

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 February, 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 13/21.2

Present: Cllrs: de Lacey (Chairman), Bromwich (from item 13/24.1), Clift, Cockley, Garner, Godby, Gordon, Noble, Simpson, Taylor, Thorrold, Westley, Williams

Cllr J Reynolds (CCC) (from item 13/21.3 – start of item 13/29)

Stuart Bailey (Project Manager, Barratt Homes), Nikki Davies (Meeting Place Communications), Marcia Whitehead (Bidwells) (until end of item 13/21.1)

2 members of the public

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

13/18 Welcome from the Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially the team from the NIAB 2/Darwin Green 2 development

13/19 Apologies and reasons for absence Apologies had been received from Cllrs Bromwich, Martin and Reynolds, and from PCSO Mani, and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence.

13/20 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda Cllr Taylor declared a personal interest in item 13/21.1 as he works for Cambridge City Council.

13/21 Public Participation session on agenda items & matters of mutual interest:

1. Update on the Darwin Green 2 (NIAB 2) development from representatives of Barratt Homes and colleagues.

Stuart Bailey of Barratt Homes introduced his colleagues. Marcia Whitehead wanted to bring the Council up to date in terms of Darwin Green. The plan is already in the public domain.

Discussions regarding the S106 agreement are ongoing but the developers want to go on with the second stage, which is for 1100 dwellings together with associated facilities. On the map given out to councillors, the orange areas are built developments with the larger green area open space/country park. The plan will come together as an outline planning application.

The proposed secondary school will serve the north-west quadrant of Cambridge and has already been agreed (shown in dark blue). The primary school is marked in light blue and there will be a second primary school on Darwin Green 2..

Access points at Histon Road/Huntingdon Road were already agreed with Darwin Green 1. There will be pedestrian and cycle links up to Wellbrook Way. The other green link shown is a public right of way/cycleway over the A14.

The developers are looking to make this an outline planning application to be submitted by May 2013.

Nikki Davies highlighted the Public Exhibition to be held at the Cotton Hall on Friday 15 March, the newsletter and the project website. Questions were then taken from councillors.

It was questioned when the development would start and finish being built. There were also concerns regarding the level of car traffic the development will generate. Stuart Bailey spoke of seeing Darwin Green 1 and 2 as a whole site where there will be different facilities to enhance each other. Roads will be designed in liaison with Cambridgeshire Highways and Cambridgeshire County Council and are designed to cope with this traffic. A circuitous route will keep speeds low in the interests of safety throughout the site. Transportation will be discussed at NW Cambridge Forum's next meeting.

In Autumn 2013 a couple of hundred units will go in, depending on what sales rates are. Darwin Green 1 will take 6-8 years to build. Darwin Green 1 will have 1593 homes with 1100 homes on

Darwin Green 2. There will be a mixture of housing, with 40% of the development social housing. Regarding the route of the old Histon Road/Cambridge Road, there is a proposal that the land would become open space. Regarding sustainability, housing will be built to code 4 with code 5 an option for householders. Houses will be designed with optimal aspect for PV renewables.

It was queried whether the cycleway and footpaths would be lit – the main orbital route would need to be lit. Regarding the cycleway over the A14, there would be a bridge dedicated to public access which would go out to Histon and Impington.

It was questioned whether the cycle and pedestrianway can be progressed more quickly, and the Parish will raise this matter through Nikki Davies.

Regarding drainage concerns, balancing ponds are proposed then into Histon Brook.

Two main issues are transportation and drainage. The NW Fringes Forum will be about drainage. Concerns were raised about soil contamination, following the previous growing of GM crops on the site. Stuart Bailey will pursue this issue with the Environmental Health Organisation, the reports to be in the public domain.

The secondary school will be built by the 350th unit, so plans could be with Cambridgeshire County Council within 18 months – 2 years, with a build time in four years.

The speakers were thanked by the Chairman and left the meeting at this point.

2. Members of the Public. Neither of the members of the public present at the meeting wished to speak.

3. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*). As Cllr Reynolds had sent his apologies because of attendance at another meeting, this item was moved to later in the meeting. The Clerk agreed to submit any questions arising from his report to Councillor Reynolds.

4. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*). Sustainable Parishes Energy Partnership has won the regional National Energy Action Community Footprint Award and is now in the running for the national award. Gamlingay eco-building was used for the award presentation.

5. Police Report (E-Cops) (*Appendix C*) It has been decided that PCSOs will stay for another year at current strength. There will be a meeting with Sir Graham Bright on either 10th or 17th April. The Council was notified that there are two rival demonstrations in Cambridge on Saturday 23 February, so it may be best to avoid the area.

13/22 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wednesday 16th January, 2013 and of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 24th January, 2013.

The Minutes were proposed as true records of the meetings by Cllr Garner, seconded by Cllr Gordon, approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

13/23 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

12/122.3 Additional bank account signatories have now been added to the current account.

12/134.1 Accounts details of how donations have been used have been forwarded to the Council (see correspondence item 13/26.3)

13/07.1 British Gas have been appointed as electricity suppliers to the Pavilion (see correspondence item 13/26.13). This is a fixed 3-year contract, which the RFO, the Clerk and the Chairman felt prudent in a time of rising energy costs.

13/07.3 The Council's Local Plan Consultation response has been forwarded to South Cambridgeshire District Council, following the meeting of the Task and Finish Group on 11th February (see correspondence item 13/26.18)

13/07.4 The Council's response to the Environmental Impact Assessment has been submitted.

13/12 A meeting between Girton Parish Council and architect Tim Brading took place on 28th January. There is a need to establish the churchyard/car park boundary, which is partly why foliage has been cut back. The remodelling of the car park should be carried out in the summer school holidays.

Noted by the Council.

Cllr Bromwich joined the meeting at this point and was welcomed by the Chairman.

13/24 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council

1. That the Council approve a Section 137 payment of £190 towards the printing and distribution costs of an informative insert about the Village Plan in the Girton Parish News (*Appendix D*). Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Cockley. Section 137 payments are for projects which are for the general good of the community. The insert would be for the May 2013 edition of the Girton Parish News. Approved unanimously.

13/25 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve payments for the previous month
Proposed by Cllr Garner, seconded by Cllr Cockley, and approved with one abstention.
2. To approve the balance sheet (*Appendix E*)
Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Garner, and approved with one abstention.
3. To receive the Finance Report from 1st April 2012 to date (*Appendix F*)
Received by the Council.
4. To approve the opening of a new current account with the Co-Operative Bank to facilitate payments for the bowls green project, and to approve the following as bank signatories: Cllrs Cockley, de Lacey, Godby, and Thorrold; and Mrs N Stone, with two councillors to sign cheques. Cllr de Lacey proposed an amended motion that the account be opened with exactly the same signatories as on the existing account, allowing the Council to simply notify the Co-Operative Bank rather than endure the complex negotiations of opening a completely new account. Seconded by Cllr Gordon. The amended item was approved unanimously.

13/26 Correspondence (to be received)

- 1) 10 Jan 2013 Correspondence about street lighting design for Huntingdon Road
 - 2) 16 Jan 2013 Correspondence about Girton College footpath closure
 - 3) 18 Jan 2013 Correspondence about donations to Orchard Close and St Vincent's Close Community Centres.
 - 4) 22 Jan 2013 Letter regarding Northstowe Development Framework Document
 - 5) 22 Jan 2013 Letter regarding Northstowe Phase 1 Planning Application
 - 6) 23 Jan 2013 Letter about Girton Post Office Re-Opening
 - 7) 25 Jan 2013 Correspondence about icy conditions in Pepys Way
 - 8) 25 Jan 2013 Correspondence about Jubilee Trees project
 - 9) 28 Jan 2013 Correspondence about Local Enforcement Plan for Minerals and Waste Disposal
 - 10) 28 Jan 2013 Correspondence about A14 roadworks
 - 11) 1 Feb 2013 Correspondence about ditch clearance at Wellbrook Way/Thornton Way
 - 12) 1 Feb 2013 Correspondence about North West Cambridge Development
 - 13) 1 Feb 2013 Letter about contract with British Gas
 - 14) 6 Feb 2013 Correspondence about possible brook clearance.
 - 15) 6 Feb 2013 Correspondence about problems with passageways at St Margaret's Road/Thornton Road and Bandon Road/Huntingdon Road.
 - 16) 6 Feb 2013 Correspondence about 30mph limit on Huntingdon Road
 - 17) 7 Feb 2013 Information about Community Transport Fund applications
 - 18) 12 Feb 2013 Parish Council response to South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Issues and Options 2 questionnaire.
 - 19) 12 Feb 2013 Report about consent for felling of plane tree at Cambridge Academy of English
 - 20) 12 Feb 2013 Information about Cambridgeshire Local Access Forum
- Received by the Council. The Chairman thanked Cllr Clift for his work in putting correspondence items on the GPC website over the past couple of years, and the Council is looking to transferring this facility to the Girton Cambs website.

13/27 To receive reports

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix G*). There were no comments on the report.
2. Girton Town Charity. There was no report this month.
3. Girton Youth Project (*Appendix H*)
4. Footpaths. There was no report this month.
5. Bowling Green Committee. Cllr Westley reported that a meeting has been held with the contractors Two County and architect Nick Twitchett. The levelling of the site, on which there is a 1.5m drop from one side to another, is an unknown quantity as some soil may have to be removed and other soil brought in. The contractors could start work in April 2013 with the bowls green ready for use by April 2014.
6. Wellbrook Way Development Committee. The Community Building is now proposed to be built on land owned by SCDC. The first draft outline plans of Nick Twitchett's proposal were distributed. 60-80 people may be seated in the community hall which can be divided by a folding wall. The hall would be large enough for carpet bowls or a badminton court. The stage will be removable. There will be a kitchen and a bar, together with storage space and office. To help

soundproofing, the building will be triple-glazed. Solar panels are planned and there may be rainwater reuse. Facing the bowls green will be a ramp and an outlook from the hall to that area. It is hoped to have 24 car parking spaces. It is hoped that the Community Building and Bowls Green will be available at the same time. Cllr Gordon would welcome feedback on the plans from village organisations, and will attend the next Wellbrook Way Residents Association Meeting in March.

The Chairman thanked Cllrs Westley and Gordon for their reports. Cllr Reynolds joined the meeting at this point, and was welcomed by the Chairman. The next item was raised from earlier in the agenda.

- 13/21.3 County Councillor's Report.** New lights have been installed on the footway on the Histon/Oakington Road. The normal life expectancy for these lights is 8 years, and all the lights have been replaced. Regarding the new 30 mph speed limit on Huntingdon Road, councillors were concerned that this substantial change had not been adequately signposted. Cllr Reynolds was thanked by the Chairman. Cllr Reynolds gave his apologies for the rest of the meeting and left at this point.

13/28 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes

1. Planning Committee Meeting of 11th February, 2013 (previously circulated)
2. Task and Finish Group Meeting for South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Consultation of 11th February, 2013 (previously circulated)

Received by the Council.

13/29 Matters raised by Members (for information only)

The recent archaeological exhibition at the NIAB site showed that there had been a thriving community just off the high road 2000 years ago, and there may be a further exhibition.

Regarding the need for another tree survey, the Tree Officer will undertake a survey together with Cllr Gordon and Mr G Thorpe, and Councillors are invited to join them. Cllr Gordon extended the Council's thanks to Tree Officer Dr Cull for his hard work and diligence.

Concerns regarding the car parking bottleneck at the Post Office will be raised with PCSO Mani.

On 28 February there will be a drop-in session about flooding, held by the Environment Agency at Girton Golf Club. The Environment Agency are to install a water level gauge.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.