

**OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL, MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**OF THE PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE,**  
**HELD AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2008,**  
**AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET**

**PRESENT:** Mr B Sabberton-Coe – Chairman  
Mr J Arnott                      Mr C Green                      Mr B Leggett  
Mr A Lovett                      Mrs G Masdin                      Miss P Wilkin

**APOLOGIES:** Mr D Thompson

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

**72. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Mr J Arnott declared his interest in agenda item 8.2. as his home was adjacent to the junction of St Faiths Road with Fifers Lane.

**73. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 10.12.2007**

The minutes of the meeting, which had been circulated, were confirmed, and signed by the Chairman.

**74. PLANNING**

Recommendations made are detailed on the attached list.

**75. CHURCH STREET RECREATION GROUND**

75.1. MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) and tennis courts.

Progress had been delayed by the wet weather but the laying of tarmac had progressed well during the last week.

75.2. Official 'opening' of MUGA

Helene Lincoln had agreed to 'open' the MUGA and the Thoroughbreds would give a netball demonstration. The date would be discussed at the Parish Council meeting.

75.3. Site for 'Vertigo Street'

The neighbour in Woodland Drive had written again expressing his concerns about potential disturbance by young people. He had been advised to attend the next Safer Neighbourhoods meeting to hear how the new policing methods would deal with such disturbances.

75.4. New play equipment.

SMP had begun to prepare the site for two pieces of equipment in the enclosed play area. Unfortunately SMP had sent some of the equipment in the wrong colour and this would be changed and cause a delay.

### 75.5. Football.

The meeting was disappointed that an article in the Eastern Evening News about the Old Catton Junior Football Club had included a mention of 'unavailability of pitches this season leading to unnecessarily cancelled matches' as matches had only been cancelled for one weekend when foul weather had caused neighbouring councils to also cancel football matches.

### 75.6. Lighting in the meeting room

The Royal National Association for the Deaf had confirmed, with technical details, that fluorescent lighting causes interference with digital hearing aids. Further research would be carried out before any changes in lighting were considered.

## **76. LAVARE PARK**

### 76.1. Planning application for the adjacent land.

It was not known when the planning application would be decided.

## **77. CEMETERY ROUNDABOUT**

Two ideas to renovate the roundabout were discussed and were not affordable with the funds currently available within the Cemetery budget. It was AGREED that members would visit the Cemetery and make suggestions about how the roundabout might be improved. The matter would be discussed again at the March meeting.

## **78. HIGHWAY MATTERS**

78.1. It was AGREED to invite Mr Steve White, an officer from Norfolk County Council's Department of Planning and Transportation to attend, at 6.30 p.m before the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

78.2. Norfolk County Council's feasibility study for improvements to the junction of St Faiths Road with Fifers Lane with a mini roundabout.

Mr J Arnott left the room during this item.

A summary of the minutes of October, November and December 2007 and January 2006 when the matter had been discussed was considered. The meeting was disappointed that Norfolk County Council was funding a feasibility study when the matter had been dismissed so recently and seemed unaware of the earlier discussions.

Mr S Dunn, the Norfolk County Councillor had supplied copies of correspondence he had received from over 30 residents expressing their wish for improvements to the junction; many had suggested a mini roundabout. Those residents mainly lived in the Eastern part of the Village.

It was AGREED to ask Norfolk County Council for details of the recent traffic flow figures and those recorded in 2005 when Norfolk County Council had stated that accident records since 2001 did not justify the creation of a roundabout and that queuing times were not unacceptable.

It was AGREED to recommend that the Council oppose the creation of a mini roundabout for the following reasons –

- The acknowledged anticipated increase in traffic at Church Street accessing St Faiths Road to use the junction is unacceptable. Church Street is in the Conservation Area, is narrow in parts, has bends with poor visibility and is unfit for additional traffic.
- The same anticipated increase in traffic in St Faiths Road, for which it is not suitable. Again there are bends with poor visibility and narrow paths in places.
- It is considered that a mini roundabout would lead to a lower standard of safety. The uncertainty over priority and hesitancy by some drivers with others barging in are probable factors in causing accidents. Speeding vehicles would tend to bounce on the raised area.
- The roads are on the heavy goods vehicle route hierarchy and used extensively by heavy lorries. The lorries would have difficulty keeping to the new curved carriageway and tend to drive over the raised area or the footpaths.
- Although it was stated that the bus company had asked for a mini roundabout it is feared that buses would find the added curves more difficult to navigate in the same way as lorries.
- The above factors with heavy vehicles would create more noise and fume pollution.
- A mini roundabout would make it extremely difficult for adjoining residents to access their homes.

## **79. CORRESPONDENCE**

79.1. The correspondence list was received.

## **80. MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

It was AGREED to ask Broadland District Council what progress was being made with the adoption of the amenity land at the Lodge Farm development.

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 8.00 pm.

Chairman, 11.1.2008

