

# Girton Parish Council

Susan Cumming  
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 of Girton Parish Council held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 at St Vincent's Close Community Centre, Girton, at 7.30 p.m.

To: Councillors Williams, Barnes, Buckler, Bygott, de Lacey,  
Godby, Griffin, Harrington, Kettle, Ranken, L Taylor, M Taylor and Whittle.

*Residents in the parish were invited to attend this meeting and to speak at Item 15/145.1*

**Present:** Cllrs: Williams (Chairman), Barnes, Buckler, Bygott, de Lacey, Godby, Griffin, Harrington, Kettle, Ranken, M Taylor, and Whittle.

Cllr L Harford (Cambridgeshire County Council) (until end of item 15/148.2)

3 members of the public (until end of item 15/148.2)

**In attendance:** S Cumming (Clerk), M Mckay (RFO)

**15/142 Welcome from the Chairman** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Cllr Harford and the members of the public. The Chairman announced that since the last meeting Cllr Noble had resigned from the Council and he has written to her on behalf of the Council to thank her for her years of service. The Chairman also welcomed Mick Mckay, the new Finance Officer, to the meeting.

**15/143 Apologies and reasons for absence** Cllr L Taylor had sent his apologies and the Chairman accepted his reason for absence.

**15/144 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda** Cllr M Taylor declared an interest in discussion about highways matters and the crossing of Huntingdon Road, as an employee of Cambridge City Council.

**15/145 Public Participation session on agenda items and matters of mutual interest:**

1 Members of the Public (*Appendix A*). Dr N Pearson spoke about the petition organised by parents of children at the primary school on the NW Cambridge site. She is one of a number of parents of children at the new Cambridge University Primary School who are concerned about provision for pedestrians and cyclists on Huntingdon Road, as problems accessing the NW Cambridge site won't be fixed by the new Eddington Avenue East junction onto the site. There is no safe and reasonable crossing. When the site is complete there will be a 2000 sq m supermarket and 3000 sq m of other shops, which will mean that Girton residents will want to access the site. Condition 46 states the intention for Whitehouse Lane to link with the super cycleway to Histon by the Hotel Felix, but there would be a 200m loop to get to the new development. With three lanes of traffic, traffic coming in from the A14 can't be seen. The group has petitioned Cambridge University. A large part of the development is within the Girton boundary, and there will be 3-4 years of school intake from Girton, resulting in ten years-worth of getting Girton children across the road in safety. At present, the Darwin Green development has been given precedence over Girton, in terms of crossing provision. Dr Pearson asked for the Parish Council's support to ask Cambridge University to rethink their plans.

Girton residents in general may wish to use the shops etc on the development, so the need for a crossing extends beyond schoolchildren. A motion regarding the issue will be brought to the next Girton Parish Council meeting.

Mr R Gordon, a Trustee of Girton Town Charity, spoke about the need for the land transfer at Wellbrook Way to proceed swiftly so that the Town Charity may proceed with the building of the car park and community hall. This will not incur costs for Girton Parish Council, and would protect the Community Hall as an asset if Girton Town Charity had ownership. The Chairman could see no reason for further

hindrance to the Charity's plans' progress.

2 County Councillor's Report (*Appendix B*) Cllr Harford was questioned regarding the gritting scheme for Girton this winter - the same gritting routes will be maintained from last year. The Chairman has been told that regarding the bus stop on Girton Corner, there are no plans to move it. A councillor who has written to a County Council Committee Chair has received no reply – Cllr Harford agreed to follow this up.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Harford.

3. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix C*) Cllr de Lacey reported that there had been much discussion regarding the boundary going through the NW Cambridge site. He has seen a map showing where the boundary goes through houses and will leave a copy in the Parish Office and inform Girton Town Charity. Huntingdon Road will be closed overnight from the beginning of next week – Cambridge University or Skanska should be notified if there is disruption. The footpath between Whitehouse Lane and Thornton Close is to be upgraded. Cllr de Lacey is to meet the Pro Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University regarding the boundaries on the NW Cambridge site. The current boundary of Girton would allow the benefits of Girton Town Charity for those within the boundary, but not for those within the City, which could cause friction. Cllr Bygott believed the rationalisation of boundary would require a full Boundary Commission project, and Cllr de Lacey agreed that a boundary review was not appropriate although he had believed that Girton Gap would follow the boundary.

Cllr Bygott spoke about the City Deal. Cambridge Bold is an alternative plan for guided busway, to go next to the American Cemetery at Maddingley with a new bus interchange at 'Eddington' – questions were raised regarding the disruption of this peaceful rural setting given to the UK by the USA.. A railway scheme would change the network arrangement from London-centric to Cambridge-centric with sidings at Royston and Audley End and would make possible new stations at Hinxton Hall and Cherry Hinton. Projected costs for train companies would be £22 million. Cllr Harrington highlighted the Lewis System tram scheme in Dublin and was advised that written submissions for the City Deal are needed by 30<sup>th</sup> November. The Council was reminded that the Community Awards nominations close on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

4 Police Report (*Appendix D*) There were no questions arising from the report.

**15/146 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2015** (previously circulated) Proposed as a correct record of the meeting by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Whittle. At the request of Cllr de Lacey, in item 15/133.4, corrections were made to read 'a maximum of 45 members' and 'Girton might be part of a three member ward'. With these amendments, the Minutes were approved with one abstention.

**15/147 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)**

15/125.6 Drainage works at the Recreation Ground will be completed shortly, the works to be completed by the second-lowest quotation as the contractor with the lowest quotation did not reply with the requested itemised quotation.

**15/148 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council.**

1. To approve the transfer of the land in Wellbrook Way to Girton Town Charity for £1 without recourse to a formal valuation as previously suggested. The transfer of land will be governed by the original agreement with Taylor Wimpey, and legal advice will be sought. It was pointed out that whilst Taylor Wimpey may have been prepared to sell the land for a pound, that doesn't mean that it is only worth £1. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Harrington. Approved unanimously.
2. To review the recently circulated A14 upgrade Statement of Common Ground and to agree further steps for disseminating our concerns to a wider audience. The Chairman reported that the Council had been through a further set of responses but impossible time pressures had in place. With a catalogue of disagreements and village concerns dating back to 2009-2010, sadly little had changed, and concerns remain regarding air pollution, noise pollution and flooding. Cllr Williams proposed that the Council's concerns be forwarded to Heidi Allen MP, seconded by Cllr de

Lacey and approved unanimously.

Cllr Harford and members of the public left at this point.

3. To approve works to the drain in the car park at the Recreation Ground. (*Appendix E*) The car park refurbishment would have dealt with this issue but a short-term solution is now needed. Cllr de Lacey proposed that the quotation be accepted unless a more-comprehensive job can be done up to a limit of £300. Seconded by Cllr Whittle. Approved unanimously.

4. To install a second dog-waste bin by the tennis courts at Girton Recreation Ground at a cost not exceeding £350.00 (plus VAT) (details previously circulated). Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Harrington and approved unanimously.

**15/149 Finance and Resource Management**

1. To approve payments for the previous month (*Appendix F*) The payments schedule had previously been checked by Cllr Williams. It was noted that Committees will need to meet within the next month to agree their budgets for next year. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Whittle. Approved with four abstentions.

**15/150 Correspondence (to be received)**

1. 26 Oct 2015: Cllr Noble's letter of resignation
2. 29 Oct 2015: Letter about pharmacy application
3. 11 Nov 2015: Highways England's letter regarding works to improve A14 and M11.
4. 17 Nov 2015: Car Park schedule and path to Girton Glebe School  
Received by the Council.

**15/151 To receive reports**

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix G*) There were no questions arising from the Chairman's report.
2. Girton Town Charity. No report this month.
3. Girton Youth Project. No report this month. Following Cllr Noble's resignation, the Council needs to appoint a new Youth Liaison Officer at the next Parish Council meeting.
4. Footpaths. No report this month.
5. Water Management (*Appendix H*) Cllr Whittle was thanked for his report.
6. Bowls Green Task and Finish Group. The Bowls Club must take responsibility for paying directly for electricity and water.

**15/152 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes** None.

**15/153 Matters raised by Members (for information only)**

Cllr Barnes will work with staff at The George regarding registering the pub as a Community Asset.

A councillor could not hear speakers at the Remembrance Sunday service and wondered if a podium could be erected and if a lead for a PA system could be run from the Church for future Remembrance ceremonies.

It was questioned what is happening on the land on which the WI hut stands.

The Tree Officer at SCDC has contacted the Council about urgent tree works needed at College Holt on a tree with a TPO.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

**APPENDIX A**

**Dangerous Cycling and Pedestrian Provision at the NorthWest Cambridge Development  
Huntingdon Road Junction**

I am one of a group of 3 Girton residents who have been working to persuade the University to reconsider the Eddington Avenue / Huntingdon Rd junction (Huntingdon Rd East junction of the NWCD) and to get the county, city and SCD councils to support our proposed changes.

We are all parents of children at the new primary school and as such the first large cohort of pedestrians and inexperienced (child) cyclists to be crossing Huntingdon Rd to the new development. We think that the rest of Girton will be aghast when they also wish to cross Huntingdon Rd as the rest of the development starts to open, if the permanent junction design flaws are not fixed now.

We are deeply concerned that the designs of the Eddington Avenue - Huntingdon Road junction and the Bunker's Hill - Huntingdon Road - Girton Road junctions are not safe for pedestrians and cyclists coming and going between the North West Cambridge Development and Girton Village. The designs are utterly inconsistent with the aspirations of the University, the City and County Councils, to enhance the transport links to neighbouring communities.

There is no planned pedestrian phase in the traffic signals at the junction of Eddington Avenue and Huntingdon Rd despite the County Council's safety audit of Feb 2014 highlighting that there is an increased risk of pedestrian vs vehicle collisions as a result of this. Multiple safety concerns raised by the safety audit in 2014 that crossing Huntingdon Rd will be much more dangerous to cross than it could and should be, have been ignored.

NWCD provides Toucan crossings from all other access directions to the development except Girton, including two within 100m of each other from the city side of Huntingdon Rd. There is currently no demand for the Whitehouse Lane crossing as the Darwin 1 site (for 1500 homes) is still going through planning. The Wellbrook Way to Thornton link is also proposed for Darwin 2, and hence on hold. The proposed new footbridge across the A14 that should cross from Central Girton to the NIAB site is not scheduled until the Darwin 2 development, which is currently on hold. This footbridge is part of the cycle superhighway, which is the reason for the toucan crossing being sited at Whitehouse Lane.

The planners have approved that Girton residents will have to walk down the narrow Huntingdon Rd pavements all the way to the new Whitehouse Lane (Hotel Felix access) crossing. The only alternative to get to and from the development is to cross at Girton Corner where there is no pavement on the Girton College side verge and no crossing to get there hence making it impossible for wheelchair users, children or other pedestrians who are less confident to cross the road safely, which is 3 lanes wide at this point. This will impact ALL Girton residents who wish to use the facilities on the development, not just the 41 children and their families who are daily crossing Huntingdon Rd on their journey to and from the school. Regular drivers will suffer increased traffic from those who would prefer to walk or cycle, but do not consider it safe.

For the time being a temporary traffic light controlled pedestrian crossing of Huntingdon Rd has been installed between the petrol station and Thornton Rd to allow Girton residents to navigate across this busy road. However, it is important to point out that this crossing is to be removed under the permanent plans and the crossing would be returned into its original state

Approximately 100 children from Girton will be attending the University Primary School for the next 10 years. Between them they will have to cross Huntingdon Rd 0.25 million times.

**The NorthWest Cambridge Development will have a 2000m<sup>2</sup> Sainsbury's, 3000m<sup>2</sup> other shops, parkland, playgrounds and through access to a leisure centre with pool on the West Cambridge site. It will clearly be a very attractive destination for the Girton Community. There will be very limited parking facilities anticipating walking, cycling and public transport to be the dominant forms of travel.**

There is also an extremely dangerous chicane and pinchpoint on Huntingdon Rd west of Eddington Avenue which is likely to prove a death trap for cyclists.

The solution to this is to buy a strip of land (to the left of the bus,) move the cycle lane and widen the pavement.

**We propose that the Whitehouse Lane crossing be mothballed for now in favour of crossings west of Eddington Avenue to Girton, which has a population of 4500 already in residence, along with pavement widening.**

**SCOOT and MOVA technology will optimise traffic flow so that vehicles do not have to wait at multiple sequential reds.**

**Petition the University, City, District and County Councils at:**

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/EddingtonSafety>

More info at <http://tinyurl.com/EddingtonSafety>

Dr N Pearson

18<sup>th</sup> November 2015

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Cambridgeshire County Councillor's Report to Parish Councils October/November 2015**

There were 3 decision items on the agenda for Adults Committee in November. Committee agreed an exemption from a further procurement exercise so that the contract for the Homelessness Service could be awarded to Riverside ECHG. The request for an exemption was made due to the fact that less than 3 bidders had responded to the procurement process. This obviously allows the contract to be awarded without further delay but raises questions about the format of the contract which failed to attract more than one bidder.

Southwell Court a residential home in Melbourn closed in December 2014 despite local concern and the efforts that were made to vary the contract to allow it to remain open. Committee agreed to support a proposal that the County Council will work with South Cambridgeshire District Council to develop an extra care sheltered housing scheme with specialist support for people with dementia. Funding for such a facility is available from the Homes and Communities Agency. Committee also approved the Cambridgeshire Adult Autism Strategy. Full reports: <http://tinyurl.com/pf5jyf9>

The main resolution of Children & Young People's [C&YP] Committee in November was to note the overview and context provided for the Business Plan draft revenue proposals for the the Children, Families & Adults Service 2016-2021 and the draft revenue savings proposals within the remit of the C&YP committee during that period. In noting the current business planning proposals for consideration by General Purposes Committee [GPC] as part of the Council's overall business plan, the committee also asked that consideration be given to the implications of raising Council Tax by 5%. Full agenda: <http://tinyurl.com/ow3d3bj>

The City Deal Executive Board met in October and agreed that its Chairman would meet with officers including the City Deal Director to produce an outline of how the Board and Assembly could work together in the preparation of proposals to secure ideas from members of the public and organisations to address congestion in Cambridge. Subsequently a 'Call for Evidence' to tackle congestion in Cambridge has been launched. Residents, businesses and organisations are invited to put forward their ideas to tackle the growing traffic congestion in Cambridge. All realistic ideas to help resolve this issue will be considered. It is forecast that time spent stuck in traffic congestion will more than double in the next 15 years. Anyone interested in submitting their ideas should send them to [city.deal@cambridgeshire.gov](mailto:city.deal@cambridgeshire.gov). by Monday 30 November.

The Board also considered a report from the Chairman of the City Deal Assembly requesting acceleration of improvements to Junction 11 of the M11. The Board agreed that improvements as set out in the the feasibility report be investigated further with Highways England as an urgent standalone project. Full details: <http://tinyurl.com/oyj9hel>

At its meeting at the beginning of November the Board approved public consultation on illustrative measures for bus priority, walking and cycling measures at both Histon Road and Milton Road. It also agreed in principle to support investment of up to £280,000 to implement a Smart Technology Platform. This will be subject to a more detailed investment proposal in early 2016. Full details: <http://tinyurl.com/oxn8c3j>

Highways & Community Infrastructure Committee approved changes to the Highway Asset Management Policy, Strategy and Management Plan 2015-2025. These documents provide an effective approach to capital highway maintenance investment and demonstrate how the

Council's assets will be managed and maintained in line with Department for Transport (DfT) guidance and future funding arrangements. The main body of changes related to [1] clarification of carriageway hierarchy categorisation with some lower usage roads assigned to more appropriate categories. The National Code of Practice permits such variations in accordance with local circumstances and available resources. Such clarity provides a better statutory defence against third party claims; [2] clarification of defect parameters for Category 1 defects providing a clearer definition for existing defects and the timescales within which they will be made safe or repaired.

The DfT has recently implemented a new funding mechanism which incentivises responsible authorities to demonstrate that they have a highway asset management plan in place which is being used in practice. There will be penalties for those those who don't! The amount of funding that any council will receive from the DfT will be dependent upon the extent to which they have implemented the asset management approach and are able to demonstrate it. Those authorities who are unable to demonstrate this will have their funding levels reduced. The maximum level of funding available to Cambridgeshire in the forthcoming 5 years will already reduce from £15.008m per annum in 2015/16 to £14.591m in the following 5 years. However, this will be reduced by a further £2.515m to £12.076m per annum if the Council fails to demonstrate an asset management approach; a further 17% reduction in funding from that which the council received this year. Full details: <http://tinyurl.com/pzxec8s>

Still on the subject of roads and with the forecast that temperatures are set to drop later this week: a new fleet of gritters and smarter ways of working mean that the County Council has been able to save more than £200,000 this year. In readiness for winter the Council has made new lease arrangements and brought in new stock control methods for the rock salt it uses on the road. This, combined with reduced maintenance costs and more accurate weather predictions has meant that this winter the service will still be able to grit the same routes whilst making the £200,000 savings. The new stock controls also mean that the County should have plenty of rock salt for the whole of the winter season. Details of gritting routes: <http://tinyurl.com/qc6jw15>

Finally a reminder that the County Council is consulting on its £100,000 budget challenge. Only a few days left [closes 20 November]. Please do give your views on what the priorities should be. <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/challenge>

I look forward to seeing you at your forthcoming meetings. As always your comments and questions about the foregoing or any other local or strategic matter are welcomed.

Lynda

lyndaharford@icloud.com

01954 251775/07889 131022

Follow me on Twitter: @2whit2whoo

## APPENDIX C

### Report from District Councillor Douglas de Lacey

11. 11. 2015

Council has agreed to recommend to the Boundary Commission a 45-seat District. This means that Girton is likely to be combined with Dry Drayton and Madingley (Oakington & Westwick is the only other possibility and seems less likely). This will more than double the area of the Ward while adding fewer than 700 electors. The effect is likely to be much greater on them than on Girton. However, the Electoral Commission may want an even greater reduction in our number which means all the calculations will need re-doing.

Concerns over the safety of the Huntingdon Road crossing continue, and the University team agreed to a meeting on 19 October. Parents acknowledged that the temporary arrangements are much improved, but expressed concern over the design of the junction and have put forward an alternative proposal and started a petition for change.

The University held a Discussion on the state of the NWC development on 3 November, called because of grave concerns over the finances of the development, which has already run

through all its contingency funding -- and is facing litigation. I used the opportunity to observe that quite apart from the governance of the project, problems loom for the governance of the resulting community, and called for discussions to begin as soon as possible. I am also talking to our officers over this. The University's plans to maintain its open spaces via a levy on residents will make them wonder why they should pay local council taxes too. It is possible for the Parish to levy different precepts for current residents and those in NWC, or for South Cambs to do so; but I am not sure either of those proposals really satisfies the situation.

On 21 October the JDCC discussed delivery hours to the NWC Supermarket following an application to extend them both morning and evening to 0600--2300 Monday to Friday; 0800-1900 on Sundays and 0700--1900 on Bank Holidays. Officers had recommended refusal. After a fierce debate the change was approved by 1 vote.

The JDCC also receive a presentation on emerging plans for Darwin Green 1 which has been much delayed. Meanwhile the Northstowe JDCC will have one more (final?) meeting if only to approve the minutes of the last one. No planning applications have been received, but Gallaghers have signalled a slowdown in their plans, and since they are discussing a takeover bid with the Pears family everything is quite likely to be on hold for a while. The Waterbeach development also appears to be slowing. This is bad news, not least for the Local Plan. We have finally re-submitted, with some small changes, and despite the significant building slow-down officers are confident -- but so they were last time. Our planning website has been updated but this is still work in progress; it is too early to tell if the long list of bugs I have identified has finally been addressed. We have recruited a number of new officers and we hope to reduce the large backlog in planning decisions.

Douglas de Lacey

#### **APPENDIX D**

##### **Police Report for November 2015**

CF0448051115 02/11/2015 07:45 - 02/11/2015 18:00

During above period offender(s) has forced open a front double glazed window to gain access to a property on Giffords Close Girton. A reasonably tidy search has been conducted in all rooms. 2 x ipads, money, some jewellery and a large quantity of designer clothes have been taken.

#### **APPENDIX E**

##### **Interim Drainage Works in the Recreation Ground Car Park**

Interim drainage works are needed on the advice of the Health and Safety Officer as the size of the puddle in the Car Park would pose a possible danger to users should the puddle freeze over during the coming Winter. The following contractors were contacted and asked for quotations:

1. Lanes for Drains, Eaton Socon - have not received a quotation from them.
2. Harrisons of Burwell - undertook drain-jetting in 2013, but suggested in a phone conversation that root ingress found then will have increased and recommended that builders clear the roots etc and re-lay the drain (part of the planned car park works) as any jetting etc would only offer a temporary solution.
3. Drain Doctor Plumbing and Drainage - "Our technician has been to site to investigate the problem with the large puddle in the car park at The Pavilion at Girton Recreation Ground. There are three surface water gullies on site, one is completely blocked, hence the issue of the puddle and the other two are full of debris but not blocked. Our technician has recommended that the blocked gully can be cleared by high pressure jetting, with our machines which have a PSI up to 3000, and this could be cleared within two hours, and he has recommended the other two gullies also be cleared which would take another hour on site. The cost for the blocked gully would be £175 plus VAT and for the other two gullies an additional £80. Total cost £255 plus VAT."

## APPENDIX F : Cheque Payments for November 2015

### General Parish Expenses

Date	Chq No	A/c Payee	Expense Description	Details	Net	VAT	Total	Cheque Total	Total
18/11/15	103810	CMR Wilson	Salary		£898.64			£898.64	£898.64
18/11/15	103811	Linda Miller	Salary		£673.86			£673.86	£673.86
18/11/15	103812	Norman Lewell	Salary		£241.66			£241.66	£241.66
18/11/15	103813	Susan Cumming	Salary		£983.22			£983.22	£983.22
18/11/15	103814	HMRC	NI and Income Tax		£395.41			£395.41	£395.41
18/11/15	103815	South Cambs District Council	Non-Domestic rates		£672.00			£672.00	£672.00
18/11/15	103816	British Gas	Electricity charges for Pavilion		£814.08	162.81		£976.89	£976.89
18/11/15	103817	Linda Miller	Expenses:		£54.83			£54.83	£54.83
18/11/15	103819	W F Senate	3 Ignitor		£51.60	10.32		£61.92	£61.92
18/11/15		Working Turf Ltd	Wormicide Application – Football Pitch		£196.65	£39.33		£235.98	
18/11/15	103820	Working Turf Ltd	Wormicide Application – Ten Acre Field		£327.75	65.55		£393.30	£629.28
18/11/15	103821	Avocet Cleaning Services Ltd	Pavilion Cleaning services – October		£457.00	£91.40		£548.40	£548.40
18/11/15	103822	Pettitt Sports	Pitchmarkers		£117.00	£23.40		£140.40	£140.40
18/11/15	103823	Brookfield Groundcare	Grass verge cutting – October 2015		£750.00	£150.00		£900.00	£900.00
18/11/15	103824	BT	Phone Account – Pavilion		£300.99	£60.19		£361.18	£361.18
18/11/15		Paul Laston Garden Services	Maintenance of Open Spaces – Oct 2015		£267.81			£267.81	
18/11/15	103825	Paul Laston Garden Services	Maintenance of Wellbrook Way – Oct 2015		£375.00			£375.00	£642.81
18/11/15	103826	Cotton Hall Foundation	Room 4 Booking 05/10/2015		£12.25			£12.25	£12.25
18/11/15	103827	Royal British Legion Poppy App'l	Donation agreed at October Meeting		£70.00			£70.00	£70.00
18/11/15	103828	St Johns College	Recreation Ground Rent		£350.00			£350.00	£350.00
18/11/15	103829	CGM Landscape	Mowing – St Johns		£19.50	£3.90		£23.40	£23.40
18/11/15	103830	Print Out	Colour Copying for Town End Close		£1.50	£0.30		£1.80	£1.80
18/11/15	103831	Kompan Ltd	Bolt Packs and Seats for Play Equipment		£219.00	£43.80		£262.80	£262.80

## APPENDIX G Chairman's Report 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015

I attended a meeting with Wellbrook Way Residents and Girton Town Charity (with their architect) and the plans for the green area and car park have been progressed to a point where we can now proceed with transfer of the land from the PC to GTC. GTC believe that the value of the land is specified in the original S106 agreement and if this is the case, no valuation will be necessary.

Extensive correspondence with the Highways Agency has continued this month to develop the draft Statement of Common Ground on the A14 upgrade project. An amended SOCG including the issues on which we remain unsatisfied was submitted by deadline 13 but was not forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate in time. Further responses and counter responses were developed and an agreed “work in progress” was submitted by deadline 14 on November 5<sup>th</sup>. It is clear that concerns we expressed as long ago as 2010 have not been met and we need to consider how we can best raise the volume on these.

Progress on the mitigation of flooding in the village is being pursued by Doug Whittle and he and I are to attend a meeting with the Environment Agency on November 18<sup>th</sup> to review where we are on the flood risk management scheme.

The documents requested by the auditors in support of our Annual Return have been gathered together and sent to them. Thanks to our Office Staff and Douglas de Lacey for the time they have devoted to this task.

I am pleased to report the confirmed appointment of our new Finance Officer, Mick McKay. I am sure all will join me in welcoming Mick and wishing him a long and useful association with the council.

The ceremony of Remembrance on Sunday was very well attended and it was gratifying that the numbers attending the brief ceremony on the 11<sup>th</sup> were again swelled by a group of children from the Glebe School.

Haydn Williams

**APPENDIX H**  
**Response to A14 Deadline 15 - Ref TR010018**

Please find below some comments on document HE/A14/EX/237. Please could you confirm receipt and confirm that they have been received prior to Deadline 15. Due to the short timescale I have not been able to table these comments for approval by the Girton Parish Council but I am confident that they represent the views of the residents in the flood risk area of Girton Village.

Section 18.1.3 the description of the cause of flooding in Girton does not reflect the experience of the residents in the flood risk area of the village. The primary cause of all previous floods has been from flood water in the Washpit and Beck Brook overtopping the banks. The first recorded flood to properties in Dodford Lane was in 1978, shortly after the completion of the M11/A604 (now the A14) junction, since when the drainage from the carriageways discharged directly into the two brooks. Whether the timing of this was a coincidence or an unforeseen consequence of the road improvements is not known.

Section 18.1.4. The JBA/EA model underestimated the flood levels in both the Washpit and Beck Brooks and therefore the results should not be relied on.

Page 2 – Executive Summary. This states that “Further work would be undertaken in future design stages to determine if mitigation for pre-existing flood risk could be incorporated into the scheme”. In view of the observations regarding Section 18.1.3 above we are very concerned that this is incorporated into the design brief. Recent meetings with representatives of Highways England and the Girton Parish Council, to agree a “Statement of Common Ground” (HE/A14/EX/233/PC16) have indicated that HE are not taking this suggestion on board.

Section 27.1.2. We agree that the EA’s suggestion to consider linking Beck Brook to Borrow Pit 6 to mitigate the flood risk to Girton and would like this to be included in the final scheme. We also agree that reducing the outflow from the attenuation ponds below that of greenfield rates should also be incorporated.

Kind regards

Douglas Whittle  
Flood and Drainage Officer  
Girton Parish Council.