

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 18th March, 2015 at St Vincent's Close Community Centre, Girton, at 7.30 p.m.

To: Councillors de Lacey, Williams, Barnes, Buckler, Bygott, Cockley, Garner, Godby,
Harrington, Noble, L Taylor, M Taylor and Whittle.

Residents in the parish were invited to attend this meeting and to speak at Item 15/28.2

Present: Cllrs: de Lacey (Chairman), Buckler, Garner, Godby, Harrington, Noble, L Taylor, M Taylor (until end of item 15/31), Whittle.

Cllr L Harford (Cambridgeshire County Council)

H Topel, B Wan (Cambridge University); J Gimblett (Countryside); J Wilding, J Thorndike (Hill); A Matthews, S Proctor (Proctor & Matthews Architects).(all until end of item 15/28.1)
18 members of the public (16 of whom left after item 15/28.2)

In attendance: S Cumming (Clerk), C Pollock (RFO)

15/25 Welcome from the Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly the representatives of the NW Cambridge project and the large number of members of the public. A minute's silence was observed in memory of Robin Scrine, a former Girton Parish Clerk, who died recently.

15/26 Apologies and reasons for absence Apologies had been received from Cllrs Barnes, Bygott, Cockley and Williams, and from PCSO Mani, and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence.

15/27 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda Cllr Noble declared a personal interest in items 15/31.5-15/31.7 inclusive, as an organiser of Girton Feast. The Clerk gave a dispensation (under the powers devolved to her by the Council at the meeting of) to all the councillors so that they could discuss item 15/31.7 as the Council has a financial interest in the Pavilion.

15/28 Public Participation session on agenda items and matters of mutual interest:

1. Update on the NW Cambridge Development. Heather Topel spoke about market housing in Girton parish, and introduced representatives from Hill Residential and Countryside Properties. Jamie Wilding of Hill spoke about his company's responsibility for Lots M1 and M2, to be accessed off the primary street, plus Lots 4 and 8. On the current masterplan, there will be the primary street, secondary streets, and neighbourhood park. Properties will range from studios to 5-bedrooms. Two apartment blocks will have underground car parks. Heights will be a from 2-3 storeys to 5-storeys. There will be an average of 1.5 parking spaces per dwelling, plus visitor car parking. The housing will be brick-built. Chimneys will be a key feature. Jonathan Gimblett, Andrew Matthews and Steve Proctor from Countryside spoke of their development of S1 and S2, dovetailing with Hill's project. Surrounding a Green, the Countryside development forms the edge of Ridgeway Village. The archeology of the area has influenced the buildings, particularly the road configuration in S2. Walks called Ambles will mirror what was originally a Roman road across the site. S2 has smaller family units, with the streetscape s and marked by two anchor buildings. The strategy is to create an architecture which evolves through to red brick from cream brick. They are in dialogue with Hills to make sure the two developments blend. Sustainability strategy is embedded in the NW Cambridge strategy. Planning applications should be lodged in late May. The Chairman thanked the speakers, who then answered questions.. Visitor car parking will also be for local centre users. The car parking ratios are at or near the

maximum allowed for the city, and the University wants to promote sustainability. The Primary School opens in 2015. In Spring 2016 the university staff accommodation and community centre will be built, with shops opening in 2017. Dwellings will all be connected to the sitewide heating strategy; the chimneys are primarily an architectural feature. The marker buildings will primarily be family housing, with 6 and 8 apartments in each.

The Chairman thanked the representatives for covering the questions informatively, and wished the development every success. *The representatives left the meeting.*

2. Members of the Public.

A resident commented on the incidence of graffiti and vandalism at Wellbrook Way, which has happened five times in the six weeks they have lived here. The Council expressed regret that this has been their introduction to Girton. Two CCTV cameras cover the dwelling, and the incidents have been reported to the police.

The Operations Manager of Abbeyfield Girton Green asked the Council to maintain the footpath alongside Abbeyfield. The elderly client group are vulnerable to allergens etc, and lots of weeds are coming through. No discussions about Abbeyfield taking over the land are planned at present..

The Chairman of the Trustees of Girton Town Charity thanked Cllr de Lacey for his input over the purchase of the SCDC land at Wellbrook Way and reported that sale is now completed. GTC are moving into partnership with Papworth Trust to work with young Girton residents with special needs.

Former-Councillor Gordon thanked the Council for his nomination for the Parish Councillor of the Year Award – he had come third out of 14 nominations. He was asked if he would be willing to give a tour of the village to councillors, which he is happy to do. The walk at this year's Girton Feast is to be about how Girton was used during World War II and the way in which the A14 cutting has altered the village.

A resident of Thornton Close spoke about the renewed interest in the Howes Close Sports Field. Regarding the development of the land first proposed on 5th November 2014, residents have now been sent individual letters but have rejected the approach from Anglia Ruskin University to meet individually, as they would like to meet as a group. The Chairman was thanked for his help with the original application, and the Council should be aware that the situation is now back for discussion.

A representative of Sustainable Girton spoke about the forthcoming SPEP events at Rampton on and Coton, on draught excluding and sustainable heating respectively. She mentioned a project to gather information on PV productivity.. Sustainable Girton would like to investigate the possibility of bulk-buying PV panels. In May, there will be a Sustainable Girton event on how to use PV.

Cllr Noble spoke about the popularity of Girton Feast and its role in raising the profile and funds of village organisations. This year's Feast will celebrate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II and the centenary of the Women's Institute. Allowing motorised access will allow food stalls. Regarding item 15/31.6 there will be direct signing for dog owners, and the fete and dog show are not running at the same time. Help on Friday and Sunday during the Feast would be gratefully received.

The Chairman thanked the members of the public for their contributions.

16 members of the public left the meeting at this point.

3 County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*) Cllr Harford was thanked for her report. There were no questions arising from the report. Cllr Harford reported that on 28-29th March Girton Corner would be closed with only the Citi 5 & 6 buses allowed through during the road closure. All other traffic would be directed down Thornton Road. Cllr Harford agreed to forward details to the Clerk.

4. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*) Cllr Bygott had sent his apologies and had not submitted a report. There were no questions arising from Cllr de Lacey's report.

5 Police Report (*Appendix C*) Cllr Godby had attended the Police Panel

Meeting and gave a report: there had been an attempted burglary in Woodlands Park; and a graffiti hate crime at Wellbrook Way. The role of PCSOs has changed and PCSO Mani now has 11 villages under his care.

15/29 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th February, 2015 (previously circulated) For clarity, the following paragraph had been added to the Minute for item 15/22.1 : 'The Vice-Chairman noted a possible conflict in the conditions which needs to be resolved, ensuring the payment is made before the commencement of the development'. With these amendments made, the Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Cllr L Taylor, seconded by Cllr Noble and agreed with one abstention.

15/30 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

15/19.1 Circus Tyanna have been notified of the Parish Council's decision.

15/19.3 The hedging and tree works at Weavers Field have been carried out.

15/19.4 The Chairman is in discussion with the Chairman of Oakington Parish Council regarding a response.

Noted by the Council.

15/31 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council.

1. To agree that the Annual Parish Meeting be held on Thursday 7th May, 2015 at Girton Glebe School. Cllr de Lacey proposed the motion with the addition of 'starting at 7.00pm', seconded by Cllr Godby. This is the date of the general election and it could mean better attendance. The report for the Girton Parish News, will note that the rise in the precept will be explained. Approved with one abstention.
2. To accept the offer from Cambridgeshire County Council of a traffic counter/speed monitor at a suitable location between Oakington Road bridge and The Old Crown Inn, Girton. Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Buckler. Cllr Godby proposed an amendment that the traffic counter be placed before Dodford Lane, agreed by Cllr de Lacey. Approved unanimously.
3. To appoint a Chairman of the Wellbrook Way Development Committee, following the retirement of Cllr Ray Gordon. Cllr L Taylor was nominated by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby, and approved unanimously.
4. To agree to suspend by-laws prohibiting the use of marquees and barbeques on the Recreation Ground to allow a commercial catering company to cater for a party on 18th April, 2015. Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Harrington. The Council has agreed to this in the past for similar events. Approved unanimously. *Cllr Noble left the room for the next three items in which she had a personal interest.*
5. To suspend the Parish Council's by-laws to permit Girton Feast to erect a marquee and gazebos, and to permit motorised access to the Recreation Ground, for the purposes of the Girton Feast, subject to the Groundsman's approval. Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby. Approved unanimously.
6. To grant permission to Girton Feast to hold a Dog Show on Sunday 12th July on the St John's field, on condition that the ban on dogs on the Recreation Ground be strictly enforced and adequately stewarded. Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr L Taylor. In previous years, complaints have been received regarding dogs on the Recreation Ground, hence the request for stewarding. Councillors noted with approval the separation of the event from the main Feast events. Approved unanimously.
7. To require the Cottenham Bridge Club to hold its meeting on Friday 10th July elsewhere than at the Pavilion, at the request of Girton Feast. The Feast Committee wishes to use the room as a Green Room. The Bridge Club have declined, so this is a contentious request. Proposed by Cllr L Taylor, seconded by Cllr M Taylor. It was noted that the Bridge Club has a long-standing regular agreement to use the Hall.. Councillors noted other possible venues for the Green Room. The motion was rejected, with two votes in favour and six against.
8. To agree to purchase a travelling sprinkler, primarily for use on the cricket square, at a cost not to exceed £200 (plus VAT), from the recreation ground maintenance budget (*Appendix D*). Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Garner.

Approved unanimously.
Cllr M Taylor left the meeting at this point.

15/32 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve payments for the previous month (*Appendix E*) Cllr L Taylor had checked the payments. Proposed by Cllr L Taylor, seconded by Cllr Garner. The payments were approved with one abstention.
2. To receive the quarterly Financial Reports (*Appendix F*) The RFO was thanked for all her work. The RFO has submitted a VAT return to HMRC. The RFO expressed concern at the level of general reserves, and recommended more planning before any further project is entered into. The RFO was thanked for her clear reports. Received by the Council.
3. To approve one of the quotations received for insurance cover for Girton Parish Council either for one year's cover or for three years' cover (*Appendix G*). The Council has been very happy with the service received from the current insurers, but they could not match another insurers' quotation. Cllr de Lacey proposed that a one-year contract with Zurich be undertaken. Cllr Noble proposed an amendment that a three-year contract be entered into, seconded by Cllr Whittle, rejected by five votes to four. The proposal that a one-year contract be held with Zurich was approved with one vote against.
4. To approve a response to the letter from Girton Town Charity (see correspondence items 15/33.4 and 15/33.5) (*Appendix H*). Proposed by Cllr de Lacey. Cllr Whittle proposed an amendment that in point three, the phrase 'if you wish' is to be taken out, agreed by Cllr de Lacey. The amended motion was seconded by Cllr Garner. Approved unanimously.

15/33 Correspondence (to be received)

1. 19th February: Letter to resident thanking him for checking the Pavilion.
 2. 26th February: Correspondence about land adjacent to Abbeyfield Girton Green.
 3. 2nd March: Correspondence from Magpas Helimedix Air Ambulance
 4. 2nd March: Letter from Girton Town Charity regarding bowls green.
 5. 9th March: Notes from RFO regarding Girton Town Charity and Bowls Green.
 6. 9th March: Letter of thanks to former-Councillor Simpson
 7. 10th March: Letter to Parish Councils from Rt Hon Andrew Lansley MP
 8. 10th March: Carers' Trust and Care Act information
 9. 16th March: Correspondence regarding relocating bus shelters
 10. Order of Service for the funeral of Robin Scrine
- Received by the Council.

15/34 To receive reports

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix I*) The Chairman has been in contact with a lawyer from Frontier Estates concerning the proposed Section 111 payment of £4200 which is now ready for signing.
2. Girton Town Charity. The Chairman of the Trustees had given a report in the open public session at the start of the meeting.
3. Girton Youth Project (*Appendix J*)
4. Footpaths. There was no report this month.
5. Water Management. No report this month.
6. Wellbrook Way Development Committee. A Chairman for the committee had been appointed at this meeting.

15/35 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes (to be circulated)

1. Sports & Recreation Minutes of 8th December, 2014
 2. Planning Committee Minutes of 3rd March, 2015
- Received by the Council.

15/36 Matters raised by Members (for information only)

Girton College are holding a public exhibition to outline their masterplan, on 26th March from 2.00-7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm