

# 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 21st November, 2012 at St Vincent's Close Community Centre at 7.30 p.m.

*Residents in the parish were invited to attend this meeting and to speak at Item 12/131.1*

**Present:** Cllrs: de Lacey (Chairman), Bromwich, Garner, Godby, Gordon, Hiley (from item 12/134.1), Martin, Noble, Simpson, Taylor, Thorrold, Westley, Williams

Cllr J Reynolds (CCC), Cllr T Bygott (SCDC) (until end of item 12/131)

**In attendance:** S Cumming (Clerk), N Stone (PFO)

**12/128 Welcome from the Chairman.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly County Councillor Reynolds and District Councillor Bygott.

**12/129 Apologies and reasons for absence.** Apologies had been received from Councillors Clift and Cockley, and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence.

**12/130 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda.** None.

**12/131 Public Participation session on agenda items & matters of mutual interest:**

1. Members of the Public. There were no members of the public present at the meeting.
2. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*). Cllr Reynolds will speak again to officers regarding the solar lights on Oakington Road, many of which are not working. Regarding support for people to register for broadband, there has only been 10% support from Girton. There is about another month before it is known which bid for the contract has been successful. Funding from the government will be able to be used to buy coverage.
3. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*). Cllr Bygott noted that from April 2013 local district councils will be able to run Council Tax discount schemes. Pensioners, the disabled, and lone parents will also be protected. Ernst and Young have commended the 'Plain English Accounts' booklet. Regarding ash dieback, there is a link on the SCDC homepage to the forestry commission homepage. With reference to the item about the Remembrance Day service in Cllr de Lacey's report, it was noted that some councillors go to other memorial services. Also, there were some problems for older people in hearing the ceremony – in some villages, traffic is stopped during the service, and the possibility of a rostrum for speakers to be raised above the crowd was mentioned.
4. Police Report (E-Cops) (*Appendix C*). PCSO Mani had also sent a report for the meeting. At the Swavesey Area Panel Meeting it had been reported that crime in Girton had risen, and that there have been more burglaries on the Cambridge side. There is expected to be a rise in crime in the pre-Christmas period, particularly bag-thefts. Councillors were also warned of a scam where there is notification that a parcel is to be collected, giving a premium-rate phone line to call for details. Cllr Reynolds also spoke of the reorganisation of policing in South Cambridgeshire outlined at the Swavesey Area Panel Meeting. PCSOs are safe in post until April 2013, after which it is up to Chief Constables to decide how to use the money. Most Chief Constables do not envisage much change.

Cllrs Reynolds and Bygott left the meeting at this point.

**12/132 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wednesday 17th October, 2012**  
The Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr Gordon, and approved with two abstentions.

**12/133 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)**

12/86.1b The contractor appointed to install the picnic benches is now not able to undertake the work. This item will be referred back to the Sports & Recreation Committee (see correspondence

item 12/136.2).

12/98.1 The parish noticeboard has been delivered and will be erected following the completion of pavement improvements at Wellbrook Way. Since the agenda was published, Cllr Gordon has met with the contractor, who will undertake the work in the next few days.

12/110.6 The replacement ravine rope bridge has been fitted on the rainbow play equipment.

Noted by the Council.

#### **12/134 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council**

1. To agree donations to St Vincent's Close Community Centre and to Orchard Close Community Centre, in thanks for the use of their facilities.

A donation of £150 to St Vincent's Close Community Centre, and £50 to Orchard Close Community Centre was proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby. The donations should be used for the benefit of residents. Cllr Hiley proposed an amendment that both Community Centres should be requested to send the Parish Council their accounts to show how the monies were spent. Agreed unanimously.

2. To appoint a trustee for the Girton Village Institute.

Cllr de Lacey proposed that Cllr Godby be invited to be reappointed as a Village Institute Trustee, seconded by Cllr Thorrold. Approved with one abstention.

3. To re-constitute the Bowls Green Committee and to convene a meeting as soon as possible (see correspondence item 12/136.7).

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby. Cllrs Cockley, de Lacey, Gordon, Noble, Thorrold, Westley and Williams agreed to join the Committee, and Mr G Clare will also be invited to join the Committee as a voting member. Cllr Taylor is stepping down, and was thanked by the Council Chairman for his time as Chairman of the Bowls Green Committee. Agreed with one abstention.

Cllr Hiley proposed suspending Standing Orders at this point, seconded by Cllr de Lacey and approved unanimously. After a discussion on the bowling green project, Standing Orders were reinstated.

4. To re-constitute the Emergency Plan Committee and to convene a meeting as soon as possible.

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby. The following Councillors were appointed to the Committee: Cllrs Bromwich, Godby, Taylor, Thorrold and Williams, and Cllr Clift and Mr G Clare will be asked if they would like to join. Agreed unanimously.

5. To approve the payment of £200 to the charity Starlight in lieu of payment to an individual for works on the War Memorial (see correspondence item 12/136.8). Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Gordon. The anonymous individual wishes to donate his fee to the charity.

Approved unanimously.

6. To extend a formal vote of thanks to the anonymous donor who repaired the base of the War Memorial, and to Cllr Williams who cleaned and waterproofed the memorial.

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby. The work has been done very satisfactorily and has been enhanced by Cllr Williams' work. Agreed with one abstention.

7. To receive the Accounts from the Girton Jubilee Committee, following the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in June 2012 (*Appendix D*). The accounts have been sent by the Jubilee Committee Treasurer. Received by the Council.

8. To agree a response to the Cambridgeshire County Council Local Enforcement Plan for Minerals and Waste Development in Cambridgeshire (documentation previously circulated). Cllr de Lacey proposed a null response. Cllr Hiley proposed an amendment that the Parish Council hopes that the County Council will enforce it in the way they say they will do by resourcing it properly. Approved unanimously.

9. To approve the Chairman and Vice-Chair to sign an indemnity for South Cambridgeshire District Council in relation to Section 106 payments for the development at 20-22 Girton Road (see correspondence item 12/136.11). Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby. The documents will be signed on Cllr Cockley's return. Approved unanimously.

#### **12/135 Finance and Resource Management**

1. To approve payments for the previous month.

Proposed by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr Gordon. It was suggested that delivery charges be checked when placing orders. Approved with two abstentions.

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

Proposed by Cllr Garner, seconded by Cllr Hiley, and approved unanimously.

3. To receive the Finance Report from 1st April 2012 to date (*Appendix F*)  
Received by the Council.

**12/136 Correspondence (to be received)**

1. 25 October 2012 Correspondence about Girton Millennium Wood
2. 26 October 2012 Correspondence regarding laying of picnic bench bases
3. 31 October 2012 Correspondence about Street Lighting Energy 2011-2012
4. 1 November 2012 Correspondence about Girton Post Office
5. 1 November 2012 Correspondence about the South West Countryside Trail
6. 3 November 2012 Correspondence about widening of A14 and Weavers Field, Girton
7. 6 November 2012 Correspondence about the Bowls Club
8. 6 November 2012 Information about 'Starlight' charity
9. 9 November 2012 Correspondence regarding Register of Parish Members' Interests
10. 12 November 2012 Example letter of thanks for Remembrance Day service
11. 14 November 2012 S106 indemnity agreement with SCDC for 20-22 Girton Road, Girton
12. 14 November 2012 Correspondence regarding grazing on County Farms land
13. 16 November 2012 Carol Evening at Girton Social Club on 14th December 2012

Received by the Council. Regarding item 12/136.4, there is nothing which the Parish Council can do at this stage. The post office could possibly be run as a community resource rather than a commercial organisation.

**12/137 To receive reports**

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix G*). There were no questions regarding the report.
2. Girton Town Charity. The new appointees for housing in Wellbrook Way will move in during the first week of December. Having looked at the possibility of buying land in Oakington Road to provide open space, there are problems with access so this is not being pursued further. A new grant has been made for the continuation of the after-school club at Girton Glebe School. The YMCA are to provide the Girton Youth Project youth club for another three years from April 2013 onwards. The YMCA have also been approached to provide facilities for over-18s. The Parish Council Chairman expressed his delight in seeing the new almshouses' completion ceremony.
3. Girton Youth Project (*Appendix H*). No reply has been received regarding the proposed skate-park on the NW Cambridge site.
4. Footpaths (*Appendix I*). Cllr Bromwich was thanked for his report. It was suggested that Girton Parish Council contacts Impington Parish Council regarding resurfacing of footpath no.10.
5. Bowling Green Committee. A meeting of the bowling green committee will be arranged shortly.
6. Wellbrook Way Development Committee. Cllr Gordon is currently storing trees and hedging for the contractors to plant in the next week or so. A working party was proposed over the Christmas period, to create a grassy walkway – the probation team may be able to help with this.

**12/138 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes**

1. Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting of 3rd October, 2012 (previously circulated)
2. Environment Committee Meeting of 10th October, 2012 (previously circulated)
3. Planning Committee Meeting of 6th November (previously circulated)

Received by the Council.

**12/139 Matters raised by Members (for information only)**

Cllr Bromwich reported that the Environment Agency is planning automated water level gauges for the two streams that run through Girton, and liaison with councils and residents.

Following the recent theft of plants from the village planters, the Council thanks Peter Graves Florists who have made replacements at their own expense.

Some street lighting is out in Wellbrook Way. Cllr Garner will check whether this is adopted.

Railings have been pulled up in Wellbrook Way between the cycleway footpath and the green open space.

The architect is to be asked to cost the car park plans.

The Council wishes to pass on thanks to the Sustainable Girton group for the excellent village Energy Day held on 17th November.

The footway on the Cambridge side of Cambridge Road is not in a good state of repair. The County

Council has a new approach to sorting out road problems.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.