

FEN DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

11 SEPTEMBER 2017



Present

Harry Webster (chair), Judith Christie, Sue Gyles, Richard Lewis
County councillor: Mandy Smith
District councillor: Mark Howell
Parish clerk: Gill Parrish
Members of the public: 2

PARISH COUNCIL OPEN FORUM

Opened at 19.30

A resident put forward ideas for a community shop that were welcomed by the council members – see agenda item 17/1129.

A resident expressed concern about excessive/HGV traffic through the village during overnight road closures due to the A14 upgrade – see item 17/1130.

Closed at 20.03

PARISH COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

Opened at 20.03

16/1121 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE C Gray, J Isden, I Whitby, Cllr N Wright

16/1122 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

17/1127 H Webster as member of tennis club.

16/1123 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Mandy Smith, county councillor **A14 upgrade:** Fen Drayton suffered from extreme traffic/HGV congestion during the first overnight road closure on the A14 (30 August). Reacting to a huge number of complaints, Highways put measures in place to ensure traffic kept to the designated diversion route, which worked as the traffic through the village was much lighter. Cllr Smith will meet with Highways to discuss imposing a weight limit through Fen Drayton. It was noted by council members that the impact of traffic through the village was raised in the A14 Statement of Common Ground, and Highways gave reassurance, on several occasions, that there would be no increase of traffic through the village. This has clearly failed, and the parish council unanimously requested that Cllr Smith mention this when she meets with Highways.

Bus services through the village: At the moment temporary routes (replacing the Whippet service) funded by the council are in place. Cllr Smith encouraged the completion of a questionnaire to ensure the needs of villagers are met in the long term.

Mark Howell, district councillor **Recycling:** a report to be presented at the next SCDC cabinet meeting on 14 September will recommend a system of putting 'clean' paper directly into their blue wheelie bins, eliminating the need for paper caddies. The council is currently looking to purchase a new fleet of recycling collection trucks. The new system would mean fewer vehicles to collect all dry recycling, so vehicles would cover around 26,000 fewer miles per year than at present with the separate paper caddy arrangement. The new system should save taxpayers around £670,000 over the next seven years, mainly due to fewer collection trucks being required. Lower fuel costs and reduced CO2 emissions would also be achieved.

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17/1124 LOCAL CRIME/PCSO

No crime reported in Fen Drayton in July/August.

17/1125 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

That the chair sign the July minutes as a correct record, with no amendments, was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved. (JC/RL)

17/1126 ACTIONS/UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

George Wilderspin memorial bench is now in place in the village hall field.

Atlas survey of dead trees – see 17/1128.

Coppiced trees in park are owned by the parish council. It is not known who pruned them.

Quotation from Caloo see item 17/1133

New notice board – see item 17/1134

17/1127 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Email re tennis court resurfacing – see 17/1136.

Email Swavesey Spartans re use of pitch 2017-18 – see 17/1136.

Emails: residents concerning through the village when A14 closed – see 17/1130.

Emails: residents re about lack of grass cutting – see 17/1128.

Email: resident re overgrown drain along Daintrees Road. This is usually cut by highways. The chair will speak to Cllr Nick Wright about it.

17/1128 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE/ & TREE SAFETY

Tree surveys – the PC has a duty of care to survey trees on its land every year. J Christie will liaise with J Isden and S Gyles to organise a team to carry out a survey as soon as possible.

Problem with grass cutting contractor – who failed to cut grass in August. This was due to staff shortages. New personnel are now in place so all issues should be resolved this week.

Daintrees Road drain overgrown: usually cut by highways. The chair will speak to Cllr Wright.

Picnic tables: one of the new picnic tables in the village hall field has been damaged by somebody placing a portable barbecue on it.

The handyman is still waiting for long hedge cutter from Ibbetts (a previous batch of stock was faulty – hence the delay in supplying the item).

Dead elm tree on Cootes Lane is due to be felled on 14 September.

- **ACTION: J Christie to coordinate a tree survey team.**
- **ACTION: H Webster to speak to Cllr Wright about the Daintrees Road drain.**

17/1129 COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The council members were in favour of the community shop idea and discussed incorporating it with the community café. S Gyles will coordinate a meeting with Sarah Bateup and a few council members to take the idea forward.

- **ACTION: S Gyles to organise a meeting re community café/shop**

17/1130 A14 UPGRADE: TRAFFIC THROUGH THE VILLAGE

Complaints about traffic through the village: a resident is looking at obtaining a grant from the A14 community fund to pay for traffic calming/HGV restrictions.

Cllr Smith is to meet with Highways to discuss putting an HGV weight restriction in place to ease the situation in Horse and Gate Street. The PC would consider funding the cost of this if it fails. Three council members will attend a mobile speed sign presentation in Cottenham tomorrow. The compulsory purchase of a strip of the Town Lands field is imminent. The chair spoke to Highways to ensure that access to the field will still be maintained and was assured it would be. The chair advised the PC could use a land agent to negotiate compensation (fees will be refunded). The parish council has used Bletsoe's previously, so will contact them again. *That a land agent be employed to advise over the compulsory purchase of the Town Lands strip was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved. (RL/SG)*

- **ACTION: J Christie to contact Bletsoe's land agents**

17/1131 COOTES COURT WALL

H Webster and J Christie met with the Cootes Court management committee to discuss the wall between Cootes Court and Hall Court. Plans show that the wall belongs to Cootes Court. The handyman will continue to cut back ivy growing on the Hall Court side of the wall.

17/1132 LHI INITIATIVE 2018

H Webster, S Gyles and C Gray will put together a submission for a 2107-18 LHI grant. The deadline is 15 October.

- **ACTION: H Webster, S Gyles and C Grey to put together LHI application**

17/1133 OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT

Item moved to October meeting due to lack of time and absence of two councillors who are leading the project.

- **ACTION: Clerk to move item to October agenda**

17/1134 NEW VILLAGE NOTICE BOARD

A new board (dark green aluminium with double glass front) will be purchased and sited at the top of Cootes Lane. The purchase cost is £1,500 (the parish council has secured a Community Chest grant for £1,000 towards the cost).

That a notice board be purchased for £1,500, was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved. (RL/SG)

- **ACTION: Clerk to order the new notice board**

17/1135 PLANNING

New applications:

S/2451/17/FL New dwelling and garage, 8 Mill Road

S/2452/17/FL New build dwelling (plot 2), r/o 49 Middleton Way

S/2454/17/FL New build dwelling (plot 1), r/o 49 Middleton Way

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

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

Approved/no objections by PC:

S/2451/17/FL New dwelling and garage, 8 Mill Road

S/2452/17/FL New build dwelling (plot 2), r/o 49 Middleton Way

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S/2454/17/FL New build dwelling (plot 1), r/o 49 Middleton Way

Information only:

S/2846/17/DC approval of details (conditions 9, 11 & 12) for S/0076/17/FL

Refused: none

SCDC decision notices:

S/0408/17/FL r/o 27 Cootes Lane, demolition of three agricultural buildings and erection of two detached three-bedroom dwellings and accesses. APPROVED.

S/2655/17/NM - Land at 28, Cootes Lane, change of cladding material. APPROVED

17/1136 FINANCES

That the Swavesey Spartans continue to use the recreation ground for the 2107-18 season as per the existing agreement (£250) was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed (RL/SG)

Four CGM invoices for grass cutting April-July, were raised in August (after much chasing by the clerk).

JULY/AUGUST RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

<i>Business account</i>	<i>Chq no</i>	<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Payments</i>	<i>VAT</i>
Community Chest notice board		1,000.00		
HMRC			198.20	
AA Taylor pavilion shower			253.00	
Clerk July salary			249.49	
Royal Mail			258.00	Y
Handyman - July			426.00	
Handyman - brush cutter			165.58	
eon			19.57	Y
HMRC VAT reclaim		1,622.10		
A A Taylor bench base			120.00	
CGM 208076 April			391.20	Y
CGM 208106 May			391.20	Y
CGM 208017 June			391.20	Y
CGM 208108 July			391.20	Y
Clerk August salary			169.29	
Handyman August			530.00	

- Business account balance £13921.07.
- S106 account balance = £10620.88
- Town Lands account balance = £10964.13
- Cambridge B/S = £7,600.00

That the July/August receipts and payments are correct was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved. (JC/RL)

Meeting closed at 21.40. Next meeting 10 October, 19.30 in the village hall.

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