

**Minutes of the Meeting of Caldecote Parish Council  
on Thursday 7th December 2006 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

**Present:** (Cllrs), J Lang, P Phillips, T Footman, T.Hawkins, A.Levett, F. Whelan, and N.Whyatt

**In attendance:** Mr. R Hume (Clerk), Cllr Martlew (District Councilor) and 5 members of the public.

**- Members of the public were invited to make comments relevant to the agenda before the meeting was formally opened.**

Rod Warsop the school headmaster and Sharon Newton who is trying to organise a youth club for the village were in attendance.

The Chairman welcomed Rod Warsop, and welcomed the intention that the school would play a fuller role in the community, and hoped that the School and the Village Hall Trustees can between them resolve the problem of parking near the school.

The Chairman also welcomed Sharon Newton and said that the Parish Council fully supported her efforts to provide youth activities and facilities in the village.

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**194 To receive apologies for absence and also declaration of interests from members**

Apologies had been received from Cllr McArdle and Cllr Breeze.

**The following declarations of interest were entered in the book**

**S2174/06/F** Extension Mitchell Wood House Cllr Lang declared a prejudicial interest as owner

**S2126/06/F** Paddock, erection of stables and hay store, provision of riding area at 16 East Drive.  
Cllr Philips – lives in same road

**195 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 2nd November 2006.**

On a proposition from Cllr Lang and seconded by Cllr Phillips the minutes were approved as a true record without amendment. The minutes were signed by the chairman.

**196 Matters arising for information only (Clerk's report).**

**196.1 Highways** – Dennis Vacher is attending to the continued flooding problem near the bridge in Old Caldecote, the speeding problems have been reported to the traffic division.

**196.2 Lighting column** – MUGA area, Alfred McAlpine erected the column in 2004.

The clerk has contacted them regarding the suspicion that the installation was inadequate.

The county council have not yet adopted the light,

The contractors doing the driveway have righted the light but pointed out that it is not properly fixed.

As a gesture of good will Alfred McAlpine agreed to refix the column on 31<sup>st</sup> November, but unfortunately this was postponed due to the driveway being tarmaced on that day.

A new date is to be arranged.

It was noted that the car park and drive has now been surfaced and some bollards on the public open space have not been put back, the clerk will contact Taylor Woodrow and also point out they need to be fixed in properly now that the ground level has been raised.

**196.3 Drainage** 53 Highfields Caldecote – A letter from environment agency confirmed that agreement had been reached for a solution, but they may have not understood where the problem is and the clerk was asked to write again confirming the problem is at 53a and is affecting 59.

**196.4 Police** - PCSO contact for Caldecote (and Hardwick)

PCSO 7192 Sue ENVILL [sue.envill@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:sue.envill@cambs.pnn.police.uk)

Contact number for the police is 0845 456 456 4.

**197 Matters carried forward from the last meeting for discussion / decision and new items**

**197.1 Speed limit** – Main Street Caldecote, is not in the program for 2007/2008.

The clerk was asked to write expressing the Parish Councils view that the speed limit in old Caldecote should be 30mph and the area between Highfield Caldecote and Caldecote which is currently 60mph should be reduced to 40 mph.

The parish council resolved in principle to pay toward a new order under the heading “traffic calming” powers.

Proposed by Cllr Whelan and seconded by Cllr Lang, all other councilors indicated their support. The clerk was asked to write and find out what steps need to be taken and the likely cost.

A budget item will be added.

**197.2 Youth Issues – CCTV** – report from working party and youth club proposal.

Cllr Breeze was absent and therefore no report on the CCTV - budget item.

Youth club - Sharon Newton is waiting for information from the 3 possible venues before progressing further, she will meet with Rod Warsop the school headmaster, and the village hall committee hope to meet before Christmas to see if they can offer the village hall.

The preferred option is to use more than one venue and it is hoped that the social club will also be able to offer some use.

There had been further damage to the play area, the perpetrator has been identified and action is being taken to see if the police will pursue this further.

There had also been problems with badges being removed from cars, a youth had been identified and it was understood that a pupil attending Comberton village college had been suspended.

**197.3 TKA** – The initial application in 2005, for a certificate of lawfulness had been refused. However no enforcement order was served, which meant that TKA could make a similar application in 2006 which was been approved without going to committee and there does not seem to be any reference to where the approval was agreed. The failure to issue an enforcement order in time, despite knowledge of the construction without permission would seem to be gross maladministration.

It was noted that the noise nuisance still causes parishioners great distress.

**197.4 Grafton Drive** – garden extension, a letter had been received from the owner expressing regret that his actions had caused concern. He is contacting Ashwells to query boundaries and has promised to ensure that the ditch is not obstructed and replace planting.

The clerk will contact Ashwells querying why the 6ft chain link fence that was on the plans had not been installed.

**197.5 Village Hall**, regular users are being offered keys for the hall, requiring a deposit of £20, the council resolved to take advantage of this, so that the clerk has a key.

Proposed by Cllr Lang, seconded by Cllr Whelan all other councilors indicated their support

**197.6 Minerals waste** Plan consultation report was received, it does not appear to affect Caldecote.

**197.7 Parish Paths Partnership 2006/7** – applications are invited for funding for projects, the information will be put on the notice board to ask residents for proposals and also an item in the Journal. It may be appropriate to ask the County Council officer to attend a future council meeting.

**197.8 Parish Plan** –Cllr Whyatt. Reported on a recent ACRE meeting about Parish Plans and had gleaned some information.

There are advantages, particularly when asking for funding and expressing views on planning in the village.

The council resolved to progress producing a plan

Proposed by Cllr Lang, seconded by Cllr Hawkins all other councilors indicated their support

A steering committee will be formed, Cllr Lang, Cllr Hawkins, Cllr Whyatt and District Councillor Martlew expressed an interest in serving on the steering group, it is hoped that residents will also get involved, suggested as a journal item.

Melanie Baker from ACRE has been invited to attend the February Parish Council meeting. The clerk will fill in as much of the application form as possible and send to Cllr Whyatt.

## **198. Finance and procedural matters**

**198.1 Meeting Calendar** - for 2007 was approved, it was noted that the April meeting is very close to Good Friday, may be reviewed if it is a problem, will possibly be held a week earlier.

**198.2 To consider introducing byelaws for public open space.** The recent Government white paper means that next year applications will be made locally and will be easier to get. To enforce by-laws typically costs £2000 each time, with no guarantee that costs can be recovered. CALC advice is that by-laws are not effective.

The recently considered by-laws can become just regulations for the time being as agreed.

**198.3 Journal delivery** – it is now taking 7 or 8 hours to deliver the journal, the clerk is investigating the possibility of enlisting volunteer help, (journal item). If volunteers come forward the council could then pay for the current deliverer to organise the deliveries, doing some themselves and dropping off copies to the volunteer.

Suggestions were made that the post office could deliver items but it was felt that the area covered would be too small for them to consider.

**198.5 Hedge Quotation** received for cutting back hedges on the play areas from MD Landscapes

It was resolved to accept the quotation from MD landscapes. who have undertaken satisfactory work before and has shown by reason of competitive quotes to be best value.

Only the MUGA area side at this time as the council have not taken over all the land on the tennis court side, but both are included in the budget for next year.

**198.6 Quality Council Application Funding** – up to 50%, maximum £250. for the clerk to do some of the work. An application for funding has been made but there are unlikely to be enough funds to meet all requests.

**198.7 Repairs to Play equipment** - To approve additional emergency payment for repairs to playground equipment due to recent vandalism – Anglian Playgrounds £90 and is to be carried out with other agreed repairs.

Proposed by Cllr Whelan, seconded by Cllr Footman all other councilors indicated their support

**198.8 Pavilion** – The recommendation from the Sport and Recreation working party was received.

It was resolved to accept the proposals made and to progress with the application and tender process with a view to get the pavilion built as soon as possible,

Proposed by Cllr Lang, seconded by Cllr Levett all other councilors indicated their support

## **198.9 Skate Park BMX area**

Proposals had just been received from the youngsters and it was resolved that the Sport and recreation working party should work with the Caldecote sports association to seek more specific proposals, involving consultation with the youth (both sexes).

It is hoped that some of the cost can be gained by grant funding.

Proposed by Cllr Lang, seconded by Cllr Levett all other councilors indicated their support

**198.10 Street cleaning** – The clerk indicated the likely cost of getting an agency to organise this but it was felt that it may be more cost effective to employ someone directly. Proposed by Cllr Lang, seconded by Cllr Whelan all other councilors indicated their support. To be included in the budget for 2007/8.

**198.11The financial report was received** and the following items approved for payment this month.

Expenditure for approval			CHQ NO.	
<b>NEW PAYMENTS</b>				
LGS services	Journal Printing	330.40	609	
MD Landscapes	Grass verges	82.25	610	
Glasdon	Dog bin	221.99	611	
Clerk expenses	expenses Oct	31.91	612	
CPS meeting notes printing	Printing	41.43	613	
Roger Hume	Salary Oct	299.21	614	
Kathie Martlew	Salary Oct	72.48	DD	
Louise Evans	Journal Xmas	36.05	615	
Total Expenditure		1115.72		

**There are also 3 other late payments that will be listed for approval next month**

<i>Village Institute</i>	Room rental	77.00	616
<i>Village Institute</i>	Keys	20.00	617
<i>MD Landscapes</i>	Grasscutting	470.00	618

On a proposition by Cllr Footman and seconded by Cllr Phillips the payments were checked and approved and cheques and invoices signed.

**198.12 Budget 2007/8** The draft Budget for the next financial year was considered. The draft budget listed spending so far this year and expected spending for the remainder to make the projected final amounts for this year. The final column listed the proposed budget including new items.

There are 2 considerations, the spending and required reserves, councils are expected to retain a minimum of 1 to 1.5 years income in reserve, when the income is increased - the reserves need to be increased too (eventually).

The likely figures required from each (band D) home is only a guide as final numbers of equivalent band D homes are not yet published.

It was resolved to accept the budget as presented with 2 additional items as headings only.

Parish Plan and traffic calming (i.e. speed limit changes).

The figure requested for the precept would be £44264, the clerk will present the agreed budget at the next meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Lang, seconded by Cllr Whyatt all other councilors indicated their support.

**199. To attend to correspondence/communications received since the last meeting including**

**199.1 Parishioner correspondence**

**199.1.1 Rats reported near the new bus stop.** A resident has suggested that there has been a significant problem with rats around the new bus shelter, caused by youth hanging out and others using the bus stop dropping food items. The district council now charge over £50 for the pest control service. The clerk has inspected the shelter several times and not found evidence of food being dropped but will continue to monitor the situation, there is a litter bin attached to the wall.

It was suggested that there had been an increase in the rat problem generally due to the mild weather.

**199.1.2 Ashwells Hoarding** Further reports from a resident of West Drive – visibility problems at the junction of West Drive and Grafton Drive, and motorbikes on path.

The clerk has written both to Highways and SCDC planning and the enforcement officer has promised to investigate and take action if required.

The clerk will also write again to Paul Thwaites from Ashwells asking for the hoarding to be removed..

Also problems with land drainage and school parking in the turning head.

The clerk has written to the headmaster asking him to point out the problem to parents. It had also reported that the recent increase in the school size (120 and now 150 children) had made it more dangerous on Highfields Road.

A solution might be to use the village hall as an overspill car park and the village hall committee were requested to consider this at their next meeting. It is felt to be particularly suitable as there is a gate into the school

**199.1.3 Traffic issues at Clare Drive. Hall Drive junction** A letter had been received from a resident pointing out the problems particularly at school arrival and leaving times and asking for speed control measures and signs to indicate priorities.

The clerk was asked to reply thanking him for the letter and indicating that Clare Drive has not yet been adopted and speed limiting measures cannot be enforced at present, any dangerous driving should be reported to the police.

The junction priorities are the same as other roundabouts, i.e. give way to the right.

## **199.2 Other Correspondence**

**199.2.1 EEAPTC News letter** –The regional report was received.

**199.2.2 Crime and disorder Reduction Partnership Newsletter** was received

**199.2.3 NALC Key points on government white paper** was received

**199.2.4 Government takeover of developments** was received

## **200. To attend to Planning received since the previous meeting**

**200.1.1 S2126/06/06/F** Use of land as paddock, erection of stables and hay store, provision of riding area at 16 East Drive.

Recommended for Refusal

Over development, far too extensive for private use.

Increase in vehicle access including large vehicles such as horse boxes using a very narrow access road.

Use of Hardwick bridleway for access.

Could be used for horse breeding.

Inaccurate particulars on the application claiming that the land has been purchased from 16 East Drive.

A Proposal by Cllr Lang, seconded by Cllr Levett. was agreed after a vote, the recorded vote was 4 in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions.

**Cllr Lang then withdrew from the meeting due to a prejudicial interest for the next item. Cllr Footman temporarily took over as chairman with the agreement of other councillors.**

**200.1.2 S2174/06/F Extension Mitchell Wood House**

Recommended for Approval

Proposed by Cllr Whelan, seconded by Cllr Phillips all other councilors indicated their support.

Cllr Lang was invited back as chairman

It will be necessary to hold a short planning only meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November just before the sport and recreation to deal with 2 applications that came in today. SCDC would not agree to an extension for responses due to the Christmas break. Please ensure that this meeting has a minimum of 3 councillors present.

**Decisions for Note Only**

**S1655/06/RM R/O 12 West Drive Highfields Caldecote** **Granted**

**S1671/06/F Plot 7 The Willows** **Withdrawn**

**S1510/06/F 6 East Drive, parking and business use** **Refused**

**Appeal decisions**

**APP/W0530/A/06 2010839 extension 16 West Drive** **Appeal Allowed**

**APP/W0530/A/06/2020492 dwelling and garage 22 West Drive** **Appeal Dismissed**

**201. The village development, recreation grounds and public open spaces.**

**201.1 Sport and Recreation** to receive the notes from the meeting (see item 198.8)

**201.2 Taylor Woodrow Handover POS.** nothing heard but the clerk will push for the sports field to be handed over as soon as possible and not be delayed by the housing areas.

**201.3 Bloor Handover Inspection** on site 8<sup>th</sup> November, the clerks report and a letter from JB Development Services was received

The bollard lights had been damaged and were a potential hazard. The Parish Council confirmed its agreement to remove the bollard lighting and that the area will then be acceptable for handover. The clerk will reply to Mr Bob Tash the Bloor consultant to that effect.

Proposed by Cllr Whelan, seconded by Cllr Phillips all other councilors indicated their support.

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**201.5 Playground Inspection** – incidents of damage were dealt with under item 198.7.

**202 Councillors' items**

**202.1 Speed thumps**, a letter had been received today again regarding damage to cars caused by the thumps and also poor driving in the roadway, the clerk has replied indicating that the council also considered the thumps to be a problem and copying letters received from the County council confirming the thumps are to the required standard and a also a copy of a letter from the police about traffic offences.

**202.2 Internal Audit** – Saskia Dart has agreed to continue carrying out the Parish Council internal audit as a volunteer without cost to the council, the clerk was asked to write confirming the appointment and offering the councils appreciation.

**202.3 Highway footpaths** near 61 and 63 Highfields Road are damaged and the path is sinking outside 42 Highfields Road. Clerk to report

**202.4 Childerly Estates** will not have direct access to the bus stop when the new road opens, the clerk will ask Richard Gethin from Nuttals to ask if this can be addressed.

**202.5 The gate on the tennis court** - has been taken off its hinges, a working party will try and return the gate to the correct position, next Sunday Morning at 11 am.

**202.6 Bus shelter** - The gutter on the bus shelter near the shop has been broken off.

**202.7 Church Railings**, the clerk was asked to find out why there has been no progress with the application.

**202.8 Verges in Caldecote** - Recent strimming of verges has been to a high standard

**202.9 Village sign.** It was suggested that the village sign should be moved and it was suggested that this could be added as a heading in the budget so that this can be considered in 2007/8.

**202.10 Clare Drive and Large vehicles** are having difficulty entering Clare Drive due to the position of the culvert.

**202.11 Drainage of the MUGA** area and tennis court area will need addressing, another budget heading will be added, possibly funding from reserves.

### **203. Closure of meeting and parish matters.**

**There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 10-40pm**

**Date of next Parish Council meeting is 18<sup>th</sup> December (planning only) and 4<sup>th</sup> January 2007  
Sport and Recreation Committee on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

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**Items for Note, if you wish to view any of these items please ask the clerk**

**Youth Banks** applications from 13 to 19 year olds from the youth opportunity fund.

**Community Archive Project** – putting people in the picture

**South Cambs Safety Advisory Group** – Licensing of large events

**County HCV newsletter** (Heavy Commercial Vehicle)

**Cambs CC National drink drive campaign**

**Papworth Traffic calming consultation responses**

**SCDC Mutual (tenant) exchanges** - on s106 sites requiring local connections

**COPE Newsletter**

**SCDC Christmas Waste and recycling arrangements**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Chairman** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_