

**OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL, MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD AT 7.30 P.M., ON THURSDAY 14TH FEBRUARY, 2002,
AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET**

PRESENT: Mrs G Masdin – Chairman
Mr S Dunn Mr K Leggett Mrs A Riches
Mr B Sabberton-Coe Mr D Thompson Miss P Wilkin

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

APOLOGIES: Mrs P Mattocks, Mr M Vincent

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

229. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 17.01.2002.

The minutes had been confirmed and adopted by the Council on 31.01.2002.

230. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 218.1. Security at Church Street Recreation Ground, dangerous dog. Mr C Green had mediated with the owner of the dog and it had been agreed that she would guarantee to keep the dog indoors while the hedge was being cut.

Minute 228.1. Celebration of the Queens' Jubilee. Mrs P Mattocks had offered to chair a meeting of Village organisations to discuss possible Jubilee celebrations. Members were reminded that the Village Hall Committee was hoping to run an all day event and it was felt that the Council should support this event. It was AGREED that, if Mrs P Mattocks was willing, a meeting of all the organisations could be arranged at the Pavilion. However, it should be made clear that the Council would not be taking responsibility or funding any event. In order to make this clear it was suggested that replies should be sent directly to Mrs P Mattocks, and not the Council office.

231. RECREATION GROUNDS AND CEMETERY

231.1. Boundary fencing at Church Street Recreation Ground. All the boundaries were inspected on 11.02.2002. The hedge backing Garrick green was good in parts but poor in others. It was agreed that infill planting would not succeed as the hedge was full of dead matter and there would not be any nourishment for new plants. It was AGREED that a gap in the hedge behind 66 Garrick Green should be blocked off, if possible.

The chain link fence in most of the other areas was poor but adequate, for the time being; the posts were weak. One area had no fence at all. The worst area was in the area of the garage and shed and needed attention as soon as possible.

It was AGREED that the deeds for the Recreation Ground should be examined to confirm the Council's responsibility and to see if the nature of boundary protection was specified.

231. RECREATION GROUNDS AND CEMETERY (continued)

- 231.2. Football training, damage to pitches. There had been some damage during the recent wet weather when the 'no training on the grass' notices had been ignored. There was also concern about the numbers at Saturday morning sessions and that the condition of the pitches for Sunday matches was being compromised. It was AGREED to agenda the matter for the next Recreation Grounds Management Committee meeting on 7th March and to consider restricting the numbers for training for next season.
- 231.3. Lavare Park, vandalism. The pavilion had been sprayed with graffiti, which the groundsman had tried to remove, unsuccessfully. It was AGREED to get the graffiti removed professionally.
- 231.4. Land at Spixworth Road, adjacent to Lavare Park. The attached confidential notes of the meeting with Brown and Co were considered. It was AGREED that it was essential to obtain further information about the obligations imposed by section 106 agreements before the matter was discussed. A meeting had been arranged with Broadland District Council to ask the questions detailed in the notes. Brown and Co would be informed that the Council's response to the suggestions would not be forthcoming until after the next meeting.
- 231.5. Plant. It was AGREED to purchase another strimmer at the same price as the one bought last year, to replace the old brushcutter. One of the strimmers was used by Mr Martin and the other by the Groundsman.
- 231.6. Skateboarding. A schoolboy had asked the Council to consider a skateboard facility. He had presented a petition and details of grant aid from Sport for All. It was AGREED to ask the Recreation Grounds Management Committee to look into this and, also for some members to visit the new facility at the Brundall Memorial Hall.

232. VILLAGE HALL, NEW TOILETS

Mr P White, Broadland District Council's Conservation Officer had met with the architect and indicated the extent of the extension he would consider appropriate. Another meeting of the Working Group would take place in two weeks to consider outline plans.

233. CHURCHYARD CLEARANCE

It was AGREED to ask the Community Service Unit to work in the Churchyard again. It was AGREED that part of the work should be to fill in the low areas with topsoil. The Council would pay for the topsoil.

234. WAR MEMORIAL

- 234.1. Memorial inscriptions. The British Legion was concerned that the Village had not been consulted about the proposal to replace the actual Memorial with tablets on the new wall. It was AGREED to call a meeting of the ad hoc War Memorial Committee to discuss this.

234. WAR MEMORIAL (continued)

234.2. Seats. The Old Catton Society had provisionally chosen a conventional seat design, which was agreed by the meeting. A site meeting would be organised with the Society to confirm sizes and siting.

235. BUS SHELTERS

The meeting chose the Arun style bus shelter with a pitched roof and 3 metre width in graffiti resistant coated polycarbonate. The cost of one shelter would be £2610.00, less the grant from the Rural Transport Partnership of up to £1500.00. If the Council were only eligible for a grant for one shelter a year the second shelter would be provided in the next grant period. Consideration would be given to an additional shelter in White Woman Lane when funds permitted. The grant application would be made straight away.

236. VILLAGE WEBSITE

Mr S Dunn reported on the meeting he had attended to look into setting up a Village Website. The Church and the Old Catton Society would also be involved. A resident of Church Street, Mr G Stuart had agreed to set up the site but would not continue to maintain it. It was important for the site to be kept up to date. It was AGREED that the Council should publish its minutes, Newsletters, details of Councillors, meetings and facilities. There would be nominal charge for the site. It was hoped the website would be operational by May 2002.

237. TRAINING

It was AGREED that Mr S Dunn, Mr K Leggett, Mrs G Masdin, Mrs A Riches, Miss P Wilkin and the Clerk should attend the NCAPTC Seminar and Update on 19.03 2002 at Swaffham at a cost of £25.50 per person.

238. NEW AUDIT REGULATIONS

Members had been given a copy of an article on the proposals, which would mean a 'lighter' annual audit and the requirement for an independent internal audit. This was one of the topics to be covered at the Seminar on 19th March.

239. CHEQUES, PAYMENTS AND COMPARISON WITH BUDGET

The attached list of vouchers numbered 483 to 518 was approved, and comparison with the budget noted.

240. CORRESPONDENCE

The attached list was received and discussed as follows –

12. It was AGREED to agenda the appointment of a Minor Authority Governor for White Woman Lane Middle School for the next Council meeting.
13. It was AGREED to agenda the ballot for the Parish Representative on Broadland District Council's Standards Committee for the next Council meeting.

241. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 241.1. It was AGREED to send a donation of in memory of the late Mr Eric Ward who had been a member of the Council for 18 years.
- 241.2. It was AGREED to remind Mr N Warburton about a price for new gates for the Recreation Ground.
- 241.3. The Village Hall Committee would be asked about the possibility of a new sign indicating the whereabouts of Hall Drive.
- 241.4. Mr K Leggett asked how he should report on Airport Consultative Committee meetings. A written report for all members and a verbal report to at Council meetings were thought to be appropriate.
- 241.5. P C Lambert had asked the Council to consider finding premises for a youth club. It was AGREED that this should be discussed, initially, by the Recreation grounds Management Committee.

There being **no further business** the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 10.05 p.m.

Chairman, 14.03.2002