

Girton Parish Council

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The Pavilion
Girton Recreation Ground
Cambridge Road, Girton
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Minutes of the Meeting of Girton Parish Council held on Wednesday 16th April , 2014 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 14/40.1

Present: Cllrs: de Lacey (Chairman), Bromwich, Clift, Godby, Gordon, Noble, L Taylor, Westley, Williams.

Cllr J Reynolds (CCC) (from end of item 14/43 to start of item 14/44)

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

14/37 Welcome from the Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

14/38 Apologies and reasons for absence Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Cockley, Garner, Hiley, Simpson and M Taylor, and from PCSO Mani, and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence.

14/39 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda Cllr de Lacey declared a personal interest in item 14/43.2 as a member of St Andrew's congregation, and a prejudicial interest in item 14/43.1, and that he would leave the room for that item.

14/40 Public Participation session on agenda items and matters of mutual interest:

1. Members of the Public. There were no members of the public present at the meeting. Cllr de Lacey had nothing to add to the letter which he had distributed at the meeting, and asked if the council had any questions. The council had liaised with the church and the only issue was that the expenditure hadn't been brought to the council. The church had agreed to pay half for taking down the trees. It will make churchyard maintenance easier.
2. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*). This item was moved to later in the meeting, as Cllr Reynolds had to attend another meeting beforehand.
3. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*) Cllr de Lacey reported that the Joint Development Control Committee had met on 16th April, and he raised concerns over enforcing trigger points. The works at the new NIAB junction are not yet completed satisfactorily, but County officers explained that there are legal complications in calling in the developer's bond and doing the work themselves and so they are at the developer's mercy. The committee agreed that such a situation should not be allowed to occur again. The junction has been adopted.
5. Police Report (*Appendix C*) Fly-grazing and burglaries are current concerns. The Police and RSPCA are looking at the horses on the set-aside land. It was suggested that the landowners might speak with the Council.

14/41 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19th March, 2014 (previously circulated). The Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Cllr L Taylor, seconded by Cllr Godby, and approved unanimously.

14/42 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

14/31.4 The Parish Council's response to the Huntingdon Road Traffic Public

Consultation has been submitted.
Noted by the Council.

14/43 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council.

1. To give retrospective approval for the sum of £800 + VAT for the felling of trees on the boundary between the car park and churchyard preparatory to the car park works (see Correspondence item 14/45.6). Cllr de Lacey asked Cllr Williams to take the chair for this item, and left the room. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Bromwich. The works had been undertaken urgently at the end of February to avoid the nesting season. The Rector and churchwardens had approved the works but the congregation had not been made aware. The roots of the trees were raising the asphalt and would have been unsafe with regards to the proposed footpath works. Cllr Gordon stated that Cllr de Lacey is doing an excellent job. Approved unanimously.

Cllr de Lacey returned to chair the meeting.

2. To agree to share equally with St Andrew's Parish church the costs of stump-grinding (for which we have at present one quotation of £1400) and the erection of a post-and-wire fence along the boundary (which would be the cost of materials only as Councillors are willing to undertake the work). Since the agenda was published, another quotation of £320 (plus VAT) had been accepted by the church. Plus £120 to undertake the fencing works. Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr L Taylor. There will be a 1m high wooden post-and-wire fence, and there will eventually be a hedge behind it. Approved with one abstention.

3. To agree that, if the necessary funds from unallocated reserves and S106 income can be identified, the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the Chairman of the Environment Committee shall award contracts for finalising the plans for the redevelopment for the car park and putting the works in hand; and that Cllr Lee Taylor be appointed to oversee this project.

The project is to be put in hand once the council has identified that it can be afforded.

Two quotations have been received, with two other quotations outstanding. Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr L Taylor. The unadopted road alongside the car park belongs to Cambridgeshire County Council over which the parish council has rights of access, and the contractors currently working on the school extension will bring it back to standard after the school works are completed. The council would need to consult the Highways Department regarding visibility. Approved with one abstention.

Cllr L Taylor has offered to oversee the project and Cllr de Lacey was delighted to propose him, seconded by Cllr Gordon. Responsibility would have to be transferred if Cllr L Taylor is not elected at the forthcoming elections. Approved with one abstention.

4. To approve a contractor to erect permanent fencing at the Wellbrook Way Bowling Green (*Appendix D*). The council is currently renting security fencing: this project would fence about half the site, thus saving on hire costs. Cllr Gordon proposed that the contract be awarded to Brookgate Fencing, seconded by Cllr Westley. Approved with one abstention.

5. To approve a response to the public consultation on the proposed primary school on the NW Cambridge site (*Appendix E*). Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Gordon. Approved with one abstention.

6. To consider the planning application for the erection of a 75-bedroom care home (within class C2), access, parking, landscaping and other associated works on land at Wellbrook Way : SCDC Planning Application Number S/0294/14/FL (see Correspondence item 14/45.1) Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Clift. Cllr de Lacey had consulted Planning Officers and there is no site-wide requirement for a footpath – the footpath would be dark, not overlooked and offered no amenity value in

their opinion. Regarding healthcare, in general people come with their own GPs. The Pepys Way surgery has not commented, and the Council asks that the developers consult with the surgery. Approved unanimously.

7. To authorise the Clerk to seek definitive advice as to how the Bowls Club facilities can be run to the best advantage of the Council with respect to VAT, business rates etc. Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby. The council need to talk to HMRC and may need legal advice. The RFO explained that 4-5 years ago when the HMRC were last consulted regarding this matter, it was not known how the Bowls Club would be set up. At the moment, some bodies can claim back VAT, in the same way as any other facility the council provides. The motion was approved with one abstention.

Cllr Reynolds joined the meeting at this point.

14/40.2 County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*) A pull-in in the road outside the Pepys Way Surgery has been suggested, to help elderly parishioners, and Cllr Reynolds agreed to look into this. He reported that regarding the street lights issues in Girton, Dry Drayton and Bar Hill, he is meeting with the Chief Executive in a couple of weeks time, and hopes for a positive outcome.

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

14/44 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve payments for the previous month. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Godby. Girton Town Charity is meeting next Wednesday and will reimburse the parish council if S106 payments can be resolved. Approved unanimously.
2. To approve the balance sheet (*Appendix F*) Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Gordon. Approved unanimously.
3. To receive the Finance Report from 1st April, 2013 to date (*Appendix G*). Received by the Council.
4. To approve the appointment of an internal auditor for Girton Parish Council. Mr B Pycok has been approached and it is proposed to offer him the position if he is happy to do it. Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby and approved unanimously.

14/45 Correspondence (to be received)

1. 31 March 2014: Correspondence from Frontier Estates concerning the proposed care home at Wellbrook Way
 2. 31 March 2014: Letter regarding car park and the church boundary
 3. 2 April 2014: Notes from meeting with representatives, regarding A14 consultation
 4. 2 April 2014: Invitation to join Rural Parish Council Sounding Board
 5. 3 April 2014: Correspondence regarding Cambridge Park & Ride
 6. 8 April 2014: Letter from Parish Council Chairman
 7. 9 April 2014: Letter from contractors re: A14 Junctions 31 to 32 Girton to Histon
 8. 15 April 2014: Letter from Responsible Finance Officer
- Since the agenda was published, the Council had received a letter of resignation from the RFO, who intends to stay on until the Annual Return has been made. The Chairman expressed the Council's gratitude to the RFO for her work on behalf of the Parish Council.

14/46 To receive reports

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix H*).
2. Girton Town Charity. There was no report this month.
3. Girton Youth Project. There was no report this month.
4. Footpaths (*Appendix I*). The Chairman thanked Cllr Bromwich for his report.

5. Water Management. There is a proposed meeting in mid-May with the Environment Agency regarding flooding issues in Girton.
6. Bowling Green Committee. No report this month.
7. Wellbrook Way Development Committee.

14/47 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes

1. Planning Committee Meeting of 9th March, 2014 (previously circulated).
 2. Planning Committee Meeting of 26th March, 2014 (previously circulated).
- Received by the Council.

14/48 Matters raised by Members (for information only)

The Headteacher at Girton Glebe School has resigned and will leave at the end of this term.

The Clerk agreed to contact Royal Mail regarding a possible post-box in Wellbrook Way.

Cllr Gordon has met with Mayfield Road residents and they will be planting up the rose bed at Mayfield triangle.

The meeting closed at 8.52 pm