

Clerk: Mrs. Yvonne Murray  
 Telephone (01223) 618619  
 Email: Clerk@girton-pc.gov.uk  
 Website: <https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk>

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

**NOTICE of MEETING: GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING Extra Ordinary Meeting**  
**DATE & TIME: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm**  
**VENUE: Girton Recreation Ground, Cambridge Road Girton**

**Members: 11      Vacancies: 4      Quorum: 5**

**MINUTES**

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
	<p><b>Members: [10]</b> Cllr Carney (Chair), Cllr Muston (Vice-Chair) Cllr Betts, Cllr Clare, Cllr Giles, Cllr Hayat, Cllr Linton, Cllr Marshall, Cllr Wright</p> <p><b>Present:</b> Yvonne Murray (Clerk)</p> <p><b>Members of Public: Nine</b> (including Cllr Garvie (SCDC) Cllr Stobart (SCDC) from 19.28, Cllr Murphy (CCC), Cllr Moore (Chair - Oakington &amp; Westwick PC (OWPC)), Cllr Starling (Vice Chair – OWPC)</p>	
22/206	<p><b>Welcome from the Chair</b></p> <p>Cllr Carney thanked members of public for their attendance at this extra ordinary meeting to focus on decision to propose Local Highways Improvement bid.</p>	
22/207	<p><b>To Receive Apologies and Reasons for Absence</b></p> <p>Cllr Blom, Cllr Williams.</p>	Approved
22/208	<p><b>To Receive Members' Declarations of Interest and Dispensations</b></p> <p>No declarations of interest.</p>	
22/209	<p><b>Public Participation</b></p> <p>Cllr Carney commented how it was nice to see so many members of the public in attendance. If any members of the public had anything to say, this is the period in which you can do it.</p> <p>Resident on Oakington Road. This bid was important to people on Oakington Road due to her location. She was slightly concerned about the speed of the application and knew that there was a lot of people not around and not able to attend meetings. She was concerned that money under this proposal may not be spent as well as it could be. Whilst Speed reduction would be fantastic, the use of speed cushions and chicanes may not be the best way to achieve the outcome. She felt there was a lot to consider, and it does not feel like the consultation had been sufficient. She asked Council to consider if they were not 100% sure that they hold and pass up this opportunity to prepare a Highways Bid during this year for next year. She noted that whilst it was terribly sad about the fatal accident, she would like to see more data supporting this project. The deadline she felt was super tight.</p> <p>Resident of Thornton Road. Resident stated that he was not sure of the LHI deadline and how the process worked. At Girton Summer Fete 2022 there had been a lot of comments regarding speed in the village. 'The Thorntons' and St Margaret Road seemed to be the only roads in Girton that are not 20mph. He stated that in Thornton Road, the way cars drive at the T-Junction by the shops is a disgrace and there needs to be something in place. He had no idea of how road improvements should be made, perhaps islands in road? At the moment</p>	

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/Power
	<p>he felt the speed limit is not appropriate. He commented that these being the only roads which are not 20mph is a huge concern. He was particularly concerned about the Thornton Road T-Junction. When cars go left to go down Thornton way there were cars travelling really fast at that point. Whilst traffic volumes did reduce during COVID, Thornton Road appears to be seen as a bit of a rat run. Using Thornton Road for that purpose did not make sense to him. Now traffic is back to normality, speed and volumes of traffic are increasing. He felt something needs to be done about it. Resident from Oakington Road confirmed she seconded that requirement.</p> <p>ClIrr Carney stated that the LHI Fund was made available by Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC). The small window for funding was closing on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Currently the funding available was for non-complex schemes and complex schemes to improve Highways.</p> <p>A key factor with the current round of LHI Applications, which is mentioned in LHI paper drafted by Girton Parish Council is that it does not cover 20mph Zone. Under the revised LHI criteria there is now a separate scheme that CCC will be making available sometime early in 2023 to apply for 20mph zones.</p> <p>ClIrr Carney stated that GPC intend to apply for that 20mph LHI scheme for Girton Road and the Thorntons Areas.</p> <p>Resident from Oakington Road commented there appears to be a lack of clarity about what the LHI Money can be used for? There appears to be confusion about what Girton/Oakington &amp; Westwick bid is applying for? What would be provided under the current application?</p> <p>ClIrr Carney stated that at this point in the process the information received by Parish Council's from CCC Highways department is guidance and an approximate cost is given. There is not yet a detailed plan. GPC need to see if the application is successful. If it is CCC Highways will then draw up more detailed plans which will then need discussion and approval by GPC.</p> <p>The likely outcome of the application will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30mph limit</li> <li>• Signage on roadside</li> <li>• Signage on road surface</li> <li>• Physical restrictions – speed cushions rather than sleeping policemen.</li> </ul> <p>ClIrr Carney stated it is the nature of the LHI application that top level detail is provided for approval first.</p> <p>Resident of Oakington Road asked if there would be further consultation with GPC and Girton residents? ClIrr Carney stated it is the intention that if the application is successful then GPC will receive CCC Highways plan and that will then be scrutinized by GPC and residents.</p> <p>Resident on Oakington Road stated that she hoped GPC would have the strength to reject any detailed plan at a later stage if needed.</p> <p><b>Note: Public Participation session ended at 19:13</b></p>	
22/210	<b>Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council</b>	<b>For Decision</b>
22/210.1	<b>To approve proposal for Local Highways Improvement (LHI) Initiative 2023/2024</b>	<b>Approved</b>

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
	<p><b>Further information on Girton Community Website. Feedback from Local Residents is welcomed. Webpage below:</b>  <a href="https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk/2022/12/22/local-highways-improvement-please-submit-your-input-here/">https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk/2022/12/22/local-highways-improvement-please-submit-your-input-here/</a></p> <p><b><u>Background to LHI Proposal – Oakington &amp; Westwick Parish Council (OWPC):</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Carney invited Cllr Stephen Moore (Chair) &amp; Cllr Tony Starling (Vice-Chair) of Oakington &amp; Westwick to give background on the proposal. OWPC had led the initialization of the proposal.</p> <p>Cllr Moore stated that he wished to address the point that the proposal was all very last minute. He had written to GPC Chair in September 2022 but progress with Girton had got underway later than they had expected.</p> <p>He stated that the bids for CCC LHI Funding are competitive. Initial discussions have indicated that the joint bid from OWPC and GPC could be successful. Feedback from CCC Highways has indicated it is a good scheme.</p> <p>Due to the nature of the Competitive bids any bid next year may not come to either council. There are no guarantees.</p> <p>Cllr Moore stated that when OWPC current council came into being they had decided they would not be reactive. OWPC had set goals around Environment requirements and finally traffic. They have been working in this way for four years. Many actions have since been taken on Highways improvement through the Oakington and Westwick villages. OWPC had made continuous improvement and they wished to keep it going. Cllr Moore stated it is all about safety and they had found that their 20mph scheme had slowed cars down.</p> <p>The current LHI under discussion is just part of their overall goals for Highway improvement. OWPC believe that cars pick up speed coming out of Girton en route to Oakington and they are keen to slow people down.</p> <p>OWPC experience of LHI bids is <u>not</u> that any LHI scheme is imposed but if Council is granted the funding, then there is a long consultation process. We do believe that Speed cushions are proposed for this scheme. Cllr Moore stated that OWPC are not pushing Girton into the scheme. To speed Girton action Cllr Moore had re-contacted the Chair who confirmed he was no longer a member of GPC.</p> <p>Cllr Starling stated OWPC wanted to reduce speed and they had monitored speed in all parts of Oakington and Westwick. Speeds of 60mph, 70mph and one person at 80mph had been identified along Cambridge Road, Oakington. This was not acceptable with Children using these roads to get to school. OWPC had had several meetings to discuss possibilities. OWPC had then approved this current LHI Bid. He stated that there is nothing currently to confirm this bid will be approved by CCC.</p> <p>He noted that the S106 Traffic Calming money granted from Northstowe and LHI Funding cannot be spend on anything else other than Traffic Calming.</p>	

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/Power
	<p>OWPC had significant discussions with CCC Highways. They had asked if they could increase their 20mph scheme up to the end of the houses in Cambridge Road, Oakington as most of the complaints regarding speed are coming from those householders. He stated that CCC Highways was not keen on that approach as imposing too many speed changes in road had been found to have little effect.</p> <p>CCC Highways had suggested that if Girton were interested they would be happier to fund and reduce speed in both villages.</p> <p>OWPC had then talked to GPC and GPC created the current online survey which had indicated approximately 75% support for the current scheme. There had been a mix of input, but overall residents appeared in favour. Whilst he appreciated the timescale appeared tight for Girton, OWPC had been working on the proposal for one year.</p> <p>He stated he believe this was a good value scheme with CCC funding £50K to allow the achievement of a large 'complex' scheme. OWPC needed GPC's support in making the scheme happen and vice versa.</p> <p><b><u>Debate Highlights from Council:</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Marshall thanked OWPC. He stated that the background given had been very helpful. Whilst it was a pity the information had not reached Girton sooner it was very encouraging to hear the possibilities. He stated it would be interesting to see if Histon &amp; Impington Parish Council have any plans for speed on Gatehouse Road.</p> <p><b><u>Background to LHI Proposal – Girton Parish Council (GPC):</u></b></p> <p><b>See LHI Paper prepared by Cllr Carney</b></p> <p>Cllr Carney thanked residents for their good suggestions for further Girton Highway improvements suggested in their survey responses. GPC will take these suggestions into account.</p> <p><b><u>Approval:</u></b> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Giles seconded. Unanimous approval.</i></p> <p><b><u>Debate Highlights:</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Hayat stated that he believed he understood the process. If Council were to approve the proposal, then GPC and OWPC would go for the bid. If the bid were approved, then CCC Highways would look at proposal and come back with a more detailed budget. Cllr Hayat asked if the budget could be higher?</p> <p>Cllr Carney confirmed that was the case. It was currently a high-level budget and costs could go up or down.</p> <p>Cllr Clare asked: Could GPC put some further detail in GPN Parish news? He also asked for confirmation that GPC would not be committed to going ahead with the project at this stage, was the bid just an application? He commented that given money is currently tight then this funding may not be available next year. Cllr Carney stated it is important to give residents further detail on the process.</p>	

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
	<p>Cllr Linton commented that there is a need to drive more slowly, speed can be deadly. He stated that chances of injury and death are increased significantly, the higher the speed of the car. He also stated speed limits in this country for local roads are much higher than other countries on local roads. However, he was skeptical that changing speed limit would work on its own as Traffic Calming measure. Whilst the speed limit is an important measure, there are instances when the speed limits are ignored. He felt additional Traffic calming measures should be included.</p> <p>He mentioned the possible effectiveness of planting trees at side of Road. Cllr Giles mentioned free trees scheme and that maybe these could be considered along the side of Oakington Road without hedges. Cllr Linton stated on an open road you can drive really fast.</p> <p>Cllr Marshall stated that lowering the speed limit may not be an overall panacea. That we should consider longer term potential improvements. He felt the current cycle path improvements completed are inadequate and that further improvements in Active Travel to remove pedestrians/cyclists from the main highways would help to reduce the issues. Looking at improving the cycle routes from OWPC he agreed that we must do what we can to support the scheme, but he noted that both parishes should not lose sight of future improvements</p> <p>Cllr Marshall encouraged GPC to keep a strategic bigger plan open for discussion.</p> <p>Cllr Muston stated that she agreed the LHI scheme in in principle. She felt that speed needed to be reduced. However, the stretch of road in question was quite dark. The project needs to consider lighting if speed cushions are to be installed. If traffic does not see speed limit signage in dark and hits speed cushions at speed this may cause more accidents. She also noted possible problems with drainage and need for consideration of stud lighting.</p> <p>Cllr Carney confirmed that going forward LHI Bids should be considered earlier, and more time and improvements should be made to Community engagement. Cllr Clare stated GPC need to hold CCC Highways to account on plans and consultation.</p> <p>Cllr Hayat agreed Cllr Muston’s point about lighting. He noted that the S106 grant amount proposed for this LHI bid was £20K. Could GPC consider use of remaining £25K for further traffic calming as part of greater measures?</p> <p>Cllr Muston added a comment regarding consideration of Light Pollution with addition of Street lighting/stud lighting.</p> <p>She also thanked the resident of Thornton Road for attending the meeting to highlight the need for 20mph requirements at that end of the village.</p> <p>Cllr Giles highlighted the proposal for lighting on speed cushions. Cllr Carney stated that this was inclusion of two-way traffic lights. More though is needed for this.</p> <p>Cllr Carney asked if Cllr William’s email regarding the LHI scheme could be noted in his absence. GPC Clerk to check with CAPALC.</p>	
22/210.2	<p><b>To approve £20K being placed in budget as Girton Parish Council’s contribution to fund LHI 2003/2024</b></p> <p><b>APPROVAL:</b> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Clare seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p>	Approved

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
22/210.3	<p><b>Council to approve revised signatures of Deed of Rectification between Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd, George Wimpey South Midlands Ltd and Girton Parish Council.</b></p> <p>See Agenda Item 22/177.1 (original signatures completed 09/11/2022 Full Council) Birkett's confirm Girton Parish Council signatures require to be completed again as Agreement was not completed at the time of Cllr de-Lacey's resignation as Taylor Wimpey had not signed the agreement at that time.</p> <p><b><u>APPROVAL:</u></b> Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Betts seconded. Unanimous Approval.</p> <p><b><u>Note:</u></b> Deed of Rectification signed by Cllr Carney (Chair) and Cllr Muston (Vice Chair). Signed Deeds returned to Birkett's, Station Road, Cambridge by GPC Clerk on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023.</p>	Approved
22/211	<p><b>To Approve Communication of items from this Agenda</b></p> <p><i>This item is designed to ensure that Council can approve key items of communication from this meeting on Council Website, Facebook, and Twitter.</i></p> <p><b><u>APPROVAL:</u></b> Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Hayat seconded. Unanimous Approval.</p> <p><b><u>DEBATE HIGHLIGHTS:</u></b></p> <p>Need to ensure that Communication is clear.</p> <p>Cllr Marshall encouraged to see that increased response from Girton residents through social media and Website over last 12 months. There has been a significant jump in input. Council can use these avenues further to increase information from Council. Thanks to GPC Clerk for her work on increasing information availability.</p> <p>Cllr Clare passed Thanks to Cllr Carney for the detailed paper prepared on the LHI Bid, shared on Girton Village Community website as a supporting paper early am on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023.</p>	Approved
22/212	<b>Date of next meeting(s): Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023</b>	
<b>Meeting Ended: 20:10</b>		