

# FENSTANTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council

held at Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School, School Lane on Thursday 14 June 2019 at 19.30

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**Abbreviations** : CCC – Cambridge Country Council;; HDC – Huntingdon District Council; DC – District Council; Cllr – Councillor; PC – Parish Council; FPC – Fenstanton Parish Council; FVHT – Fenstanton Village Hall Trust

### Present

Cllr Caswell  
Cllr Hayes  
Cllr McGee  
Cllr Mitchell – Chairman for this meeting  
Cllr Morris  
Cllr Pryke  
Cllr Saunderson  
Cllr White

### In attendance

Annette Eggett – clerk  
Cllr Mead – HDC  
Susannah Collison (agenda item 19.205)

**In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman councillors appointed Cllr Mitchell as Chair for this meeting**

**Proposed : Cllr McGee**

**Seconded : Cllr Caswell**

**Vote : All in favour**

**19.202 Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs Kent, Ferrier, Henderson, Turner, Bates, Davies and Dickinson.

**19.203 Public Consultation**

Not required.

**19.204 Declarations of Interest**

None.

**19.205 To consider co-option as councillor of Susannah Collison and receive appropriate form**

Susannah was invited to say a few words about herself; she mentioned she had seen things change in the village and felt now was a great chance to get involved and help shape activities in the village and help the Parish become more cohesive.

Susannah was duly co-opted onto the PC and welcomed.

**Proposed : Cllr Hayes**

**Seconded : Cllr McGee**

**Vote : All in favour**

**19.206 To approve the minutes 23 May 2019**

These were approved.

**Proposed : Cllr Pryke**

**Seconded : Cllr White**

**Vote : All in favour**

**19.207 Matters arising from the minutes – for information only**

**19.191 - Joseph Ellis Trust**

Cllr McGee updated Members on the Trust which originates from the early 18th century. Further information will be sent to Cllr McGee from Christine Collison (Secretary of the Trust). This would go on to the next agenda for consideration of representation.

19.208

**Neighbourhood Plan**

Martyn Crawshaw, the parishioner interested in leading on this, was currently on holiday. He would be invited to the next meeting to progress this further. Mention would subsequently be made in Spectrum so parishioners are aware the community has to be involved. Cllr McGee stated the first things the PC needed to do was contact HDC Planning. Cllr Mead agreed and suggested setting up a boundary area (not larger than the Parish, but could be smaller) and register this as an area being considered for a Neighbourhood Plan. He suggested speaking to HDC Policy who would help the PC through the process. He reminded members that a plan can protect certain things for the Parish but it was also about being proactive. The PC needed to work out what it wanted out of the plan and think about what it needed to deliver that DC could not.

**ACTION : MC TO BE INVITED TO NEXT MEETING**

19.209

**Illegal signs around the village**

Several parishioners had mentioned to Cllr McGee that there were many illegal signs particularly on entrances to the village along with many cones. He queried the legal way forward.

Cllr Mead explained there were two issues involved here – illegal ads in fields and hedges came under HDC. All others (roads etc) came under CCC. Cllr Caswell suggested reporting to both authorities. Cllr Mead agreed there were far too many signs in the Parish particularly regarding show homes. Morris Homes and Kier Living should be contacted.

Cllr Mead mentioned how clean all the signs in Needingworth were; Cllr Mitchell confirmed the village had had a clear up week. All felt this was a good idea for Fenstanton and Cllr Mead suggested sourcing the right machine to do the work – if it could not be borrowed then it should be hired. Members agree this was a good idea and that a working party should be organised with a possible tie in to a volunteer scheme. It was agreed that a deadline of the end of August should be set whilst arrangements were made. The Needingworth Clerk should be contacted to ask how they achieved their clear up.

**Proposed – village cleaning team together by end August and Kier and Morris Homes to be contacted.**

**Proposed : Cllr McGee**

**Seconded : Cllr Caswell**

**Vote : All in favour**

**ACTION : Clerk/all**

Cllr Caswell confirmed the 30 mph sign at the Cambridge end of the Parish was still down. To be reported again.

**ACTION : Clerk**

Cllr White and Cllr Kent met with Emma Cichy (EC) of Highways and whilst walking around the Parish discussed the signs outside Ellis Winters, the dog grooming parlour and the fish shop. EC confirmed she would write to all concerned about the illegality of these signs (A-frames on the pavements). However Cllr Mead pointed out that the fish shop sign was on PC land and was therefore not a CCC issue. He also stated the PC needed to balance helping local businesses with the problem of these signs. He suggested writing to the fish shop asking them to put the sign out only when the shop is open as because if there were an accident the PC would be liable. An audit of signs should be mentioned. Something should be put in place with the shop on a yearly basis.

Cllr McGee had noted that FOR SALE signs were put up on the High Street not on the properties for sale. Cllr Mead would check enforcement at HDC. Planning notices can be removed by anyone after 28 days.

Cllr Collison mentioned the signage outside the school. Cllr Mead confirmed that as these were on the school gates which is private property this was a matter for the school and CCC only. Technically these needed advertisement consent as they were on private land.

19.210

**Community engagement group report**

Cllr McGee confirmed tentative plans were being put in place for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day ( May 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 2020) and it was hoped to hold events on Friday, Saturday and into the evening. Interested parties such as the Scouts and Football Club would be contacted. Ideas

included a 1940s swing band and the Military Wives choir. Whilst there is an official charity for the event, Help for Heroes have been contacted – they may be able to help with banners etc. It was hoped the parish would come together for the event.

**19.211 Representatives Reports** – depending on attendance

**19.211.1 District Councillors** - Cllr Mead made the following points:

- Huntingdonshire Local Plan has been adopted and policies now decided.
- He had been working on the King Bill pub and the planning office was up to date. He would try and help get a meeting set up on the Dairy Crest issues and congratulated Cllr Ferrier on all his work. Fencing at the Church car park is worse and HDC had suggested removing this entirely. Cllr Mead had pointed out that would leave nothing between the car park and the footpath.
- A14 was ahead of schedule.

Cllr Mitchell confirmed that there had been 160 responses to the King Bill survey, of which 90% were in favour of it staying open.

**19.211.2 County Councillor** - none

**19.211.3 Councillors**

**19.211.3.1 Church Street flooding**

Cllr White inspected Church Street, Swan Road, Bell Lane and Talls Lane which were all flooded due to blocked drains. Cllr Mead suggested keeping an eye on Conington Road and the corner of Jones's Boat Yard. Cllr Bates and Emma Cichy had inspected today – and Emma would be submitting a report.

**19.211.3.2 Chequers Close to Bell Lane – condition of path / lamppost**

It was likely that the lamppost causing problems was installed by CCC and this is who should deal with it. The condition of the path to be reported again.

Cllr Mead left the meeting.

**19.212 Parking and the use of parking deterrent signs** – update if available

Cllr White reported that he and Cllr Kent met with Highways and whilst EC was sympathetic with the problem she did confirm that there was nothing legal she could do about it. Costs for double yellow lines were in region of £20-30K (not man power but legal work). She reminded members that the PC could apply under the LHI in March. Cllr White showed EC the bad state of repairs of the pavements and soakaways in Swan Road. EC confirmed she would try another Highways department to get this looked at.

**19.212.1 Maytrees**

Signage for the Maytrees green area (19.216) but it was felt these may get in the way; 'Don't park on the grass' signage was a possibility however Cllr McGee had sourced some wheelie bin stickers and it was decided to purchase 72 of these at a cost of £95 (three different messages – speed kills, careful children playing and slow down in our village) for use in the Parish.

**19.212.2 Greens**

Signage for other parish greens was discussed and it was suggested putting new signs about not parking on the grass on Chequer Street green (if decided required) and Honey Hill located in such a way as to make it hard to park on the greens.

**Proposed : Cllr White**

**Seconded : Cllr Pryke**

**Vote : All in favour**

**19.212.3 High Street parking bay**

Cllr Caswell mentioned the 20 minute parking spaces opposite Ash's shop and suggested turning this area into a parking bay, forming 8 diagonal spaces by losing the footpath and asking for a piece of land the width of the footpath from Morris Homes. However there is a

junction box here and there were concerns about reversing out into the High Street. All felt this was a good idea. Cllr Ferrier would be asked to speak to Morris Homes and liaise with CCC afterwards. **ACTION : Cllr Ferrier**

- 19.212.4 **Hilton Road vegetation**  
Cllr White added that as well as discussing Chequer Street parking with EM Cllr Kent had taken up separately the matter of overgrowing vegetation in Hilton Road.
- 19.213 **Speeding in the parish**  
Cllr Saunderson confirmed a SID device had been installed at the London Road pedestrian crossing. He would shortly have a week's worth of data. Cllr McGee reported that the first Speedwatch training would take place on the roads next week. Four people would be trained and another three were being trained in conjunction with Fen Drayton. They would be able to help out in Fenstanton if needed. Cllr Mitchell confirmed Spectrum would feature a request for further volunteers. Cllr McGee felt 15 would be preferable but 10 might suffice.
- 19.214 **MUGA (Multi Use Gym Area)**  
Cllr Caswell had contacted the selected company and Jo German at CCC Education to get relevant permissions for work to start. There was a slight delay on things because of grants – contracts state grants cannot be given if works have already started. There was money available from the A14 Highways Fund and there was charity money available and both sources had been contacted. Three quotes were required so one more will be sought.
- 19.215 **Kier Community land**  
Cllr Mitchell confirmed the formal process had started. Keir had written to FVHT who have first call on this. Jane Blunt had replied they did not want this and the PC had therefore been able to confirm it did. Kier are keen to transfer the land but also to support the PC. Some stacked up earth would need to be replaced/removed (possible use at Chequer Street play area) and there was some landscaping agreed in the original plan. Cllr Ferrier would talk to HDC to see if they would waive these conditions; he had also been in contact with the Scouts about whether they would want the land.
- 19.216 **To discuss parishioner request for slow down/children playing sign on Maytrees green area.** See above 19.212
- 19.217 **To discuss with a view to approving quote from KTS for PC laptop**  
Quote received for £1,005.48 including all parts, labour, set up (including remote access) and VAT – this was agreed.  
**Proposed : Cllr McGee Seconded : Cllr Pryke Vote : All in favour**
- 19.218 **To discuss emergency email and telephone coverage whilst Clerk is away for two days late June -** Cllr McGee volunteered.
- 19.219 **Finance – to approve payment list and note full reports will be available when work on transferring data from Sage to Scribe and setting up Scribe is complete (in progress)**  
Payment list approved and comment noted.  
**Proposed : Cllr Pryke Seconded : Cllr Caswell Vote : All in favour**
- 19.220 **To discuss GP expenditure on village maintenance** specifically around litter picking and possible tie in with Timebank scheme  
Cllr Pryke suggested reducing Martin's litter picking down to once a week with a call to the parish to help keep the village tidy. There was a possible tie in here with St Ives Timebank scheme which would be extended to Fenstanton – the proposal has gone to St Ives Town Council. There was a further tie in with Time Credits.
- 19.220.1 **Bin – High Street**  
Cllr Morris mentioned there was no bin outside Ash's shop – space was limited here but the Clerk would write or mention.
- 19.221 **To accept notices and matters for the next agenda - none**

- 19.222**  
19.222.1 **Parish matters to note**  
**Post office**  
Cllr Mitchell mentioned the Post Office may be under threat.
- 19.222.2 **Travellers**  
Cllr Saunderson felt the CCC monitoring system for travellers was not as reliable as hoped.
- 19.222.3 **Gas mains work**  
Cllr Caswell reported that the gas mains works in Headlands had resulted in a trench being dug through the outside green play area (outside of the fence). This would be monitored.
- 19.222.4 **Community asset list**  
Cllr Morris asked if the community asset list was finished; Cllr Mitchell confirmed he was working on this.
- 19.222.5 **Conington Road safety**  
Cllr McGee mentioned a safety problem on the new bridge on Conington Road. He had spoken to Cllr Bates about this and the latter is dealing with this and passing on to the appropriate contact.
- 19.222.6 **NMU (non-motorised user) pathways**  
The PC has received an email from Hilton Parish Council who have been funded for a feasibility study to examine what options might be viable for Hilton parishioners to reach the park & ride safely. One option is to travel via Fenstanton and pick up the cycle paths from there. Cllrs McGee and Mitchell confirmed they would be happy to liaise.
- 19.222.7 **Planning Application Brulin Huntingdon Road Fenstanton (ref 19/00735/FUL)**  
Cllr White reported that there was an application for 10 dwellings – "Brulin", Huntingdon Road which involved demolishing that house and putting 10 houses in its place. To date both he and Cllr Caswell had objected. Applications for 6 houses or over should always be considered by Full Council. Clerk to circulate to all.

**There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.34**