

**DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of Caldecote Parish Council
on Thursday 5th February 2009 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Present: Cllr Tom Footman, Cllr John Newby, Cllr Neale Whyatt, Cllr Alan Levett, Cllr Tumi Hawkins, and District Councillor Robin Martlew.

In attendance: Mr. Roger Hume (Clerk), PCSO Trudy.Newman-Hart and 3 members of the public.

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

In the absence of the chairman and vice chairman it was resolved that Cllr Footman should be the chairman for this meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Newby and seconded by Cllr Levett, and all were agreed.

454 Apologies for absence and also declaration of interests from members

Cllr Lang, Cllr Whelan, Cllr Breeze and Cllr Francis.

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda

455 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 8th January 2009

On a resolution by Cllr Newby and seconded by Cllr Levett the minutes were approved as a true record with no amendments, all were agreed.

456 Matters arising for information. (Clerks Report).

At this point the meeting was suspended temporarily to receive a report from PCSO Trudy.Newman-Hart and for all present to ask questions.

The chairman thanked Trudy for attending and hoped that she would be able to attend regularly and possibly come to the Annual Parish Meeting on 21st May.

The meeting was resumed

456.1 Parish Plan – The questionnaire is being progressed.

456.2 Youth Issues – the youth club was still meeting regularly with around 12 attendees each night (40 members altogether), they are still seeking a new leader.

456.3 TKA. Correspondence was presented by residents regarding the factory noise problems.

Councillors agreed that the meeting should be temporarily suspended and residents be invited to address this meeting.

Residents have made a formal complaint to the Ombudsman against South Cambs District Council over their poor handling of the issue. Copies of the correspondence will be distributed to Councillors.

The meeting was resumed

The complaint has been acknowledged by Dale Robinson Corporate Manager (Health and Environmental Services) of South Cambs District Council and they are required to respond by 24th April 2009.

456.4 Land clearance (Foseta) - The matter is in the hands of the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS).

456.5 Traffic Calming – The traffic calming adoption within Highfields, Sue Reynolds from the County Council is still attempting to get the developer to respond to her approaches. Cllr Whelan has arranged a petition from residents opposing the current scheme.

457 Matters carried forward from previous meetings for discussion / decision

457.1 Gritting – Cllr Whelan has had requests for salt bins to be provided at the school entrance, at two Junctions of Highfields Road, Clare Drive by the social club and Furlong Way.

A letter has been received from Michael Oakman Area Maintenance Manager at the County Council. The Parish Council request for Caldecote to be included on the priority route will be considered at the end of the current season.

457.2 Speed limit - in Main Street. Councillors were reminded of a meeting to be held by the police regarding “Speedwatch” at 6.15 pm at the Meridian Primary School, Harbour Avenue, Comberton on Wednesday 18th February 2009 and where it is supported start to identify volunteers to implement speedwatch.

To be followed by the police panel meeting at 7-30pm

457.3 Bus service – A Letter of acknowledgment had been received from Tesco responding to the Parish Council request for a free bus service to Caldecote.

Cllr Whelan sent a report to the clerk regarding meetings she has had. The regular bus through the village would need to be supported by 9 users to make it viable (£25 per journey).

458. Finance and procedural matters

458.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills.

Late Payments January meeting			
Eurooffice	Stationary	64.91	891
Caldecote Village Institute	Meeting room hire	21.00	892
New Payments			
Kathie Martlew (11)	Salary January Paid February	84.00	Direct
Julie Coogan	Salary January Paid February	326.40	Direct
Roger Hume	Salary January Paid February	590.97	Direct
Roger Hume	Clerk Expenses November 2008	74.75	893
Cambourne Printing Services	Photocopying	77.68	894
Total Expenditure		1239.71	

On a resolution by Cllr Newby and seconded by Cllr Levett, the payments were checked and approved, Cheques were signed and invoices and cheque stubs initialed at the end of the meeting.

There were 2 late payments that will appear on next month’s statement.

Late Payments February meeting			
Jake Thompson	Journal delivery February	42.00	895
Camb County Council	Footpath lighting	588.38	896

458.2 Training Needs

The clerks VAT training session had been cancelled by CPALC.

459 To attend to correspondence/communications received since the previous meeting (if it requires discussion or decision).

459.1 Parishioner correspondence.

459.1.1. An email had been received from St Michael and All Angels church whose members are under the impression that the Parish Council are responsible for erecting the railing on the footpath to the church. The clerk advised that the Parish Council is not responsible but could consider a grant. It was believed that County Council Highways may hold some funding from the original aborted scheme in 2002..

Councillors present who were also Councillors at that time expressed the view that the original request for a railing had in fact come from the church.

459.2 Other Correspondence

459.2.1 SCDC Public consultation – The monthly report was received.

459.2.2 Communities in Control – consultation. Cllr Hawkins had considered the document which was a code of recommended practice on local authority publicity. It was not considered necessary to respond.

459.2.3 Parish Forum meeting at South Cambs District Council. Cllr Levett and Cllr Newby had attended for Caldecote.

Planning Delegation scheme

The number of applications going to full committee had reduced considerably and the number of Councillors on the committee had been reduced from 32 to 14. This had been done to meet Government targets on responses.

Concern was expressed by the Parish council representatives that they were unable to attend and make representations on applications that are referred to the delegation meeting and decisions are now being taken behind closed doors.

It was made clear that Parish Councils and District Councillors can request for applications to be referred to the full committee if they feel it necessary.

Cllr Martlew said that he would be willing to consider such requests and put forward the concerns of the Parish Council but may also give a personal view to the full committee which may not necessarily support these views.

Ecology and Biodiversity

It was claimed that development can improve the diversity of wildlife and Cambourne was used as an example.

South Cambs have a section on their web site which contains more information.

Management of open spaces is critical and some areas need to be left uncut from May to August.

There is a duty on all public bodies to have regard to biodiversity conservation.

A supplementary planning document on Biodiversity is being produced and will be discussed on January 22nd.

A recent case of a piece of land being cleared for possible development (over the Christmas period) has resulted in a police investigation, as evidence has been found of Greater Crested Newts being destroyed. The Crown Prosecution Service is considering the case.

The Ecology officer was quite happy that some new development areas such as in Caldecote where a management company will take on the orchid area (Greenbelt Trust) and not handed over to Parish Council.

The Tree Warden scheme

Has achieved nothing so far but a new volunteer has offered to take up the mantle of a self help coordinator Parish Councils were notified of this recently.

The object is to “make trees matter”.

Tree Stock – information packs are available for trees and hedges. On request.

Recent attempts to prosecute where trees have been damaged have been thrown out by magistrates SCDC are working toward more electronic, web based information on tree preservation orders and they are currently updating information

459.2.4 Minerals and Waste public consultation further sites, the report was received but it was decided that no response was necessary.

459.2.5 Further letter from Andrew Lansley - regarding dispensing services, thanking the Parish Council and residents for responding. As a result the services have been retained

459.2.6 Graffiti Removal – A resident reported problems on the playground, youth shelter and the Childerley bus shelter and they are being dealt with by the District Council/Probation service scheme and the clerk. It is likely that the bus shelter near the Childerley roundabout will be painted inside, there is no water supply available for chemical cleaning but they will tackle the outside..

459.2.7 Rural Services Network, the letter was received.

459.2.8 Local Development Framework – adoption of supplementary planning documents, the report was received.

460 To attend to Planning received since the previous meeting**460.2 Planning consultation**

460.2.1 None had been received for this agenda - but an application had been received today which would be considered on 19th February unless an extension for responses to 6th March (5th March meeting) was agreed with South Cambs DC,. (Change of use of outbuildings at Manor Farm Main Street).

460.3 To notify Decisions by South Cambs District Council – subject to conditions

460.3.1 S/1954/08/F Garden office/outbuilding at 4 Thorny Way Approved

461 The village development, recreation grounds and public open spaces

461.1 Sport and Recreation working party – the notes of the meeting on 26th January were received, it was agreed that the meeting planned for March 9th would be postponed until the later scheduled date of 20th April.

461.2 Taylor Wimpey Handover An updated transfer plan had been received from Geraldine Roper SCDC, on a resolution by Cllr Levett and seconded by Cllr Newby the plan was approved, all Councillors were in agreement.

461.3 Maintenance - Sports field Maintenance – Schedule of Maintenance report by Cllr Newby.

He is investigating a more specific maintenance plan and is meeting with a sports agronomist to ensure best value and will report to the next meeting, the clerk raised his concern that the season was nearly upon us and decisions over contracts need to be resolved.

461.4 Cabin – the clerk has noticed that the hot water tank was cold, and will investigate but no complaints had been received.

461.5 Pavilion – awaiting transfer of land

461.6 Banner 2 applications – The meeting due to be held on February 3rd was cancelled due to the weather, the next meeting is scheduled for the 10th February at 3pm, Cllr Whelan and the clerk will attend.

A revised plan had been received. Concern was expressed about the footpath links from plot 1 and 2 to Highfields Road. It was felt that this would encourage residents to park on the main road opposite the school

There was some confusion over the boundary of Plot 65 which appeared to have a spare piece of land from the turning head to plot 64.

The Parish Council would like to name the roads.

It was pointed out that the school is turning away some age groups and may not be able to cope with the expansion.

462 Councillors' items – Reports only (to be added to next agenda if necessary).

462.1 The contractors at 99 Highfields Road have been using the verge to store building waste and materials this has been reported to Highways. The clerk visited the site before Christmas and asked them to clear it up.

462.2 The County Council are undertaking a further consultation on congestion charging in Cambridge, the notification came in too late for this agenda, but Councillors are asked to respond if they can (by 6th March). It is not necessary to repeat previous responses. But there are specific questions that need to be addressed. <http://www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk>

462.3 The village areas that are still the responsibility of Taylor Wimpey are overgrown and the clerk was asked to write to them again to check that a contractor has been appointed.

462.4 The road drains are still blocked on Main St (church end).

462.5 There is a pothole near the pumping station, the fencing has been repaired.

462.6 Despite being reported again the flashing school signs are not working for the school opening time in the morning.

462.7 The dog bin at the junction of Clare Drive (near the social club) has been damaged by a lorry.

463 Closure of meeting and parish matters - there being no further business the meeting was closed at 10-10pm

Date of next full Parish Council meeting is March 5th – (planning if necessary February 19th)

Speedwatch 6.15 pm at the Meridian Primary School, Harbour Avenue, Comberton on Wednesday 18th February 2009
Followed by panel meeting at 7-30pm

Items for Note - Please ask the clerk for details

CPALC AGM minutes

Housing Futures- transfer of homes, offer to tenants

Signed _____ Chairman _____ Date _____