

## Present

Harry Webster (chair), David Cross, Verity Hartop, Richard Lewis, Ian Whitby  
District Councillor: Mark Howell  
Parish Clerk: Gill Parrish

Members of the public: 7

## PARISH COUNCIL OPEN FORUM

*Opened at 19.30.*

Residents of 37 and 37 Cootes Lane are concerned about trees in Vermuyden Way, which are overshadowing their gardens. This is currently in hand with the parish council.  
David Rudderham, Swavesey Spartans secretary, outlined plans for use of the village recreation ground for junior teams, currently being trialled. 30 children from Fen Drayton are members of the Spartans.

*Open forum closed at 20.00.*

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

*Opened at 19.50.*

### 781. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from J Isden, J Christie, M Smith, N Wright, and T Baugh.

### 782. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

None declared

### 783. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

**County councillor Mandy Smith (by email)** the county council will be putting up its part of the council tax by 1.99 per cent this year.

**District councillor Mark Howell** South Cambs' revenue support grant is being cut drastically over the next two years. To offset this, the council has set up a housing company that will put all its profit into the council tax pot, so the council is not dependent on government funds. It has invested seven million pounds in property, which it is letting out to the private sector at the market rate.

South Cambs is putting up its part of the council tax by 2 per cent. The Band D equivalent charge will be £125.31.

Cllr Howell enquired whether councillors had received any complaints about the revised bin collections. None has been received.

### 784. LOCAL CRIME/PCSO

*By email.* Nothing to report in Fen Drayton

## 786. ACTIONS/UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

768. HGV ban enquiry: Sharon Piper responded. For a weight restriction to be introduced, the Parish Council would need to undertake speed and volume checks and complete the exposure index to determine Fen Drayton's sensitivity to HCV intrusion. H Webster to follow up.

768. Boundary regrouping update – still waiting for update. (H Webster)

773. Flyers advertising for new councillor/s have been printed and delivered. (Clerk)

778. Precept application has been received by SCDC. (Clerk)

779. S106 does it still apply to single self-build developments? Clerk emailed Stephen Reid at SCDC but has had no reply. Clerk will chase.

704. Local Highways Project rejected 40 mph speed limit along Mill Road. Clerk emailed asking why. Had response saying due to high volume of queries replies will take some time.

- **ACTIONS:**
- **H Webster to speak to Sharon Piper about the HGV ban process.**
- **Clerk to chase Stephen Reid re S106 enquiry.**

## 787. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

1) Email from parishioner via website about debris blocking the sluice. This is in hand with SCDC engineers, who are currently reinforcing the sides of the drain where wash from the sluice has been eroding the soil.

2) Email notification of SCDC Cabinet liaison meeting on 11 March.

3) A14 notices from Highways Agency. See 791.

4) Letter advising £1000 Community Chest grant for refurbishing pavilion showers. See 792.

5) Email from parishioner about replacing trees in Cootes Lane playing field. See 790.

6) Email from parishioner about Vermuyden Way trees. See 790.

## 788. 2015 10K AND FUN RUN

Item moved to March agenda.

- **ACTION: clerk to ask the run committee if a representative will attend the next meeting.**

## 789. RECREATION GROUND – THIRD PARTY USE

The recreation ground and pavilion are used by the Fen Drayton Lions free of charge. The Lions however, reciprocate by cleaning the pavilion and carrying out emergency repairs and ad-hoc maintenance. The Lions also provide a free Christmas lunch every year for the over-65s, which is a highly popular and successful event. It was agreed that Swavesey Spartans should pay a fee for using the pitch to offset running costs (such as grass cutting, electricity and water). Extended use of the pitch, especially by boys and girls teams, was welcomed. Car parking will be monitored to ensure it doesn't impact on residents in High Street and Daintrees Road. R Lewis, seconded by I Whitby, proposed a fee of £200 per full season and £150 for this year based on usage indicated by David Rudderham in the open forum. All in favour.

- **ACTION: H Webster to draft a letter to David Rudderham and circulate for approval.**

## 790. VILLAGE LANDSCAPING PROJECTS

HALL COURT: a bench has been ordered by the clerk for delivery on 19 February. H Webster to liaise with the handyman about fixing it in position next week. Tree purchasing is still in progress.

- **ACTION: H Webster to liaise with the handyman about installing the bench.**

VERMUYDEN WAY TREES: Land Registry records show the land belongs to the parish council. Quotations for removal of all and some of the trees have been received and are being considered. The clerk will ask the tree officer if there are any constraints on removing the trees. D Cross spoke to the residents in Vermuyden Way who overlook the trees two years ago, but they should be consulted again. H Webster will speak to J Isden and J Christie to see if they have dealt with this recently. D Cross volunteered to canvas the households concerned again if required. D Cross will also compose a letter to Wilcon (the builders who planted the trees in 1987) to request a financial donation towards their removal.

- **ACTIONS:**
- **D Cross to compose letter to Wilcon.**
- **H Webster to ascertain whether local residents have been, or need to be, consulted.**
- **Clerk to contact the tree officer and to circulate quotations to all members.**

COOTES LANE PLAYING FIELD: a parishioner has kindly offered to purchase and plant four black mulberry trees to replace the diseased lime trees that run parallel to his hedge in the playing field. I Whitby, seconded by V Hartop, proposed to accept the offer. All in favour.

- **ACTION: Clerk to accept with thanks on behalf of the chair and council members.**

## 791. A14 CAMBRIDGE-HUNTINGDON UPGRADE

An application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) has been made by the Highways Agency to the secretary of state. Any representations (giving notice of any interest in, or objection to, the application) must be registered by 12 March. An event to update/involve councils along the A14 development corridor is being held at the Menzies Cambridge Hotel on 4 March. H Webster or J Christie will attend along with one other, to be decided.

## 792. PAVILION REVOVATIONS

A Community Chest grant of £1000 has been awarded for refurbishing the showers. H Webster to speak to AA Taylor to see if his original quotation still stands. Clerk to obtain two other quotations. H Webster suggested a committee be formed to deal with more extensive upgrading of the pavilion and to investigate available grant monies, especially in view of increased usage by youth teams from outside the village. H Webster to investigate potential leaders for the project.

- **ACTIONS:**
- **H Webster to confirm AA Taylor's quotation for the showers work still stands.**
- **H Webster to investigate potential committee leader for project.**
- **Clerk to obtain two more quotations for the showers refurbishment.**

## 793. PLANNING

### New applications:

S/2985/14/NM Stubbins – new loading ramp and safety rails. *(For information only).*

### Approved/no objections:

S/1416/14/FL 5 Mill Road – new private build single dwelling.

S/2893/14/FL Oak Cottage, High Street – bridge and vehicular access to highway.

# FEN DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

18 FEBRUARY 2015



**Refused:** none

## **SCDC approved decision notices:**

14/1/2015: S/2710/14/FL 42 Middleton Way – front porch and WC.

20/1/2015: S/2463/14/FL 52 Springhill Road – new build four-bedroom single dwelling.

21/1/2015: S/2826/14/FL 26 Springhill Road – detached timber double garage and log store.

## **794. FINANCE**

| <b>January expenditure</b>                 | <b>VAT</b> | <b>Chq no</b> | <b>Received</b> | <b>Paid</b> |
|--|------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Cambridge Water                            |            | <b>1252</b>   |                 | 18.35       |
| Cambridgeshire ACRE (Oct - Dec)            | Y          | <b>1253</b>   |                 | 20.52       |
| Handyman December                          |            | <b>1254</b>   |                 | 208.00      |
| Clerk December                             |            | <b>1255</b>   |                 | 209.22      |
| HMRC                                       |            | <b>1256</b>   |                 | 160.40      |
| Interest CBS                               |            |               | 76.00           |             |
| Transfer from S106 for Hall Ct landscaping |            |               | 2,454.25        |             |
| E-on                                       | Y          | <b>1257</b>   |                 | 32.38       |
| Handyman (January)                         |            | <b>1258</b>   |                 | 260.00      |
| Clerk salary (January)                     |            | <b>1259</b>   |                 | 256.44      |

I Whitby, seconded by R Lewis, proposed the expenditure as correct. All in favour.

*Meeting closed at 21.50*

**Next meeting: 11 March 2015 at 19.30 in the village hall.**