

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 17th April, 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 13/45.1

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

PCSO B Mani (until item 13/45.4)

1 member of the public (until item 13/45/1)

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

13/42 Welcome from the Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially the member of the public and PCSO Mani.

13/43 Apologies and reasons for absence Cllrs Bygott, Reynolds and Martin had sent apologies and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence.

13/44 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda None.

13/45 Public Participation session on agenda items & matters of mutual interest:

1. Members of the Public. The member of the public present at the meeting raised concerns regarding a street lamp in St Vincent's Close which has not been working since November, the need for replacement Woody Green street signage and a number of potholes in St Vincent's Close. The Chairman thanked the member of the public, who left at this point.

The following item was brought forward:

4. Police Report (E-Cops) (*Appendix C*). PCSO Mani outlined four recent crimes in Girton. The Chairman thanked PCSO Mani, who left the meeting at this point.

2. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*) In Cllr Reynolds' absence, any comments or questions on his report were to be given to the Clerk to pass on to him.

3. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*) Cllr de Lacey reported that at the JDCC meeting of 17th April, the release of conditions on the NW Cambridge site was approved. The parish council's recommendations were included in the approval given. Questions were raised over Cllr Bygott's non-attendance at Parish Council meetings, which should be addressed to SCDC.

13/46 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20th March, 2013. The Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Cllr Simpson, seconded by Cllr Thorrold and approved with one abstention.

13/47 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

13/36.3 The Parish Council's response to the NW Cambridge Development consultation has been sent to South Cambridgeshire District Council (see correspondence item 13/50.6)

13/36.4 The two condemned trees on the Recreation Ground have been felled.

13/37.4 The Clerk and RFO have negotiated insurance cover for 2013-14 with our existing insurers, as this is the final year of the council's three-year contract. Valuations have been requested for the council's assets at Wellbrook Way.

13/38.6 The Jubilee Oak-planting event took place on 8th April.

13/39.6 The Clerk has written to Royal Mail requesting a post-box at Wellbrook Way (see correspondence item 13/50.7)

13/41 Cllr Clift and the Clerk represented the Council at the Local Minor Highways Works Applications Panel on 25th March.

The Chairman expressed the Council's thanks to Tree Officer Dr Del Cull for organising the successful Jubilee Tree-Planting event.

13/48

Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council

1. To approve the appointment of Sian Franklin as Parish Council Trustee for the Cotton Hall, Girton.

Mrs Franklin's appointment has recommended by the Cotton Hall trustees. Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Noble. Approved with one abstention.

2. That the Parish Council authorises the Chairman to request that all relevant bodies concerned with planning of the NW Cambridge Development recognise that part of it falls within the Girton parish boundaries, and that during the planning process due recognition is given to the impact of the development on the whole of Girton and the services available to it (schooling, sports provision, public transport etc.), both in terms of phasing and long term provision.

Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Thorrold. Concerns were raised that Girton is being overlooked in the development. Cllr de Lacey stressed that at the JDCC meeting everyone had been very keen to know that Girton Parish Council had seen and approved the reserve matters. Questions were raised over the precept and the problems of changing the boundaries, it having been suggested that the City Council leads on this project. In phase one of the NW Cambridge development, about one-third is in Girton. Girton Parish Council are already consultees for the whole plan, and we have no more powerful sanctions.

Cllr Godby suggested an amendment to the motion, to read that the Chairman be authorised to request 'in writing'. This amendment was agreed by Cllr Williams. It was questioned whether street signage would state 'Girton' – this is outside the purview of this issue, and Cllr de Lacey will raise it informally with Roger Taylor, Project Director.

The motion was approved unanimously.

3. To agree the council's response to Cambridge City Council's Community Infrastructure Levy Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule Consultation (see correspondence item 13/50.1)

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Thorrold. The Community Infrastructure Levy went through legislation at the end of last year. It is a levy on developments so that councils can build up a fund to build infrastructure. Cross-boundary issues between the City Council and Cambridge's necklace villages could affect Girton in the future, such as travellers' pitches and social housing. The levy is not specific and can be spent as councils like – where there are parishes, the parish picks up some of the monies, the rest being used wherever the council like. That student accommodation and private dwellings will attract the same levy is an anomaly. Approved with one abstention.

4. To approve the purchase of a replacement water pump for the Recreation Ground Cricket Square as recommended by the Sports and Recreation Committee, at a cost of £798+VAT, to be funded from the Sports Equipment budget.

Proposed by the Sports and Recreation Committee. An amended motion, to postpone this item to the May Parish Council Meeting, to request further quotations, was proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Cockley. The amended motion was approved with one vote against and two abstentions.

5. To approve the hire and fitting of security fencing at the Wellbrook Way bowls green construction site as recommended by the Bowling Green Committee Meeting of 17th April, 2013.(quotations tabled). Proposed by the Bowling Green Committee. The cheapest option of the three quotations received had been Safe Site Fencing, the decision to appoint them based on price. It is estimated that the fencing will be needed on site for 40 weeks, at a cost of £2,140. It was requested that all companies with equipment on site don't assume we take responsibility for theft or abuse of this whilst on site. Approved with one abstention.

6. To approve the hire of a portable toilet at the Wellbrook Way bowls green construction site as

recommended by the Bowling Green Committee Meeting of 17th April, 2013 (quotations tabled).

Proposed by the Bowling Green Committee. Four suppliers had quoted, and the decision had been made to recommend Walton Loo Hire at a cost of £248. Approved unanimously.

13/49 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve payments for the previous month.

Proposed by Cllr Garner, seconded by Cllr Noble, and approved with two abstentions.

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

Proposed by Cllr Garner, seconded by Cllr Thorrold, and approved with two abstentions.

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

Received by the Council. The RFO was questioned when she plans to move more money in to the reserves, and she will do this when preparing the Annual Return.

13/50 Correspondence (to be received)

1. 14th March: Consultation on Community Infrastructure Levy Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule, Cambridge City Council

2. 15th March: Darwin Green 2 pedestrian and cycle access

3. 17th March: Correspondence regarding village signage

4. 18th March: Correspondence regarding Internal Auditor

5. 19th March: Letter of praise for Groundsman's work

6. 21st March: Response to proposed NW Cambridge Dev Discharge of Strategic Conditions.

7. 28th March: Request to Royal Mail for post-box at Wellbrook Way

8. 4th April: East of England Funders List 2013

Received by the Council.

13/51 To receive reports

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix F*). The Chairman drew the Council's attention to an email from the Parish Council's solicitor, which had been received since the agenda was published, noting that the land transfer at Wellbrook Way is now complete, and that we are just waiting for the documentation from the Land Registry. The RFO says that there is still £70,000 in late payments from Taylor Wimpey which she is discussing with the council's lawyer, and the Chairman agreed to raise this with the lawyer. The issue could be raised as an agenda item at a subsequent Parish Council Meeting.

2. Girton Town Charity. It was noted that there have been more personal requests due to cashflow problems. The youth worker wishes to continue his counselling training to Masters level – there should be no diminution in the provision to the village's youth. A one-bedroom bungalow will be available in High Street, and applications should be received by 31st May. The Charity continues to work on the outline plans for the additional piece of community land at Wellbrook Way, and will be looking to go for outline planning permission in the next few months. It is hoped that plans for the Community Building may be available by May's Annual Parish Meeting.

3. Girton Youth Project (*Appendix G*). Cllr Noble is meeting with Tim Shuker-Yates of Girton Youth Project on Thursday 25th April.

4. Footpaths. No report this month.

5. Bowling Green Committee. The contractors should be able to give a start-date within the next fortnight – adverse weather has delayed them on their current project. Cllr Gordon has met with representatives from Cambridge Water, who should be arranging for water provision on site in the next fortnight.

6. Wellbrook Way Development Committee. No report this month.

7. Flood Action Group Workshop (*Appendix H*). Cllr Bromwich reported on the example of the Gough Way Flood Action Group, which is part of a Residents Association. He wondered if there would be interest in setting-up a similar group in Girton – currently the 'Girton Floodies' is an email list run by those living in the affected area, and Cllr Bromwich may speak to them. The Chairman thanked Cllr Bromwich for attending the workshop and for his report.

13/52 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes

1. Planning Committee Meeting of 20th March, 2013 (*previously circulated*).
Received by the Council.

13/53 Matters raised by Members (for information only)

Residents should be reminded of due diligence when hedge-cutting, and this will be outlined in the Parish Council report for May's Girton Parish News.

Concerns were raised about the number and depth of pot-holes in the village, and the incidence of graffiti.

The 'Danger Deep Water' sign at Town End Close Nature Reserve needs replacing, and there are also concerns regarding barbed wire which has been placed on the gate to Town End Close.

Barbed wire in the hedge between the lane and the Recreation Ground also needs addressing.

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.