

OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL, MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE
HELD AT 7.00 P.M., ON THURSDAY 9th OCTOBER, 2003,
AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET

PRESENT: Chairman: Mr B Sabberton-Coe
Mr F Colbridge Mr C Green Mr S Dunn (for items 155 – 169)
Mrs G Masdin Mr M Vincent Miss P Wilkin

APOLOGIES: Mr D Little Mr D Thompson

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

153. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The attached list of planning applications was considered and recommendations made to the Planning Authority, Broadland District Council, as noted.

154. APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF USE FOR CATTON PARK

An application had been made, on behalf of the Catton Park Steering Group, for change of use to Public Park for Recreational Use. The application included proposals for pedestrian access points as well as the existing pedestrian and vehicular access points to the property. The application noted that the existing access from Church Street was only used occasionally but the future intention would be to use it as a permanent pedestrian and emergency vehicle access and as a vehicle exit on a limited number of occasions.

Following a lengthy discussion it was AGREED to approve, in principle, the proposal to change the use of Catton Park from agricultural to Public Park for Recreational Use with the following reservations –

- 1) Objection to the proposal to use the access in Church Street for any other use than for emergency vehicles, for the following reasons –
 - A strong desire not to increase the volume of traffic in Church Street
 - The lack of visibility from the access
 - The wish to avoid parking in the area by visitors entering Catton Park through the proposed pedestrian access
- 2) Reservation of comments on the other proposed access points and the wish to be consulted again, in due course, when the use of the Park has been more closely identified.

Mrs G Masdin's vote against this decision was recorded.

155. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

156. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 11.09.2003

The minutes of 11.09.2003 had been confirmed as a true record, and adopted by the Council, the minutes were signed by the Chairman.

157. CHURCH STREET RECREATION GROUND

1571. Hard training area. Members were disappointed that no progress had been made. The meeting with representatives of the Junior Football Club would take place on 13.10.2003, at the Recreation Ground Committee meeting.

157.2 Bowling Green. The remedial work had not been completed. Because there had been no rain, and the use of the sprinkler was not very effective, the ground was too dry to carry on with the work.

157.3. Other work. Members hoped that the work to replace all, or some of the fascias and guttering at The Pavilion would be carried out by the end of the financial year. It was noted that the work to replace the kitchen sink was still outstanding; quotations for the work would be considered at the next meeting.

158. LAVARE PARK

1581. Sandpits. It was hoped to fill the sandpits during November.

158.2. Flooded area. It had been hoped that the Community Service Unit would concrete the area but the cost of materials alone had seemed prohibitive. It was AGREED to seek the advice of, and a quotation from, a contractor in order to identify a cost effective way of dealing with the problem.

159. CEMETERY

159.1. Gate and fencing. It was noted that the gate and fencing had again been damaged by vandals, temporary repairs had been made by the Groundsman. It was AGREED to include a sum in the budget for railings and a metal gate to replace the wooden ones.

159.2 Maintenance of graves. Other local authorities in the area did not charge a maintenance fee. There was a detailed discussion of the concept. Mr M Vincent PROPOSED and Mr F Colbridge SECONDED that a nominal yearly charge should be made to facilitate maintaining contact with the owners of headstones as well as helping to pay for the upkeep of the Cemetery. Three members voted in favour and three against. The Chairman used his casting vote against the motion and it was declared LOST.

160. CHURCHYARD

160.1. Wall to Church Street. An order had been placed with J Watts and Son who would complete the work by 31st March 2004.

161. VILLAGE HALL DRIVE

161.1. The Hall Drive. The Community Service Unit would clear the drive and the car park on Sunday 19th November.

161.2. Entrance piers. Woods Masonry would carry out the repairs during half term, when the Hall would not be in extensive use.

162. STREET LIGHTING

Mr T Edmunds, of Norfolk County Council, had confirmed, verbally, that there would be funds available from the section 106 agreement with Persimmon Homes, relating to the development at Fifers Lane, to improve the lighting at St Faiths Road. Mr Edmunds had yet to confirm this in writing and to say if Norfolk County Council would take over the lighting, or if the Parish Council would be given the funds to improve it.

163. REQUIREMENTS FROM THE BUDGET

The Committee hoped that its budget for Repairs, maintenance and equipment at Church Street might be increased to £8,000.00 to allow for some of the outstanding work to be dealt with. This included –

- provision to carry out the remedial work to the football pitches (£500 after allowing for contribution from JFC),
- renewing the section of drain at the entrance to the Recreation Ground (£1,000.00),
- completing the replacement of fascias and guttering at the Pavilion (£2,000.00),
- replacing the heaters at the Pavilion (£1,000.00), as well as
- general repairs and maintenance (£3,500.00).

The budget for Lavare Park would be overspent in the current year and it was agreed that it should be increased to £1500.00.

If the fencing and gate at the Cemetery were to be replaced it was estimated that an additional sum of £1,000.00 should be allowed.

It was agreed that serious consideration should be given to increasing revenue from lettings and fees; in particular that the charge for casual tennis should be increased.

164. PARISH PLAN

Further to the discussion at Finance and Policy Committee it was AGREED that Miss P Wilkin, Mr S Dunn and Mr K Leggett should represent the Council on the working group. It was AGREED that the Chairman and Vice Chairman should be ex officio members and able to attend as they thought appropriate. It was noted that the next agenda item would be dealt with during the progress of the Parish Plan.

165. SUGGESTION OF A NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE

Mr M Vincent felt that although the earlier discussion had not progressed, the Council should respond to Mrs M Charlesworth's suggestion. Members were concerned that a new centre would threaten the viability of the existing meeting places. It was AGREED that the subject should be dealt with in the Parish Plan process and that Mrs M Charlesworth should be informed that this would happen.

166. OTHER PROPERTY MATTERS

Review of insurance cover. A suitable valuer had been recommended; it was AGREED to ask him to quote for the work.

167. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

167.1. It was AGREED to agenda an item to discuss the possible routes for the Northern Distributor Road for the next meeting.

167.2. Path at St Faiths Road, near Age Concern. It was noted that if the bank were cleared back only six inches would be gained and the path would still be very narrow. However, the path on the other side of the road was much wider.

168. CORRESPONDENCE

The attached list was noted.

169. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

169.1. Review of Committee Structure. The Finance and Policy Committee had recommended that the present system be continued. This was AGREED.

169.2. Elections. It was noted that the Parish Council elections and the Annual Meeting would be delayed in 2004 because the Parish Council elections would be timed to coincide with the European election on 10th June 2004.

169.3. Mr D Little was making progress following his spell in hospital and thanked members for their good wishes.

There being **no further business** the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 9.35 p.m.

Chairman, 13.11.2003