

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 19th April, 2017 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 17/40.1

Present: (Cllrs) H Williams (Chairman), Dashwood, de Lacey, Godby, Kettle, Taylor, Thorrold, Whittle.

Cllr L Harford (Cambs County Council) (until the end of item 17/43.4)

In attendance: S Cumming (Clerk)

17/37 Welcome from the Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting especially County Councillor Harford.

17/38 Apologies and reasons for absence Apologies had been received from Cllrs Buckler, Bygott, Griffin and L Williams and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence.

17/39 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda None.

17/40 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*) Cllr Harford reported that Wellbrook Way to Huntingdon Road is to be resurfaced. The particularly poor speed tables in Girton and Dry Drayton need addressing, and Cllr Harford has asked for some sort of policy about what to do about them. She is pursuing a light controlled crossing on Huntingdon Rd, as community facilities on the NW Cambridge site will be available to Girton residents. Forward funding is needed for cycling facilities particularly at Wellbrook Way. Cllr Harford is concerned that the North side of the A14 gets enough funding for cycling greenways and transport hubs. There are plans to link up Northstowe with Bar Hil, and Cllr Harford is lobbying decision-makers about greenways. The Highways depot at Wellbrook Way is closing and Cllr Harford will investigate.
3. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*) Cllr de Lacey had met with Heather Topel of the NW Cambridge Development on 19th April, and has a map of the shared boundary at the site. Some buildings will straddle the boundary. There will be an official opening of the completed parts of the site on 9th September.
4. Police Report (*Appendix C*) There was a crime spree in the village on 13-14th April. Several of the vehicles/dwellings affected had been left unlocked and were therefore insecure.

17/41 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15th March, 2017 (previously circulated). In item 17/34 regarding water management, the item should read "The bank had slipped downstream of Oakington Bridge and a meeting has been arranged with the riparian owner". In item 17/36, "Senior" should be added before "Planner". With these amendments, the Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Whittle, and approved with two abstentions.

17/42 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

17/31.2 The new churchyard grass cutting contract has started.

17/31.5 The new Pavilion cleaning contract has begun.

17/31.8 The residents have been notified regarding use of Smithy Green during the Village Yard Sale.

Noted by the Council.

17/43 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council.

1. To approve temporary use of the bowls green water supply for the new Girton Town Charity sensory garden at Wellbrook Way/Girton Road junction. Girton Town Charity are constructing a sensory garden at the junction of Wellbrook Way and Girton Road, and need a temporary water supply until their own is arranged. Any increase in water charges will be paid by Girton Town Charity, and if there is a significant increase this will be passed on to them. It will be good to have the sensory garden on the site. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr de Lacey. Approved unanimously.
2. To approve contractors for electrical repairs following the Electrical Inspection at Girton Pavilion (*Appendix D*) The Chairman proposed that Munro Building Services be contracted, seconded by Cllr Godby. The company undertook the original electrical installation when the Pavilion was built 17 years ago. Approved unanimously.
3. To approve contractors to undertake removal of dead tree and foliage in the brook at the end of Wellbrook Way. The Chairman proposed that this item be postponed, and that the Environment Committee be asked to get quotations for other treeworks needed, to be brought back to the Council. The Chairman proposed writing to the Wellbrook Way Residents' Association to put together a working party to clear the ditch at the end of Wellbrook Way wooded area. Cllr Dashwood will contact District Councillor de Lacey with details of fly-tipping in Washpit Lane.
4. To approve that by-laws regarding prohibiting use of vehicles and marquees on the Recreation Ground be suspended for Girton Feast Fete Day on Saturday 8th July and the Feast Week Concert on Friday 7th July. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Godby. It was proposed that the item be extended to cover the full Girton Feast Week, 1st-8th July 2017. Although not a by-law, it was proposed by Cllr de Lacey that the Council also suspends the ruling not to allow trading on the Recreation Ground and car park for the events on 7th and 8th July. Approved unanimously.
Cllr Harford left the meeting at this point.
5. To approve a draft budget for 2017-18 (*Appendix E*). Cllr Whittle was thanked by the Chairman for his work on the budget. As last year's budget was underspent, it is hoped to put monies into reserves. Proposed by Cllr Whittle, seconded by the Chairman and approved unanimously.
6. To approve NALC paycales for 2017-18 for Parish Council staff (*Appendix F*) The National Association of Local Clerks' recommendation is for a 1% rise. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr de Lacey, and approved unanimously.
7. To approve a contractor to source and install a compatible printer for the Parish Office. The current printer is suffering from terminal collapse and the sale-or-return replacement has been returned as it was not working. The Chairman proposed to ask Tom Yates, who installed the computer system, to find and install a printer, setting a price limit for goods and labour at £500. Seconded by Cllr Whittle. Unanimously approved.

17/44 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve the payments schedule for the past month (*Appendix G*). The payments schedule had been checked before the meeting by Cllr de Lacey. Proposed by Cllr de Lacey, seconded by the Chairman, and approved unanimously.

17/45 Correspondence (to be received)

1. 15th April 2017: Resident's correspondence regarding sewage works.
2. 17th April 2017: Request from Girton Tennis Club to move their noticeboard to front of Pavilion.

Received by the Council. Regarding the sewage problem in Oakington Road, there is a blocked sewer caused by tree roots which need replacement and the road may need to be closed. Cllr de Lacey has been told by Anglian Water that works will be completed by 10th May. These sewage issues will be included in the next Parish Council report for Girton Parish News.

17/46 To receive reports

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix H*) The '20s Plenty' stickers on wheelie bins are illegal because displayed on the highway during bin collections.
2. Girton Town Charity. No report this month.
3. Girton Youth Project. The Clerk reported that GYP leader Tim Shuker-Yates is leaving to pursue his career in counselling.
4. Footpaths. No report this month.
5. Water Management. No report this month. It was queried whether there would be insurance issues should the property which has erected decking over Beck Brook subsequently flood.

17/47 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes None.

17/48 Items which the Council need to discuss at the next meeting

Girton Youth Project are drawing-up plans for the graffiti wall and will forward these for a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

APPENDIX A Cambridgeshire County Councillor's Report

Council met in March with very little formal business to discuss. There were though four motions. One, on the subject of sustainable high streets and another on education funding were supported. Meeting agenda pack: <http://bit.ly/2oDb1cI>

General Purposes Committee [GPC] approved investment from the Transformation Fund in line with recommendations from Adults Committee meeting earlier in the month. Investments in prevention and early intervention have had some success in holding back demand in the face of a growing and ageing population and rising levels of need. The Council has over-delivered on planned savings from the Older People's budget and is forecasting an underspend in the Older People and Mental Health Directorate [OPMH] for this financial year, mitigating the Council's overall financial position in 2017-18. This positive aspect is though explained as much by the challenge of securing the requisite supply of care as it is by a genuine reduction in the level of demand. It seems that the approach taken so far by the Council is becoming unsustainable and will not meet the future challenge of providing for all adult client groups. The requested investment of £600,000 from the Transformation Fund will allow the Council to tender for an external organisation or combination of organisations to work with it on a detailed business case for a change management programme to accelerate the required service transformation. Meeting agenda pack: [GPC] <http://bit.ly/2oA6cAH> Adults Committee:

<http://bit.ly/2p7p4KA>

Highways & Community Infrastructure Committee approved the prioritised list of schemes for the Local Highways Improvements Scheme. There was only one application from the Bar Hill Division for this last round - from Lolworth whose request for protective kerbing at the junction of Robin's Lane and The Green was regrettably unsuccessful. There were though other applications that were discussed by parish councils prior to the application deadline and, although those applications were not made this year, I hope that they may be submitted for the next round [start date for applications is usually around November]. 29 South Cambridgeshire parish councils were successful this time sharing a budget of just over £117,000. Meeting agenda pack: <http://bit.ly/2oA6g3p>

Children & Young People Committee considered a report on delivering the extended entitlement to free child care. From September 2017 local authorities will have an increased obligation to provide free entitlement to early years education and childcare for 3 and 4 year olds. The entitlement for working parents who meet the qualifying criteria will be increased from 15 ['universal entitlement'] to 30 hours ['extended entitlement']. Members were told that the early experience gained from the pilot scheme run in 8 authorities confirmed that access to 30 hours weekly free childcare is radically changing the lives of lower income families for the better. Based on predicted funding rates eligible Cambridgeshire families could, on average, save £2565 per annum on childcare costs.

Although the proposed hourly rate to be paid to all Cambridgeshire providers [£4.04] for the 'extended entitlement' is higher on average than the basic hourly rate currently paid to Cambridgeshire providers for the delivery of the 'universal entitlement', it does represent a significant reduction for some providers from the hourly rate they charge working parents who are currently purchasing additional hours between 15 and 30. There is concern that the result will be a loss of income for some providers thus making delivery of the extended entitlement financially unviable for them. Officers are continuing work to identify capita funding requirements to support development of projects in areas of high demand and will

continue to monitor the situation with regard to the possible further funding that DfE has suggested may be made available later this year. Agenda pack: <http://bit.ly/2pFawhj>
The Health Committee approved the transfer of responsibility for Stop Smoking Services to an external provider, Everyone Health. This organisation is already contracted by the County Council to provide other lifestyle services. In its scrutiny role the committee received a report on the consultation exercise undertaken on the relocation to Addenbrookes of the out of hours service currently located at Chesterton. Although members supported the move in principle, there was continuing concern about the way in which the NHS consults. The on line questionnaire that formed a major part of the consultation was described [by me and supported by other members] as 'extremely simplistic'. Meeting agenda pack: <http://bit.ly/2ppcvHc>
Communication seems to be something that Highways England [HE] also struggles with. Although a regular communication on progress of the A14 Upgrade is emailed to a wide range of stakeholders, HE seems not to grasp the reality nettle. At a recent meeting with the chairman of Boxworth Parish Meeting, some Boxworth residents and both District and County Councillors, I made the point that honesty and acknowledgement of 'worst case scenario' at the outset is a much better approach than having to explain changes after the event. The excuse that 'things change' is not acceptable. The point was made that HE has carried out projects of this nature previously and should be sufficiently experienced to know where there is a possibility of change. People are usually accepting of changes that have to be made in truly unanticipated circumstances but should be treated with greater respect when it comes to communication of more general matters. Our MP, Heidi Allen also met with HE subsequent to the meeting at Boxworth and I asked her to include this feedback in her discussions. Both the Greater Cambridge City Deal [GCCD] Assembly and Board met this month. The Assembly made recommendations to the Board in relation to the allocation of funding/ resource. Two proposals may have direct benefits for our villages. The first is to allocate £480K for a 2 year programme of work [2017-2019] to develop up to 12 cycling 'greenways' in South Cambridgeshire. The second is the allocation of £100K to carry out initial feasibility work on South Cambridgeshire Travel Hubs. Both were subsequently agreed at the GCCD Board meeting.

The GCCD Board also agreed to consider later in the year an indicative request to develop a detailed business case to enable Board decisions to be taken on scaling up original pilot skills work. This will help stimulate business demand for apprenticeships and improve careers advice in schools through a second phase of activity and allow investment in a wider reach. [An indicative maximum of £2.1m over 3 years.] Full details: Assembly - bit.ly/2nVK8lQ
Board: <http://bit.ly/2nKxPIC>

As we approach elections for the County Council and for the new Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority Mayor, I should like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support over the 2 years and 3 months that I have been your County Councillor. I very much hope for the opportunity to continue to represent Bar Hill Division after 04 May but meanwhile offer my best wishes to all those standing for that privilege.

Lynda

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Report from District Councillor Douglas de Lacey

15. 4. 2017

I mentioned the Government's White Paper on planning in my last report, and the long flight home gave me an opportunity to read it. The Government wishes to speed up delivery of housing by streamlining the planning process and encouraging developers to deliver more and faster. A lot of it is motherhood and apple pie, full of good aspiration; but with very little that will tackle the real problems: skills and materials shortages and the material advantages to developers of land-banking. There are also some puzzling proposals; for instance that we might consider a developer's track-record in delivery when assessing an application. This seems to contradict the very nature of planning (more properly, 'development control') which is to assess if the proposed development complies with policy, and an approval is granted to the land, not to the developer, and so remains in force if the developer sells the land on.

Our response will shortly go to Cabinet for approval. It is interesting, in view of the decision to grant permission for Howes Close sports ground, that in response to a question on cemeteries in the Green Belt, our officers include a statement 'The Councils would support further clarification as to whether recreational uses such as playing pitches are inappropriate development in the Green Belt'.

In practical terms all this puts yet more pressure on Councils to approve applications and allow officers greater ability to decide without reference to the Planning Committee. The threat of being put in 'special measures' ('designation') remains if we cannot demonstrate lots of planning approvals and few appeals. This all seems to leave us with little leeway apart from trying to meet developers at an early stage and persuade them to improve their ideas before they put in applications. It's a tall order.

The Inspection of our Local Plan should, we are told, end this summer: the Inspectors will then draw up a report. They have already raised questions about our Gypsy and Traveller strategy and our officers have responded with a defence of it, which may not satisfy inspectors who are clearly already not content.

The ARU sports field was approved on grounds which I believe to be badly flawed, and I was disappointed that my arguments to the committee went largely unassessed. The only option now would be an appeal to the Secretary of State, which neighbours are now considering.

Our Ecology Officer Rob Mungovan has tendered his resignation to move to a new job; and while I am pleased for him it is a loss to the Council. He did sterling work in rectifying a number of mistakes made by Taylor-Wimpey at Wellbrook Way and has always been an enthusiastic supporter of projects such as local orchards.

The waste collection reorganisation saga continues. We may well not need paper caddies in the blue bins in future, as the company which took the clean paper has closed; yet new caddies have been returned to some residents who complained at their removal -- removal which was of course at odds with the letter circulated to residents asking us to retain them. I have yet to have an explanation from officers.

In February I reported that the Duck End streetlight was to be replaced. Unfortunately the job proved more complex than anticipated and had to be delayed; it is now scheduled for 5 May

We had a brace of extraordinary meetings on 13 April; at the first we approved the appointment of a new CEO. This key post attracted a strong field, and the appointments committee was unanimous in its recommendation. The new CEO, Beverly Agass, will join us in the summer. In the second we agreed to allow Cambridge City to continue to monitor Health and Safety issues for Marshalls spray-painting activities, even though these have now spread across our boundary into a hanger located in South Cambs.

Our Sustainable Parishes Energy Partnership (SPEP) is hosting a workshop about Open Eco

Homes events. These help home owners to share experiences – good and bad -- in upgrading their home, to encourage others to do similarly. The event is at South Cambridgeshire Hall, on Tuesday 9 May, 7--9 pm.

Douglas de Lacey

APPENDIX C

Police Report for March/April 2017

Between 10:00 hrs on 25/03/2017 and 17:15 hrs on 26/03/2017.

High Street, Girton.

Unknown offender has thrown a stone at the window of a Toyota Yaris which has caused the window to smash.

CF0165530317.

13/04/2017 22:30 - 14/04/2017 07:00

Woodlands Park, Girton

Offender has stolen luggage from within an unlocked vehicle.

13/04/2017 17:00 - 14/04/2017 07:00

The Gowers, Girton

Offenders have entered a garage and stolen a cycle from within.

14/04/2017 00:00 - 14/04/2017 06:00

Giffords Close, Girton

Offenders have entered an unlocked garage and a car. Offenders have taken a cycle but have left it in the road nearby.

14/04/2017 11:00 - 14/04/2017 11:50

Hicks Lane, Girton

Offender has stolen a cycle which was secured outside of the victim's home.

14/04/2017 02:20 - 14/04/2017 02:20

Church Lane, Girton

Offender has attempted to force the locks of 2 vehicles parked at the location.

13/04/2017 20:30 - 14/04/2017 09:30

St Vincent's Close, Girton

Offender has entered 2 insecure vehicles at the same address and taken cash from within.

Between 21:00 hrs on 11/04/2017 and 10:35 hrs on 17/04/2017.

Duck End, Girton.

Unknown offender has taken a locked child's Rabeneick cycle from the rear cycle port of a house.

CF0211880417.

APPENDIX D

Quotations for remedial Electrical Works at Girton Pavilion

Geoff Peters Electrical

This quotation is based on the list of observations as provided:

Items 1,2,4,5,7,8,11,13 – Replace with new

Items 3,6,12 – Investigate

Item 9 – Replace with new earth block

Item 10 – Supply and fit new mcb alongside the existing

Item 14 – Unable to find

Item 15 – Terminate or remove completely

Total: £633.11 (no VAT)

PA Collacott Ltd

Re: Electrical Works

Further to your enquiry regarding electrical works at the above property we have pleasure in submitting the following quotation.

Scope of works:

Items 1,2,4,5,7,8,12,13,14 – Replace with new

Items 3 and 6 – Investigate and report back with cost

Item 9 – Install larger MET

Item 10 – Install additional mcb

Item 15 – Make safe

Total price £654.60 plus VAT

Munro Building Services Ltd

Scope of works to include.

Item 1. Replace with new

Item 2. Replace with new

Item 3. Investigate and provide quotation.

Item 4. Replace with new.

Item 5. Replace with new.

Item 6. Investigate and provide quotation.

Item 7. Replace with new.

Item 8. Replace with new

Item 9. Replace earth block.

Item 10. Supply new MCB and fit.

Item 11. Replace with new

Item 12 Investigate and provide quotation

Item 13. Replace with new.

Item 14. Replace with new

Item 15. Terminate/remove.

The cost for the works above would be £526.00(Five hundred and twenty six pounds). Plus VAT at 20%.

APPENDIX E

Draft Budget for Girton Parish Council 2017-18

(please see separate document)

APPENDIX F: Payments Schedule for Girton Parish Council – April 2017

General Parish Expenses

Date	Chq No	Payee	Expense Description	Net	VAT	Cheque Total
19/04/17	104430	CMR Wilson	Salary	£1,131.90		£1,131.9
19/04/17	104431	Linda Miller	Salary	£689.21		£689.2
19/04/17	104432	Norman Lewell	Salary	£241.66		£241.6
19/04/17	104433	Susan Cumming	Salary	£1,006.59		£1,006.5
19/04/17	104434	HMRC	Tax and National Insurance	£514.81		£514.8
19/04/17	104435	South Cambs District Council	Non-Domestic Rates	£630.00		£630.0
19/04/17	104436	Zurich Municipal	Insurance cover	£1,368.66		£1,368.6
19/04/17	104437	Cambs ACRE	Payroll services	£72.00	£14.40	£86.4
19/04/17	104438	Avocet Cleaning Services	Pavilion cleaning services	£457.00	£91.40	£548.4
19/04/17	104439	Bruce Torrington Painting & Decorating	External redecoration of Pavilion	£625.00		£625.0
19/04/17	104440	AM Painting and Decorating	External redecoration of Pavilion	£550.00		£550.0
19/04/17	104441	Berrycroft Stores Ltd	Fertilizer and iron sulphate	£120.82		£120.8
19/04/17	104442	Paul Laston Garden Service	Wellbrook Way maintenance	£650.00		£650.0
19/04/17	104443	Paul Laston Garden Service	Open spaces maintenance	£560.00		£560.0
19/04/17	104444	CGM Group (East Anglia) Ltd	Mowing St Andrew's Churchyard	£143.32	£28.66	£171.9

APPENDIX G

Pay Scales for Parish Clerks from 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018

		SCP	From 1 April 2017	Equivalent Hourly Rate
LC1	Below	15	£17,072	£8.873
		16	£17,419	£9.054
		17	£17,772	£9.237
	Substantive	18	£18,070	£9.392
		19	£18,746	£9.743
		20	£19,430	£10.099
		21	£20,138	£10.467
		22	£20,661	£10.739
	Above	23	£21,268	£11.054
		24	£21,962	£11.415
		25	£22,658	£11.777
LC2	Below	26	£23,398	£12.161
		27	£24,174	£12.564
		28	£24,964	£12.975
	Substantive	29	£25,951	£13.488
		30	£26,822	£13.941
		31	£27,668	£14.380
		32	£28,485	£14.805
		33	£29,323	£15.241
	Above	34	£30,153	£15.672
		35	£30,785	£16.001
		36	£31,601	£16.425
LC3	Below	37	£32,486	£16.885
		38	£33,437	£17.379
		39	£34,538	£17.951
	Substantive	40	£35,444	£18.422
		41	£36,379	£18.908
		42	£37,306	£19.390
		43	£38,237	£19.874
		44	£39,177	£20.362
	Above	45	£40,057	£20.820
		46	£41,025	£21.323
		47	£41,967	£21.812
LC4	Below	48	£42,899	£22.297
		49	£43,821	£22.776
		50	£44,918	£23.346
	Substantive	51	£46,036	£23.927
		52	£47,194	£24.529
		53	£48,364	£25.137
		54	£49,432	£25.692
		55	£50,816	£26.412
	Above	56	£52,089	£27.073
		57	£53,387	£27.748
		58	£55,169	£28.674
LC4	Substantive	59	£56,943	£29.596
		60	£58,726	£30.523
		61	£60,522	£31.456
	Above	62	£62,295	£32.378
		63	£64,090	£33.311
		64	£65,850	£34.226
		65	£67,519	£35.093
		66	£69,223	£35.979
		67	£70,968	£36.886
		68	£72,762	£37.818

APPENDIX H
Chairman's Report
13th April 2017

Following the Town Charity public meeting on the proposed new bus shelter design which was largely well supported with little said in support of the existing structure, the PC approved the plan at our last meeting. A further meeting has been held with our architect to finalise details of some aspects of the finish to the path surfaces and the design of the car park entrance/exit. In the interest of aesthetics the GTC has offered to fund the cost of the entire length of the footpath including that adjacent to the play area. When finalised plans are received we shall put them out to tender.

As I reported last month a draft report has been published on the consultation process relating to the A14 upgrade planning process. Regrettably this does not mention any of the discussion at the feedback session I attended so as far as we are concerned is a bit of a waste of time!

Further information gleaned on planned road repairs indicates that the section between Mayfield and Girton Corner is to have a new coat of fibre grip tarmac but that the rest of the main road through the village does not yet meet the criteria for resurfacing! The same comment applies to much of the pavement/walkways through the village. I was moved to provide a photograph of the section in which I fell earlier in the year and have gained agreement that it is dangerous and is to be repaired forthwith.

Following correspondence from Cambridgeshire County Council Highways on the use of "20's plenty" stickers in Thornton Road, it appears that use of such symbols is illegal and because complaints have been made, residents are asked to stop displaying them. Their illegality stems from possible confusion to motorists as to the proper speed limit in force; use of a copyrighted roundel symbol; and even if a 20mph limit was in force the use of illegal 'repeater' signs. Apparently use of a '20' within a heart shape or use of depictions of life size children running would be more acceptable but could still be adjudged to be a distraction or roadside advertising. Residents of Thornton road are to set up a speed watch group to gather evidence to support their 20mph campaign.

Our attention has been drawn to a number of incidents of blockages in the stream along the end of Wellbrook Way. These are caused by fallen trees and branches and brushwood that have been 'helped' into the waterway, sometimes from neighbouring properties. Most recently several traffic cones have also appeared. There is also a tall tree that has broken at a high level and needs to be made safe. We are to consider quotations for removing the dead/dying timbers at our meeting and will look into obtaining assistance from Wellbrook Way residents in clearing the stream of other debris. The Clerk is to write to occupants of all neighbouring residences asking that they ensure they do not tip rubbish over their boundaries.

Councillors will have noticed the lengthy activity at the sewage pumping station along Oakington road. We believe this relates to a blockage which was causing sewage seepage into the Beck Brook which was reported a few months ago. We have not received any formal notification of what is actually being done nor how long it will take.

Haydn Williams