

FEN DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

17 JULY 2023



Present

Jackie Isden (chair), Roger Davies, Paul Goodwin, Chris Gray, Sue Gyles

District councillor: Sue Ellington

Parish clerk: Gill Parrish

Members of public: 1

PARISH COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

23/092 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

M Smith, J Weeden, P Kiss

23/093 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

23/094 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED The April, May and June minutes were approved by council members and signed by the chair of the meetings,

23/095 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

Opened at 19.34 and closed at 20.00.

A resident about the number of bike thefts and damage at the Fen Drayton Lakes guided bus stop. Cllr Ellington has reported the issue to the South Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership. The PC has proposed safe bike storage as part of the Greenways project, but this is a longer-term solution. In the short term tracking devices, CCTV, extra police presence and making sure all thefts are reported to the police and the parish council were discussed. J Isden to make enquiries about the surveillance cameras used to prevent cable thefts in the area.

23/096 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ANY CRIME ISSUES

23/080/1 County councillor, Mandy Smith's report (sent by email):

Potential grant funding scheme: Cllr Smith emailed a link to Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund. The clerk will send out details to council members.

Highways: a new Highways officer in our area is working alongside James Broder. Cllr Smith will set up a meeting with him to discuss outstanding Highways issues. J Isden will ask her to chase up repairs to the bridge over Oxholme drain near the mini roundabout.

23/080/2 District councillor, Sue Ellington's report:

Community warden schemes: SCDC has received a pot of money for community warden schemes but it is only to promote new schemes, not to support existing ones. Cllr Ellington raised the matter at the last Grants Committee meeting, emphasising that existing schemes must be supported too and any promotions should be county, rather than parish, based. Cllr Ellington is hopeful that extra funding will be forthcoming.

Bourn Airfield: development has been halted by the Environment Agency due to lack of water provision. Cllr Ellington expects that the same issue will affect the Marshalls Airport development, which has not yet been granted planning permission.

SCDC four-day week trial: The Liberal Democrat-run council has been trialling a four-day week since January. In practice, this means that employees complete 100% of their workload in 80% of the time for 100% of their pay. But the local government minister, Lee Rowley, wrote to the council leader, Bridget Smith, asking her to end her experiment immediately, saying he had

concerns about “value for money” for local taxpayers. Bridget Smith has asked for a face-to-face meeting with the minister. In the meantime, both the planning and benefits departments are falling behind with their workload.

Civil parking enforcement: The county council is proposing to take over on-street parking enforcement in South Cambridgeshire from the police and has applied to the government to introduce the scheme. Subject to the approval of the application, civil parking enforcement could begin in South Cambridgeshire in the autumn of 2024.

23/080/3 *Crime reports:* as per the public forum (item 23/095 above), bike theft and damage is still rife at the guided bus stop.

23/097 UPDATES/ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS (or see agenda item).

(19/133) Greenways project: no further updates.

(22/123) Street lighting energy: the parish council has signed contracts with ESPO for September 2023 to September 2024.

(23/011) Northstowe LHI traffic calming: no further update. The clerk will chase. **ACTION**

(23/013) Village magazine: the PC has contributed its share (£1k) of the start-up costs. The first issue is due out in September. The clerk will ask for the copy deadline date. **ACTION**

(23/042) Village hall car park – see 23/100

(23/086) New pavilion update/flyer: the council members unanimously approved the final proof for the pavilion flyer. Once the flyer has gone out the PC will contact SCDC planning again. J Isden and C Gray are meeting with the Lions on 18 July.

(23/089) £5k has been transferred from business account to PC reserve fund.

23/098 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

27/6 phone call re bike theft from guided bus stop. See item 23/095.

6/7 Email from a resident re disturbance to wildlife by tree work. The clerk responded to the resident confirming that Atlas always checks trees for nesting birds before starting any work.

23/099 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

099/1 Handyman’s report: Caloo has now replaced the finger guards on the zipwire.

099/2 **RESOLVED** council members unanimously approved S&D Services quotation for trimming the hedge along Holywell Ferry Road by the football field and the village hall hedge.

099/3 J Isden will chase Highways about repairing the damaged brickwork on bridge over Oxholme drain near the mini roundabout.

099/4 Daintrees ditch: the ditch still looks clear but J Isden will ask SCDC’s Lee Hillam to take a look for a second opinion and also ask Atlas to check the trees along Daintrees Road.

23/100 VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

J Isden, R Davies and C Gray met with the chair of the school governors and the head teacher to discuss car park improvements. The school finances are in deficit so the school cannot contribute any funds, so the chair of governors will write to parents regarding fundraising. The cheapest option is to clear the gravel and woodchip piles (by volunteers), position sleepers to mark out parking spaces and purchase boulders from Bannolds to prevent cars parking on the grass. The total cost should be under £1k. Hopefully the school will enlist a work party to help. **RESOLVED** Council members unanimously approved the above course of action.

23/101 NEW FOOTPATH

101/1 Deeds of easement were received on 27 June. Leeds Day should have the documents ready to be signed by the end of the week.

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101/2 The village hall field is not registered with Land Registry – Leeds Day advised it should be registered for future proofing. Leeds Day would charge around £1.5k to process the application, so R Davies will deal on behalf of the PC. **ACTION**

23/102 TOWN LANDS GRANT TO AGEUK

The Town Lands trustees will discuss this in a separate meeting later this evening and report back at the September parish council meeting.

23/103 FINANCE

103/01 R Davies presented the first quarter financial results and year-end estimate. The first quarter income and costs of village services and administration were on budget but the one-off costs of unexpected items, such as tree felling, were over budget. The estimate for the full year is that income and costs will be close to budget assuming no further unexpected costs arise.

103/02 Council members approved changing bank account titles for clarity purposes. The clerk will write to Lloyds Bank with the required changes. **ACTION**

103/03 **RESOLVED** Council members approved June's receipts and payments in Appendix 1.

103/04 Account balances as of 10/7/23

- Business account = £25715.92
- S106 account = £9.75
- Town Lands account = £25,483.62
- Cambridge B/S = £18,600.00

23/104 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None.

23/105 MEETINGS

Next parish council meeting: 18 September 2023.

Meeting closed at 21.30

APPENDIX 1

June receipts and payments

<i>Business account</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Payments</i>	<i>VAT</i>
Fenstanton PC	Magazine set-up cost		1,000.00	
G Parrish	June salary		654.43	
HMRC	Employer liability		372.28	
Red Shoes	Payroll services		46.80	Y
R H Landscapes	Grass cutting		533.60	Y
C Burns	June handyman		693.00	Y
eon	Pavilion electricity		28.89	Y
Arthur Ibbett	New strimmer parts		222.24	Y
Arthur Ibbett	Spare strimmer part		24.31	Y

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