

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 16th October, 2013 at St Vincent's Close Community Centre, Girton, at 7.30 p.m.

Residents in the parish were invited to attend this meeting and to speak at Item 13/117.1

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

Cllr T Bygott (SCDC) (until end of item 13/119)

1 member of the public

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

13/114 Welcome from the Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

13/115 Apologies and reasons for absence Apologies had been received from Cllrs Bromwich, Hiley and M Taylor, and from PCSO Mani and County Councillor J Reynolds, and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence.

13/116 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda None.

13/117 Public Participation session on agenda items & matters of mutual interest:

1. Members of the Public. The member of the public did not wish to speak.
2. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*) Cllr Reynolds' report had been circulated and he was thanked for his answers to questions raised at the last Parish Council meeting.
3. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*) Cllr Bygott said that the Local Plan public consultation had now finished, as part of which he had objected to Girton being redefined as a Major Rural Centre and to the NIAB 3 development. The councils have until the end of November to correlate over 8,000 responses to the consultation. The next NW Cambridge Community Forum will be on 21st January, the venue likely to be Castle Street Methodist Church, Cambridge.
Regarding the A14, Cllr Bygott agreed that there is a special case to be made for sound and air pollution between Girton and Milton. The Chairman thanked Cllr Bygott. Concerns were raised regarding the provision of new street lighting in the village. During these works, openings have been left for long periods, causing difficulties for prams and invalid carriages etc on footpaths. A street light had collapsed in Hicks Lane and there are a number of health and safety issues, with holes, exposed wires etc and, in Pepys Way, spoil dumped on a drain. The Clerk is to write to the contractors and County Council regarding these concerns.
4. Police Report (*Appendix C*) The Clerk agreed to forward any questions to PCSO Mani.

13/118 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th September, 2013 (previously circulated) The item on the joint response to the A14 consultation (*Appendix F*) is to include the fourth point agreed at the meeting. The word 'Portacabin' is a tradename and should have been spelt 'Portakabin'. With these

corrections, the Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr Thorrold, seconded by Cllr Gordon and approved with two abstentions.

13/119 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

13/81.4 The external auditors have approved the parish council's Annual Return.

13/104.2 Girton Parish Council's response to the Community Infrastructure Levy consultation has been submitted.

13/104.3 Girton Parish Council's response to SCDC's Local Plan Public Consultation has been submitted.

13/104.5 The Clerk has written to Girton Social Club regarding the Christmas event (see correspondence item 13/122.2)

13/104.6 The Clerks of Girton and Histon & Impington Parish Councils have submitted a joint response to the A14 public consultation.

Noted by the Council.

Cllr Bygott left the meeting at this point.

13/120 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council

1. To approve a donation of £65 from Girton Parish Council to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

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

2. To approve to a request for Hibbert Ware Garden and Smithy Green to be used as wedding-photograph venues and to agree a charge for such (proposal tabled). This item will be brought to the Council again, when it has been clarified by the County Council which areas are Highways property.

3. To approve Cambridge University's request for a gate on Footpath 8, at University Farm. (*Appendix D*) Cllr Bromwich proposed this motion (in absentia), seconded by Cllr de Lacey. The footpath remains a right of way, the gate simply being used to control rabbits. Approved unanimously.

4. To request that a post-box be sited at Wellbrook Way, Girton.

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr L Taylor. Six or seven years ago, the contractors had promised a post box on the estate, but this has not been provided and appeals to the Post Office Ltd seem to have fallen on deaf ears. Approved unanimously.

5. To agree that no change is necessary for Girton in the SCDC Review of Polling Districts and Places (see correspondence item 13/122.8).

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

13/121 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve payments for the previous month. Proposed by Cllr Garner, seconded by Cllr Godby. There was an error on a cheque where 20p had been written instead of 50p, and on the payments sheet. With this correction to be made, the payments were approved unanimously.

2. To approve the balance sheet (*Appendix E*). Proposed by Cllr Garner, seconded by Cllr de Lacey. It was suggested that the IT system and finance package need reviewing, so that outstanding monies can be shown. The Chairman will ask the RFO to try to supply ancilliary documentation to show such. Approved unanimously.

3. To receive the Finance Report from 1st April 2013 to date (*Appendix F*). Received by the Council.

4. To agree to apply the National Association of Local Clerks' updated pay scale recommendations (*Appendix G*). Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr

Williams. NALCC's updated pay schedule recommends a 1% rise which we shall add to the 2.8% inflationary rise. Approved unanimously.

13/122 Correspondence (to be received)

1. 24 Sept 2013: Letter from Cambs Police & Crime Commissioner
 2. 25 Sept 2013: Letter to Girton Social Club regarding Christmas Event and lights
 3. 26 Sept 2013: Letter from external auditors regarding completion of Annual Audit.
 4. 27 Sept 2013: Correspondence regarding Girton Feast 2014
 5. 28 Sept 2013: Cash boost for villages in South Cambs to improve bus services
 6. 30 Sept 2013: Correspondence regarding cycle lane at Huntingdon Road/Girton Road
 7. 03 Oct 2013: Letter from Victim Support regarding request for donation
 8. 04 Oct 2013: Letter to Parish Councils about 'Our Place' from Local Govt Minister
 9. 07 Oct 2013: Letter about SCDC Review of Polling Districts and Places
 10. 08 Oct 2013: Letter from building society regarding interest rate changes on account
 11. 10 Oct 2013: Letter regarding Parish Precepts tax base calculation
- Received by the Council.

13/123 To receive reports

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix H*)
2. Girton Town Charity. No report this month.
3. Girton Youth Project (*Appendix I*) PCSO Mani is to speak to the young people to see if they know who is carrying out the graffiti in the village.
4. Footpaths. Cllr Bromwich was thanked for his report about the proposed gate on Footpath 8, included in Appendix D.
5. Water Management. Cllrs Bromwich and de Lacey are to attend the next meeting of Girton Next Steps to discuss flood protection measures.
6. Bowling Green Committee. At the Bowls Club Committee Meeting of 5th October, Cllr Gordon had given a brief report. To cover all costs, rent paid by the Bowls Club would need to be subsidised, and it may be possible to make the Bowls Club responsible for maintenance of the bowls green area and children's play area. The Club will need to present a business plan by their January 2014 meeting. There is need for a high quality mower for the green and a bowls club member is looking into this. The Chairman expressed the Council's gratitude to Cllrs Gordon and Westley for their work on the bowling green project.
7. Wellbrook Way Development Committee. Quotations for the general maintenance contract are to be received by the Environment Committee Meeting which is to be held on 30th October. Outline planning permission for the Community Hall is still awaited, with Girton Town Charity being asked to clarify issues with the noise of the air heat pump, and with car parking. A straw poll was held, and a motion will be brought to the next Parish Council meeting that the Community Hall will formally share the bowls green car park.

13/124 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes

1. Planning Committee Meetings of 18th September and 7th October, 2013 (*previously circulated*)
- Received by the Council.

13/125 Matters raised by Members (for information only)

Concern was expressed regarding SCDC's failure to refer a contested planning application to the Planning Committee. Cllr de Lacey explained that on domestic extensions, planning officers are now empowered to make decisions. Mention was made of fly-posting in the village: this is a Highways matter and prosecutions could be made. Parish councillors will take down fly posters about events

outside the village immediately, and others should take down posters about village events as soon as such events are over.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.