

**Meeting of Eltisley Parish Council Held at The Newton Primary School, Eltisley on
Tuesday 10 July 2007 at 7.50pm**

Present: Cllrs: Messrs D Lee, R Pinner (Chairman), M Cropley and J Pettifor, Mrs C Freeman and D Spink.

In attendance: Mrs K Baptie (Minutes Secretary – LGS Services) and Cllr Miss M Smith.

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

1.0 Apologies were received from Mr M Lines.

The order of business was varied and item 1.1 was taken under Finance and procedural matters.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting and the confidential minutes

On a proposition by Mr Cropley and seconded by Mr Lee the minutes of the last meeting and the confidential minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. The Parish Council wish to express their satisfaction with Mrs Stoehr's services.

3. Matters arising

3.1 (4.3) Vermin problem r/o Greenfields

Cllr D Spink has been in contact with the Environmental Health Department who have been out to have a look, but there weren't many rats at that time, probably due to the fact that a neighbour had been putting down poison. They say that it is the responsibility of the property owner. The Parish Council will try to trace the owner and write to him.

3.2 (4.5) Eltisley Feasibility study

The Highways Agency is checking the number of cars since the dualling of the A428, but it is thought the Feasibility Study has not yet started. It was suggested that the Parish Council write to the Highways Department to ask for dualling of the A428 from Caxton Gibbet to the Black Cat roundabout as the traffic is heavier now that the section into Cambridge is dualled. It may add some weight to the campaign to dual this remaining section. Concern was expressed about the number of motorists overtaking on the stretch of road between Caxton Gibbet and Eltisley. They are driving fast on the dualled section and then not taking due care and attention on the single carriageway. It was suggested that a speed restriction or camera would prevent this.

The road signs on the dual carriageway leading up to the Gibbet are misleading. The arrows for the A1198 point straight ahead instead of right. The Parish Council is to write to the Highways Department to bring it to their attention.

3.3 (7.1) Open Spaces Society & Village Green Bylaws

The Council's bylaws and also the information from the Open Spaces Society was noted. The Parish Council will consider joining the Society at the next meeting. It was noted a bollard is needed in the corner by the bus stop which is getting badly worn away.

21 The Green – the Parish Council is satisfied with the way it has been tidied up.

3.4 (1.3) Parish Paths walk – to set a date

A date has been set for Tuesday 7 August at 6.30pm, meeting outside the school. A letter is to be sent to John Cooper CCC about the bridleway from St Neots Rd to the A428 which is quite overgrown.. Another Bridleway at the Drift is also very overgrown, but it was felt that this came within Caxton's boundary. Mrs Freeman is to write to the Clerk at Caxton regarding this. The verges at Potten End, Cambridge

Road and St Neots Road are also overgrown. A letter is to be sent to Dennis Vacher regarding this, and also to point out that the reflective triangle at Potton End has been knocked down, and the one on St Neots Road is damaged, and ask if they could be replaced.

3.5 (4.4) Pocket Park opening

3.8 (7.2) SCDC & litter and dog bin emptying (Pocket Parks)

The opening will take place on the 28 July by Cllr Ray Manning and there will be a small BBQ. Rob McGovern, Cllrs Mr & Mrs Morgan, Matthew Bell (who supplied the woodchip) and other people who helped the project are to be invited. Mr Pinner is to speak to them. The Cambridge Evening News is also to be notified. The waymarking signs have been received and will be installed next Thursday evening. The Parish Council was disappointed with the response from SCDC regarding the positioning of the litter bins and changes to the way they will be emptied. A letter has already been sent to Mr Stuart Harwood Clark (SCDC) at the Housing and Environmental Services Depot expressing the Parish Council's dissatisfaction and asking him to reconsider. Another dog litter bin is required at the St Neots Road end of the village.

3.6 Cricket Club

This item had been referred to the Eltisley Village Green Trust meeting and had been reported on by Chris Clarke in the Trust's meeting earlier this evening.

3.7 (9.2) Eltisley Institute and Congregational Chapel

A response is still awaited from the Charity Commission regarding the Institute. This is to be carried forward to the next meeting. The Chapel is closing in August. It was suggested that a letter be sent from the Parish Council noting how sorry it was that the Chapel is closing.

4. Member's reports and items

4.1 Parish Plan – summary report and to agree the way forward

It was suggested that the Parish Council should look at what it has the power to do and try and do them quickly in order to keep momentum going, as there will be many things that the Parish Council can only assist by recommendation. However it was noted that the Parish Plan is useful in backing up recommendations that have the support of the village. The Clerk is to report to the next meeting on the parish plan funding, council powers and grant availability e.g. 'Awards for All' and 'The Peoples Lottery'.

The Steering Group, which is happy to continue with the project, has put together a Parish Plan Summary. After one or two alterations were made the Parish Council agreed it was satisfied with the summary, and this will be distributed to each home in the village.

5. Finance and procedural matters

Item 1.1 was taken here.

1.1 The new Model Code of Conduct to consider it's adoption and If to opt into paragraph 12 (2)

The new Code of Conduct for Parish Councils was considered.

On a proposition by Mrs Spink, seconded by Mr Pettifor it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council adopt the Model Code of Conduct 2007 for Parish Councils (un-amended) and opt into paragraph 12(2). The Standing Orders are to be amended to detail that members' with prejudicial interests and the public may speak during an agenda item 'Comments and Observations from members of the public and district and county councillors' only. During the item itself and its decision the member must leave the meeting.

5.1 Finance report and to approve the payment of bills

The finance report was considered and the invoices and bank statements checked. On a proposition by Mr Cropley, seconded by Mr Pinner the following payments as listed in the finance report were approved for payment:

DJ & JM Green	£159.80	Grass Cutting
ESPO	£108.10	Litter Bins
Eon Energy	£7.34	Electricity Bill
DJ & JM Green	£159.80	Grass Cutting
L G Stoehr	£53.34	Salary
Cambridge Water Plc	£15.24	Water Bill
Moore Stephens	£158.63	Annual Return
LGS Services	£215.08	Admin Support

The following was noted:

- End of year returns were completed in May and the tax-free incentive of £250 awarded to the council. after deduction of PAYE in FY 2007 the Council is £169.61 in credit
- A claim for a VAT refund has been sent to HMRC.
- EVGT will refund the Parish Council for the Pocket Park expenditure which is outside the SCDC grant.

5.2 Grass cutting review

It was noted that several complaints had been sent to Mr Green about the grass cutting. It was agreed to look at this again when its contract is up for tender.

5.3 Annual Audit conclusion

The audit had been concluded by Moore Stephens and everything was found to be in order.

5.4 RoSPA report

The report was noted. Clarification is to be brought to the next meeting as to the level of cover if the recommendations are not attended to.

6. To consider planning applications received since the last meeting & SCDC decisions

6.1 S/0968/07/F Beehive Cottage, Potten End – Extension – to note the Parish Council's approval

Noted.

6.2 S/1241/07/F 26 The Green – Replacement Garage

This application has been registered on the SCDC website but as yet the Parish Council has not received it. It was agreed that the plans be circulated between members when they are received and delegate to the Clerk to respond based on members comments.

6.3 SCDC LDF Objection Sites

The Council's main concern is the impact of traffic on the already busy A428. It was agreed to reiterate any previous comments made.

7. To consider correspondence received since the last meeting

7.0 An invitation to look at an affordable housing scheme in Saffron Walden was noted.

7.1 Police – venues for Panel Meetings

The next meeting is to be held on 22 August at the Meridian School in Comberton. A member is to attend if available. It was agreed that the Parish Council would host a meeting on 21 November subject to the school hall being available.

8. Urgent matters requiring the attention of the clerk

8.0. It was noted that the residents parking outside the new houses near the telephone box (opposite the pub) is restricting the view at the junction. There is parking at the rear of these houses. It was agreed to seek the advice of the PCSO's regarding this matter.

8.0.1 Large amounts of cardboard are being left at the recycling bins by The Leeds Arms.

8.0.2 It was noted that the notice board is for Parish Council use only and should not be used for other purposes. However the Council recognise that there is a need to display other notices, and considered asking the Church if the village could use some of its space. A review of the condition of the Parish Council notice board is to be brought to the next meeting.

9. Closure of meeting

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 9.40pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____ Date.