

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 on Wednesday 17th February, 2016

at St Vincent's Close Community Centre, Girton, at 7.30 p.m.

Residents in the parish were invited to attend this meeting and to speak at Item
16/16.1

Present: (Cllrs): Williams (Chairman), Barnes, Buckler, de Lacey, Godby, Ranken, L Taylor and M Taylor

In attendance: S Cumming (Clerk), M McKay (RFO)

- 16/13 Welcome from the Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 16/14 Apologies and reasons for absence Apologies had been received from Cllrs Bygott, Griffin, Harrington, Kettle and Whittle, and from County Councillor Harford, and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence.
- 16/15 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda None.
- 16/16 Public Participation session on agenda items and matters of mutual interest:.
1. Members of the Public. There were no members of the public present at the meeting.
 2. County Councillor's Report (Appendix A) Since her report, Cllr Harford had reported that the County Council had agreed a zero increase on the standard rate and to accept the 2% offered by central government for adult social healthcare. The Clerk agreed to forward any questions arising from Cllr Harford's report.
 3. District Councillors' Reports (Appendix B) Cllr de Lacey reported that the JDCC meeting had approved the primary school on Darwin Green. The issue of this school's effect on Girton Glebe School was raised, but the school won't open until there is a population on Darwin Green. The University School catchment is also on that site.
 4. Police Report (Appendix C) Cllr Godby is to attend the Police Panel Meeting on 24th February. PCSO Mani's responsibilities now include travellers. Cllr de Lacey has requested that a statement be added to cycle crime notifications regarding which type of lock had been used - the police now occasionally now do this, and it is very useful information for cyclists to know which locks are being broken into. Parking throughout the village is getting bad, particularly by The George public house.
- 16/17 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20th January, 2016 (previously circulated) The Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr L Taylor and approved with one abstention.
- 16/18 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)
16/07.2 The 2016-2017 precept request has been acknowledged by South Cambridgeshire District Council.

16/07.3 The community group wishing to set up the book exchange have spoken with other parish councils who have not applied for change of use planning permission.

16/07.5 The replacement playground equipment has been delivered and will be fitted shortly.

16/12 The Police and Cambridge University have been made aware of parking issues caused by construction vehicles on roads close to Girton Corner. Alternative parking provision would seem to have been made and the issue resolved.

Noted by the Council.

16/19 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council.

1. To approve ditching works at Girton Recreation Ground. Only one verbal quotation had been received in time for the meeting, so this item was postponed until further quotations have been received.
2. To approve exterior redecoration works at Girton Pavilion. This item was postponed until quotations have been received.
3. To approve the purchase of a second set of shower heads to allow routine sterilisation of showers as part of a legionella-prevention programme. Cllr Williams explained that, following the example of other parish councils, the Council had looked into legionella-risk prevention at the Pavilion. Cllr Williams proposed that up to £1,000 be allocated for the second set of shower heads, seconded by Cllr Godby. Approved unanimously.
4. To approve the purchase of a wall-mounted hot water heater for the Pavilion kitchen at a maximum cost of £530.00 (plus VAT) including fitting. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr L Taylor. Approved unanimously.
5. To receive a proposal for use of land at Wellbrook Way as a community vegetable garden. Cllr L Taylor had been approached by residents interested in utilising a local area 1.5m x 3m for a community vegetable garden at Wellbrook Way. There would be no costs involved for the Parish Council, as all maintenance and upkeep would be undertaken by the residents concerned. Concerns were raised that there are lots of similar pieces of land at Wellbrook Way and to use them thus could make the area look scruffy. More investigation is needed, and to canvas the opinions of local residents. The group of residents would need to do the legwork on this.
6. To agree a response to the consultation on proposed scheme of delegation for planning issues. The response that the Council is broadly in agreement with the the new proposal was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Barnes, and approved unanimously.
7. To extend the briefing of the Office Task and Finish Group to evaluate a full costing for conversion of the Pavilion loft space with provision of a lift. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Godby. Another member of the Office Task and Finish Group needed to be appointed to replace Cllr Cockley, and Cllr M Taylor's appointment was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Godby and agreed unanimously. The plan will be to work out costings to make the area more usable including direct light provision and access. Approved unanimously.

16/20 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve payments for the previous month (Appendix D) The payments had been checked before the meeting by Cllr L Taylor. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr L Taylor and approved with one abstention.

- 16/21 Correspondence (to be received)
1. 8 Feb 2016: Letter regarding wooden bridge from 10-Acre Field to wood. Received by the Council. This item will be considered on next month's agenda.
- 16/22 To receive reports
1. Chairman's Report (Appendix E) It is encouraging to hear that the Statement of Common Ground will go to the Minister.
 2. Girton Town Charity. The Chairman had spoken with a Trustee. The charity is keen to install a new fence on the boundary of St Andrew's Churchyard, and to fund the cost of a footpath. The Parish Council is hoping to undertake car park works this year and the Charity will be happy to put in their contribution to the footpath. The Charity also plan to install lots of new benches in the village at the Passing Through and Settling birdwatching locations. The Clerk will send the Trustees the plan of where parish council benches are located.
 3. Girton Youth Project (Appendix F) Since the last meeting, Cllr Kettle had met with representatives of Girton Youth Project and Girton Town Charity.
 4. Footpaths. There has been a positive response from users regarding the rejuvenation works on Footpath 4. The unadopted road between Girton Glebe School and the Recreation Ground Car Park is being looked at by Cllr Harford, and will be brought up as part of the school's playground works.
 5. Water Management. The pond works at Town End Close Nature Reserve are in progress.
 6. Bowls Green Task and Finish Group. Since the last meeting, the Bowls Club has come back with more questions and another round of discussions will be needed. Mr C Wilson has produced a maintenance plan accepted by both sides and this is being worked to at present.
 7. Energy Task and Finish Group. Cllr Ranken will bring the group's draft recommendations to the next Parish Council Meeting, having circulated to the Chairman and Clerk beforehand.
- 16/23 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes None.
- 16/24 Matters raised by Members (for information only)
- A recent presentation had highlighted issues of loneliness for elderly and vulnerable people, and the need for community engagement in clubs etc. A presentation on Somersham Time Bank Scheme showed it engendered more community spirit and less dependency on state provision, and it was suggested that a similar group could be supported in Girton.

The meeting closed at 8.22pm

APPENDIX A

Cambridgeshire County Councillor's Report to Parish Councils
January/February 2016

The item on General Purposes Committee's February agenda that has attracted press interest and presages the possibility of a difficult meeting of Full Council on 16 February, was undoubtedly that relating to the Council's 2016/17 Budget. There is a range of views about the approach that should be taken to setting council tax and the position that

has

been indicated to be taken with regard to the additional 2% Adult Social Care levy. The justification for not taking the additional 2% is the unfairness of raising taxes for hard

pressed residents to offset an unfair national funding formula. The Council is one of many

rural authorities that has lobbied government on this and some success has been achieved with the announcement that Cambridgeshire will receive additional transitional grant funding of £3.20million in 2016/17 and £3.17million in 2017/18. Agenda pack [which

also provides access to minutes]: <http://tinyurl.com/jonmq57>

Children & Young People Committee' s agenda included a report on Educational Performance in Cambridgeshire at each Key Stage up to and including Key Stage 4.

Continued improvement was reported for Early Years Foundation Stage where

Cambridgeshire' s performance is in line with national achievement at 66% but continues to

be below the 68.5% achieved by its statistical neighbours. At Key Stage 1 performance improved by 1 percentage point for both Reading and Writing but remained static for Maths placing it level with national figures for Reading but below the national level in

Writing and Maths. Again Cambridgeshire' s performance is below that of its statistical neighbours [2 percentage points]. Despite improvement at Key Stage 2 in Reading, Writing

and Maths combined, the county remains 2 percentage points below both the national level and that of its statistical neighbours. Key Stage 4 also shows provisional improvement and again is higher than the national level but lower than the county' s statistical neighbours. Notably Cambridgeshire' s performance in the English Baccalaureate is superior to both the national and statistical neighbours' level of achievement. Cambridgeshire' s inferior level of government funding is doubtless an influence on performance but, with my District Council hat on, I am aware of that organisation' s grant funding of charities offering support for achieving readiness for school

of an increasing number of children. Am I alone in considering that there is a direct relationship between this need and subsequent under-performance?

Agenda pack: <http://tinyurl.com/hmmlex1>

As with most committee meetings over the last couple of months that of the Economy & Environment Committee [E&E] in February will be seen to have been dominated by budget discussions. Members of E&E were pleased to note the recommendations from Highways & Community Infrastructure Committee that cuts in funding for cyclic and reactive highways maintenance and mobile libraries should be reversed. There is also a one year reprieve for the withdrawal of funding for School Crossing Patrols [allocated from a different pot but noted here nonetheless]. E&E added recommendations for the withdrawal of cuts to the funding of Fenland Learning Centres and the reduction in funding for Passenger Transport Services. The latter relates to community transport schemes.

Agenda pack: <http://tinyurl.com/oeqn69c>

Cambridgeshire County Council Boundary Review The Commission has now completed its review of Cambridgeshire County Council. A summary of the Commission' s report setting out its final recommendations for Cambridgeshire County City Council and a

full copy of the report is available on its website, <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/>

eastern/cambridgeshire/cambridgeshire-county-council. An interactive map of final recommendations is also available at <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/4143> The proposed changes must now be implemented by order, subject to Parliamentary scrutiny. A draft Order, the legal document which brings into force the recommendations, will be laid in

Parliament. The draft Order will provide new electoral arrangements for Cambridgeshire County Council to be implemented at the local elections in 2017. The new Bar Hill Division

will include Bar Hill, Dry Drayton, Girton and Lolworth. Sadly, at the time of next year's

election we lose Boxworth to the Papworth and Swavesey Division.

In July 2015 NHS England and Public Health England launched an offer to partner with local authorities and others to develop 'new town' partnerships that would put innovative

health and social care practice at the centre of urban planning to create healthier places to

live. Led by Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, South Cambridgeshire District Council and the Homes and Community Agency an expression of interest was submitted. This identified Northstowe as a site where a healthy built environment could be

created that would cater for residents throughout the course of their lives and promote housing for older people. Innovation in promoting accommodation that will reduce the demand for residential care is being researched by the County Council through its Older People's Accommodation Project: <http://tinyurl.com/hafkl8q> The Council is therefore pleased to have been informed that the expression of interest has been shortlisted. The proposal will be presented to a selection of experts who will assess how ambitious and innovative the plans are, what the benefits for the site would be and the potential that the

proposal offers for valuable learning.

Supporting people to achieve their widely expressed ambition to remain in their own homes for as long as possible also has financial benefits for the County Council. Among supporting initiatives planned by the Council is the Adults Early Help Service. Subject to

confirmation of funding through the Business Planning process the service will commence on 01 April 2016. It will provide support and advice for older and vulnerable people who

are in need of help but not yet at a level which would qualify for an ongoing care package.

The first phase of this project will see the establishment of a multi-disciplinary team based

at the Council's contact centre which will provide links to existing sources of support. Face

to face appointments will be available where telephone resolution cannot be achieved.

Phase 2 of the project will provide for expansion of this type of interaction. To support this

same objective the Council is currently consulting on a review of the Community Navigators scheme. This consultation will run till 08 April. <http://tinyurl.com/ho2r285>

Acquisition of the Strikes Bowling Alley building has now been completed. The bowling alley business will continue there until April 2016. The new home for Cambridgeshire Archives at this location is scheduled to open during 2017. Meanwhile you can have your say on specific proposals by the Archives & Local Studies on new opening hours:

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/calsconsultation. Consultation closes 26 February.
Please let me know if you have any questions or comments on the foregoing or any other
County Council matter.

Lynda

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APPENDIX B

Report from District Councillor Douglas de Lacey

10. 2. 2016

The `NW Cambridge Sub-Group' is a somewhat amorphous body of officers and various interested parties whose brief is to encourage a sense of community and belonging in the new developments either side of Huntingdon Road. It will administer a Community Chest of about £5,000 (on which we could draw), and produce a Welcome Pack for residents. At its meeting on 20 January this generated lively debate, and a number of significant points were made:

- * We shall ask Cllr Lynda Harford to talk to us about her report on failures at Orchard Park.

- * The developers' name `King's Court' for the flats on the NIAB frontage has not stuck, and residents would be bemused by a `Welcome to King's Court' pack.

- * Many of the current residents of King's Court do not use the internet; a Welcome Pack needs to take account of this.

- * For communications, street names and dwelling numbers need to be clear and intelligible.

I am hopeful that these and other comment made will help to avoid the lack of focus so many new developments have built into them. We were also told that the City Council has produced a community profile and is reviewing local community facilities, while the Cinnamon Trust is doing a faith audit of the City. These will provide useful resources. We meet again in April.

The A14 proposals are just about to be put before the Secretary of State, and Highways England is offering various briefings on the project. I have attended two so far. Work should commence mid-2016 with completion around 2020. The design life is then a paltry 15 years before we might see the whole process repeated -- after all, the current design takes no account of proposed developments at Waterbeach or Fen Ditton.

The project will involve about 2000 staff, with a 500-bed main hub at Swavesey and a number of smaller compounds including one off The Avenue in Girton Parish. This will be within earshot of our far-flung residents who run Beckbrook Farm, and I am trying to get the location moved further away from them.

Highways England is concerned about the legacy of the project and there will be funding available for projects outside the `red line' of the road itself. Trying to improve quality of life in local communities and local economies. Flood attenuation and non-motorised transport were explicitly mentioned, and I am asking for more details.

The leader of the LibDems and I met our CEO on 4 February to be briefed on the moves towards sharing services with other Councils, among other developments. Sharing waste collection, ICT, legal services, planning and building control (not all with the same councils) provides economies of scale and helps prevent councils 'poaching' staff from each other, but also raises interesting issues of compatibility and flexibility. So far all seems well, but I am concerned about our ICT and have written two papers for a Portfolio Holder meeting which I was unable to attend. We had a report on the Inspector's reaction to our revised Local Plan submission — this is clearly going to be a long haul, and we shall shortly be meeting the Portfolio Holder for more information.

We also touched briefly on devolution. The government is clearly keen to have some trials including in East Anglia though it is unclear what the unit would be — perhaps Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire? It is such a diverse region that the problems of coherence would to my mind be immense, and if the government insisted on rapid progress I can see some huge pitfalls. But so far there are no concrete proposals.

Council met on 28 January with a long but generally insignificant agenda. We approved the boundary review proposals which should have little impact on Girton (we remain a two-member Ward, but include Dry Drayton and Madingley).

We had a very interesting motion on the problems surgeries face in areas of rapid growth: the proposer noted 'In my ward a development of 280 dwellings was awarded £200,000 S106 primary health provision. It is sitting in the Council and no effective plan has been put forward as to how it is to be spent.' We noted that there is no clear way in which this money can be accessed and shall write to the Secretary of State about the issue. This may be relevant to Girton as the new care home in Wellbrook Way is constructed.

I have met with the Deputy Director of the NW Cambridge project to discuss developments there, in particular the housing within Girton parish. Street names have now been approved by the GPO and I have asked for a detailed map. The first housing will be available in early 2017, and then is likely to be developed at about two dwellings per week. The University will consider the petition presented by parents of children at the school but I have no news on this yet. I hope to meet the pro-vice-chancellor in a month or so to discuss governance of the area within Girton parish as it is developed.

At long last there has been some movement on the NIAB (Darwin Green) site: the JDCC will consider on 17 February an application for the 2 Form Entry (420 pupil) Primary School, together with a Children's Centre, play space, sports pitches, car parking, and associated landscaping, lodged by Cambridgeshire County Council.

Douglas de Lacey

APPENDIX C
Police Report for February 2016

The next Police Panel meeting will take place at Cottenham Village College on the 24th February 2016, start time will be 19:30hrs. Come along and raise any issues/concerns you may have in your area.
Regards

Safer Neighbourhood Team

On 11th Feb, between 05:00 and 05:20hrs a theft took place in St Vincent's Close, Girton. Unknown offender(s) has gained entry to the rear garden of a property and stolen a bulldog. CF00600202016 refers.

APPENDIX D
Payments Schedule for Girton Parish Council – February 2016

Date	Chq No	A/c	Payee	Expense Description	Details	Net	VAT	Total	Cheque Total
17/02/16			CMR Wilson	Salary		£1,035.22	£0.00	£1,035.22	£1,035.22
17/02/16	104128		CMR Wilson	Expenses - Milk & Petrol		£58.08	£0.00	£58.08	£58.08
17/02/16			Linda Miller	Salary		£673.86	£0.00	£673.86	£673.86
17/02/16	104129		Linda Miller	Expenses - Stamps & Key Cut		£61.87	£0.00	£61.87	£61.87
17/02/16	104130		Norman Lewell	Salary		£250.46	£0.00	£250.46	£250.46
17/02/16	104131		Susan Cumming	Salary		£983.22	£0.00	£983.22	£983.22
17/02/16	104132		Mick McKay	Salary		£250.46	£0.00	£250.46	£250.46
17/02/16	104133		HMRC	Paye & NI		£522.64	£0.00	£522.64	£522.64
17/02/16	104134		South Cambs District Council	Non-Domestic rates		£672.00	£0.00	£672.00	£672.00
17/02/16	104135		British Gas	Pavilion - Electricity		£1,119.61	£0.00	£1,119.61	£1,119.61
17/02/16	104136		Algar Signcraft	Signs - Tennis Area		£92.00	£18.40	£110.40	£110.40
17/02/16	104137		Cotton Hall Foundation	Hire Function Room - 12th January		£15.31	£0.00	£15.31	£15.31
17/02/16	104138		Wickstead Playgrounds	Rocking horse & Cradle Swing Fixtures		£350.46	£70.09	£420.55	£420.55
17/02/16	104139		Pettit Sports	6 Pitchmarkers		£117.00	£23.40	£140.40	£140.40
17/02/16	104140		Avocet Cleaning Services Ltd	Pavilion Cleaning Services – January 2015		£457.00	£91.40	£548.40	£548.40
17/02/16	104141		A - Z Supplies	Pavilion Supplies		£53.98	£10.80	£64.78	£64.78
17/02/16	104142		Mythic Beasts	Web Hosting		£17.88	£3.58	£21.46	£21.46
17/02/16	104143		Geoff Peters Electrical	Replacement Kitchen Hob		£193.50	£0.00	£193.50	£193.50
17/02/16	104144		Dr D de Lacey	Reimburse - Dell Laptop Repair		£107.62	£21.52	£129.14	£129.14

APPENDIX E

Chairman's Report

11th February 2016

I have been informed by our MP, Heidi Allen, that as we have been in correspondence with the Highways Agency relating to the A14 upgrade she feels there is little to be gained by her pursuing our issues with the Planning Inspectorate. I have reiterated the fact that we are being ignored and her office have promised that she will look again at the matter. I have in the meantime written further to the Planning Inspectorate and Highways England repeating our concerns. While I doubt this will have any real positive outcome I feel it can do no harm to raise our profile. Douglas de Lacey and I attended the A14 Parish Council Update Forum at Girton College on February 4th. This outlined the plans for the Construction Compounds, (one of which will be positioned on the Madingley side of the A14 north of the Avenue), Ground investigations and 'Legacy' planning. The latter will entail provision of small grants for local projects so we should consider any ideas we might have for use of such funding. Councillor Rankin has already suggested provision of speed monitoring and control signs.

As reported at our last meeting an increasing number of contractor vehicles were being seen parked along the roads around Girton Corner and The Thorntons/St Margaret's Road area. Our PCSO was not able to intervene as he felt no laws were being broken. He did, however, offer to instate traffic patrols if we were prepared to pay for them. A parishioner and I visited the University Farm site where the contractors were working and spoke to the site manager who informed us that the site owners had instructed all

contractors to leave their vehicles off site. He agreed with us that there was ample space for parking at the adjacent NW Cambridge site. District Councillor de Lacey relayed this information to the University authorities and the situation now appears to be resolved.

The MUGA has undergone a basic refurbishment by removal of surface debris and replenishment of sand. This is likely to ensure its continued safe use for two or three more years but in the longer term it will need to be replaced with a more modern, state of the art, synthetic pitch.

After considerable delay in communication from our solicitor, we have at last received confirmation that contact has been made with GTC solicitor and matters are progressing on the land transfer at Wellbrook Way; albeit very slowly.

Haydn Williams

APPENDIX F

Summary of Girton Youth Project Report for January 2016

Our activities have been held exclusively indoors due to unseasonably warm and wet weather. As a result, we have purchased a door mounted basketball hoop, which we have been using with our over-size tennis balls to great success. We have also been offered a small wooden skateboard ramp to use in the back garden space and we are currently scoping out its feasibility and risks.

Half term activities have been arranged for this February. A trip to AlFresh.Co painting on the walls has been planned for Tuesday 16th Feb. We have also planned to be part of a Circuit Arts event at Wysing Arts Centre on Friday 19th Feb. This is a ticketed event, but we have 4 tickets reserved for our group.

Discussions for activities this Easter are underway and it seems the most popular events in order are: Go-Karting, paintball and Thorpe Park. We have also agreed to host the activities during the second week of the Easter Holidays.

As part of a longer term strategy, I have put together a plan to employ a Team Leader for two days a week. The idea is to create more focus, specifically for the Monday group activities and recruitment, so outreach work and connections to local primary schools will be key to the role. Anne Kettle, the Parish Council's new young person's liaison has been to visit the club. She gave some very positive feedback about attendance and the positive energy at the club, but has also expressed a concern about the apparent much larger groups of boys to girls that attend. In a subsequent meeting with Girton Town Charity, it was agreed that I would look into what the lower number of girls was due to and come up with contingencies to change that.