

Girton Parish Council

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The Pavilion
Girton Recreation Ground
Cambridge Road, Girton
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Minutes of the Meeting of Girton Parish Council held on Wednesday 15th January, 2014 at St Vincent's Close Community Centre, Girton, at 7.30 p.m.

Residents in the parish were invited to attend this meeting and to speak at Item 14/04.2

Present: Cllrs: de Lacey (Chairman), Bromwich, Clift, Cockley, Godby, Gordon, Hiley, Noble, Simpson, L Taylor, M Taylor (until end of item 14/07.4), Thorrold, Williams.

Cllr J Reynolds (Cambridgeshire County Council), Cllr T Bygott (South Cambridgeshire District Council) (until end of item 14/04)

H Topel (Cambridge University), S Pain (Cambridge City Council), M Parsons (Cambridge City Council), E Harvey (SCDC).(until end of item 14/04)

PCSO A Mani, PCSO T Baugh (until end of item 14/04.5)

In attendance: S Cumming (Clerk), N Stone (RFO)

14/01 Welcome from the Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially the council's guests from Cambridge University, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridge City Council and Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

14/02 Apologies and reasons for absence Apologies had been received from Cllr Westley and the Chairman accepted his reason for absence.

14/03 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda Cllr M Taylor declared an interest in the NW Cambridge application, as an employee of Cambridge City Council.

14/04 Public Participation session on agenda items & matters of mutual interest:
The following item was brought forward to allow the PCSOs to return to their policing duties:

5. Police Report (*Appendix C*). PCSO Mani stated that there had been two recent crime reports for Girton. A shed had been broken into and a bicycle stolen, and a vehicle broken into and a satnav taken – following the second crime, a male was charged with theft and the satnav retrieved. Following a bicycle having been left outside a resident's house, this was linked to a crime and it has been arranged to have the bicycle taken away.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Mani and PCSO Baugh for attending, and they left the meeting at this point.

1. Representatives from Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge University to speak about the NW Cambridge development's current reserved matters applications.

Mark Parsons of Cambridge City Council spoke about the Reserved Matters planning application for Lot 1, including a 2976 sq m foodstore, retail unit, 117 1-2 bedroom residential units, police office, and energy centre. The primary street will have controlled access to vehicles and will include pedestrian, cycle and disabled access. The foodstore will be single-storey with parking for local centre use underneath the foodstore. Other buildings will be 4-5 storeys high, with the energy centre flue being the highest point at 23m. Parish councillors were asked to consider whether they approve the height of buildings, design, detailed drainage, layout and form, noise, the impact of the energy centre on residential units and how strategic elements of the development as a whole will impact Girton. Councillors' questions included cycle parking and storage provision, the number of car parking spaces and the design of the energy centre. Standards are laid out in the area action plan. The foodstore will have a

maximum of 111 car parking spaces, this number arrived at through policy, with 84 cycle parking spaces in the foodstore area with others on the edges of the local centre. Adequate car parking and cycle parking are dispersed around the site. The energy centre has been drawn up on a workable scheme, with the flue being a certain height to conform with the Clean Air Act.

Sophie Pain spoke about the Reserved Matters planning application for Lot 3, 232 residential units for key workers plus a vehicular lane and residential courts. This is south of the SCDC boundary and will be divided into 7 blocks around the periphery of the site. A flexible-space building could be for community use. Key topics for councillors to consider are whether the site is compliant with outline planning consent, design, strategic drainage, transport and noise. Councillors' questions included the permeability of block paving, timescale of the project, and safety measures for underground car parking. Block paving is part of the wider drainage strategy, with surface water drainage schemes for each Lot part of drainage strategies.

Cambridgeshire Police are being consulted about safety and CCTV may be needed in these locations. Phase 1 lots are to be completed from 2015-2017, with Lot 3 to be completed later.

Sophie Pain then outlined the Reserved Matters application for Lot 7, a Community Centre and Nursery with pedestrianised community square. There will be three community rooms accommodating 30, 80 and 180 people, with an area of external space for each room. The 100-place nursery will have an internal courtyard, with landscaping and vegetation separating it from the community use. Councillors' questions included responsibility for organising the Community Centre, and drop-off at the nursery. It is anticipated that there will be lots of dual drop-off with the primary school, with lots of the children residing on-site, so cycle parking and storage for bike trailers etc is being looked at. Management of the Community Centre is to be a joint venture partnership between Cambridge City Council and Cambridge University, which is in the early stages of collaboration.

2. Members of the Public. There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

3. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*). Answers to any questions arising from the report will be circulated by the Clerk.

4. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*). The answers to any questions arising from reports will be circulated by the Clerk.

The Chairman thanked them all for attending and Cllr Reynolds, Cllr Bygott and the parish council's guests from Cambridge University, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge City Council left the meeting at this point.

14/05 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th December, 2013 The Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Cllr Godby, seconded by Cllr Thorrold, approved with one abstention and signed by the Chairman.

14/06 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

13/141.2 A draft letter regarding street lighting concerns is considered for approval by the Council at this meeting (item 14/07.3)

13/144.5 Application to Amey Cespa will be made for the next round of grants. Noted by the Council.

14/07 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council

1. To fix the 2014-15 precept at 104.04 % of the 2013-2014 precept, namely at £94,865. Since there is no Local Council Tax Support grant this year this is a 1.6% £994 increase overall. On the basis of the figures supplied by South Cambridgeshire District Council, this will equate to an increase of £1.26 per Band D household over this year's budget from £50.79 to £52.05; that is, a 2.5% increase. The balance of proposed expenditure will need to come from general reserves. (*Appendix D*)

Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Gordon. The RFO has worked out a 2.5% increase per household. Approved with one vote against.

2. To approve a letter from the Parish Council to Cambridgeshire County Council

regarding street lighting works undertaken in Girton. (*Appendix E*). Proposed by Cllr Clift, seconded by Cllr Godby. It is hoped that by registering the council's concerns following the completion of works in Girton, similar problems may not arise in other villages. Although the works are finished, there are lights which are not working. The county council's responsibility for cutting back trees, the need for sowing of grass seed in better weather and construction signage having been left on-site, will be added to the letter. With these additions, the motion was approved with one abstention.

3. To agree a response to the Girton Post Office public consultation (see correspondence item 14/09.1) (*Appendix F*). Councillors noted residents' concerns about access for elderly or disabled customers, including the need for a hearing loop and vision-impaired signage, possible slip-hazard of the tiled floor, the need for a hand-rail for access, and car-parking outside the building restricting a throughway. Residents and postal delivery workers have also raised concerns about the reduced opening hours. The Clerk will pass on these concerns as part of the public consultation.

4. To consider the amendments proposed by the developer in the plans for a care home at Wellbrook Way (*Appendix G*). It was noted that no footpath has been put in and no public space in the red line area. During discussion, it was questioned whether Girton is in a position to take on unsustainable needs for medical provision on this site.

Following a straw poll, Cllr de Lacey proposed that the Council has 'no view' on the amendments, seconded by Cllr Simpson. Following a tied vote, Cllr M Taylor proposed that the Council's response be that the Council sees both positives and negatives, seconded by Cllr de Lacey and approved with one vote against.

Cllr M Taylor gave his apologies and left the meeting at this point.

Cllr Hiley proposed to defer the Council's response, seconded by Cllr de Lacey.

5. To respond to a request for Street Trading Consent on Girton Recreation Ground Car Park for the sale of kebabs, chips and burgers (see correspondence item 14/09.4) Since the agenda was published, SCDC have rejected this particular application. Cllr de Lacey proposed that Girton Parish Council reject in principle the sale of food and drink in the Recreation Ground Car Park, seconded by Cllr Gordon. The Council will look at amending the bye-laws to include a clause rejecting the operation of commercial services in the Car Park. Approved unanimously.

14/08 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve payments for the previous month. Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr L Taylor. Following issues with a late invoice from a contractor, Cllr Gordon suggested that suppliers be told that invoices should be received immediately after works, and that this should be written into contracts. Those commissioning the work need to check that this has been done before invoices can be paid, with a copy of the invoice to be given to the Committee Chairman to check before being passed for payment. A cheque was revoked as the works had not been undertaken. Approved with two abstentions.

2. To approve the balance sheet (*Appendix H*). Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by Cllr Thorrold, and approved unanimously.

3. To receive the Finance Report from 1st April, 2013 to date (*Appendix I*)
Received by the Council.

14/09 Correspondence (to be received)

1. 03 Dec 2013: Proposed move for Girton Post Office to the George Inn, Girton
2. 18 Dec 2013: Over Day Centre Association information
3. 23 Dec 2013: Correspondence with Rt Hon Andrew Lansley MP re. paying for A14
4. 02 Jan 2013: Application for Street Trading Consent at Girton Recreation Ground
5. 03 Jan 2014: Information about Shelter's Helpline.
6. 08 Jan 2014: Correspondence regarding proposed Care Home at Wellbrook Way
Received by the Council.

14/10 To receive reports

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix J*). There were no questions arising from the Chairman's report.
2. Girton Town Charity. Outline planning permission for the Community Building

at Wellbrook Way has been granted, and the Council was thanked for help in this. One of the trustees is standing down in the Summer, and the charity will be advertising for a replacement trustee over the next six weeks. Interested parties should contact the GTC Chairman for a job description.

3. Girton Youth Project (*Appendix K*). Cllr Noble has received a request for a graffiti wall in the village from Girton Youth Project. This would need to be put forward as an agenda item by the group, with a suggested location and business plan.

4. Footpaths. No report this month.

5. Water Management. During recent heavy rainfall, Girton brooks rose but did not flood. There has been a complaint regarding ponded water in Oakington Road – gullies needed to be cleaned out, the responsibility of riparian owners. Roadworks in Oakington Road have also damaged drainage and the road profile needs investigating.

6. Bowling Green Committee. Good progress is being made with the paved area and it is hoped to complete landscaping in the next 2-4 weeks. On 11th January, Girton Bowls Club had held their first AGM with a good turnout of 55 people, and the Bowls Club Chairman was very pleased with the meeting. The Chairman thanked Cllrs Gordon and Westley for their continued hard work on the bowls green project.

7. Wellbrook Way Development Committee. Outline planning permission for the Community Hall has now been received. Girton Town Charity trustees request that residents speak to them regarding specialist needs for clubs etc e.g. film club, archery, badminton.

14/11 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes

1. Finance Committee Meeting of 5th December, 2013 (previously circulated)
Received by the Council.

14/12 Matters raised by Members (for information only)

The Council is pleased that the Old Crown is thriving but notes that pedestrians, particularly the elderly and disabled, are being inconvenienced by parking on footways. The Chairman agreed to write to the Old Crown.

Residents have expressed concerns regarding refuse wagons blocking exits to Girton, and SCDC will be consulted about the timing of refuse collection lorries.

It was questioned whether the restaurant at Abbeyfield is being sold-off and if this will offer more public access.

A meeting has been held between the Parish Council and Girton Glebe School to discuss safer routes across the Recreation Ground Car Park. The school's side entrance is classed as the front entrance, with pupils entering from the road by the car park. The Health and Safety Officer is to discuss this matter further with the school.

Three quotations will be sought for the footway and soakaway works, to hasten the plans for the Recreation Ground car park renovation.

The meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.