

LANDBEACH PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF LANDBEACH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Monday 7 February 2011 at 7.30 p.m.
in Landbeach Village Hall**

Present: Mrs Melanie Hale (Chair), Mr Trevor Dell, Dr Ray Gambell, Mr John Halfpenny, Mr Gerald Hinkins, Mrs Tracy Hutchison, Mr Alan Wyatt, Dr Stephen Montgomery and Mrs Maria Sylvester (Clerk).

Public Participation: Mr Jeff Bronks and Ms Le Gallez attended the meeting to outline ways in which information could be made available to parishioners as Dr Gambell was now unable to do the Parish Magazine.

Mr Bronks confirmed that he was happy to put any information requested by the Parish Council on the website. Ms Le Gallez confirmed that she was happy to produce an A4 sheet to go out with the sheet she sends out monthly.

The deadline for getting information to Ms Le Gallez is 20th of each month.

- 1 **Apologies for Absence** were received from Mr Andrew Stevens, and Mr Peter Johnson (District Councillor).
- 2 **Minutes of the last Meeting** held on 10 January 2011 were agreed and signed. The minutes of the Extra-ordinary meeting held on 24 January were also agreed and signed.
- 3 **Declaration of Interest** Mr Wyatt declared an interest in Item 4 Removal of tree 9 Abrahams Close.
- 4 **Matters Arising**

Overbrook Farm - SCDC have confirmed the following: 'The case file for planning ref S/0136/09/O (siting of 3 mobile homes) is awaiting the writing of the delegation report (refusal).

Worts Meadow - The Friends meeting took place on Monday 31 January 2011 where Charlotte Lowry confirmed that she was being made redundant. Dr Gambell is now the point of contact for Worts Meadow and reported that there needs to be a strong force in the village to ensure County Farms do not carry out work that is not acceptable to parishioners.

In relation to the hedge, Charlotte Lowry was going to speak to the County Council, to replace part if not all of the hedge behind the bus shelter.

Action Plan - Councillors took a copy of this to update for the next meeting in March.

The question of interactive signs was raised as Parishioners had previously requested these in Landbeach. There is a Speedwatch meeting on 7 March 2011.

It was agreed to put a request for someone to co-ordinate Speedwatch in Landbeach in the monthly newsletter, as Dr Gambell was unable to do it.

Affordable Housing - Walnut Farm - SCDC have confirmed the following: 'The open space and community facilities contributions are to be paid by the developer to the District Council prior to the occupation of the 5th dwelling. Monies will then be transferred to the Parish Council subject to a deed of indemnity. The applicant may satisfy this beforehand but is not obliged to.' Work has started on this development and services have been put in.

Fence Green End - A Planning application has been received from SCDC who have confirmed that this application has been validated and the determination date is 24 February 2011.

Multi-sports Area - It was reported that the existing wire fence would need to be removed, leaving the wood in place and a chain-link fence installed around the whole area.

Replacement of glass in bus shelter and telephone kiosk - A quote for £90 + VAT had been received from N and C Glass to replace glass in bus shelter and put perspex in telephone kiosk. This was accepted.

Salt Spreader - It was reported that this has been received and Mrs Hale has paid for the Salt Bin.

Basketball posts - It was reported that Mike Overall had carried out the repairs and the cost was £186.00 + VAT.

Neighbourhood Watch - A Co-ordinator has still not been found and it was agreed to ask for volunteers in the newsletter that goes out.

Village Hall - It was reported the build project is progressing very well and Phase 1 and 2 are fully funded. There is a shortfall for Phase 3 and the Parish Council is aiming to provide £2,500 due from small development and £34,500 due on completion of the 5th property at Walnut Farm (S106 money). Because the S106 money is not due immediately, the Parish Council wish to advance the money to the Village Hall Management Committee by taking out a loan. This will be done by seeking Borrowing Approval to take out a £35,000 loan for a period of up to 2 years, possibly from the PWLB.

Discussion took place on this and Councillors felt very strongly that there should be a letter of intent agreed by Parish Council and Village Hall Management Committee stating that if this loan is obtained and given to the Village Hall, if they have surplus funds (due to other grant money coming in) they should return some money to the Parish Council to enable part of the loan to be paid off, thus reducing the interest payments. There is no intention of the money being used for anything other than for the Village Hall works.

Cottenham Road 'T' Junction - Keith Faunch has agreed to get some grips cut at the junction to remove the standing water. This is on schedule for the South Division.

Cars in High Street - PCSO has reported that they found some cars parked on the pavement but they have left enough room for a push chair or mobility scooter etc to get past, therefore they are not committing an offence. If any vehicles are blocking the pavement please take vehicle details and ring through on 08354564564. It was agreed to invite the PCSO to the next meeting in March.

It was agreed to produce a notice to put on the offending cars.

Village Walk - Neville Diver had followed up on the concerns raised about the surface of the bridges during a walk around the designated village footpath that goes in a loop from Akeman Street back to Cockfen Lane. This is nothing to do with Worts meadow.

Ditch - Cockfen Lane - It was agreed that Mr Wyatt would speak to Gary Ellwood in relation to the ditches to be cleaned out .

Emmaus - There was nothing further to report.

Party for Royal Wedding - Discussion took place on whether there should be a party for the Royal Wedding in April. It was thought it would be more appropriate to have a party next year for the Coronation. It would, however, be nice to have some sort of a gathering on 29 April. It was agreed to ask the Event Committee if they were proposing doing something. If the Village Hall was not finished it might be possible to have it in The Church.

There is provision for Section 106 money around £2K to be used for art work It was thought that there might be some sort of sculpture or have a competition in the village for something appropriate.

It was also thought a good idea to have a collection of memorabilia for the Coronation next year.

Magpas - Thank you for donation.

Victim Support - Thank you for donation.

Removal of Tree, 9 Abrahams Close - SCDC have confirmed that the ash tree has lost branches over the last couple of years and scars on the branches indicate that the canopy has Inonotus which is a pathogen which causes a white rot making the branches prone to breaking. Because of this a TPO cannot be served on it.

Canalbs - Chairman and Clerk to meet and discuss comments made by Canalbs after Internal Audit.

Rectory Wall - Mr Poole has confirmed that he has asked Fairhavens and one other builder to quote for the repair of the Rectory Wall. Parents had complained that this wall is very dangerous and there should be a temporary fence or netting around to stop anyone getting close to it. Clerk to contact Mr Poole in relation to this.

Dates for Annual Parish Meeting (APM) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) - APM is on 9 May 2011, it was agreed to ask someone from CCC to talk about the Localism Bill. AGM is on 23 May 2011.

Grass cutting - Truelink have agreed to hold their 2010 prices in 2011. SLCC have confirmed that it is not illegal to continue with the same contractor but it would probably be regarded as 'Best Practice' to periodically obtain tenders.

Donarbon Community Fund - Expression of Interest - It was confirmed that the Expression of Interest application had been submitted for a grant for facilities/play equipment for teenagers/older children and confirmation should be received soon as to whether it had been approved or not.

5 Clerk/Chairman's Report

Localism Bill - This was published by the Coalition Government on 13 December 2010 and represents the most radical shift in power since town and country planning was first born in the aftermath of World War Two. Real planning powers have been handed to parishes.

Fen Edge Family Festival 23-26 June 2011 - It may be possible to arrange events in Landbeach to run in parallel with those in Cottenham. Ideas along these lines contact Mike Smith smithmichaelstanley@hotmail.com

Mr Halfpenny agreed to be a Landbeach point of contact: Chairman will pass his details on to Mick Saul (Treasurer of FECA).

Village Maintenance Grant - CCC have confirmed that the highways grass cutting budget will be 75% of 2010 contribution and villages would only be expected to carry out three cuts.

Cambridgeshire Countryside Watch - AGM is on 24 February 2011, Cambridgeshire Police Headquarters, Hinchingsbrooke, Huntingdon at 7 p.m.

The Royal British Legion - Poppy Party - Invitation to villages to organise a Poppy Party between 10-12 June 2011 in celebration of The Royal British Legion's 90th birthday. It was agreed to forward this to Margaret Patterson.

6 Borrowing Approval

The application for Borrowing Approval for £35K to enable the Village Hall Phase 3 work to be completed was discussed and Mr Halfpenny proposed applying for this and it was seconded by Dr Gambell. The application was signed by Chairman and RFO (Clerk).

It was emphasised again that there needed to be a principle of reducing the loan as quickly as possible and assurances obtained from the Village Hall to repay the Parish Council any surplus monies they receive from grants.

Adoption of Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

Mrs Hale proposed that the Clerk be appointed RFO for the next year. This was seconded by Mr Hinkins and agreed.

8 Correspondence

The following correspondence was put into circulation:

Luminus Annual Report 2009-2010
 SLCC - Training and Events Guide
 SLCC - The Clerk January 2011 Vol 43 No 1
 Fen Edge News 2011
 Clerks and Councils Direct - January 2011 Issue 73.

9 Finance

The following cheques were approved for payment

Cheque	Name	Amount	VAT	Total
688	Maria Sylvester January 2011 salary	£429.44		£429.44
688	Maria Sylvester - reimbursement for Internet January 2011	£7.00	£1.04	£7.00
689	Inland Revenue - PAYE January 2011	£107.20		£107.20
690	Landbeach Village Hill - Car park light and security camera.	£45.00		£45.00
691	G Hinkins - reimbursement for Christmas Tree	£12.38	£2.16	£12.38
692	Neville Diver-Maintenance January 2011	£80.00		£80.00
693	Fenland Leisure Products Ltd Heat Shrink Tape	14.34	£2.39	£14.24

Direct Debit - BT Telephone account 19 January 2011 £65.74
 SLCC Standing Order Form signed for 2011 membership of SLCC.

10 Planning

New application

S/0051/11 - Vehicular Access, 56 High Street, Mr and Mrs S Barry.

Approved

S/0019/11 - Formation of a Vehicular Access, 101 Waterbeach Road, Mr David Attle. **Approved**

S/1557/10 Erection of Fence, Maple Lodge, 97 Green End

Mr Dexter Bullman. **Refuse**

S/1877/10 - Change of use of domestic garage/workshop to shop for sale of antiques and collectables to the general public, 110 High Street

Mr Brian Johnson. **Approved**

S/2203/10 - Fascia Sign and Hanging Sign, 110 High Street

Mr Brian Johnson. **Approved**

Approved

S/0134/09/F - Erection of workshop/store (retrospective), Overbrook Nursery, Green End, Mr and Mrs J Green.

S/1521/10 - Extensions and Alterations, 107 Waterbeach Road Mrs E Barker.

Tree work

C/11/40/058 - Fell a large conifer which is growing close to the wall of a building, The Willows, 102 High Street, M Herring. **Approved**

11 Councillors Reports

Mr Williamson's report was circulated to Councillors.

Dr Gambell enquired about the illuminations at Silverwood Lodge on Waterbeach Road and was planning permission required for this? Clerk to follow this up.

Mr Hinkins reported the following:

Neville Diver is painting the bus shelter and had said that the frames needed painting as well.

Two seats and swings in play area also need painting.

Mr Hinkins will ask Neville to do this work.

Mr Hinkins asked about the possibility of planting a Christmas tree when the Village Hall is completed in memory of Mr and Mrs Lynn. This was thought to be a good idea and will be discussed at a later date.

Mr Dell reported that the Finger Board road sign needs painting. Mr Hinkins will speak to Neville Diver about this.

Discussion took place on the SCDC Draft Emergency Plan and it was decided to invite Lawrence Green, Council Safety Adviser and Emergency Planning Officer, SCDC to attend the April meeting to outline the document.

12 Forthcoming meetings

7 March 2011

4 April 2011

9 May 2011 (APM)

23 May 2011 (AGM)

The meeting closed at 10 p.m.

Signed:

Date: