

Girton Parish Council

Susan Cumming
Clerk to the Parish Council
Telephone: (01223) 472181
Email: clerk@girton-cambs.org.uk

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

Minutes of the Meeting of Girton Parish Council held on Wednesday 16th January, 2013 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 13/04.2

Present: Cllrs: de Lacey (Chairman), Bromwich, Clift, Cockley, Garner, Godby, Gordon, Noble, Simpson, Taylor, Thorrold, Williams

Cllr J Reynolds (Cambridgeshire County Council) (until end of item 13/04.3)

Roger Taylor (NW Cambridge Development), David Smith (URS Engineers), Derek Newman (Turner & Townsend) (until end of item 13/04.1)

1 member of the public

In attendance: S Cumming (Clerk), N Stone (RFO)

13/01 Welcome from the Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly the visitors from the NW Cambridge Development project.

13/02 Apologies and reasons for absence Apologies had been received from Cllrs Bygott, Hiley and Westley, and from PCSO Mani, and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence.

13/03 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda Cllr Taylor declared a personal interest in NW Cambridge as he works for Cambridge City Council, and Cllr de Lacey declared a personal interest as he is a member of the Joint Development Control Committee.

13/04 Public Participation session on agenda items & matters of mutual interest:

1. Update from Roger Taylor of Cambridge University's North West Cambridge Development Project and colleagues.
Roger Taylor reported that the Joint Development Control Committee has granted permission for the first stage of the project to go ahead subject to conditions including the Section 106 agreement. It is anticipated that this will be signed in February 2013 and will then move on to reserve matters such as infrastructure. The University's vote at Regent House is current and the outcome should be known later this month. The finances are in place as the University floated a bond. The timescale of the project is that infrastructure works should start later this year, archaeological surveys are underway, and the building of accommodation on site should start by the end of 2015. Derek Newman explained that there are currently 30 archaeologists on the site, and they are finding many good artefacts, particularly Roman ones. Subject to planning, trees will be taken down and construction of an access from Madingley Road from February onwards, with earthworks starting mid-year. The Huntingdon Road junction will follow during the first quarter of 2014 but Madingley Road will be the haul access. The focus is on the Madingley Road side of the site at the moment. The handover commences in 2015, with the University taking over in 2016.

David Smith explained that since August 2012, the engineers have been working

alongside archaeologists to develop infrastructure to deliver the new services. The site-wide rainwater harvesting system is the biggest in the UK. There will be a storage lagoon adjacent to the M11, with a wetland recreational area. Water will be treated, then pumped back for non-potable use. Cambridge University has specified COSH Code Level 5 for dwellings. In Madingley Road, the current road drainage and highway pavement designs are being surveyed, and a similar process will be undertaken for Huntingdon Road. Discussions are being undertaken with Cambridge City Council so that construction can start in Autumn 2013. There will be new access for construction traffic off Madingley Road, near the Park and Ride and M11 junction. A new planning application is being made in January 2013 to enable bulk earthworks, with heavy movement being kept away from residences. URS have been working with utility services to provide for the development's needs. There have been detailed conversations with Cambridge Water, including about potable water – the Cambridge Ring Water Main is to be completed. Anglian Water are putting in a rising main to take foul water to Madingley Road. Hot water and heating is to come from the district heating system – the pipe network has been designed and has gone out to the market. There is no gas supply except for the Energy Centre. Landscape architecture will give an integrated co-ordinated design and is to be subject to Reserved Matters to be submitted later this year.

The members of the NW Cambridge team then answered questions from councillors. Concern was raised about the social implications of charges for maintenance of public open spaces. Residents of the site may believe they have special privileges as they pay the residents' charge. It was explained that residents will be paying only for the maintenance of spaces such as road verges. Storeys Field and the Community Centre will be run as a joint venture with Cambridge City Council. Questions were also raised about a planned route for construction traffic – the intention is that Madingley Road will be the primary entrance, with no construction traffic turning right down Huntingdon Road. Huntingdon Road is highly unlikely to be used during the first phase of construction. The prescribed routes are subject to planning conditions. The NW Cambridge team were conscious of criticism of the NIAB junction design and promised more sympathetic designs for their junctions. A meeting between representatives of Girton Youth Project and the NW Cambridge Development team, to discuss a possible skate-park on the site, had been held in early January. The developers understand that a range of play and recreation areas need to be provided, and are aware that teenagers are a demographic group who are often neglected. Roger Taylor would like to speak to Girton Parish Council regarding funding this, and was impressed that the GYP have already looked into fundraising towards the project. The NW Cambridge site will also provide safe access for youngsters on bicycles. Regarding the development at Gravel Hill, older buildings are to be demolished but the Farm House will be kept. The temporary building will be a project office and temporary meeting room/community room which will be made available. Meetings of the NW Cambridge forum will be held there. Animal sheds are to be artists' studios – there will be a detailed arts strategy for the whole site as part of the community buildings strategy.

The Chairman thanked the members of the NW Cambridge team, and wished them success for the next stages. The NW Cambridge team left the meeting at this point.

2. Members of the Public. The member of the public did not wish to speak.

3. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*). There were no questions for Cllr Reynolds regarding his report. There will be new street lighting on Huntingdon Road, with works being undertaken in April-May 2013. Parishes will be given the chance to meet with officers, and Cllr Reynolds has spoken with Balfour Beatty, who will contact Girton Parish Council to arrange a meeting.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Reynolds, who left the meeting at this point.

4. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*) There were no questions for Cllr de Lacey regarding his report and Cllr Bygott had sent this apologies for absence at the meeting.

5. Police Report (E-Cops) (*Appendix C*). Any questions resultant from the police report should be given to the Clerk, who will forward them to the police.

13/05 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wednesday 19th December, 2012

The Minutes were proposed as a correct record of the meeting by Cllr Thorrold, seconded by Cllr Gordon, approved with one abstention and signed by the Chairman.

13/06 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

12/146.2 This indemnity and the indemnity for 20-22 Girton Road, Girton have both been signed and sent off.

12/146.3 The contractors have undertaken a site visit for installing the picnic bench bases at the Recreation Ground. It is hoped that the bases will be laid within the next month, weather permitting.

12/146.4 The Parish Council's lawyer has been informed of the Council's decision.

12/149.1 The Parish Council has made an application for Local Minor Highway Improvements Funding.

Noted by the Council.

13/07 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council

1. To approve a new contract for electricity supply to the Pavilion (details to be circulated).

Since the agenda was published, the agent has informed us of price fluctuations, so an amended motion was proposed by Cllr de Lacey and seconded by Cllr Gordon, to authorise the Clerk and RFO, in consultation with the Chairman, to negotiate the best deal on behalf of the Council. The amended item was agreed unanimously.

2. To approve the Sport and Recreation Committee's recommendation that the fees for the Pavilion users raise by 2.8% for the year April 1st, 2013 – March 31st, 2014 (*Appendix D*)

Proposed by the Sport and Recreation Committee. There were questions over the level of fees for Girton United A Team, and Cllr Simpson agreed to speak with Linda Miller and circulate details to councillors. It was suggested that the fees be looked at again in six months' time. Approved unanimously.

3. To appoint a task-and-finish group to respond to the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan questionnaire.

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby. The Local Plan implies that Girton is a village worthy of greater development. Cllrs Cockley, de Lacey, Taylor, Thorrold and Williams agreed to be members of the group. Agreed unanimously.

4. To approve a response to the Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report for Darwin Green 2 (NIAB 2) (*Appendix E*).

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Gordon. Cllr Gordon read out the draft response. It was questioned whether there would be proactive use for run-off water – planning law does not enforce this. Social infrastructure should be developed at an appropriate rate. The Council would like to see in the Impact Statement more careful assessment of local impact. As amended, the response was approved unanimously, and the amended version is included at Appendix E.

13/08 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve payments for the previous month.

Proposed by Cllr Garner, seconded by Cllr Thorrold. It was suggested that invoices be checked and initialled by Committee Chairs prior to approval. Approved with one vote against and two abstentions.

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

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

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

Received by the Council. The Chairman thanked the RFO for her work.

13/09 Correspondence (to be received)

1. 05 Nov 2012: Traffic speed and children's recreational facilities

2. 12 Dec 2012: Information about Area Joint Committees

3. 13 Dec 2012: Information about Precept Setting 2013-2014

4. 15 Dec 2012: Correspondence regarding residential annexe

5. 17 Dec 2012: Information about redesigned SCDC website.

6. 20 Dec 2012: Information about Council Tax Capping

7. 24 Dec 2012: Access problems at St Margaret's Road/Thornton Road

8. 07 Jan 2013: South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Issues and Options 2

Consultation

9. 09 Jan 2013: Correspondence regarding energy charges

Received by the Council.

13/10 To receive reports

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix H*).

2. Girton Town Charity. GTC had held meetings on 21st December 2012 and 15th January 2013. The Charity has agreed in principle to give financial assistance to Sustainable Girton for the purchase of 500 re-usable cotton bags to give to residents. Cottontails Pre-School have expressed thanks for the offered assistance with additional staff costs while their Pre-school leader is undertaking professional training. GTC are offering a £9000 grant to Cambridge Dial-a-Ride to allow them to develop services in Girton which unfortunately seem largely to be centred on Abbeyfield. The Charity intends to encourage them to help other residents of the village take part in the regular trips that are carried out. Notices have gone up throughout the village in an attempt to heighten the visibility of the Charity. The Annual Accounts to 30th June 2012 have now been sent to the Charity Commission and should be available shortly on their website.

3. Girton Youth Project (*Appendix I*).

4. Footpaths. No report this month.

5. Bowling Green Committee. Architect Nick Twitchett has agreed to take on the design of the Community Building and to oversee the whole project. Electronic copies of existing plans have been sent to Mr Twitchett. Two surveys are to be carried out on the site: a topographical survey and a survey for South Cambridgeshire District Council. The Bowling Green Committee are to have a meeting with Mr Twitchett and SCDC.

6. Wellbrook Way Development Committee. Speed bumps are to be put in at junctions, then tarmac is to be done. Some street lamps at Wellbrook Way have been reported as not working – these remain Taylor Wimpey's responsibility until the road is adopted.

13/11 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes

1. Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting of 5th December, 2012 (previously circulated)

2. Bowling Green Committee Meeting of 5th December, 2012 (previously circulated)

3. Planning Committee Meeting of 19th December, 2012 (previously circulated)

4. Emergency Plan Committee Meeting of 19th December, 2012 (previously circulated)

Received by the Council.

13/12 Matters raised by Members (for information only)

Planning for the next 3-4 years about school intake in the village is ongoing.

Many of the solar lights on Oakington Road are not working. The issue has been raised with Cllr Reynolds, and the Chairman will ask for a response.

Cllrs Gordon, de Lacey and Williams planted the replacement hedging at St John's Field on 12th January.

The proposed car park meeting with Tim Brading will be held shortly, once a date can be arranged.

The Chairman has informed solicitor of TW transfer, but no response has been received.

The meeting closed at 8.53 p.m.