

**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of Caldecote Parish Council  
on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllr Jack Lang, Cllr Tom Footman, Cllr John Newby, Cllr Fiona Whelan, Cllr Doreen Francis, Cllr Neale Whyatt, Cllr Steve Breeze, Cllr Tumi Hawkins and Cllr Alan Levett.  
. (Cllr Whelan is also the County Councillor for the ward).

**In attendance:** Mr. Roger Hume (Clerk) and 4 members of the public were also present, for at least part of the meeting.

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

**564 Apologies for absence and also declaration of interests from members**

Apologies were received from District Councillor Robin Martlew  
No Declarations of interest were recorded.

**565 To approve the minutes** of the previous meeting on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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

**566 Matters arising for information and discussion, clerks report.**

**566.1 Parish Plan Report** - The working group will now consider an action plan for the report, the chairman expressed the Parish Councils appreciation for the work being carried out.

**566.2 TKA report** – Nothing to report this month.

**566.3 Bus Service.**

Changes to Local Bus Services have been notified. The Morning journey Whippet 2 is to be withdrawn due to the low level of use making it uneconomic.

No change to the evening journey.

Service 14 (Via Toft) is to be diverted into Caldecote twice a day but journey times will increase. Stagecoach have confirmed the loss of the Citi 4 on a Sunday evening is due to low use and the funding from the developers in Cambourne coming to an end.

**566.4 SCDC Parish Planning forum meeting report** (attended by Cllr Levett, Newby, and Francis).

Cllr Francis gave a report on the meeting which explained how planning responses are handled and also environmental issues.

**566.5 Adoption of listed phone boxes**

South Cambs DC have confirmed that listed building consent would be required to remove the box in Main Street.

**566.6 Football pitches** – continued use by Hardwick FC was re-considered for the rest of the season.

A Letter had been received from Hardwick Parish Council confirming the contribution figures proposed and thanking Caldecote Parish Council for allowing the pitches to be used.

The Sport and Recreation working party had considered the offer and recommended acceptance.

It was considered that the contribution would mean that any extra rectification work required would be covered by the contribution.

On a resolution by Cllr Lang and seconded by Cllr Levett it was agreed to allow the use for games for the remaining part of the current football season only (approx 12 weeks).

Cllr Breeze and Cllr Francis asked for their vote against this resolution to be recorded and one Councillor abstained.

## **567 Reports from the District and County**

### **567.1 County Councillors Report**

Serious budget cuts are proposed.

Roads are being patched up as a result of the recent severe weather conditions.

A review of gritting routes will be considered by Councillors and not decided by officers in future.

Cllr Whelan was asked to bring to the attention of officers the problems of blocked drains causing flooding in Main Street and was very dangerous in the current freezing conditions, and to raise the issue of section 138 transfers, in particular relating to Grafton Drive after the failure of Ashwell's.

### **567.2 District Councillors Report**

No report but Councillors were given copies of the South Cambs monthly planning report which had just been received.

## **568. Finance and procedural matters**

### **568.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills**

<b>Expenditure for approval</b>			<b>CHQ NO.</b>
<b>Late Payments December meeting</b>			
LGS services	Journal Printing	270.00	976
<b>New Payments</b>			
Kathie Martlew (10)	Salary November Paid in January	84.84	Direct
Julie Coogan	Salary November Paid in January	340.00	Direct
Roger Hume	Salary November Paid in January	617.80	Direct
CGM	Sport Field Maintenance	3841.00	977
Roger Hume	Clerk Expenses November 2009	72.73	978
Cambourne Printing Services	Meeting notes December	28.64	979
Cambs ACRE	Membership	25.00	980
Total Expenditure		5280.01	

There was one late payment – cheque 981 – Printware, office printer £293.76

On a resolution by Cllr Lang and seconded by Cllr Whelan the payments were checked, and approved. The cheques were signed and invoices and stubs initialed at the end of the meeting.

**568.2 S106 for the banner 2 development** (for 97 homes opposite the school).

Nothing had been received and the planning application decision has been delayed until the February meeting of South Cambs planning committee (or possibly later).

**568.3 A final review of the budget** – The figure set for 2010/2011 with new information was considered.

The number of equivalent band D properties has now been set at 702.6 which results in a band D tax of £79.35.

On a resolution by Cllr Lang and seconded by Cllr Footman it was agreed to confirm the figure agreed at the December meeting.

**568.4 Street lighting** - Notification has been received for the charges to be paid in 2010 at £625.69 (last year £588.38)

**568.5 Application for funding - Village Event**

A request was considered for funding a village event.

On a resolution by Cllr Lang and seconded by Cllr Footman it was agreed to award a sum of £1000 that had been budgeted for this purpose. This was agreed unanimously.

**568.6 Training Needs**, Councillors should contact the clerk if they require information on training.

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

**569.1 Parishioner correspondence.**

**569.1.1 None to date that require discussion**

**569.2 Other Correspondence**

**569.2.1 SCDC Public consultation** – The monthly report was received.

**569.2.2 Youth work**

There had been no progress in County Youth Services providing youth workers for the existing club.

Youth Bus – a proposal was considered to award funding for the youth bus for this coming year at £50 per session which is within the budget set for paid youth workers.

On a resolution by Cllr Hawkins and seconded by Cllr Whelan it was resolved to fund the youth bus to come to Caldecote for 2010, this is likely to be on a Wednesday evening from 7pm to 9pm.

Publicity via schools (parent mail) and previous member emails.

**569.2.3 Parish paths partnership** – nothing to report

**569.2.4 Salt Bin offer** – The County council have offered to supply salt bins at a discount rate of approx £100 each.

On a resolution by Cllr Lang and seconded by Cllr Footman it was resolved to fund 6 bins, 5 at the junctions in Highfields Road and on in Main Street by the church.

**569.2.5 Community Facilities Audit** – the report was received

**569.2.6 Manor Farm** – letter regarding future planning application was received.

**569.2.7 Exception sites** – A meeting is being held at South Cambs DC on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010, 5pm to 7-25 pm. The clerk will attend if possible.

**569.2.8 Broadband Speeds** – Andrew Lansley MP - the letter was received.

It was also noted that mobile cell phone coverage in the village is also poor

**570 To attend to Planning received since the previous meeting****570.1 Planning consultation****570.1.1 Heavy Freight Advisory.**

The report was considered and a recommendation will be submitted asking that Caldecote have a specific weight limit marked on the map.

**570.1.2 S/1708/09/F Erection of 4 Bungalows with Double Garages Land to the East of Casa D Foseta St Neots Road Caldecote**

Recommended for **REFUSAL**

The additional detailed response is appended to these minutes.

**570.2 To notify Decisions by South Cambs District Council – subject to conditions****570.2.1 S/1440/09/F Gracefield Nursing Home (with new access) Approved****571. The village development, recreation grounds and public open spaces****571.1 Taylor Wimpey Handover and maintenance.** – Transfer.

The transfer has not been completed, Taylor Wimpey have still not signed the documents. The clerk was asked to write to South Cambs requesting that they take enforcement action. As Taylor Wimpey is still responsible for maintenance, reports will be made to them about various issues where action is required.

**571.2 Maintenance** - Sports field Maintenance

The program has moved forward with Terra spiking and slitting having been completed.

A total of £10618 has been spent for the current year to date and projections are within the overall budget.

**571.3 Cricket wicket**, the artificial surface appears to be stretching and this has been reported to Chris Fuller from Hardwick Cricket Club who organised the installation

*Later information from Chris - "This is normal for the winter period as the fibres contract it will ripple. This happens on all artificial surfaces and certainly does at Hardwick and others that I have seen during the winter period. This will go back to being tight during the summer when it is required".*

**571.4 Pavilion**

The structural plans for the new pavilion are expected soon.

**571.5 Banner 2**

The application consideration has been delayed until the February meeting of South Cambs planning committee on February 3rd (or possibly later).

**571.6 Playground**

The bearings on the roundabout appear to be stiffer than they should be, they were lubricated at the last service.

**571.7 Sport and recreation working party notes**

The notes were received.

**572 Councillors' items – Reports only (to be added to next agenda if necessary).****572.1 Bollards in Strympole Way****572.2 Hedge overhanging footpath in Blythe Way****572.3 Hedge overhanging footpath in Highfields Road (opposite the school)****572.4 Pumping station flooded again****572.5 Verges grass cutting in December, was this MD Landscapes?****572.6 Speed checks were promised by the County Council, has this happened?**

- 572.7 West Drive the road name sign has been damaged
- 572.8 School bus, concern over current parking position in Clare Drive
- 572.9 Household rubbish dumped on kick about area (has been reported to the housing association and Environmental health).
- 572.10 Notice board in Main Street needs attention.
- 572.11 Journal items, youth bus, support for shop.
- 572.12 Pot holes in Highfields Road and drainage in Main Street causing flooding.

**573 Closure of meeting and Parish Matters**, there being no further items the meeting was declared closed at 9-47pm

**Date of next Parish Council meetings**

Thursday February 4<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 7-30

Sport and Recreation working party meetings - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010, Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April, Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September

**It may be necessary to hold a meeting for urgent items and planning on January 21<sup>st</sup>.**

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**Items for note, please ask for details**

Winter Gritting

Exception Sites Parish Review Meeting Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January at SCDC 5-15pm to 7-25 \*

Cambridge Past, Present & future (formerly Cambridge Preservation Society) Membership and Draft

Review of regional special strategy

News @ Com – Winter 2009 Comberton Village College

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

**Appended planning responses, not part of the minutes**

**Recommendations from Caldecote Parish Council for current planning items 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

**S/1708/09/F** Erection of 4 Bungalows with Double Garages Land to the East of Casa D Foseta St Neots Road Caldecote

**Recommended for refusal**

The Parish Council consider that this development does not comply with various Planning policies, in particular, the following:

*DP/7 outside urban and village frameworks, only development for agriculture, horticulture, forestry, outdoor recreation and other uses which need to be located in the countryside will be permitted.*

As it falls foul of DP/7, it should be dealt with as a Countryside development, as the Local adopted plan 2004 states.

*12.18 The hamlet of Caldecote and the ribbon of development along St Neots Road lie outside the identified framework of the settlement and development will be restricted to those uses that require a countryside location.*

As such, it does not comply with either HG/6 Extensions to Dwellings in Countryside or HG/7 Replacement Dwellings in Countryside or HG/8 Conversion of Buildings in Countryside for Residential Use or HG/9 Dwelling to Support a Rural Based Enterprise.

Furthermore, even if development of the site was to be considered in principle, the current proposal does not comply with HG/2 Housing mix in so far as

- 1. Residential developments will contain a mix of units providing accommodation in a range of types, sizes and affordability to meet local needs*
- 2. In developments of up to 10 dwellings, market properties should provide at least 40% of homes with 1 or 2 bedrooms and approximately 25% of homes with 3 bedrooms and approximately 25% of homes with 4 or more bedrooms*

The Ecological report submitted by the applicant makes mention of the 2006 report (on page 6) stating that low populations of the Great Crested Newt was found and the ponds could not be described as optimal GCN habitat.

Which conveniently and incorrectly waters down the original report - to suit.

It also goes on to state that the current value to wildlife on the site is relatively low and associated primarily with the boundary hedges.

Which is not true. During site visits this week - you could see footprints of various animals all over the snow, and very many around the pond.

The common house sparrow has been seen observed on the site

The applicant has also removed quite a lot of trees and vegetation that bordered the pond, and those would have provided natural habitats for other species, so the act in late 2008 by clearing the site, was in the Parish Councils view, designed to achieve the results presented by the report.

Obviously the issues of the environment are valid. The site is also contaminated with sewage from the septic tank of Casa Foseta, a fact conveniently omitted from the application form that was put in (see section 15).

In the unlikely event that the application is approved The Parish Council ask that conditions are applied as follows

- No work should be carried out before 8am and should finish by 6pm. (1pm Saturdays)
- No work on Sundays or Bank holidays.
- Any spoil removed should not be used to raise ground levels and create neighbouring flood problems.
- Site traffic should be diverted away from existing roads if possible, roads if used should be kept free of mud and if necessary regularly swept. Wheel washing facilities should be used.
- Parking and site compounds should be provided to ensure that disturbance to nearby properties is kept to a minimum.
- Planting plans should be agreed before any construction is started to ensure existing planting is preserved if possible.
- Screening should be specified to protect the privacy of adjoining properties.