

Present:

Chair: Willy Brown,

Steve Trudgill

Fiona Marshall

Graham Fagg

Julian Bright,

Clerk: Anne Angell

Members of the Public –4

1. **Apologies for absence** – Dick Jones, District Cllr Tony Orgee
2. **Declaration of Members' Interests** – ST Allotment holder, FM - Allotment holder, playground

Before the next item, the Council wished Happy 80th birthday to Roy Ellis, who served on the Parish Council for over 30 years, he was presented with a small gift of appreciation.

3. **To approve and sign minutes of meeting held on Monday 13th Nov 2017 and Extraordinary Meeting held 12th Dec** -approved and signed

4. **Updates**

North Uttlesford Garden Village – meeting held with Neil Gregory (Gt Chesterford PC Chairman), the process has been delayed, further consultations to be held

Smithson Hill Agri centre. A draft response to the application has been written, Tony Orgee has sent his comments. A leaflet will be sent to all residents in the village asking them to send in their comments. Copies will also be sent to neighbouring Parish Councils. Traffic numbers from local surveys will be collated and then a letter will be sent to local press and politicians. RSPB, BTO and CPRE will also be contacted for their views. Councillors will meet informally to decide who does what.

Points not raised but to be included are increased noise levels, light and air pollution and building heights. Smithson Hill have no power to make any improvements to Highways without submitting another planning proposal

Wellcome Trust employees will be asked to help with a traffic survey – who uses “rat runs” through villages to get to work to avoid traffic queues.

Thanks were given to Willy Brown for his time and efforts producing an excellent document.

Wellcome Trust – The lime trees on the allotments have been removed, the dip in the road has been levelled although it was questioned if this has been made high enough to prevent a puddle forming. The elm tree has not yet been removed, neither have the replacement trees been planted. Steve Trudgill has gone through the current Permissive Path agreement and has some points to raise at the next meeting. Ancient Lane needs attention.

Iron Bridge – work is due for the Spring once WT has the approval to spend the money.

Local Highway Improvement Initiative. WB to meet with Highways on the 5th Feb to discuss the application- replacing rails alongside river in Ickleton Rd

Speed Limit reductions – looking at ways to put signs and possibly a cycle/footpath along the roads to Ickleton and Duxford.

Mill Sluice. No further news, this is the responsibility of Cambridge Past Present & Future who own the Mill

Sawston Trade Park development Hearing is next Weds (10th Jan). Pampisford PC will be presenting on behalf of Duxford, Hinxton and Ickleton. Tony Orgee will be there.

Flooding at North End Rd – lots of activity recently, this has been cleared again however there may be need to either try to drill out the roots or replace the pipes completely.

Local Bus Service. DJ and ST have been working on this, Hinxton PC approve option 1– the local loops between Hinxton, Whittlesford Pkwy station, Whittlesford, the IWM, and Sawston.

Village Signs. Work is underway on the signs

School Bus. Good news on this, the service has reverted to its original format of 2 buses so children have shorter journeys to school, this is for a trial period. More parents are sending their children on the bus so there are less cars going to Duxford school.

Playground report The support poles of the Noughts and Crosses game have rotted away, this will be removed until they can be replaced, due to safety issues. Quotes to be obtained for this.

The flint wall needs repairing, it is a poor state due to the capping stones letting in water and the playground side being quite a bit higher than the road side, causing water to get into the mortar- this has been inspected and there are 2 options, repair or replace. To do a repair which may not last very long will cost approx. £8000, to replace will be approx. £24,000. This will include repairing the part of the wall which is shared by the Village Hall. Grants will be looked into to help with these repairs- maybe Amey Cespa? It may be an idea to add the car park repair at the same time as this is not holding up well in the wet weather.

Allotments. Most agreements have been received and rents have been paid, a few outstanding which Clerk will pursue.

5. New items for discussion

Litter near Ford- this is still a problem, McDonalds are closing soon for refurbishment and there is a new Manager. ST and FM to meet with him to discuss ways to minimize litter.

Computer purchase for Parish Council Funds are available to help with this, Clerk asked if this could be purchased with view of applying for grant so that there is a dedicated computer for Parish business

Budget and Precept. An analysis of the last few years budgets was discussed and what future needs may be. Reserves were thought to be adequate at present but something to monitor going forward. Costs are likely to increase and we have new commitments to carry out- Footpath License, repairs to Hall and Playground as well as any possible future costs involved with fighting Planning applications. It was proposed by WB to increase this by 10%, the new figure of £12,556 seconded by ST and all in favour with one abstention.

Genome Campus to Whittlesford Shuttle bus This is a shuttle bus used by WT employees and visitors which runs from the Campus to the Whittlesford station. There may be a possibility that Hinxton villagers could use it, however they would need to go through Security. This will be asked about at the next meeting with Wellcome.

Cleaner Communities Pilot Scheme- scheme for having own road sweeper , it was decided that

there was no need for this.

Defibrillator for the village It was agreed that this was a good idea, however costs may be quite high- over £1000, but it would be added to our “wishlist” and looked into whether grants may be available for this purchase.

5 Chairmans' report –

Nothing to add.

6 Public Session –

Smithson Hill was the main topic of discussion.

7 Finance

Accounting statement read out and approved.

Current position of Bank Balances at 31st Dec 2017

Current A/C : £12,394.94

Business A/C: £11,024.68

Bridge A/C: £2000.

Payments for Approval

EON	Utilities	£66.72
Clerk/HMRC	salary/expenses -	£624
RBL	Wreath	£17

Received

Interest from Bank		0.17
Came & Co	Insurance-War Memorial	£1225
HMRC	VAT refund	£866
Allotment rents		£120

8 . Planning Applications received

Planning Applications received

S/4353/17/TC Tree works William House, 66, High Street, Hinxton, Saffron Walden,

Planning Decisions approved

S/3720/17/FL Installation of a footpath adjacent to the existing Data Centre Wellcome Trust

S/3635/17/VC for Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) of planning permission S/2507/16/FL

9. Correspondence

10. Councillor reports: **Councillor Peter Topping County Council**
 Councillor Tony Orgee District Councillor To follow

11 AOB

It was discussed and agreed that future meeting would commence at 7pm .

Level crossings – WB to contact Networks Rail following a comment heard that the crossing between Hinxton and Duxford may be closed to through traffic in the near future- is this true and would it also stop pedestrians, cuclists etc?

Meeting finished at 10.00pm

Date of next Meeting : 12th March 2018 at 19.00

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