

FEN DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

10 OCTOBER 2017



Present

Jackie Isden (chair), Chris Gray, Sue Gyles
District councillor: Nick Wright
Parish clerk: Gill Parrish
Members of the public: 5

PARISH COUNCIL OPEN FORUM

Opened at 19.30

Residents expressed concern about the lack of a ladies toilet and the general state of the pavilion, and expressed willingness to help with plans to refurbish or replace the building. See agenda item 17/1148.

Concerns were raised over problems with the contractor cutting the parish fields and the overgrown drain in Daintrees Road. See agenda item 17/1144.

A request was made (and petition received from the youth club) for the provision of outdoor play for older children (over eight year-olds). See item 17/1133.

Closed at 19.50

PARISH COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

Opened at 19.50

16/1137 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE H Webster, J Christie, R Lewis and Cllr M Howell

16/1138 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

None declared.

16/1139 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr *N Wright*, **A14**: Complaints about traffic through the villages when the A14 is closed at night have been made by all the local villages. H Webster is due to meet with the A14 team to discuss the issue. Cllr Wright offered to attend with him. While there are weight restrictions in villages on the south side of the A14 there are none on the north side. Despite several attempts over the years to have these put in place, none has been successful. Cllr Wright recommended forming a Fen Drayton speedwatch group to gather data for a future LHI bid – and offered to volunteer!

Daintrees Road ditch: SCDC is not responsible for the Daintrees Road ditch. See item 17/1144.

17/1149 A14/MOBILE SPEED SIGNS UPDATE

(Item moved forward to be discussed while Cllr Wright was present.) Further to the meeting on 12 September with the A14 team and local parishes (Cottenham, Elsworth, Fen Drayton, Longstanton, Oakington, Over, Swavesey and Willingham) the A14 team has agreed to lend mobile speed signs. These will be made available to each village for two weeks. For the first trial week the sign will be in 'stealth' mode, ie blacked out and not flashing, but it will be collecting data (speed, numbers of vehicles, direction of vehicles, time of day, etc). During the second week it will be flashing (speeds, text, etc). We will then be able to see what difference having

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the sign in place has made. The plan is to put a joint-villages bid in to the A14 Community Fund to purchase four signs (which is the max within the £10K grant), which could then be rotated around the villages. C Gray and S Gyles met with Jill Taylor from Morelock Signs and identified Mill Road as the most suitable location for the trial speed signs.

17/1140 LOCAL CRIME/PCSO

No crimes were reported in Fen Drayton during September.

17/1141 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The September minutes could not signed off, as there was only one councillor present who had attended the meeting. This will be done at the November meeting.

17/1142 ACTIONS/UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(17/1128) Oxholme drain has been cleared by SCDC.

(17/1129) Community projects meeting – see item 17/1145.

(17/1130) Bletsoe's land agents have agreed to take on A14 compensation negotiations (fees will be paid by Highways England).

(17/1132) Update following LHI meeting – see item 17/1147

(17/1134) The new village notice board has been ordered.

17/1143 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Email: A14 problems (see 11749)

Phone call and email: poor state of pavilion (*item 1148*)

Email: tennis court surface (*item 1146*)

Emails: grass cutting and drain clearance (*item 1144*)

17/1144 MAINTENANCE & HANDYMAN

1. Problem with CGM: failure to cut grass in August/September – now resolved. Will continue to monitor.
2. Daintrees Road drain – SCDC not responsible for clearing. PC to deal.
3. Long hedge cutter from Ibbetts – has been shipped and is on its way.
4. Tree survey update: is partially done. Query over the 'wild wood' area at the back of the recreation field. It does belong to the PC – a boundary fence exists (probably overgrown but should be visible when the vegetation dies back over winter).

Handyman and J Isden village walkaround check:

- Overgrown hedges in Hall Court, Vermuyden Way and the vicarage – the clerk has written to the first two and will email PCC about the vicarage.
 - Poor state of pavilion interior and vandalism to the outside (see 17/1148)
 - Oxholme Brook badly overgrown. This has now been cleared by SCDC.
 - Playground grass not cut – clerk has chased CGM and it will be done this week.
 - J Isden to ask Atlas for free wood chippings for paths cut by handyman in the woodland behind the village hall.
 - Pump by lock-up needs coat of preservative: J Isden to consult R Close about this.
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- **ACTION: J Isden to consult with R Close about the pump by lock-up**
 - **ACTION: J Isden to ask Atlas for free wood chippings for paths**
 - **ACTION: Clerk to obtain a quotation for clearing Daintrees Road drain.**

17/1145 COMMUNITY PROJECTS

S Gyles and J Isden met with Sarah Bateup to discuss getting the community cafe project off the ground. It will be launched on Saturday 9 December in the village hall. Cllr Wright recommended a visit to the highly successful community shop in Elsworth.

17/1146 TENNIS COURT: RESURFACING & TREE PROBLEM

Tree roots underneath the surface of the tennis courts are causing a problem and other nearby trees are causing moss growth. J Isden suggested a meeting with the tennis club and Atlas to discuss what needs to be done.

That the parish council obtains a quotation for tree work to prevent future damage to the tennis court surface was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed (CG/SG)

- **ACTION: J Isden to arrange meeting with the tennis club and Atlas**

17/1147 LHI INITIATIVE 2018

Having considered the CC guidelines regarding traffic calming along Mill Road and HGV weight restrictions for Horse and Gate Street, the PC has concluded that there is no point in resubmitting its proposals this year, due to lack of empirical data, but will do so in 2018 by which time relevant data will have been collected.

17/1133 OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT

(Item moved from the September meeting due to lack of time.)

Quotation/specifications from Caloo (distributed to all on 10 August) for outdoor table tennis and a multi goal system were approved by all present and matched the wishes of the youth club. Total cost will be around £15,000. An application for a grant from the A14 fund (max £10K) will be submitted, and match funded by S106 monies (exact figures to be agreed later).

Application for a grant and the use of S106 funds for the provision of outdoor play equipment was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed (CG/SG)

- **ACTION: J Isden and the clerk to compile the grant application**

17/1148 PAVILION – REPAIR/REFURB

Two issues need to be resolved ASAP: the refurbishment of the ladies toilet (currently unusable as being used for storage) and a wiring safety check.

Obtaining quotations for repairing the ladies toilet and checking the wiring was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed (SG/CG)

Longer term, it was decided that a working committee comprising members of the parish council, Lions football team and other volunteers, would be formed to decide what to do with the pavilion. Ballpark costs for repair and replacement have already been obtained. J Isden will email Martin Leach and Tracey Colton-Weir to set up a meeting.

- **ACTION: J Isden to coordinate the meeting (clerk to supply email contacts)**

17/1150 PLANNING

New applications:

S/3231/17/LB 3 High Street, addition of 2 roof lights in attic on second floor.

Approved/no objections by PC:

S/0811/17/FL (retrospective) 6 Cootes Lane, side extension.

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S/3068/17/FL 2 new dwellings, 42 Middleton Way.

S/3231/17/LB 3 High Street, addition of two roof lights in attic (provided the neighbour does not object to being overlooked).

Information only: none.

Refused: none.

SCDC decision notices:

S/1317/16/FL The Old Post Office, High Street - change existing render to insulated render – ACCEPTED.

17/1151 FINANCES

Precept B has been paid by BACS.

Town Lands Michaelmas rent has been paid into the Town Lands account.

SEPTEMBER RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

<i>Business account</i>	<i>Chq no</i>	<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Payments</i>	<i>VAT</i>
Donation St Mary's PCC			20.00	
Village notice board			1008.00	Y
SCDC PRECEPT 17/18 B		10,000.00		
CGM			84.00	Y
Atlas (dead elm Cootes Lane)			360.00	Y
Cambridgeshire ACRE			41.40	Y
Village hall (sign/room hire)			46.25	
Clerk September salary			464.21	
HMRC			220.60	
Handyman September			426.00	

- Business account balance £21350.61
- S106 account balance = £10620.88
- Town Lands account balance = £12073.13
- Cambridge B/S = £7,600.00

That the September receipts and payments are correct was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved. (SG/CG)

Meeting closed at **20.59**. Next meeting **14 November, 19.30 in the village hall**.