

HORNINGSEA PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman – Councillor Peter Davison

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 30th November 2011 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:

Councillors: P. Davison (Chair), L Davies, Michael Gingell, Richard McMahon, Helen Santilly

Parish Clerk: M. Starkie

Two members of the public attended and commented at Item 70

64 – 11/12 Apologies for absence – Duncan Apthorp sent his apologies

65 - 11/12 Declarations of interest personal and/or prejudicial and the nature of those interests relating to items on the agenda

66 – 11/12 Approval of minutes from the Ordinary Meeting on Wednesday 28th September 2011
Proposed by Helen Santilly, agreed by members and signed by L. Davies.

67 – 11/12 Reports from District and County Councillor

a) R. Turner reported:

Local Development Scheme The latest [Local Development Scheme Timetable](#) is available on our website and sets out the timetables for preparation of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan and the Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document (DPD).

South Cambridgeshire Local Plan The Scheme sets out the timetable for a review of three key Local Development Framework (LDF) documents. This will take the form of a single plan called the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan, and will incorporate a review of the Core Strategy, Site Specific Policies and the Development Control Policies DPDs. The first stage will be consultation on Issues and Options in summer 2012.

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) This is part of the evidence base for the new South Cambridgeshire Local Plan and is a technical assessment to identify sites that are potentially suitable for housing development. During the 'Call for Sites' many more sites were received than will be needed to sustain the local economy and meet local housing needs and a preliminary sifting has been undertaken.

All registered sites will now be formally assessed to determine their potential suitability, availability and achievability for housing development. The identification of sites as technically having potential for housing does not indicate that they will necessarily be allocated for housing in the Council's new Local Plan. Any sites that are identified as potentially being suitable will also be assessed against wider planning policy considerations. From these assessments, the Council will identify the best site options for housing development for further consideration. Public consultation on the potential site allocations will form part of the Issues & Options consultation on the new Local Plan, anticipated to take place in Summer 2012. Only following that consultation will the Council decide the sites it intends to allocate for housing development in a new draft Local Plan. That plan will have to go through a further stage of public consultation and examination by an independent planning Inspector before it is finalised.

The land suggested for Gypsy & Traveller sites will be considered through the Gypsy & Traveller DPD plan making process and will not be taken forward for consideration through the SHLAA.

Streetlighting arrangements. SCDC are proposing to take back responsibility for maintenance of footways lighting. This was following CCC outsourcing maintenance and energy supply to Balfour Beatty.

Horningsea Village Hall Trust has applied for a grant towards an extension to the village hall for storage and relaying of the car park. The total costs for this project are £32,000. The Parish Council is committing £5,000 with the Village Hall Trust has funds of £6,000. The balance of the funds required will be sought from Awards for All – the final application to them will be determined by the outcome of this application to SCDC. The current car park is becoming increasingly unusable, especially in poor weather and the storage facilities are inadequate for a number of user groups. Some groups, such

as the music and art groups have been discouraged from making regular bookings due to the condition of the car park and storage facilities.

a). This project will provide enhanced facilities for the community of Horningsea and the wider community for little outlay. It will make increased and full use of an existing asset and would be good value for money.

b). The need for this project has been identified through the users of the village hall – all groups will benefit from the improved parking and storage. Improvements will lead to an increase in lettings income from other users such as weddings receptions, baptisms and funerals.

c). These improvements will ensure that the community continues to have a place to meet and enjoy village life without having to travel to a meeting place.

d). This project is due to get underway immediately, preferably before the end of autumn and poor weather sets in.

A grant of £8,000 (25% of the total project costs) had been proposed and approved for funding.

Cllr. Turner added that this, and other grants to PCs, had been made possible by savings of £100K on blue bin recycling.

The Chairman proposed a message of thanks to SCDC for this grant; agreed by members.

Members agreed that the proposals for development at Waterbeach Barracks and suggested sites for housing developments should be carefully monitored

b) County Cllr. Nick Clarke was unable to attend but sent a report which is on file. It included: Maintenance track along Busway available to cyclists and pedestrians.

Proposed review of A14 issues by DfT

Ofsted report of children's services

CCC & Natural England for protection and management of Roman Road from Fulbourn to Haverhill

Support for young carers

100% of shops visited by Trading Standards met criteria to prevent underage sales.

How residents can respond to proposed 'bus changes

Farms available for new tenants

Integrated service to register a birth or death

68 – 11/12 Police report - PCSO John Coppard reported:

There had been five incidents over the past two months; police called to Plough & Fleece, Silent 999 call from Abbott's Way which could not be traced, wheelie bin stolen, suspicious behaviour at Notcutts and reports of suspicious looking male in Priory Close.

There had been three crimes; youth given a final warning for possession of controlled drug, theft of a pedal cycle on High Street (not locked), theft of fuel oil from Conservators' depot at Clayhithe.

69 – 11/12 Update on Parish Plan implementation – Mr. Bert Santilly reported (meeting 15/11/11 notes on file): The following arose from the Plan and are being addressed:

The website is still in preparation. The PPSG has representation on HRA to liaise on dates and activities. "Day to Remember" had good attendance but did not result in new hobbies groups. Will be repeated in Spring 2012 to inform new residents on village activities. Horningsea Handbook needs an update; request for input from organisations through Horningsea Herald. PC draft minutes posted on village notice board within two weeks of meeting. PC chairman weekly surgery had proved unnecessary. Need for faster broadband provision to be escalated to Cnty Cllr. Nick Clarke. Need for 50mph speed limit on Clayhithe Road addressed in PC meeting. Beach Car Scheme needs more drivers; co-ordinator will be invited to "Day to Remember". Bus service is part of current strategy consultation and PD will as Cnty Cllr. Nick Clarke to report to PC. Regular walks are being organised and a village cycle ride is planned for 29th April 2012. Affordable Housing is currently under discussion as part of the Local development Framework.

Discussions on Jubilee celebrations are reported at Item 74

The chairman congratulated the steering group on so much being achieved in eight months.

70 – 11/12 Proposals of 50mph speed limit on Clayhithe Road and County Council's Funding of Local Minor Highways Improvements

Brian Stinton of Cambs. County Council explained the funding policy on speed limits. This follows

research conducted into driver behaviour; speed limits recommendations are linked to road conditions and drivers' response.

PCSO Coppard gave traffic speeds surveyed on Clayhithe Road for the period 9th to 17th November:

Northbound 14,666 vehicles of which 278 travelled at more than 68mph – 1.9%

Southbound 14,097 vehicles of which 437 travelled at more than 68mph – 3.1%

This resulted in 715 prosecutions. The average speed was 53mph. The results of this survey precludes the use of police camera vehicles in the area.

Mr. Stinton explained that the cost of funding a 50mph speed limit would have to be met by the PC. He also said there was little evidence that decremental limits would be effective. Prior to the meeting the chairman had circulated the following information:

Consultation over reduction in speed limit for the entire current derestricted zone was carried out with emergency services and public transport operators, local businesses and immediately affected residents, as well as the Police.

Fire & Rescue and both bus companies reported no objections. Nine local residents and businesses were in favour of the proposed reduction, four were in favour but asked that the limit be lowered further, two were in favour but asked also that the derestricted zone south of the village be considered for a reduction. One respondent, a local resident, was not in favour, on the grounds that the new limit would turn out to be unenforceable without physical (engineering) measures, but also suggested that decrements leading to the 30 mph zones either end would be helpful if the 50 limit were put in place.

The Police drew attention to a lack of data on current driver behaviour in the zone under discussion, and expressed a concern that any new limit should be 'self-compliant'.

The proposals were:

a) that the PC commits to funding at £2734.26 the measures needed to secure implementation of a 50 mph limit between the 30 mph limit zones of Horningsea and Waterbeach; or

(b) that the PC commit to funding at £3908.74 the measures needed to secure implementation of a 50 mph limit between the 30 mph limit zones of Horningsea and Waterbeach, and additional 40 mph decrements at the approaches to the 30 mph zones; and

(c) that the PC approach Cambridgeshire County Council for funding support under the Local Minor Highways Improvements scheme.

Following discussion the chairman withdrew the second proposal above and the members voted on the first. The motion was **carried**; three members voted for, two against; there were no abstentions.

After further discussion on the third proposal it was **agreed** that the PC should approach the County Council to bid for amalgamated funding for both the 50mph limit proposal and of speed control measures, including staggered one way system, at the approaches to the village.

Action – the chairman to complete the application for funding based on the objectives of reducing speed approaching the village and of improving safety within it.

In relation to transport, Miss Saunders, noted that the consultation period on the review of subsidised bus services ends soon. The chairman thanked her for distributing forms to many residents.

71 – 11/12 Financial Reports

a) Proposal to renew insurance cover – details had been circulated before the meeting. It was **agreed** to continue with the current insurers at a similar cost to previous year with an inflationary increment and an increase in premium tax.

b) Proposal to donate £16 to Royal British Legion – as the wreath had been re-used a donation of the cost of a wreath was proposed by L. Davies, seconded by Peter Davison and agreed unanimously.

c) Update from the Village Hall Trust - grant of £8000 received from SCDC towards proposed extension and upgrading works on the Village Hall of £8000 (July meeting item 34 - 11/12)

d) Financial update

i) income last 2 months	Burial fee	£150
	Ralph Ashman - Luggs Lane rental	£6
ii) Expenditure last 2 months	(grounds maintenance)	£1747.05
iii) Current account balance		£16020.01

e) Payment of invoices - none had been received

72 - 11/12 Discussion on how the village will celebrate HM's Diamond Jubilee 2012

L. Davies reported plans in Horningsea to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June 2012. There will be a two day bank holiday making a four day holiday weekend on 2nd – 5^h June. The Horningsea Residents Association plans a Village Fun Day/ lighting of the Beacon Sat. 2nd June. The Church is planning an exhibition "60 Glorious Years in Horningsea", a concert of music from each of the decades and a Church Service. The Village Green Trust has applied to become one of the QEII Jubilee Open Spaces. The Parish Council is planning to improve the Jubilee Garden. Nationally we are asked to hold a "Big Lunch" on Sunday 3rd June – no plans for this as yet. Summary of the above will be in December/January New Life Magazine. Members discussed providing mugs for village children. It was agreed that the HRA should make a decision on this; there will be a proposal at the next PC meeting to underwrite HRA's costs by £500.

73 - 11/12 Registration with ICO under the Freedom of Information Act 1998 – the annual fee is £35. It was **agreed** that the council should be registered. **Action** Parish Clerk

74 - 11/12 Update on Jubilee Garden incl. Christmas tree plans & toilet Information from Michael Hellowell and John Wilson had previously been circulated. A Christmas tree donated by a resident of Biggin Abbey was in place. No suggestion had been received for the garden as part of the 60th Jubilee celebrations. HS agreed to lead a working party to look at all suggestion and to liaise with the HRA.

Equipment, including chess set and boules, was not easily accessible because the shed was locked. It was agreed that the key should be kept in the toilet block; the code is available to residents. Helen Santilly reported that the toilet block needed regular cleaning; it was not possible to ask for volunteers although some had been doing this occasionally. The clerk had obtained one quotation and was asked to get another.

75 - 11/12 Update on Telephone Kiosk – David Bevan of SCDC has been unable to process this due to pressure of other projects; Parish Clerk to follow up and RT offered to contact Mr. Bevan

76 - 11/12 Update on refurbishment of village pump – LD reported that that she had spoken to the conservation officer. One pump is Grade II listed and can have a coat of hammerite but no lettering. The officer would favour restoration to working state and could suggest names of restorers. It is not clear if PC or SCDC owns the pump in the High Street. RD offered to investigate further.

77 - 11/12 Report on Parish Charities – RM reported income was maintained due to a donation from carole singers. There have been 13 distributions, four of which were at a higher level for specific needs.

78 - 11/12 Update on registration of village land – LD reported that no further information had been received and she would ask for an update for the next meeting.

79 - 11/12 Report from Quy Fen Trust – minutes on file – included

Flora Fauna count: none known of

Last year's Capital works: Pond & fencing completed. Nettles will need attention.

Work on Cut not sufficient allowing Cattle there now water low. A small amount of scrub cleared.

Spoil by Cut to be moved. Water lilies growing & thriving in the new Pond although the water is low.

Next year's Capital programme: Pollarding & scrub clearance

Further work in Cut, insert posts, approach Swaffham Drainage to dig out spoil

Proposal for three year programme of Capital Works to be send to Natural England.

This years Maintenance Works.: no weed wiping necessary; considerably less ragwort this year,

Nudists: Still a problem, but they had been harassed by both the Warden and police (PCSO Coppard)

Warden: Alan Taylor regularly walks round the Fen, reports to trustees, & moved on the nudists

Quy Fen Booklet: £45 from sales; booklets still available.

New signs around Fen: Quy PC this in hand as part of their public footpath programme.

Finances: A/C to be managed on internet. Current A/c £19066; Coiff account £3558.

Investments £26753 (reduced due to fluctuating market)
Village funds - £872 for Quy, £450 each for Fen Ditton and Horningsea.
Trustees agreed to put £150 into each village fund
Next meeting Monday Feb 13th 2012

80 - 11/12 Report on Allotments' license - HS reported that if the PC holds the licence it will be responsible for the maintenance of fencing at the boundary while the paddock fencing should be maintained by the owner as it is required to be animal proof. Currently some plots are well worked, three are derelict. The plots need to be in a clean and tidy condition before taking over from SCDC. Tenancy records are needed to identify tenants. MG suggested taking photographs before taking responsibility for the licence so that, if it needs to revert to SCDC responsibility, it can be in original condition. **Action** - HS will set up meeting with representatives of the Allotments' Committee and PD will inspect the fences and state of plots. RT will talk to SCDC officer.

80 - 11/12 Report from Parish Clerk

Conservation - Tree surgeons will remove the dead trees on 5th/6th December.

Cemetery a) There has been one internment of a former resident on 10th October.

b) Responded to request from a former resident to purchase a plot next to that of her late husband.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals Plan

The Inspector's Report on Minerals and Waste Plan has been circulated and is on file; the inspector has accepted relevant parts of the plan as previously reported on.

The Clerk has attended the following

SLCC training Monday 14th November – Localism Act. Roles and responsibilities of PCs, District, County and Unitary Authorities – notes and presentations on file.

CRIF meeting Tuesday 15th November – discussion and plans for generation of renewable energy in Cambridgeshire. More information is available on <http://www.crif.citizenscape.net/>

SLCC training Wednesday 16th November – Cemetery Management course on burial regulations, statutory requirements, registration of graves, maintenance of graveyards and memorials and transfer of grave ownership. Training notes on file. Horningsea regulations to be discussed further with LD.

CPALC local committee meeting Tuesday 22nd November – councillors & clerks from about 20 PCs attended the meeting. There was a presentation on Localism from Steve Vartoukian of CCC. Many members expressed the view that county still interpreted the act as “top down”, i.e. County telling the PCs what they would have to take over rather than finding out what the parishes wanted. NV said he would take away the comments but that huge savings had to be made at county level. Members agreed to further meetings, probably quarterly, for networking, best practice sharing and guest speakers. Presentation slides will follow.

HCV Management Strategy Meeting Tuesday 29th November – This was the second meeting to finalise the strategy proposed by CCC with input from PCs on the management of HCs through settlements. The HCV assessment process was presented (on file). Richard Preston of CCC presented the proposed changes to the Environmental Sensitivity Criteria and the updated results of those indices for various settlements. Data for two villages had been collected by physical measurement and radar surveys and the rest by desktop modelling. Participants agreed that, if residents could be involved, the measurement system would be feasible, that the exposure indices and graphs provided a reasonable spread of the issues and that the final risk table was easy to understand. However, they suggested that other indices should be included such as weight and night movement (with an exponential multiplication factor). Delegates expressed concerns on how enforcement is achieved.

82 - 11/12 Correspondence – report of sewage leak on High Street. PD has given further information to the correspondents. **Action** – Clerk to contact correspondent and invite her, Anglia Water and SCDC Environment officer to the next meeting.

83 - 11/12 To Accept notices & Matters for the next Agenda

Please note that no decisions can lawfully be made under this item. LGA 1972 s12 10(2) (b) states that business must be specified; therefore the Council cannot lawfully agree any matter that is not on the agenda. The following to be on the agenda; Proposed Budget and Precept request, proposal to underwrite HRA Jubilee activities by £500, Allotments' licence, Sewage leak, Land Registry and subsidised transport services.