



SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 27 SEPTEMBER 2016

At Link Road Parish Council Offices - Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Parish Clerk Jo Keeler

Councillors

David Bard

Beck Laxton

Kevin Cuffley

Raymond Matthews

Tony Fell

Janet Martin (Chairman)

Robert Grayston

Brian Milnes

Colin Groves

Neil Reid (Vice Chairman)

Roger Richmond

+ South Cambridgeshire District Council representatives as follows:

Jenny Nuttycombe

David Roberts

Tom Davies

Councillor Rob Turner

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING

None

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on **23 August 2016** were read, confirmed and signed.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Fell and **seconded** by Councillor Cuffley to **accept** the minutes.

VOTE: 10 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

4 MATTERS ARISING – New information only

None

5 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

The representatives from South Cambridgeshire District Council gave a presentation on Neighbourhood Plans providing details of what is involved:

- Get a designated area within the village
- Have a public consultation asking residents what issues there are in the village, what they would like to see in the village. Ask all residents and groups including the elderly, families, sports groups, people with disabilities etc.

- Find out what types of housing is needed in the village. The Parish Council will have to do their own public consultation which is then submitted to SCDC who then do their own consultation.

Once this has been done the inspector checks the draft plan to ensure it meets the basic conditions and will then produce a report. If the plan is sound, then it goes to a referendum in the village. If over 50% agree and it's not challenged the plan will go ahead. SCDC will pay for the referendum.

If the plan goes ahead then this will be looked at by SCDC every time we make a comment on an application.

The next step to producing a neighbourhood plan is to get a working group together who will talk to residents and arrange a public meeting to get residents on board. The working group should consist of 1-2 parish councillors and residents including youths, elderly, members of groups etc. We need enthusiastic residents to help with this and the time to produce a plan. Ideally there should be between 9-12 people on the working group.

Questions from the councillors were answered and The Chairman thanked the representatives for coming to the meeting. They left at 8.25pm

It was **proposed** by Councillor Bard and **seconded** by Councillor Reid to **recommend** to Full Parish the principle of producing a neighbourhood plan and to agree which councillors would be involved in the working group. In principle to look at the feasibility of producing a Neighbourhood Plan at this time and informally contacting the neighbouring Parish Councils and to set up a group of Councillors to start discuss. Councillor Bard agreed to contact surrounding Parish Councils to get their views.

VOTE: 10 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

6 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS

Planning Application Ref	Location	SPC Comment:
S/2302/16/FL	Removal of wire mesh fence and erection of new fence along the front edge of residential property. The fence will be 6-foot high and wooden. At Bridge End Cottage, Sawston Road, Stapleford for Mr Jonathan Young Proposed by Councillor Reid and Seconded by Councillor Richmond to Support	Support – No objection Vote 8 For 2 no votes
S/0198/16/CC	Section 73 planning application to develop land without complying with Condition 1 of planning permission S/1784/14/CC (to allow the modular building to remain on site until 31 December 2018. Sawston Village College Proposed by Councillor Laxton and Seconded by Councillor Richmond to Support	Support – No objection Vote 10 For Unanimous
S1812/16/FL	Two storey rear extension and internal alterations at 51 Martindale Way for Mr Pierre Loa-Sireix	Do not support Vote 8 For 2 no vote

	Proposed by Councillor Laxton and Seconded by Councillor Grayston to not support for the previous reasons given as material adjustments are not apparent.	
S/2348/16/FL	Replacement of existing training tower with new tower at Sawston Fire Station – Mill Lane, Sawston for Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Proposed by Councillor Reid and Seconded by Councillor Grayston to Support	Support – no objection Vote 8 For 2 no votes
S/2372/16/FL	Proposed change of use of agricultural building to flexible B1 and B8 uses, involving an element of demolition – Deal Farm, Cambridge Road, Sawston for Deal Land LLP Proposed by Councillor Richmond and Seconded by Councillor Grayston to not Support due to increased traffic and it is in the green belt. The Parish Council also has concerns about flooding and drainage issues which were raised in 2013 and have not been addressed.	Do not support Vote 8 For 2 no votes

7 PLANNING DECISIONS

Noted.

8 CITY DEAL: TACKLING PEAK-TIME CONGESTION IN CAMBRIDGE (DEFERRED FROM EXTRA FULL PARISH ON 26 JULY 2016)

This was discussed and our comments are:

- There is no analysis of discretionary journeys
- There are no details of how they will improve public transport
- Discrimination against lower paid workers (regarding companies possibly charging for parking)
- It will increase journey times and costs for people to travel from Sawston to Cambridge – this will also increase pollution because of longer journey times.
- It will create pinch points and increase congestion

It was **proposed** by Councillor Reid and **seconded** by Councillor Grayston that the Clerk responds with the above comments.

VOTE: 9 FOR : 0 AGAINST 1 ABSTENTION

ACTION: The Clerk

9 SCDC – SUITABLE SITES FOR A BUS ‘HUB’ THAT WOULD BE USEFUL TO OUR RESIDENTS

SCDC has asked the parish council if they would like to suggest a suitable site(s) for a bus ‘hub’ that would be useful to our residents.

This ‘hub’ would not be the size and scale of a Park & Ride but would be smaller and much more local, for use by the village and perhaps some neighbouring villages. It is primarily intended to assist local residents access buses in an efficient way.

This was discussed and two sites were suggested:

- On the East side along Babraham Road where the new development could be built.
- The area between the railway line and the by-pass by Spicers. This is a brown belt site.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Grayston and **seconded** by Councillor Reid that the Clerk responds with the above comments.

VOTE: 8 FOR : 0 AGAINST 2 NO VOTES

ACTION: The Clerk

10 CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE

CCC is once again delivering its Local Highway Improvement initiative and has asked the parish council to submit an application if they feel there is an improvement they want to see in the village.

This was discussed and it was **proposed** by Councillor Cuffley and **seconded** by Councillor Reid that an application is submitted online by Councillor Cuffley for a zebra crossing on New Road by the Marvin Centre.

VOTE: 10 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

ACTION: Councillor Cuffley

11 COMMUNITY HIGHWAYS VOLUNTEERING SCHEME

CCC has asked if the parish is interested in Community Highways Volunteering which allows communities to step in and work on the highways in the local area, helping the County Council maintain highways to a high standard. The scheme gives volunteers in the community the opportunity to enhance the environment whilst at the same time reducing pressure on the County Council's budget. Areas of work would include vegetation cutting back, sign cleaning and litter picking.

This was discussed and the committee felt the county council are asking for a lot and not offering anything in return other than liability insurance. They are not providing protective clothing or equipment and the volunteers would have to manage themselves and would have to keep a record of when and where they have worked.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Laxton and **seconded** by Councillor Milnes that the Clerk writes to the County Council to say if they want us to get volunteers to do this work they would have to provide the protective clothing and all the equipment needed. If the only advantage is the liability insurance, then we decline their offer.

VOTE: 10 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

ACTION: The Clerk

12 WATER PUMP IN HIGH STREET

Last year the parish council discussed the state of the area by the water pump in Hammonds Road and it was agreed to review now. The committee are satisfied that the area is being kept tidy.

It was ***proposed*** by Councillor Reid and ***seconded*** by Councillor Cuffley to review again in 12 months time.

VOTE: 10 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

13 VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

A resident has requested that the Parish Council consider the possibility of a permanent Christmas tree in the village.

This was discussed and it was ***proposed*** by Councillor Reid and ***seconded*** by Councillor Laxton that as we are having a tree donated to the village this year we will consider this if the arrangement changes.

VOTE: 10 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

14 CORRESPONDENCE

None

15 COUNCILLORS ISSUES AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING – CONCERNING PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT ONLY

Cycleway Sawston to Stapleford – the Clerk to write to the County Council to express our concerns.

Phone boxes – The removal of two public phone boxes was agreed at the last full Parish Council meeting. A resident has expressed concern at this decision stating that often public phone boxes are a last resort in the case of domestic abuse. The meeting confirmed that there will still be one public phone box in the village.

Meeting closed 9.30 pm