

Girton Parish Council

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

Minutes of the meeting of Girton Parish Council held via video conference on Tuesday 21st July, 2020, at 7.00 p.m.

For security this meeting was closed to the public but residents were invited to submit written statements on issues of concern to any Councillor or the Clerk for presentation at item 20/70.2

Present: (Cllrs) Williams (Chairman), Buckler, Cockley, Dashwood, de Lacey (until the end of item 20/73.6), Griffin, Hickford, Kettle, Mitchell, Rodger.

Cllr L Harford (Cambs County Council), Cllr T Bygott (South Cambs District Council) (until the end of item 20/73.4)

Revd. Michael Bigg (St Andrew's Church) (until the end of item 20/67), Mrs. A Bonnett (Girton Town Charity) (until the end of 20/), Cllr Stephen Moore (Chairman, Oakington & Westwick Parish Council) (until the end of item 20/70.4)

In attendance: S Cumming (Clerk), L Lawrence (Assistant to Clerk)

20/67 Welcome from the Chairman. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Revd' Bigg of St Andrew's Church, the Chair of Girton Town Charity Trustees, and the Chairman of Oakington & Westwick Parish Council. Revd. Bigg introduced himself as the new Rector. He and his family are moving to the village in August and he'll be starting his duties in September. He looks forward to a good relationship between the Church and the Parish Council. The Chairman thanked Revd. Bigg, who left the meeting at this point.

20/68 Apologies and Reasons for Absence. Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Godby and Thorrold. Cllr de Lacey apologised that he would have to leave the meeting early. The Chairman highlighted the issue that, unlike in face-to-face meetings, video-conferenced meetings don't allow participants to read body language, which may have meant that comments made by some during the last meeting had been misconstrued. He urged all to bear this in mind both when speaking and listening.

20/69 Members' declarations for items on the agenda. None.

20/70 Public Participation session on agenda items and matters of mutual interest:

1. Presentation on the traffic implications for Girton resultant from the development of Northstowe. Cllr Moore spoke about the transport impact of the Northstowe development on nearby villages. Whilst Northstowe will offer cheaper housing for those travelling into the city to work, building works will take over 10 years and there will be major transport implications for Oakington and Girton. By the end of the development it is estimated that there will be a 102% increase in traffic through Girton in the mornings and 114% increase in evening traffic. Traffic on Huntingdon Road and Girton Road/Cambridge Road

will substantially exceed capacity. The Chairman responded that Girton Parish Council had lobbied Highways England in 2015 for retention of access to the A14 at Dry Drayton Road so that Girton would be less likely to become a rat-run. The proposed 20mph limit through the village may act as a deterrent to traffic, plus the introduction of pinch points such as that at Oakington Road Bridge. One of these is proposed to be installed near the A14 bridge to facilitate safe pedestrian crossing at the Co-op. Cllr Moore has worked with Cambs County Council's Local Highways Department who had been unusually careful in their response, and he suggested that Oakington, Cottenham and Girton parish councils work together to address the issue. Oakington consider the emergence of the Southern Access Road East (SARE), onto Dry Drayton road near the business park will encourage traffic to use Oakington and Girton as their route to Cambridge. A preferred alternative is to go back to the proposed junction layout of 2007, where the SARE joins the roundabout at the A1307, and encourages traffic to use this. A representative from Oakington Transport Action Group will contact the Chairman of Girton Parish Council. The Chairman thanked Cllr Moore for his report.

2. Members of the Public. Written representations to be verbally presented by Councillors. The Chair of the Girton Town Charity Trustees reported that pavements near High Street/Woodlands Park junction would be repaired following damage from contractors' lorries. Building works on Suffolk Terrace are progressing well. Regarding the repair to the decorative railings, the sculptor is planning to remove the damaged sections for repair by the end of the month. Some of the footpath will be out of service during this time as one area of the foundations is of concern. It is hoped the railings will be repaired by the end of the year. William Collyn Community Centre is to re-open in early September. Users are to be asked to do risk assessments for use of the centre. Girton Town Charity have been reviewing grants structure. They will add 18 new almshouses to their portfolio over the next two years. Grants to village residents will be reduced for the immediate future. The Chairman thanked Mrs. Bonnett for her report.

3. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*) Cllr Harford stressed the need to maintain discussion about temporary cycle lanes without emphasising division. CamCycle would like 2.1m cycle lanes, which Cllr Harford suggested would address traffic volumes but would not be practical and would cause inconvenience. She has also spoken with Highways Officers and Cycling Officers. Cambs Highways are doing resurfacing works and Cllr Harford has asked for chevrons at the High Street/Cambridge Road bend. To address the adverse camber issue at this spot may be beyond budget but they can hopefully do something. The crossing at Girton Corner has been improved. The Chairman thanked Cllr Harford for further investigation regarding proposed footpaths 4 and 5 improvements and the A14 Legacy Fund. Highways England have constraints on the remaining budget. Cllr de Lacey will speak to David Ousby, former Chairman of Madingley Parish Council for confirmation of his report that this work was to be covered as part of the A14 upgrade infrastructure support. Resurfacing works in the village are to be carried out on 16th-17th August. The poor state of footways on Bandon Road and High Street was highlighted. Cllr Harford is keen for photographs of footways to be taken at the start of developments and for footways to be returned to this state by developers.

4. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*) Cllr Bygott has been working with Anthony Browne MP regarding Girton Interchange, working to the 2015 map showing three extra slip roads. This is supported by Madingley Parish Council and Cllr Bygott would like to speak with Oakington Parish Council. He also hopes Girton Parish Council will endorse this scheme. These changes will provide access to M11 but not help with city centre traffic. As Northstowe won't be up and running until after 2025 some felt it wouldn't be a problem, but others disagree in that access to the M11 is already an issue for traffic through

the village. The road would be the same height as the existing M11 so should not contribute to noise levels.

Cllr de Lacey reported that SCDC has had a meeting including an item on racism. A number of steps are being taken to identify and deal with racism and SCDC will battle racism in all its forms.

Cllr Moore left the meeting at this point.

5. Police Report. There was no report this month.

20/71 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th June, 2020 (previously circulated). The Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Rodger, and approved with two abstentions.

20/72 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

20/73 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council.

1. In light of the Covid-19 crisis, to approve suspension of the six-month non-attendance ruling for Councillors who do not have access to online facilities and are therefore unable to attend the Council's video-conferenced meetings. This would be a change in standing orders. Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Cockley. Cllr Hickford proposed an amendment that the wording be more accommodating to include other reasons for non-attendance and the Chairman agreed. Approved unanimously.

2. To approve a response to the Northstowe Phase 3A planning application (<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/northstowe-phase-3a/>). The item was held over as the closing date for comment appears to have passed. . The Chairman proposed that provided the planners would accept it the Council could send in a comment that we are concerned about increased traffic through the village and voice concerns about the current road layout. He offered to draft a response and this could be approved by email or by an extraordinary meeting of the Council. Seconded by Cllr Hickford, and approved unanimously.

3. To agree support for additional links to Girton Interchange to make a four-way connection (*Appendix C*). Proposed by Cllr Cockley, seconded by Cllr Buckler. Extra links to the A14 and M11 are needed, but there must not be additional raised sections which would add to noise levels. The link from the A1307 to the local road was lobbied for in 2015 and was said at that time to be 'easily achieved'. Approved with one abstention.

4. To reconsider Girton Parish Council's response to new advisory cycle lanes (*Appendix D*) Cllr de Lacey had contacted Cambridge Cycling Campaign, who had not approved of narrow advisory lanes. He proposed that the lanes and central line are not replaced when the road is resurfaced, as central government advice and funding is for segregated lanes. Seconded by Cllr Buckler. Cllr Harford advised that the revised Local Highways Infrastructure application is now planning to replace the cycle lanes with cycle symbols to be marked regularly on the road instead to alert drivers at points of possible conflict. It was queried how, if 1.2m lanes are not deemed adequate, 50cm lanes at Girton Corner haven't been questioned. It was argued that this is because traffic is moving at very slow speed at Girton Corner and there isn't parking on the cycle lane, although this latter statement was queried. Cllr de Lacey withdrew his motion. Cllr Hickford had met with CamCycle who were happy with cycle lanes in Girton being 1.2m but were unhappy that they were painted at 0.9m. The cycle lanes were meant to be experimental for 18 months; people are getting used to it and Cllr Hickford would like to see how it plays out. Cllr de

Lacey wished to reinstate his motion. The Chairman suggested that this item be returned to following discussion of item 20/73.6 regarding the LHI application, which the Council agreed to.

Cllr Bygott left the meeting at this point.

5. To agree next steps for plans for the Pavilion refurbishment. The Chairman reported that we are waiting to hear if successful in our bid for £275k funding from Cambs County Council. There is also £220k in reserve for Pavilion fabric so it would be a small leap to provide the other half of funding needed. The recent Finance Committee meeting had agreed that we would not be justified in applying for a loan with such a high level of reserves in hand. This has been a persistent bone of contention with External Auditors. We need to progress a planning application to start work by October 2020. The Chairman proposed that up to £7.5k be spent to begin the proposed application work, seconded by Cllr Cockley. Cllr Hickford thanked the Chairman for all his work on this project. Unanimously approved.

6. To agree a response to amendments to the Council's LHI grant application, which have been suggested by Cambridgeshire Highways (*Appendix E*). Cambs Highways have made proposed amendments to the Parish Council's LHI application, and the Chairman suggested that the proposals seem very fair with the only contentious matter being the reinstatement or otherwise of the temporary cycle lanes. Cllr Kettle liked the advisory cycle lanes because they remind car-drivers that there is a cycle lane and they will allow for cyclists. Cllr Dashwood would like the central lines to remain. Cllr Harford suggested that the central line is needed at points of extreme hazard. There will be consultation for the village when the whole scheme is decided by the parish council. Cllr de Lacey thought the plans were sensible and queried where the cycle symbols would be. He suggested that if these were placed on the road as if a 2.5m cycle lane existed this might solve problems. Cllr de Lacey said he'd received email correspondence from CamCycle suggesting that Cllr Hickford could not differentiate between 1.2m and 2.1m. Cllr Hickford requested that Cllr de Lacey provide him with sight of this email and it was agreed that this would be done. Cllr Mitchell would like to keep the advisory cycle lanes and consult the village as it would be a shame to stop the conversation, and Cllr Rodger felt the experiment had hardly been given a chance yet.

Cllr de Lacey left the meeting at this point.

Cllr Cockley has used the cycle lane and spoken to lots of people, and she feels safer with the line and has also seen lots of families cycling. The Chairman added that several emails in favour of the lanes had been received by the Council and proposed to accept the recommendation but to retain the cycle lanes and central line markings where needed. . Seconded by Cllr Hickford. Cllr Harford thanked the Council for a good debate and will support whatever Girton Parish Council wants on this issue. She would request a meeting with Highways Officers before plans were finalised. It was noted that extension of the 20mph limit from Manor Farm Road to A14 was part of the proposal plus speed cushions. The item was approved with one abstention.

7. To approve the adoption of land adjacent to Duck End (*Appendix F*). The land doesn't belong to any of the houses. In 2009 there was an attempt regarding the status of Woody Green and Smithy Green to have them designated as village greens but they were deemed unsuitable. Cllr Dashwood suggested that GPC takes legal advice up to £1,000 on taking on this small parcel of land. She has also approached the Warden of Town End Close for a log of activities, as GPC has taken care of this land for a number of years, and if we go ahead and just adopt it we could be challenged. Cllr Hickford queried if this is needed for all GPC land and why we are worried about this particular land. The Chairman queried if SCDC Planning Department could help us. Cllr Harford wondered if there should be tree protection orders on

trees there, which would be an intermediate way to protect the area. The Chairman proposed to ask for TPOs, seconded by Cllr Dashwood. Girton Parish Council will continue to maintain the area.

8. To approve the location of replacement trees in St Margaret's Road. Outside Nos.13-15 is a diseased tree which needs removal, and two trees are offered in recompense. Cllr Griffin will liaise with the Clerk regarding their location, and the Clerk will subsequently notify Cllr Harford and the Local Highways Officer.

20/74 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve the payments schedule for the past month (*Appendix G*). The Clerk will query the inclusion of a rent payment for St John's Field from the end of 2019 in the invoice from St John's College before payment. She will also check that Mr. P. Laston's invoice for works at Wellbrook Way does not include the land transferred to Girton Town Charity. Approved unanimously.

2. To note any significant variance from usual levels of monthly income/expenditure. Although there had been no income, there was lower expenditure on utilities.

3. To approve the end of year accounts for the 2019-20 financial year. Although showing a loss of £20k for the cost of renewing the MUGA, this cost had come out of reserves so there was actually a £40k profit. The accounts were approved unanimously.

20/75 Correspondence (to be received).

Correspondence had been circulated by email. Received by the Council.

20/76 To receive reports

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix H*).

2. Girton Town Charity Report. A verbal report was given earlier in the meeting at item 20/70.2

3. Water Management Report. Regarding the banks giving way at Beck Brook, Cllr Rodger has found that Chivers own the land by the brook

4. Pavilion Re-Opening Report. Cllrs Cockley and Rodger have looked at a risk assessment for staff and how to manage Pavilion and sports pitch use. Recommend that opening before September cannot be considered. For employees' safety, perspex screens, hand gel and an intercom would be needed. A mobile phone for the groundsman on a pay-as-you-go basis is advised. There would be restricted access to the toilets, with gel at the door and wipes inside the building.

20/77 Items which the Council need to discuss at the next meeting.

The draft Annual Return has been produced and the Internal Auditor needs to review this once approved by the Council. An extension to the submission date has been applied for so it should be possible to approve at the August meeting. If this needs to be sooner, then an Extraordinary meeting will need to be called.

Following discussion at the Finance Committee Meeting, it will be proposed that a village projects fund be established and villagers can then be consulted on projects they would like to pursue.

Thanking Councillors for their patience in what had been a long meeting covering a lot of issues the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm

APPENDIX A

Cambridgeshire County Councillor's Report Girton Parish Council - 21 July 2020 meeting

Highways & Transport

Many thanks to those of you who, along with many residents have shared with me your views on the temporary cycle lanes. Cambridge Road is due to be resurfaced shortly and this will provide a very cost effective opportunity to make any necessary adjustments. I have listened very carefully to all the feedback I've received on this subject, both positive and constructively critical and, in turn, have discussed with officers. To everyone, I have maintained a consistent view that it is our behaviour as road users that ultimately determines how safe the roads are. There are always hazards but it is every road user's responsibility to be aware of them and take action to mitigate the risks they present. Many of the concerns raised about the safety of the temporary cycle lanes are based on factors that in reality reflect road users' behaviour and there is good and a few bad in every category of user. Sharing road space benefits everyone whether it be through exercise, less congestion or cleaner air. On the general subject of road safety, members approved the updated Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Road Safety Partnership Strategy at the July meeting of Highways & Transport committee. I am very supportive of its approach and ambition. Entitled 'Vision Zero Partnership Strategy' it builds on the view that the only number of fatalities that is acceptable is zero, and also on the County Council's 'Think Communities' strategy which seeks to empower local communities to be an active partner in local issues. Whilst the previous strategy saw in its early years a notable decline in casualties, the rate of this decline seems to have reached a plateau, indicating that something needs to change. More details at: <https://bit.ly/3gWPRA8>

Resurfacing of Cambridge Road/High Street is now scheduled for August. This will allow for a combination of this planned work to be carried out at the same time as the work to implement the LHI project and any cycle lane adjustments. As well as being cost effective for the Council, it will minimise disruption for residents and has also been able to take into account the improvements to the Girton/Oakington foot/cycle path and some other issues that have been raised by residents. Following informal consultation of the parish council on the overall project, there will also be formal consultation on the 20mph zone.

Meanwhile work will continue on the feasibility of Girton's current year LHI application. There will be some delay in arranging panel meetings to consider this year's applications due to the added challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic but members have been assured that details of adjusted timescales will be advised to parishes in the near future. The improvements to the crossing at Girton Corner are almost completed. The inventive efforts of highways engineers overcame the initial obstacle of funding and a contribution from our Local Highways Officer's [LHO] budget has delivered what looks to be an impressive result. I am hearing that the recent work done by the Dragon Patcher on Washpit Lane meets with the approval of the many local people who use it. Until that visit it was only a mythical beast in Girton, but I am now hoping it will return soon to address some of the issues at Duck End. The footpath at Woody Green is to be added to the schedule for the capital budget. I have asked that this be given high priority and meanwhile some of the more serious defects will be dealt with. I continue to work on the request for safer access to the Oakington Road bridleway and improvement to Footpath 4. It is now apparent that this latter will not qualify for the second tranche of active travel funding but I continue to pursue a view that it should have been covered through A14C2H legacy funding. The observations from my recent inspection

of Bandon Road with our LHO have been endorsed by the capital budget holder. Work will be carried out to address the most serious defects until there is budget for complete resurfacing. Ad hoc development has created a lot of damage in parts and I continue to press the Council to be more robust in forcing developers to return the highway/ footpaths/verges to the condition they were in prior to development.

Education

Schools are being invited to join a safety improvement scheme to boost walking and cycling. This new initiative is aimed at creating a safe space outside the school gates that will help to encourage pupils to engage in active forms of travel. The County Council has written to all schools in the county inviting them to take part in the 'Schools' Streets' scheme. Closure of a road outside the entrance enables it to become a pedestrian/cycle/scoot zone at school opening and closing times. The Council would support such schemes through a temporary traffic regulation order for up to 18 months.

Libraries

The work to transform the library service continues as the Council works to build on innovation developed through the Covid-19 pandemic. As part of a phased approach to re-opening, nine libraries opened on 4 July 2020 offering a new 'Select & Collect' service. This allows for books to be selected in advance and collected at a pre-booked time. To address digital exclusion libraries will begin to offer public access to IT services based on 45 minute pre-booked appointments. In line with government guidance on Covid safety, devices will be cleaned between each user session. Regrettably mobile library services cannot yet commence due to the problem of social distancing in such a confined space. Archives will start to reopen during July on an appointments only basis and with pre-booking of documents to ensure safety and minimise risk. A report considered by members of the Communities & Partnerships committee in July confirmed a massive additional take-up of digital library services since the start of lock down with resources issued more than tripling to 40,000 a month. To support the shielded community a new website called 'Open New Doors' was designed and delivered in partnership with Cambridgeshire Skills, Peterborough City College and a company called Civic with whom the Council has an existing relationship. The website offers a variety of activities, experiences and learning opportunities. An expanded Libraries at Home service has also been delivering books to the doorsteps of the most vulnerable. The experience gained during the pandemic and the tremendous uptake of the on-line offer has encouraged the Library service to develop a business case for a bus-sized vehicle to take technology and assets into more isolated communities, giving them more access to services, support and opportunities that have hitherto only been available in library buildings.

I look forward to seeing you all at your meeting tomorrow.

Take care. Stay safe.

Lynda

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APPENDIX B

i) District Councillor's Report by Cllr Douglas de Lacey

This has been a very quiet month, though with a number of briefings on various developments from the Huawei planning application to the proposed plan for the site currently dominated by Cambridge Water's treatment plant in Milton. Huawei's application had to be assessed in accordance with the law irrespective

of who put in the application, so it was deemed to be entirely acceptable. It will be a great consumer of water but we could not take that into account; however we are looking at ways of addressing water supply issues as the Local Plan progresses.

The Milton site was one issue addressed by Cabinet on 29 June. I noted my concerns last month in commenting on Scrutiny's assessment of the plans: that more attention needs to be given to electric bikes and scooters on the one hand and mobility scooters on the other. I tried to refine this for Cabinet by noting the very great difference between leisure cycling and commuting by bike, and the Leader agreed this needs more thought. When we get to the Local Plan I hope we can put down clear guidelines here.

As I have mentioned before, the Joint Development Control Committee is to be wound up because County has decided to leave. The City and ourselves will form a new Committee, and there was an extraordinary meeting of Civic Affairs to assess the new Terms of Reference. The initial idea was to form a new and slimmed-down 'Greater Cambridge Joint Planning Committee', with a membership of just 3 from each Authority. However, before our meeting both Councils had had a re-think, and it is now to be called the JDCC as before, and have 6 members from each. For us this means 4 LibDems and 2 Tories. I have been very honoured in that the LibDems have actually asked me to take one of their seats, with the possibility if not the likelihood of being re-elected to the chair. It is hugely tempting, but my present domestic situation means I shall have to decline.

The agenda for our next Scrutiny Committee includes a report we commissioned on the effect of homeworking on SCDC staff. The results need more study than I have yet given them, but a superficial reading indicates that in general productivity has if anything increased with staff accommodating the new regime remarkably well; but that there is a trend towards staff taking fewer breaks from their screens during the course of the day. As we move towards re-opening South Cambs Hall it is likely that we shall encourage a significant number of our officers to continue to work from home -- though not those who express a preference for working in Cambourne.

Douglas de Lacey

ii) District Councillor's Report - Cllr Tom Bygott – 21st July 2020

Girton Interchange I have been working with our MP, Anthony Browne, on bringing forward a project to add additional slip roads at the Girton Interchange in order to reduce traffic through the village. The map below is one produced by Highways England in 2015 showing some additional proposed slip roads. This would enable cars from Oakington and the new southern link road from Northstowe to turn south onto the M11, and might reduce the through traffic the village and Eddington to Jn 13 on the M11. I recall it said that traffic noise from raised flyovers could be a concern - all the slip roads would be at ground level, except for a bridge over the A428 at the same level as the M11. Would Girton Parish Council be happy to support the changes outlined in this map? Natural Cambridgeshire Survey Natural Cambridgeshire is running a survey to find out the role of nature in supporting people through lockdown and how people's attitudes to nature and green open space have been affected by lockdown. The survey can be found at: <https://naturalcambridgeshire.org.uk/news/valuing-nature-and-openspace-survey/> A14 Cambridge to

Huntingdon improvement scheme Development Consent Order Application Response to the First Written Questions (Report 5, Design and Engineering Standards) HE/A14/EX/32 Page 22 of 38 June 2015 Figure 1.3: Possible future layout at Girton Interchange to provide additional vehicular movements (future works required indicated in pink) One of the questions in the survey is how easy it is to access the countryside and natural areas from each house. Hopefully most people in the village should find access easy, but I am always happy to hear ideas on how things can be improved. Coronavirus update More than four months have now passed since the UK was put into lockdown on March 23rd. Sadly there have been, up to July 8th, 43 deaths in South Cambridgeshire – a rate of 270 per million inhabitants. Although less than half of the UK average, if South Cambs District were an independent country, it would have the nineteenth highest death rate, at nearly four times the world average. Despite this, the virus is only 8.8% of the way through what would have been its natural progression in the UK had there not been a lockdown. So, it is worth remembering that until there is a vaccine, we are still vulnerable to further waves of infection. Our economic recovery will come from finding technological solutions to resuming operations with fewer staff or customers in a given physical space, rather than waiting for a resumption of the way things used to be. As one of the world's great technology centres, it is local people who should be thinking of what these technologies should be. Swavesey Memorial Garden A Memorial Garden to serve as a tranquil hub for the community to meet and remember its wartime fallen has been created in Swavesey, thanks to the support of the Parish and District Councils and other partners. The £8,500 project has transformed a neglected piece of land next to the Memorial Hall into a public retreat featuring a refurbished BT phone box as a central information hub. Equipped with solarpowered lighting and a leaflet dispenser it houses details of the many clubs, societies and events that take place in the hall and wider community – and will reopen after lockdown. Central to the garden are two specially-designed memorial benches donated by Swavesey Parish Council and the Royal British Legion's Swavesey Branch, one depicting soldiers going over the top and the other doves carrying olive branches as symbols of peace. Both are adorned with striking red poppies and sit next to paving in the shape of the cross of St George. More information can be found at: www.swavesey.org.uk/swavesey-memorial-garden/

Cllr Tom Bygott

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APPENDIX C

Extract from Cllr Bygott's Email to Chairman

The attached map is one produced by Highways England in 2015 showing some additional proposed slip roads. This would enable cars from Oakington and the new southern link road from Northstowe to turn south onto the M11, and might reduce the through traffic the village and Eddington to Jn 13 on the M11. I recall it said that traffic noise from raised flyovers could be a

concern - all the slip roads would be at ground level, except for a bridge over the A428 at the same level as the M11.

Would Girton Parish Council be happy to support the changes outlined in this map?

Highways England's Suggestion of additional slip-roads at Girton Interchange

A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme

Development Consent Order Application
Response to the First Written Questions
(Report 5, Design and Engineering
Standards



Figure 1.3: Possible future layout at Girton Interchange to provide additional vehicular movements(future works required indicated in pink)

Red slip road enhanced by Chairman to show improvement already promised by HE in 2015

APPENDIX D

Notes on the creation of advisory cycle lanes in Girton

Recently Cambridgeshire County Council created 1200mm advisory cycle lanes along the main street through Girton. These were intended to be 1300mm and the central line was to have been removed, but the lanes were painted the wrong side of the markers and the central line is still clearly visible. There was no consultation with the Parish or any other interested parties (eg Camcycle). Even the proposed project would be seriously sub-standard; Camcycle recommends a minimum of 2100mm and deprecates advisory lanes, and the statutory guidelines state

'Facilities should be segregated as far as possible, i.e. with physical measures separating cyclists and other traffic. Lanes indicated by road markings only are very unlikely to be sufficient to deliver the level of change needed, especially in the longer term' <<https://tinyurl.com/yantgx7b>>.

Girton Parish Council deplores the imposition of these sub-standard lanes without consultation and regards them in their present state as a danger to all modes of road users. It asks the County not to replace them when the road is resurfaced, but to put the savings to improvements to the footway between Girton and Oakington, and asks for consultation on the detailed plans for that improvement.

Cllr Douglas de Lacey

APPENDIX E

LHI Application

I have attached the first draft of the drawings for the Girton 20mph zone. I have added a few points below explaining why there are some changes to the initial feasibility and anticipating some question you may have. Please let me know if you have any others.

- **I have extended the 20mph zone to now incorporate Mayfield Road, Pepys Way and Weavers Way. I have also extended it further north to Manor Farm Road to tie in with a proposed cycle scheme. This is different to the initial feasibility proposal but having done more detailed design work this feels a more intuitive approach especially considering increased cycling/walking in the village.**
- **There is little opportunity to put in more physical measures south of Mayfield Road so I have added additional speed roundels and red surface. The MVAS is currently being procured and so if there are enforcement issues this can be used in this area to help identify/control any issues.**
- **My initial plans to add speed cushions between the Church and High St junction are not possible due to the narrow width with cars in the bay and regular bus usage here that might struggle with narrow gaps . Vehicle speeds felt slower here than other locations along this route probably due to the bend and so road markings only seemed more appropriate.**

- A problem section I identified was between Hicks Lane to Church Lane as the traffic calming is widely spaced and the road straight and wider with few cars parked on road. I propose instead to place 2 sets of 2m long speed cushions in this section; 1 between the layby and Whitegate Close and 1 adjacent the Village Hall. These will be shorter 2m long cushions due to proximity to private accesses allowing vehicles to more easily negotiate them.
- I have spoken to officers in the Cycling Team to discuss/get advice on the advisory cycle lanes that have been installed recently. As this whole section is being resurfaced in August there is an opportunity to modify these. My view is due to the high traffic flows, narrow road width throughout the majority of this section, and the fact there are sections of on road parking marked on road cycle lanes are not appropriate as they will either be trafficked regularly or parked in. The alternative that fits a 20mph road is to have cycle symbols only marked regularly and at conflict points such as the road humps and road junctions- this is consistent with current published design guidance on cycling facilities. I also think it is better to be as consistent as possible rather than installing these only where the carriageway is wider. There will be opposing views on this and so if the Parish has a different view we can review this again.
- I have only added a centreline where there are hazards such as larger road junctions, tighter bends where visibility is effected and at the speed cushions. This is consistent with 20mph and cycling design guidance and similar to how the village looks currently in large lengths due to this being worn.

Please can I get your views on the proposal specifically the additional speed cushion locations and 20mph zone extents; this will allow me to then proceed with the required formal consultations where all residents/stakeholders can respond with their comments/objections.

John O'Donnell
Project Engineer, Highway Projects
Cambridgeshire County Council

APPENDIX F

Land at Woody Green

I had an initial chat about the land at Woody Green with Sarah Aylward, solicitor at Hewitson's, Cambridge.

This was just before lockdown, so there was no opportunity to pursue the matter.

Sarah's informal advice was that:

- If the land is unclaimed, there are 2 possible ways of establishing ownership:
 1. we could act now to institute procedure for first voluntary registration with the Land Registry (LR). There are details on the LR site. The GPC claim, however, might not succeed, as we have not taken

active steps to claim the land. The cost (to be verified) would be in the region of £800 + VAT if we appoint Sarah to act for us.

2. We can begin to take active steps to establish ownership as soon as possible, for example by taking care of the piece of land with hedge cutting, clearing etc. These active steps would have to be maintained for 12 years, and a detailed record must be kept of all the actions taken.

Sarah suggests that she looks at the documents we have, and which I have already sent to Haydn, so that she could advise us. The cost of this would be around £300 + VAT.

I have also, as agreed, with Haydn, obtained an official copy from the LR of the title plan for No. 1 Duck Green. A copy is attached. No 2 Duck Green is not registered, so presumably has not changed hands over many years.

JRD

17/06/2020



This official copy is incomplete without the preceding notes page.

APPENDIX G

Payments Schedule for Girton Parish Council - July 2020

(circulated separately)

APPENDIX H

Chairman's Report

15th July 2020

As government measures to end the Covid-19 lockdown have been introduced the volunteer group under 'helping Girton' is being moved to reserve 'standby' status. Our fortnightly calls with our Patch Co-ordinator at SCDC have continued but are now to be held as and when required. User groups have been required to provide detailed protocols and risk assessments for their activities and a number of outdoor activities have been approved for recommencement. Gel dispensers and signs are being obtained and will hopefully be in place this week to allow reopening of our play areas in the very near future. Replacement parts for the Trim Trail are ordered and will be fitted by Chris and myself after a detailed assessment and record of the risks involved. Cllrs. Cockley and Rodger are developing risk assessments and cleaning schedules to allow reopening of the Pavilion to user groups and the Parish Office to employees. Users will be expected to develop their own Covid-safe protocols before reuse of the building. No re-opening is anticipated in the foreseeable however.

We are pressing our Accountants for a timetable for AGAR completion but have yet to receive.

Our submission of interest in the County Council Communities Capital Fund for monies to refurbish the Pavilion passed the initial screen and as explained by email to all Councillors we submitted the stage 2

application on July 1st. Concerns that the matched funding provision might be seen to depend on grants not yet applied for and as such not secured, we submitted a further rider that in addition to PC reserves the remaining sum would be provided from a Public Works Board Loan as anticipated in earlier meetings.

We have yet to receive any response to the application but hopefully 'no news is good news'. In anticipation that we can go ahead with the project we are seeking a cost quotation for the planning application and formulating the application to the Loans Board. These matters will all be presented for discussion and approval or otherwise at our next meeting.

Cllr Lynda Harford has been working hard for us again this month and procured repairs to Washpit Lane using the 'Dragon Patcher'. Bandon road is also scheduled to receive similar treatment and the possibility of obtaining reparations from the Developer of the new properties in this area are being explored.

Resurfacing of the footway at Woody Green is also being pursued. Lynda is also obtaining reassurances

on drainage provision of the new NMU road and connectivity to the footpaths at Washpit and footpath 4. Thank you again Lynda. Following the discussions at our June meeting on the latter matters I have checked my email archive and find that the Chairman of Madingley PC reported that we were promised that footpaths 4 and 5 were to be improved using A14 Legacy Funding. This was stated at a meeting to which Girton did not receive an invitation until it was too late to attend. Again Lynda is chasing this up for us.

Changes to the temporary advisory cycle lanes, and the implementation of the 20mph speed limit zone, our response to the latest Northstowe Planning application, (with a presentation from Oakington Chairman) and our response to the campaign for additional connections to Girton Interchange are to be discussed at our July meeting. I have also written to the County Cycling Projects Team requesting an update on the timetable for the provision of the improved pedestrian/cycle way between Girton and Oakington. Clarification on the proposals, if any, for improved safety measures at the Beck Brook bridge has also been requested.

Following our June meeting, quotations are being obtained for crown lift of the Mayfield trees and a suitable replacement bench for Washpit lane is being procured. The contract for provision of speed monitoring equipment was also signed and returned to Highways.

Fly tipping continues to be a problem with a large mattress, bed and television screen along with a large container of empty drinks cans and bottles being dumped on Washpit Lane. These were very promptly removed by South Cambs. Waste Dept. when reported via the website.

Haydn Williams