

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 15th April, 2015 at St Vincent's Close Community Centre, Girton, at 7.30 p.m.

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

Residents in the parish were invited to attend this meeting and to speak at Item 15/44.1

Present: Cllrs: de Lacey (Chairman), Williams, Barnes, Buckler, Bygott, Cockley, Godby, Ranken (from item 15/48.1), M Taylor, Whittle.

5 members of the public (until end of item 15/44.4)

In attendance: S Cumming (Clerk)

15/41 Welcome from the Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially the members of the public. Cllr Garner and former-RFO Mrs C Pollock, had both resigned since the last meeting, and the Chairman will write on behalf of the Council, to thank them for their work.

15/42 Apologies and reasons for absence Apologies had been received from Cllrs Harrington, Noble and L Taylor, County Councillor Harford and Mr A Griffin, and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence.

The following item was brought forward:

15/48 1. To co-opt two new members of Girton Parish Council (details previously circulated). There were two applicants for two vacancies. Mr J Ranken, the applicant present, signed the Acceptance of Office and was welcomed to the Council.

15/43 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda None.

15/44 Public Participation session on agenda items and matters of mutual interest:

1. Members of the Public. An Abbeyfield resident spoke about the the overgrown strip on the north side of the complex, where pollen is causing concern and plant roots could undermine the path. The residents would like the Parish Council to consider controlling this land. The residents are not prepared to to sustain the cost of moving the fence out, nor is the Abbeyfield management. It was questioned if there is any benefit in making the path wider. The Chairman thanked the speaker.
2. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*) Any questions resulting from Cllr Harford's report should be forwarded to her. The council would like to know what impact the library strategy will have on the mobile library service and on Histon library.
3. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*) There were no questions arising from Cllr de Lacey's report. Cllr Bygott spoke about complaints received regarding noise from the A14 works, and has registered a complaint.
4. Police Report (*Appendix C*) The police have increased patrols in Wellbrook Way. PCSO Mani has taken the WiFi password for the parish council network, so should be able to work from the car park.

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

The Chairman distributed a summary of the council's standing orders

15/45 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th March, 2015 (previously circulated) The Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Cllr Whittle, seconded by Cllr Buckler, and approved with four abstentions.

15/46 To confirm the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Monday 30th March, 2015 (previously circulated). The Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Cllr Cockley, seconded by Cllr Barnes, and approved with one vote against and one abstention.

15/47 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

15/19.6 The repair works on the trim trail have been confirmed.

15/31.8 A travelling sprinkler has been purchased.

Noted by the Council. Matters arising from the Extraordinary Meeting Minutes are that the Office Sub-Group will bring terms of reference to the next meeting with a proposal to be submitted in July, the IT sub-group to work to the same timescale.

Cllr L Taylor has family problems and will have to stand down from the Chairmanship of the Wellbrook Way Development Committee. Cllr de Lacey nominated Cllr Barnes as Chairman, seconded by Cllr Cockley. Approved unanimously.

15/48 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council.

1. To co-opt two new members of Girton Parish Council (details previously circulated). Brought forward to follow item 15/42.

2. To agree to open negotiations with Girton Town Charity over the sale or long term lease of the remaining public open space at Wellbrook Way, to be developed and managed by the Charity on behalf of the village(details to be circulated).

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Godby. Girton Town Charity had met the previous week. There are many advantages to letting GTC buy the land as it would safeguard the land for Girton residents. Their lawyers are to bring a specific proposal to the Council. An already determined area will be car park, the rest to be landscaped. Cllr Barnes proposed deferring the item until a map is available, seconded by Cllr Bygott, the proposal to defer to a later meeting being agreed.

3. To approve the arrangements for a temporary Principal Finance Officer. Ian Dewar of CAPALC had recommended a temporary officer, but she had decided not to take the post. Cllr de Lacey proposed that the Council approves whoever Ian Dewar proposes or the Council will have to go to an agency if necessary. Seconded by Cllr Cockley. Approved with one abstention. The Clerk will make the necessary arrangements.

4. To authorise a working group to make arrangements for the appointment of a permanent PFO and to bring a nomination back to the Council. Cllr Cockley has produced a draft advert.. Cllr de Lacey proposed that the members of the working group be Cllr Barnes, Cllr Cockley and himself, seconded by Cllr Bygott. Ian Dewar could be asked to be an external advisor.

15/49 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve payments for the previous month (*Appendix D*) Cllr Williams had checked the payments schedule in detail before the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Whittle. Approved with three abstentions.

15/50 Correspondence (to be received)

1. 26 March 2015: Resignation letter from Cllr Garner
2. 30 March 2015: Fencing and digger at Wellbrook Way
3. 31 March 2015: Correspondence about Howes Close Sports Ground
4. 31 March 2015: Maintenance of strip of land alongside Abbeyfield Girton Green
5. 31 March 2015: Information sources about care and support for older people
6. 31 March 2015: Impington Village College's 'Etc' magazine
7. 2 April 2015: Correspondence about telephone kiosk on Girton Road
8. 3 April 2015: Correspondence regarding new locations for bus shelters

9. 13 April 2015: Abbeyfield Girton Green response re strip of land Received by the Council. Regarding item 5, it was queried whether the online information for older people is also available in other formats. Regarding the item 8, it would be difficult to relocate a bus shelter to Wellbrook Way.

15/51 To receive reports

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix E*). There were no questions arising from Cllr de Lacey's report.
2. Girton Town Charity. No report this month.
3. Girton Youth Project. It was noted that a member of GYP had been dismissive of the Parish Council in a Youtube video and the Chairman will write to the GYP Co-Ordinator about this.
4. Footpaths. No report this month.
5. Water Management. Cllr Whittle and Mr B Bromwich are to look at Thornton Way ditch. Cllr Whittle continues to seek an update from the Environment Agency on Beck Brook.
6. Wellbrook Way Development Committee. Cllr Barnes was appointed as the new Chairman earlier in the meeting.

15/52 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes

1. Planning Committee Meeting of 31st March, 2015 (previously circulated) Received by the Council.

15/53 Matters raised by Members (for information only)

There is a dog fouling problem on the Recreation Ground at the side of the tennis courts, and another dog bin is needed.

Concerns were raised whether the 14 acres of equestrian land for sale on the edge of the village could be used for residential development, and this is to be checked with South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Concerns were raised about the large pothole which has developed in the Recreation Ground Car Park.

The timescale for development of the car park and reconstitution of the boundary could be sent in an official letter to St Andrew's Church.

Costain could perhaps be approached regarding compensation for noise etc.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm