

# Girton Parish Council

Helen Bracey  
Clerk to the Parish Council  
telephone: (01223) 472181  
email: clerk@girton-cambs.org.uk

The Pavilion  
Girton Recreation Ground  
Cambridge Road, Girton  
Cambridge CB3 0FH

## Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16 January 2008 at St Vincent's Close Community Centre, 7.30pm

**Present:** D de Lacey (Chair), E Bullman, V Godby, R Gordon, R Hiley, R Hodgkinson, R Martin, L Sparling, C Starling, P Starling, M Taylor, M Wilson **Action/Power**

Mr B Parnwell was present throughout and Revd S Holland from item 03.6.

### 08/01 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Barrett, Ford-Smith and Councillor John Reynolds.

### 08/02 Members' declarations of interests

None given.

### 08/03 Open Session for Public

Cllr de Lacey prop to suspend Standing Orders, sec Cllr Gordon, carried unanimously.

- 1. Members of the Public.** B Parnwell made enquiries as to when the new cotton bags would be delivered around the village. Cllr de Lacey said that many had already been delivered and those households who had not yet received one should do so shortly. Cllr Godby congratulated Cllr de Lacey for his work with Sustainable Girton in setting up the Bag Free Girton campaign.
- 3. Police report.** Cllr de Lacey read out a report received from PCSO Mahoney as follows: Over the past 2 months (15-11-07 to 15-01-08) there have been 63 calls for service in Girton, including a drive off from the BP petrol station and a shoplifting incident at the Co-op. 4 reports of criminal damage where the telephone box was damaged on Girton Rd, some fencing damaged in Thornton Way and a broken window at St Margarets Rd and Church Lane. No reports of anti-social behaviour. PC Mahoney continues to patrol on foot and in vehicles at numerous times of the day and evening. Please be aware there has been an increase in dwelling burglaries at Cottenham, Fulbourn and Great Abington, mainly targeted at the elderly.
- 4. District Councillors' reports.** Nothing to report.
- 5. County Councillor's report.** Cllr Reynolds had not supplied a report.
- 6. Girton Town Charity.** Cllr Hiley reported that the proposed sale of the 2 acres of land at Wellbrook Way has fallen through. The Charity are looking for further prospective buyers.
- 7. Youth Works.** S Holland reported that Youth Works had been unable to secure more supervisors as yet but were hoping for a response to an advert in the GPN next month.
- 8. Footpaths and Rights of Way.** Cllr Starling reported that the new footpath linking Girton and Histon is now in use but that there was a problem with the gate at Manor Farm.

### 08/04 Standing Orders reinstated

Prop Cllr de Lacey, sec Cllr Martin, unanimous.

### 08/05 Unconfirmed Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 19 December 2007

The minutes were approved.

### 08/06 Unconfirmed Minutes of the Budget, Finance and Environment Committees be received

Minutes received.

### 08/07 Matters arising from the minutes

The Clerk has taken action on all the items arising from the minutes (marked HB).

**08/08 To approve the present level of fidelity insurance.**

The Auditors had asked for a review but the insurance company questions if it needs to be as high as £60,000. The Chairman circulated a Risk Assessment and noted that in view of the very small sums of cash that are handled and the procedures in place for the issuing of cheques he believes the present sum of £60,000 is sufficient. Cllr de Lacey prop that the level of fidelity guarantee remains at £60,000, sec Cllr Godby, unanimous.

**08/09 To accept the resignation of Mr Michael Woodisse from 31 January. That the Council appoint Mr Bryan Pycock as a Parish Council Trustee to Girton Town Charity**

Cllr Hiley said that the Town Charity were content that Mr Pycock was a suitable candidate. Prop Cllr de Lacey, sec Cllr Wilson, 10 in favour, 2 abstentions. Cllr Starling asked the Clerk to write to Mr Woodisse thanking him for his work on the Town Charity.

HB

**08/10 That the Council approve the felling of diseased horse chestnuts in the Recreation Ground and the proposed re-planting scheme (to be tabled)**

Cllr de Lacey explained that 8 horse-chestnut trees adjacent to the Churchyard were suffering from Phytopthera (Bleeding Canker) and that some of the trees would need to be felled. He read out the following quotations from tree surgery companies:  
Eastern Landscapes £3200 (to fell all trees)  
Richardson Tree Surgery £1150 (to fell all trees)  
Cambridge Tree Surgery Company £1120 (to fell all trees)  
Acacia Surgery Ltd £776 (to fell 3 trees and manage the rest)  
The Chairman of the Environment Committee had recommended Acacia. Prop Cllr de Lacey, sec Cllr Hodgkinson, unanimous. Cllr de Lacey said there would be a programme of replanting in the Autumn. Cllr Hiley recommended planting at least 2 species with a differing length of maturity. Cllr Wilson said it was important to let the public know that some trees are to be felled.

HB/statutory

**08/11 To consider quotations for fencing on the Multi-Goal Area as follows:**

Turfcare £1460 (no vat involved)  
L J Parker £1500 + vat  
Town and Country £1942 + vat  
Cllr de Lacey explained that the fence was necessary to stop basket balls being accidentally thrown over the fence in to the tennis courts and MUGA.  
Cllr Wilson prop accepting the quote from Turfcare, sec Cllr Hodgkinson, 11 in favour, 1 abstention. Cllr Wilson said he would complete a risk assessment.

LM/statutory

**08/12 To consider quotations (to be tabled) for a three-panel noticeboard for the entrance to the Recreation Ground and to approve its purchase**

Cllr de Lacey read out the quotations as follows:  
Greenbarnes £2094.78 + vat  
MLS £2082 + vat  
Fitzpatrick Woolmer £1841.52 + vat (smaller size)  
The Environment Committee chairman had recommend Greenbarnes. Prop Cllr de Lacey, sec Cllr Bullman, unanimous.

HB/statutory

**08/13 To appoint further members to the Sport and Recreation Committee**

Cllr de Lacey reported that this Committee had twice found itself unable to be quorate. To rectify this he prop that Cllrs Starling and Sparling join the committee, sec Cllr Wilson, 10 in favour 2 abstentions.

**08/14 That reports from Parish Councillors be received**

1. Cllr Godby reported that the Care Network would be happy to attend future Parish Plan meetings.
2. Cllr Starling reported water leaking from a manhole in Woodlands Park and agreed to provide fuller details. He noted that EDF Energy had still not mended the sunken manhole cover and that there was still a problem with lorries driving over the verge at the bottom of Woodlands Park.

CS

HB

3. Cllr Hiley reported a hole in the MUGA fencing.
4. Cllr Taylor reported a complaint about the unreliability of the Citi 6 bus service. HB
5. Cllr de Lacey reported that the Northstowe planning application was in the office and asked Councillors to read as much of it as possible, in particular the papers on drainage and flooding and on traffic and construction traffic. It is important to look at what we might claim in S106 monies. He would send the website link to everyone but there are also CDs available to view. Cllrs Godby, Gordon, P Starling, C Starling and Martin requested a CD. DdL/HB

#### **08/15 Correspondence**

1. ACRE – Renewal of membership. Cllr Hiley requested this should be an Agenda item in March. March Agenda
2. Andrew Lansley – A14 Ellington to Fen Ditton improvements
3. CCC – Tackling Congestion in Cambs – evening briefing
4. COPE – ‘Against congestion charges’ letter plus newsletter
5. Woodland Trust – Contractors News 2007
6. Cambridgeshire Constabulary – Substation Watch/Neighbourhood Watch
7. CPALC – Details of AGM on 2 February
8. Stagecoach – Response to letter re poor Citi 6 service
9. CCC – Street Lighting Maintenance 2006/07 and 2007/08. It was agreed a vat invoice was required before payment would be made.
10. Andrew Martin Associates – SCDC Site Specific Policies DPD Public Examination; Representations on behalf of Countryside Properties PLC in relation to the proposed expansion of Cambourne to the East
11. National Probation Service – Annual Report 2006/07
12. Campaign to Protect Rural England – A Planning Applications workshop

#### **08/16 That payments for the period 13 December to 9 January 2008 be approved**

Payments	16 Jan 2008	Combined PC/Rec payments			
Cq no.	Paid To	Description	Gross	VAT	net
1939	Tricia Laura Designs	Balance for hall curtains	396.00		396.00
1940	C M R Wilson	Work on Recreation Ground + expenses	271.00		271.00
1941	Helen Bracey	Clerks wages (month 9)	635.54		635.54
1942	Inland Revenue	Tax and NI month 9	276.03		276.03
1943	Linda Miller	Bookings Administrator wages (month 9) + expenses	499.07		499.07
1944	Norman Lewell	Security/Maintenance Officer fees	336.00		336.00
1945	The Cambridge Flooring Co	To replace flooring in ladies toilets	263.20	39.20	224.00
1946	Cannon Hygiene	Sanitary disposal	113.05	16.84	96.21
1947	Peter T Round	Grounds maintenance Dec 07	529.49	78.86	450.63
1948	Cotton Hall Foundation	Hire of meeting room	7.50		7.50
1949	Algar Signcraft Services (Cambridge)Ltd	1 aluminium sign for Rec Ground	223.02	33.22	189.80
1950	Orchard Close Sheltered Housing Scheme	Donation for use of community centre for meetings	175.00		175.00
1951	Girton Sheltered Housing Community	Donation for use of community centre for meetings	175.00		175.00
1952	Tamla Sparkes	Litter picker fee	60.00		60.00
			3,959.90	168.12	3,791.78

Payments were approved, Cllr Godby prop, sec Cllr Gordon, 10 in favour, 2 abstentions.

The meeting closed at 2030hrs.