

Girton Parish Council

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

Minutes of the Meeting of Girton Parish Council held on Wednesday 20th June, 2012 at St Vincent's Close Community Centre at 7.30 p.m.

Members of the parish were invited to attend this meeting and to speak at Item 12/71.1

Present: Cllrs: de Lacey (Chairman), Bromwich, Clift, Garner, Godby, Gordon, Hiley (from item 12/71.1), Martin, Simpson, Taylor, Thorrold, Westley, Williams

2 members of the public

In attendance: S Cumming (Clerk), N Stone (RFO) (from item 12/74.2)

- 12/68 Welcome from the Chairman** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly the two members of the public.
- 12/69 Apologies and reasons for absence** Apologies had been received from Cllrs Cockley and Noble, and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence. County Councillor John Reynolds had sent apologies owing to another meeting (he was then able to come to the meeting, which had unfortunately closed two minutes beforehand).
- 12/70 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda** Cllrs de Lacey and Williams declared personal interest in item 12/74.2 as they may help with the repairs.
- 12/71 Public Participation session on agenda items & matters of mutual interest:**
1. Members of the Public. Mr C Hall spoke about flooding problems at his property subsequent to the County Council's works in Woodlands Park. David Gilkes of Cambridgeshire County Council has visited the property and had agreed to install a French drain. Investigations by Cambridge Water have proved inconclusive. Investigations are continuing. It was suggested that Mr Hall write to Michael Oakman of Cambridgeshire County Council's Highways Department and the Parish Council will notify Cllr Reynolds.
 2. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*) Cllr Reynolds had sent apologies but had forwarded his report beforehand. Cllr de Lacey noted questions about Woodlands Park, and Cllr Bromwich's flood report, which would be conveyed to Cllr Reynolds.
 3. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*) Cllr Bygott was not present and had not sent a report – there were no questions for him from councillors. Cllr de Lacey's report had been previously circulated, and there were two items to add to his report. The Local Plan is to be revised – the online document is available on the South Cambridgeshire District Council website. Proposed development in Girton includes the top end of Cockerton Road and an increased area for NIAB 2. Cllr de Lacey suggested that councillors may wish to read the documents. The second issue is broadband. 7,500 people in Cambridgeshire had responded to the consultation on broadband. There is a big dead spot in Wellbrook Way and a small one in Weavers Field.
Councillors questioned the sustainability of development in the Cambridge area, and whether this would lead to an infrastructure deficit. The Chairman noted that employment is growing, and with it the population of our region grows and more housing is needed. Water will be a crucial issue.
 4. Police Report (E-Cops) (*Appendix C*) Cllr Godby noted that there is a County Executive Meeting of Neighbourhood Watch next week.
- 12/72 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wednesday 16th May, 2012**
In the circulated draft, at item 12/62.5 the word 'is' should be replaced by 'to be'. With this

amendment, the Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr Gordon, seconded by Cllr Martin and approved unanimously.

12/73 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

12/62.5 The ditch works are being deferred to the third week of July for ecological reasons.

12/62.6 The Chairman has discussed this matter with South Cambridgeshire District Council legal department. As long as this space remains public it is not necessary to cede land to the Girton Town Charity. The Chairman will propose a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town Charity.

12/62.8 The chairs have been ordered but have not yet arrived.

12/62.10 A formal letter has been written to the installers of the tennis court floodlights confirming that they were contacted when the warranty period was still valid, reporting the intermittent fault, and that repairs should be carried out under guarantee. No response to the letter had yet been received.

12/62.11 The surveyor's report and Tree Officer's Report have been received and a report from the Chairman of the Environment Committee has also been received. This item will be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

12/74 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council

1. That ordinary meetings of Girton Parish Council during the Council year 2012-2013 be on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the St Vincent's Close Community Centre.

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby and approved unanimously.

2. That the Parish Council agree to repair the base of the War Memorial, to be paid for by public subscription with the Council making up any shortfall (*Appendix D*).

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Gordon. A structural engineer has looked at the War Memorial and judges the damage to be purely cosmetic. He is prepared to carry out the works for £200. Approved unanimously.

3. That the Council endorse the report (*Appendix E*) prepared by Cllr Bromwich concerning flooding and send it, in the name of the Council, to local Councillors and the Environment Agency with a request that it be actioned.

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Taylor. Cllr Hiley declared a personal interest in this item. Cllr Bromwich was thanked for preparing this impressive document. -Agreed with two abstentions.

4. To receive the report by the Parish Council's Health & Safety Officer on the RoSPA report (*Appendix F*).

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby. It was recognised that this is a very good piece of work by a volunteer officer. He has picked up on a number of points where RoSPA has been shoddy. The Clerk will write to RoSPA outlining the council's concerns. Approved unanimously.

5. To approve a comment on the amended planning application S/1886/11(NW Cambridge). Cllr de Lacey proposed an amended motion, "That this Council agrees to no comment on the amended proposal", seconded by Cllr Westley. Cllr de Lacey noted that the amendment is a revision of the SSSI and of little significance to Girton. Approved unanimously.

12/75 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve payments for the previous month

Proposed by Cllr Gordon, seconded by Cllr Martin and approved with one abstention.

2. To approve the balance sheet (*Appendix G*)

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Garner and approved with one abstention.

3. To receive the Finance Report from 1 April 2012 to date (*Appendix H*)

Received by the Council.

12/76 Correspondence

1. 23rd May 2012 Correspondence regarding Minor Highways Improvements Applications

2. 23rd May 2012 Correspondence with War Memorials Trust

3. 23rd May 2012 Correspondence about advertising hoardings

4. 24th May 2012 Enquiry about tree works in Cambridge Road
 5. 26th May 2012 Correspondence regarding possible breach of planning permission
 6. 28th May 2012 Correspondence about survey of wildflower habitats in Wellbrook Way
 7. 6th June 2012 Correspondence from SCDC regarding North West Cambridge Development
 8. 10th June 2012 Minutes of Wellbrook Way Residents Association Meeting
 9. 12th June 2012 Correspondence regarding 30mph speed limit on Huntingdon Road
 10. 12th June 2012 Correspondence about amendment to NW Cambridge Development Planning Application.
- The correspondence was noted by the Council.

12/77 To receive reports

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix I*)
2. Girton Town Charity. The Town Charity are advertising the availability of the new almshouses from October 2012 onwards. Priority will be given to Girton residents and those who are sharing housing with other generations of their family. It was suggested that the Parish Council might have a tour of the almshouses later in the summer as they near completion.
3. Girton Youth Project (*Appendix J*)
4. Footpaths. Cllr Bromwich has removed vegetation from Dovehouse Close. There has been praise received for the footpaths out to Madingley and Dry Drayton.
5. Bowling Green Committee. Cllr Taylor will forward to the Clerk his questions for consultant Roger Driver.
6. Wellbrook Way Development Committee. Cllr Gordon has invited members of the Wellbrook Way Residents Committee on a guided walk of Wellbrook Way on 10th July. There is a Neighbourhood Watch recruitment drive in the area.

12/78 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes

1. Planning Committee Meetings of 16th May and 6th June, 2012 (previously circulated) Received by the Council.

12/79 Matters raised by Members

There are a number of problems with potholes in the village, and it was suggested that a full survey of potholes is needed. The Clerk has already contacted the Highways Agency about potholes in Redgate Road/Cambridge Road, but there are also potholes in Cherry Bounds Road among others which need attention.

Where Bullman Grove enters High Street there are problems with flood run-off missing the drain. The Clerk will write to the SCDC Planning Enforcement Officer, requesting that this be investigated.

There have been very good comments received from parishioners about the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations on 2nd June. The Council's thanks were given to Carol Noble and Rowena Barnes for the great efforts they made to make the day successful. There was also an impressive number of street parties in the village.

It was noted that the grass verges have been getting long after the long spell of wet weather, but the Clerk noted that a cut has just begun.

It was queried whether the Parish Council could do anything about there being no Girton representative on the NW Cambridge Joint Development Control Committee. Councillors could condemn this decision by South Cambridgeshire District Council and propose a motion requesting the District to reconsider. This matter could be raised as a business item on the next agenda.

It was reported that monies raised by the Neighbourhood Watch Committee through the provision of cream teas at the Diamond Jubilee Celebration could be used to purchase more Neighbourhood Watch signs for the village.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm