No 10.
3. County Councillor's report (Circulated.)
4. Police Report – Not received but Cllr Godby as Chair of Neighbourhood Watch reported that there had been a series of burglaries at Wellbrook Way. Cllr de Lacey added that he had received a report of two incidents at St Vincents Close.
5. Parish Plan – Work was progressing. Whilst the final report would not be available for the Annual Parish Meeting on 1st June, a summary of key points should be available.

10/58 To confirm the minutes of Parish Council meetings of 21st April 2010.

Prop: Cllr J Ford-Smith Sec: Cllr Godby Approved by majority vote with one abstention.

10/59 Matters arising

Item 09/113 and 10/08/1 Pavilion balcony	Works now completed by Pascuzzi Bros, and problem with rainwater apparently resolved
Item 10/48/4 CRB checks on GPC staff.	Delayed pending identification of an "umbrella" body to take these forward
Item 10/48/5 Compliance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998	Girton PC now registered with the Information Commissioner
Item 10/48/7 Future Jobs Scheme	Joe Loveridge now employed & equipped with protective clothing.
Item 10/48/8 Proposed sculpture for Girton	Cllr de Lacey said he was in touch with the sculptor to progress matters.
Item 10/50 Pavilion hall	Correspondence with CHS Architects & Thackrays Building Ltd still ongoing.

10/60 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council

1. To approve expenditure of up to £3000 (approx £6 sq foot plus transport costs) from reserves for the construction of a concrete base for the prefabricated storage shed for Wellbrook Way's bowling green.

Two amendments were proposed to the motion, as follows:

- i) "To approve expenditure of up to £3,500" in line 1. This was proposed by Cllr de Lacey and seconded by Cllr Clift. The Council approved this change by a majority vote – 9 for, 1 against, and 1 abstention.
- ii) An addition sentence stating "The final decision on the contract is to be decided by the current Wellbrook Way Committee." This was proposed by Cllr de Lacey, and seconded by Cllr Gordon. This was approved – 8 in favour and three against.

The amended motion was proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Thorrold. It was carried by 8 votes to three.

2. To approve expenditure of up to £950 (+ vat) from the 2010/11 S & R contingency reserve to repair/replace the water pump and ancilliary equipment within the Pavilion to maintain the cricket square.

Prop: Cllr Wilson Sec: Cllr Martin Approved by majority vote of 8 to 1.

3. To receive a draft of proposed Dog Control Orders in Statutory required format as recommended by the Dog Control Orders Working Group. (*See Appendix B*)

The Chairman expressed gratitude to Cllr Wilson, and members of the working group which had considered Dog Control Orders. The guidance notes provided by Nicola Alison (the new Administration Assistant under the Future Jobs Fund) were also acknowledged. Further research was requested of other parish council websites that had already finalised their DC Orders.

Action: Clerk

4. To receive for comment the paper making proposals to the present structure of Standing Committees of the Council. (*Appendix C*)

The Chairman acknowledged Cllr Wilson's work in drawing up the proposals which were designed to provide fully functioning Committees, and invited comments from current Councillors prior to the first meeting of the new Council on 9th June.

5. To retrospectively approve the £350 application fee to Anglia Water for installations works at Wellbrook Way.

Prop: Cllr de Lacey Sec: Cllr Gordon. Unanimous.

6. To acknowledge and gratefully receive a legacy of £100 from the estate of Mr Robert George Edwards for the maintenance of the "Irene" benches.

The Chairman noted that there were three "Irene" benches in the village- outside Chris's Bike Shop, on the main road through the village by the allotments, and on Smithy Green. All had received attention recently. The Clerk was asked to acknowledge receipt of the legacy.

Action: Clerk

10/61 Finance & resource management

1. To approve payments from 21st April to 18th May 2010

Details of payments were circulated in advance to Councillors, and checked by Cllr Wilson. No objections to payment were made by Councillors.

2. To approve the balance sheet at 30th April 2010
Prop: Cllr de Lacey Sec: Cllr Wilson. Approved by majority vote with one abstention.
3. To receive the finance report from 1st April 2010 to 30th April 2010. Received.
4. To approve writing off a bad debt of £75.25 relating to an unpaid fee for the hire of the Pavilion hall dating back to 3rd December 2008.
Prop: Cllr de Lacey Sec: Cllr Godby Unanimous.
5. To approve the 2009/10 Annual Return, including the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance statement, for external audit.
Prop: Cllr de Lacey Sec: Cllr Martin Unanimous.
6. To approve travel costs (40p/mile by car or standard rail fare) for GPC staff on official business. Councillors requested that the motion be amended, as follows:

“To approve travel costs (40p/mile by car or standard rail fare) for GPC Councillors, and staff, on official business.” This amendment was formally proposed by Cllr de Lacey, and seconded by Cllr Martin, and unanimously approved by the Council. The revised motion was then put to the vote, and agreed subject to the Clerk checking whether Councillors may receive travel costs.

Action: Clerk

7. To approve expenditure for the following training courses (& travel costs) for the Clerk, or Administrative Assistant:
 - a) 19th May – Essex CC Rights of Way at Hemingford Gray £35;
 - b) 18th June – SLCC H&S at Peterborough £25;
 - c) 7th July - Cambs CC Fundraising at Hemingford Gray £35; and
 - d) 22nd September - Cambs CC Leaflets & maps at Hemingford Gray £35.

Prop: Cllr de Lacey Sec: Cllr Gody Unanimous.

10/62 Correspondence received *(to be circulated at the meeting)*

CCC Parish Path Partnership Membership	Grant allocation of £230 for 2010/11
Woodland Trust – Girton Millennium Wood	Invitation to celebrate 10 th Anniversary <i>Clerk –to be added to a future agenda for decision by the Council.</i>
CCC letter on Countryside Access team	Advice on restructuring and new contacts
Growth Area updates by CCC	Northstowe, NIAB, Cambridge North West
Co-operative Trust Corporation	Legacy by Robert Edwards for “Irene” benches.
Parking issues at Duck End	Ongoing correspondence from local resident.
Persona Associates – A14 Pre Inquiry meeting	Invitation to attend on 24 th May at St Ives.

The Clerk was requested to respond to the correspondence regarding the ongoing parking problems at Duck End, and notify the Highways Department of Cambridgeshire CC
Action:

10//63 To receive reports:

- i) Chairman’s Report Attached at Appendix D. No questions were raised.

- ii) Girton Town Charity – Cllr Gordon reported that the 100th anniversary of GTC was being celebrated by special events at the Cotton Hall and The Pavilion on 19th June. Local residents were being slow to come forward for the free lunches on 21st June!
- iii) Girton Youth Club - See report at Appendix E.
- iv) Footpaths and Rights of Way – Cllr Starling reported that he had taken Joe Loveridge, the new Future Jobs Fund grounds maintenance trainee around the village footpaths on the village side of the A14.

10/64 To receive unconfirmed Committee minutes for the Planning meeting of 5th May 2010.
Circulated to Councillors for their information.

10/65 Matters raised by Councillors, including items for the Agenda of 9th June 2010.

Cllr Godby requested that the village benches be maintained.

Cllr Taylor spoke in support of Fields in Trust saying that giving our open spaces charitable status would permit easier access to grants. He added his personal thanks to retiring Councillors.

Cllr Clift said SCDC was providing a trial wifi connection to St Vincents Close Community Centre. His sessions for those wishing to increase their computer expertise would recommence in September.

Cllr Gordon reported that the new shrub hedge had been planted at Smithy Green.

Cllr Martin expressed concern at the quality of the grass cutting of the verges in the village.
Action: Clerk

Cllr Ford-Smith reported on the meetings of the Disability Working Group.

Cllr Wilson commented on current concerns about the safety of the play equipment at Wellbrook Way prior to safety surfaces being installed; and said the issue of sports activities being self financing Was likely to be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Cllr de Lacey said the safety surfaces at Wellbrook Way had just been installed, and shrubs were being planted around the play area. He noted that the cone climber had been installed on the recreation ground play area, and the door handles repaired at The Pavilion. He thanked current Councillors, and wished good luck to those putting themselves forward for election on 27th May.

The meeting ended at 9pm followed by liquid refreshment provided by the Chairman to mark the work of Councillors during the previous four years.

Cllr de Lacey's District Councillor Report for May 2010

Election fever meant that little else happened in the District this month. The local election was a great disappointment, and I congratulate Brian Bromwich on his campaign and commiserate with him over the result.

I had tabled a question for the Council meeting of 22 April on the effectiveness of the Sustainable Transport Policy which the Cabinet introduced 18 months ago with great razzmatazz. The reply was a litany of failure to achieve any useful result at all. It played heavily on the fact that two Councillors did actually cycle to Cambourne and ignored the fact that this had nothing at all to do with the Policy since we both do it for pleasure.

A number of questions were asked about the continual problem of flooding and sewerage overflow at Cambourne, to which as yet we have rather unsatisfactory answers. It is one of my main concerns to ensure that none of the many errors of Cambourne should be repeated in any of the sites round Girton, and I am hoping that I shall retain my place on the JDCC where I have already been able to interrogate the processes for Trumpington: the plans for NIAB 2 will shortly be presented to the JDCC.

Other than that the business was all bread-and-butter stuff and as usual the minutes will be on the Council's website.

The savage cuts which the District Council is instituting, partly to permit the replacement of our green boxes by an almost-identical blue bin, mean that there is restructuring in the housing department, and one result is that the Warden of St Vincents Close has decided to retire and will not be replaced.

And that all for this month. Looking ahead, the Council's AGM is on 27 May, the same date as the postponed Parish Council elections; the JDCC meets on 19 May and the Climate Change meeting has been cancelled. However the Public Inquiry over the A14 has a pre-meeting on 24 May which will introduce a great deal of work as we look to presenting a case for Girton to the Inquiry proper which starts in July.

Douglas de Lacey

Appendix B
Draft Dog Control orders. May 2010

Based on the recommendations of the Dog Control Orders Working Group these are how formal orders would be issued for: dog fouling/ dogs on leads/dog exclusion areas

The only modification to the Group's recommendation is that these have dropped any mention of a specific length of lead required.
MLW.

Form of Order

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

**The Dog Control Orders (Prescribed Offences and Penalties, etc.) Regulations
2006 (S.I.2006/[X])**

The Fouling of Land by Dogs (Girton) Order 2010

Girton Parish Council hereby makes the following Order:

1. This Order comes into force on [Date].
2. This Order applies to the land specified in the Schedule

Offence

3. —(1) If a dog defecates at any time on land to which this Order applies and a person who is in charge of the dog at that time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless—

(a) he has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or

(b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

(2) Nothing in this article applies to a person who—

(a) is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or

(b) has a disability which affects his mobility, manual dexterity, physical co-ordination or ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects, in respect of a dog trained by a prescribed charity and upon which he relies for assistance.

(3) For the purposes of this article—

(a) a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog;

(b) placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for the purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be a sufficient removal from the land;

(c) being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device for or other suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces;

(d) each of the following is a "prescribed charity"—

- (i) Dogs for the Disabled (registered charity number 700454);
- (ii) Support Dogs (registered charity number 1088281);
- (iii) Canine Partners for Independence (registered charity number 803680).

Penalty

4. A person who is guilty of an offence under article 3 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

[Date]

[Attestation clause]

SCHEDULE

The order applies to all land within the parish boundaries and which is:

- (i) open to the air (which includes land that is covered but open to the air on at least one side) and
- (ii) to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment)

Form of Order

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

**The Dog Control Orders (Prescribed Offences and Penalties, etc.) Regulations
2006 (S.I.2006/[X])**

The Dogs on Leads (Girton) Order 2010

The Girton Parish Council hereby makes the following Order:

1. This Order comes into force on [date].
2. This Order applies to the land specified in the Schedule

Offence

3. —(1) A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, on any land to which this Order applies he does not keep the dog on a lead unless—

- (a) he has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

(2) For the purposes of this article a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog.

Penalty

4. A person who is guilty of an offence under article 3 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

[Date]

[Attestation clause]

SCHEDULE

This order applies to all public roads, pavements and footways within the boundaries of the village of Girton, or any grass verge which is adjacent to the carriageway or footway and is maintainable at public expense with the exceptions of:

St John's Field

Girton Wood

Form of Order

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

The Dog Control Orders (Prescribed Offences and Penalties, etc.) Regulations 2006 (S.I.2006/[X])

The Dogs Exclusion (Girton) Order 2010

Girton Parish Council hereby makes the following Order:

1. This Order comes into force on [date].
2. This Order applies to the land specified in the Schedule

Offence

3. —(1) A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, he takes the dog onto, or permits the dog to enter or to remain on, any land to which this Order applies unless—

(a) he has a reasonable excuse for doing so; or

(b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his doing so.

(2) Nothing in this article applies to a person who—

(a) is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or

(b) is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 293358) and upon which he relies for assistance; or

(c) has a disability which affects his mobility, manual dexterity, physical co-ordination or ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects, in respect of a dog trained by a prescribed charity and upon which he relies for assistance.

(3) For the purposes of this article—

(a) a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog; and

(b) each of the following is a "prescribed charity"—

- (i) Dogs for the Disabled (registered charity number 700454);
- (ii) Support Dogs (registered charity number 1088281);
- (iii) Canine Partners for Independence (registered charity number 803680).

Penalty

4. A person who is guilty of an offence under article 3 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

[Date]

[Attestation clause]

SCHEDULE

Girton Recreation Ground children's play area

Weaver's Field children's play area

Wellbrook Way children's play area

Town End Close nature reserve

Appendix C

Standing Committees of Girton Parish Council: A Discussion Paper May 2010.

As promised I have written up some personal views of the present structure to get the issues out in the open.

The Council established its current standing Committee structure in May 2007. The motion 07/80 doing so was passed with an amendment : 'That the standing committees of Girton Parish Council until May 2008 be established as the Planning Committee, Sport and Recreation Committee, Environment Committee, Finance Committee, Wellbrook Way Committee and Budget Committee with remits as outlined in the paper *The Committees of Girton Parish Council* (circulated), and that the structure be reviewed in March 2008'. The intention as minuted was to review the Committee structure annually.

To start discussion I have drawn up several proposals for this meeting and/or the next council to consider. The background to each of these is embedded in the Commentary section but they are:

Proposal 1. A standing item such as *Matters of concern/raised with [name of the other Committee]* is added to the agendas of both the Environment and the Sport and Recreation Committee.

Proposal 2. Remit of S and R Committee is revised to specify geographic scope of responsibility.

Proposal 3. To ensure inclusion of Footpaths and Rights of Way within the Environment Committee remit.

Proposal 4. To broaden the remit of the Budget Committee into a Planning and Resources Committee which meets regularly and would take a view of what the Council's priorities should be.

Proposal 5. Council should consider what should fall within the catch all of "Resources" as in Proposal 4.

Proposal 6. Review and revise remit of Wellbrook Way Committee.

The existing committees and their remits are:

Planning Committee

Remit:

- To scrutinise on behalf of the Council planning applications and related matters with powers to decide on comparatively straightforward individual applications. Applications involving more than 9 dwellings or with comparable impact on the village as a whole, and applications where the committee feel there are unusual circumstances, shall be remitted, with a recommendation from the committee, to the full Council.
- To assess the built environment of Girton and the setting of the village with respect to future planning developments (NIAB, NW Cambridge) and to advise the Council in any consultations or negotiations arising from such developments.
- To assess the village's likely needs (in terms *eg* of S106 remediation) of such developments or other changes in the village's population.

Sport and Recreation Committee

Remit:

- To oversee and administer sporting and recreational facilities in the Village, including the upkeep and maintenance of the Pavilion, all LEAPs, the Trim Trail, all exterior sporting facilities, and all equipment used for sporting facilities together with the marking of sports pitches.
- To administer the use of such facilities by the public and to ensure public safety at any event held on or using such facilities.
- To assess future needs for new sporting and recreational facilities and where appropriate to draw up a budget for the provision thereof.
- To liaise with the YouthWorks programme and to consider facilities for youth in the Village.

Environment Committee

Remit:

- To oversee and administer all aspects of the non-built environment of the Village, including the upkeep and maintenance of all non-sports areas of the Village including Local Areas of Play
- To provide where appropriate, and to maintain, street furniture including Parish notice-boards, bus shelters, refuse bins and benches.
- To plan and administer a programme of public planting (trees, hedges and ornamental planting) and other means of presenting an attractive ambience and appearance for the Village.

Wellbrook Development Committee

Remit:

- To plan for and provide facilities for Wellbrook Way, in particular the LEAP, the Community Building and the Bowling Green.
- To encourage the integration of the Wellbrook community into the village.
- To investigate and if at all possible to implement a pedestrian and cycle route from the Wellbrook estate into Thornton Way or Thornton Close.
- To consider appropriate administrative and ownership structures to safeguard the interests of all the people of Girton for the future use of these facilities.

Finance Committee

Remit:

- To monitor and advise on all Council spending and ensure it is in line with the approved budget.
- To approve payments by the Clerk
- To scrutinise the balance sheet and report at least quarterly to the full Council on the state of our finances
- To advise the Budget Committee.

Budget Committee

Remit:

- To receive from the spending Committees and the Clerk a statement of their actual and projected spending for the current financial year and their proposed budgets for the coming year at a meeting not later than the end of August
- To prepare a budget and proposed precept to put before the Council in good time.

This Committee shall have the chairmen of the spending Committees as *ex officio* members.

Commentary:

In general the existing structure meets most of the Council's needs.

Sport and Rec/Environment Committees

The two largest spending Committees (Environment and Sport & Rec) have established activities and so 99% of their business falls straightforwardly within their briefs. There are areas where these interests converge – e.g. drainage, hedging, gates/fencing, tree-work, public bench provision, litter and dog bins. Liaison via the Chairs of the two Committees has more or less worked but perhaps if **(Proposal 1) a standing item such as *Matters of concern/raised with [name of Committee]* is added to the agenda of each Committee** these items would be better documented and followed up within the existing framework and more clearly make it a Committee to Committee relationship.

Over the lifetime of the 2006/2010 Council one area of natural convergence of these two committees has caused me more misgivings – and that is the redesign of the frontage to the carpark. This project had as its origins the old Recreation Ground Committee’s concern over problem parking – particularly on the grass/mud to the right of the access road which was seen as a safety issue (cars driving across pavement to enter/leave) and aesthetically. The RGC’s initial thoughts (over four years ago) were that some planters, bollards and a notice board “Welcome to Girton Recreation Ground” would probably solve the problem fairly quickly – but as this appeared to be an Environmental project the S and R was happy to transfer the responsibility and the Env Committee quite rightly looked at this in a wider context. However the corner in question has not been touched and is still abused.

The wider context – improving the aesthetic appearance of the centre of the village is obviously an Environment responsibility and I think the problems experienced in defining scope and scheduling could have been eased in part by the processes outlined in support of proposal 4. There is however another interest when it comes to modifications of the Car Park itself (changes to entrance/exit, layout, pedestrian access). As the majority use of the car-park is tied to use of Pavilion and the Recreation Ground and therefore to the Sport and Rec Committee. The remit as written does not clearly state where management of the car-park rests.

Proposal 2 Remit of S and R Committee is revised to specify geographic scope of responsibility – within their own planning documents this has been defined as:

The Recreation Ground consists of:

- *The area comprising the Recreation Ground proper bordered by the Parish Church and Girton Glebe School including the Pavilion building, tennis courts, multi-use games area (MUGA) and car park.*
- *Ten Acre Field to the rear of the Recreation Ground bordered by private land, St John's field and a strip of land owned by the Woodland Trust.*
- *St John's field abutting the Recreation Ground along its northern side.*

Proposal 3 To ensure inclusion of Footpaths and Rights of Way within the Environment Committee remit. This role has been detached for some years – but as a right of way passes through the middle of the Recreation Ground fields and forms part of and extends from the established Dog Walking route within the Rec this is a topic of mutual interest to both Env and S and R committees and therefore must fall within the Env Comm. remit.

Finance/Budget and Planning

The separation of the Finance and Budget Committees was designed to give the Finance Committee an objective view of the financial activities of the spending Committees and the Council as a whole. The Chairs of the two main spending Committees are then brought into the discussions leading up to the setting of the budget and precept by the Budget Committee (which in effect only meets once or twice a year) This principle is sound but this area does probably require a re-tweak to accommodate other factors.

In 2007 Cllr de Lacey originally proposed a Committee called “Policy and Resources” – which then evolved into the current Finance Committee but in the process lost the function he had identified as “To make long-term plans for the Village”. Subsequently the Council has modified SOs to require Committees to hold a meeting to discuss their plans and objectives. There is however a huge a gap in the system. If a Committee establishes its priorities and draws up a plan for the future what happens to that plan? Unless resourced properly objectives may not be met, rival projects coming from different perspectives need to be prioritised and the Council as a whole needs to have a coherent plan of what it is trying to achieve.

Dealing with consultations is another known bottle neck – the Chair of the PC is liable to be stranded with these and the work really needs to be spread out. Either this should also rest here or be added to bulk up the role of the Planning Committee.

Proposal 4 To broaden the remit of the Budget Committee into a Planning and Resources Committee which meets regularly and would take a view of what the Council’s priorities should be. These discussions are now effectively crammed into one or two joint meetings of the Finance/Budget Committees as the annual budget for the next year is being set so any notion of forward planning is limited to the next 15 months at best and usually against a background of cutting budgets back against the clock rather than actually looking at costs and benefits. The Budget Committee does not function otherwise through the year – but it seems foolish not to include ex officio the Chairs of the two high spending committees together with the members of the Finance C (as the BC is constituted) in this steering group. The Committee would deliberate and advise the full Council on future plans which the PC then could endorse or not as the case may be.

The Finance Committee should continue as a monitoring committee – but as a spending Chairman I have not really felt that I’ve received formal feedback from the FC over how things are going – if adjustments to reserves, concerns over fee levels etc are required. However exchange of information between the parties should be enhanced by proposal 4.

Proposal 5 Council should consider what should fall within the catch all of “Resources” as in Proposal 4. Apart from funds there are two other types of resources we also need to manage – human resources and facilities (buildings, pitches, courts, etc mainly but not exclusively under S and R) and these too come within the area of planning and have financial overtones. Should they be included in the same Committee’s business or should a separate Human Resources Committee be set up?

Proposal 6 Review and revise remit of Wellbrook Way Committee

This committee has really struggled to function as a committee. It has had a succession of Chairs and has met intermittently. A lot of the actual work and decisions of the committee has been delegated or taken forward by the Chair or the PC Chair directly rather than going through the Committee. Now the development is at a crossroads – certain major elements such as responsibility for management of the open spaces and the LEAP can be taken over by the Environment and the S and R Committee – but negotiations with the GTC and others over the development of the “community land” will be continuing (however the S and R Committee also has a major stake in how the Council can establish a way of living with the Bowls Club etc.) and liaison with the Abbeyfield development will also be needed.

Either the Wellbrook Committee is wound up and its notional functions distributed elsewhere – what remains might be suitably managed by a Planning and Resources Committee as outlined above – or it should have a brief very tightly redefined and be made to function.

Michael L Wilson
4th May 2010

Appendix D

Chairman’s Report for April 2010

The Wellbrook Public Open Space is nearly ready to be handed over and I have been in discussion with both the Section 106 Officer at SCDC and the developers to ensure this happens as soon as possible. Problems with trying to rush to an agreement with the Town Charity to combine Phases 2 and 3 of the development (the bowling green and the building) seem to me to be insurmountable and the only sensible way forward appears to be to construct the green and pay the VAT on it. The exercise has however raised a number of issues as to how we manage our open spaces which the new Council will need to tackle.

Our two Future Jobs Fund employees are settling in and already proving their worth. Nicola in the office has begun work on a database of contacts in the village which we used to invite organisations to have stands in the refreshment half-hour before the APM; Joe outside has made all our open spaces tidier and has many bigger jobs lined up for him.

I am in discussion with Kieran Mansley and Alex Duncan of the Parish Plan as to the best way of presenting its issues and ours at the Annual Parish Meeting. We shall meet on Monday 17 May and I expect the agenda for the APM to be posted by the time the Council meets. I hope that the major issues from the Plan will form the basis for a general discussion at the APM of priorities for the new Council for the coming year. The full Plan should be available shortly after.

Douglas de Lacey

Girton Youth Project Report for 2009/10

Girton Youth Project has undergone some significant changes over the past year. This has been predominantly down to a change in full time staff and a long break in between.

Helen Healy was in place as the Youth Manager from the summer of 2009 and delivered 3 weeks of events including trips to theme parks as well as local amenities such as the cinema. Unfortunately, in September Helen had to leave due to ill health so provision was disrupted, however thanks to Sarah and other sessional workers who worked over and above their remit the Youth Club was able to carry on through-out the winter.

Since February 16th I have been in place as the new Project manager and immediately started to deliver the youth club on its usual Thursday evenings.

To date, 9 evening youth clubs have been offered to both the 8 to 12 age group and the 13 to 19 age group, with a steady increase of participants. Now we have a total of 26 regular attendees to the younger group and 12 regular attendees to the older group.

No evening clubs were run during the Easter holidays, but 4 full days of events were run instead, including 2 trips, an art day with 3 artists, and an activities day and a fun day with bouncy castles and a picnic which were held on the recreation ground.

Although there have been a few minor behaviour issues, which can predominantly be put down to a lack of continuity of staff the evening sessions have begun to feel more relaxed and fun, and since the Easter events all the staff and young people have really got to know each other and a bond is beginning to start. In addition to the work with the young people. The project has undergone a complete brand change, with a newly developed and designed website and project logo. This was created by a professional designer with the final look was chosen by the groups.

Tim Shuker-Yates