



CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL

District of South Cambridgeshire

A meeting of this Council was held at the Hub Community Centre on Tuesday 2nd November 2021. Meeting commenced at 19:15

Present:

Cllr J O'Dwyer (Chairman)
Cllr R Poulton (Vice Chairman)
Cllr N Akhter
Cllr S Drew
Cllr A Fisher
Cllr P Gavigan

Cllr S Krintas
Cllr K McIntyre
Cllr F Panrucker
Cllr J Patel
Cllr J Simpson
Cllr G Thompson

In attendance: John Vickery - Town Clerk
Ellie Lydon – Committee Clerk

0 members of the public were in attendance.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from, Cllr A Ahmed, Cllr P Hedges, Cllr T Hudson, Cllr D Sharma, Cllr E P Spanner. Acceptable reasons for absence were given.

It was:

RESOLVED to accept the apologies from Cllr A Ahmed, Cllr P Hedges, Cllr T Hudson, Cllr D Sharma, Cllr E Spanner had been received and approved.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting CTC/M216 held on 5th October 2021.

It was:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting CTC/M216 be approved and signed.

3. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST OR REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION for items on the agenda.

Cllr Krintas declared a request for dispensation for Agenda Item 6 as a governor at Cambourne Village College.

4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had no announcements.

Signed

Date 7th December 2021.

5. POLICE MATTERS

No response from representative of the police commissioner. Were previously contacted regarding trespassing and other issues.

The Town Clerk has repeatedly followed up with the Partnership Policy Officer on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner but has had no response since her offer to meet with the Town Council after sending a letter to the Police and Crime Commissioner on the 9th September 2021. The Chairman of Leisure & Amenities will try to follow up with the Partnership Policy Officer.

A suggestion was made to try contacting them on Twitter as they may be more likely to respond if publicly contacted.

It was:

RESOLVED to receive the report and correspondence and continue to try to make contact.

Cllr N Akhter and Cllr A Fisher joined the meeting at 19:20

6. CAMBOURNE VILLAGE COLLEGE (ROAD SAFETY)

Claire Coates, Principal of Cambourne Village College was in attendance to give a presentation to Councillors regarding road safety to Cambourne Village College.

Claire Coates gave a presentation regarding the expansion of Cambourne Village College and road safety, which will be forwarded to Councillors.

Sixth Form hoped to be open in 2023 if planning applications accepted.

There are also plans to expand the performance facilities at the college. There is a lecture theatre planned for the sixth form, which can also be used as a Cambourne Community Cinema.

Claire Coates has spoken with Anne Ainsworth, Chief Operating Officer, South Cambridgeshire District Council regarding the plans for a road link from the Business Park to West Cambourne that would relieve the traffic to the school. She was informed that current plans for the road only accommodate bus, cycle and pedestrian and is not for vehicular access.

Multiple Councillors raised concerns regarding the route through the business park to West Cambourne. It is fundamental to the Town Council that the business park road is accessible to all vehicular traffic. Part of the agreement on signing over the land was that the road through business park would be accessible to all vehicles.

The Town Clerk has begun to have fortnightly virtual meetings/discussions with Anne Ainsworth but it was suggested to ask Bridget Smith, Leader of the District Council back for a meeting to speak more on the issue. The Town Clerk suggested he will meet with Anne Ainsworth when she visits Swansley Lane at peak time to view the issue.

The Chairman of Planning suggested he will discuss with the Town Clerk regarding the South Cambs District Council planning application for the business park and how the Town Council can support the school by advocating for the road link to allow for vehicular access.

Suggestions were made such as writing to Bovis and Taylor Wimpey to gain support and objecting to future planning applications from SCDC regarding the business park due to insufficient transport access.

Claire Coates continued her presentation to explain that parking on Swansley Lane is a big issue. The current road to the village college will be worse when new housing is built immediately fronting the road. This will cause a large amount of traffic and gridlock the roads/car park.

Due to the traffic issues a through road has been included in the designs for the new sixth form development. It will be a one way come out on to a road in West Cambourne to help alleviate the traffic build up. A question was raised as to whether double yellow lines could be placed on Swansley Lane?

Swansley Lane is inadequate for the number of children on foot, bike, scooters in peak time.

40% of students travel by bike (roughly 500 children on bikes)

30% travel by foot

20% travel by car

10% travel by scooter

The Village College has put multiple safety measures in place. 3 members of the senior team monitor the children when leaving school at various points and parents are discouraged from parking and dropping off on Swansley Lane. Regular reminders are also sent out to parents on bike safety. The end of the school day has also been staggered to limit the number of pupils leaving at the same time.

One way to increase the safety of the students would be to install a cycle route on Swansley Lane on to School Lane. Not only would this be safer for children on bikes but also those walking on the footpath.

Reinstating the Kissing Gate would stop children cutting through to Swansley Lane from the school link but would only be helpful if a cycle path is installed on Swansley Lane.

Introducing traffic calming measures, such as flashing lights, signage, 20mph speed limit etc would also help to increase the safety of the students by slowing vehicles down. The Town Council can push the County Council to move along the enforcement of the 20mph speed limit.

Claire Coates stated there has been too many near misses and actions need to be taken now before there is a serious accident.

A point was raised that there is no signage for delivery drivers or people who do not know the area that there is a school at the end of Swansley Lane. Signage may reduce the speed of cars coming down the road. This can be raised to Cambridgeshire County Councillor Mark Howell- Transport Committee.

The Town Chairman expressed that as a council, we can only offer full support and make the requests to the appropriate people. Swansley Lane is adopted by Cambridgeshire County Council up until where the footpath to the school is and is then under the control of the housing association. (kissing gate)
Cycle way input is part of west Cambourne work.

Cambourne Village College, Cambourne Town Council and Cambridgeshire County Council all need to keep working together to get the results needed to make children's journey to and from school safer.

Councillors felt strongly that whatever must be done, must be done now.

It was

RESOLVED to receive the report from Claire Coates and write a letter supporting the link as a fundamental part of the planning application for the business park and to invite Bridget Smith to attend a further meeting of the Council. To seek support of Taylor Wimpey and Bovis for the road link to West Cambourne. To participate in a site visit.

7. **CLERKS UPDATE**

To receive an update from the Town Clerk and Community Development Officer.

Councillors raised questions regarding the report, which the Town Clerk responded to.

The Chairman wished to express his support to the Cambourne Food Project and requested the Council to advertise as extensively as possible. The Council wished to thank Mahesh and volunteers for all their work.

It was:

RESOLVED to receive the report.

8. **COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

To receive a report from the County Councillor for Cambourne Ward.

A report was received from Cllr Mark Howell and apologies were given.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received.

9. **DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS**

To receive reports from the District Councillors for Cambourne.

A point was raised by Councillors regarding the nonattendance of District Councillors for multiple consecutive meetings.

It was proposed to write to the elected District Council members that it has been noted there has been repeated poor attendance. There is no expectation for them to be available for the whole meeting but for Councillors to be able to ask them questions during their allotted Agenda Item.

It also expected for reports to be submitted for each Full Council meeting, which can be as short as a few bullet points for matters that impact the residents of Cambourne.

It was:

RESOLVED to receive the report and an email be sent to the District Councillors regarding nonattendance and reports.

10. GREATER CAMBRIDGE LOCAL PLAN

To receive correspondence from the Greater Cambridge Local Plan

Councillors to send in their views to the Town Clerk by Monday 15th November 2021.

The Town Clerk is to arrange a Special Council Meeting to consider Greater Cambridge Local Plan. A date is to be confirmed.

It was:

RESOLVED that the correspondence be received and Councillors to send in their views to the Town Clerk by 15th November 2021.

11. BUDGET 2021-2022

To consider the 2022/23 consultation letter regarding the Parish Precept and a report from the Town Clerk.

It was suggested that no other large projects are taken on at this point in time due to budget constraints.

The bridge at the Great Cambourne Park has broken and needs to be replaced, which involves a substantial cost.

Site inspections of the playparks have been carried out by Town Clerk with members of the grounds team. Immediate replacements were identified, and the report written by the groundsmen will go to the next Leisure & Amenities Meeting on the 23rd November 2021.

A question was raised regarding the archaeological display as to what it will be. It will show what was found during excavation of sites and it will be up to the Town Council to decide what the display will look like.

It was:

RESOLVED that report be received and the listed projects be built into the budget for 2022-2023.

11.3 Local Government Finance Act 1992- Parish Precepts

Town Clerk does not contest to the parish precept.

It was:

RESOLVED that report be received and the tax base of 3,978.8 be used to calculate the budget for 2022-2023.

Signed

Date 7th December 2021.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

To receive correspondence.

12.1 Stop the Arc

It was:

RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

12.2 Cambridge Gliding Club

It was:

RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

12.3 NALC – Climate Change

It was:

RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

13. LAND TRANSFERS

To receive a report from the Town Clerk.

It was:

RESOLVED that the report be received.

14. TRAFFIC MATTERS & ROAD SAFETY

To receive an update on traffic matters.

Town Clerk has been contacted by John O'Donnell regarding the 20mph speed limit. They are delayed carrying out the design works but are progressing it, so the Council can consider the design.

It was:

RESOLVED that the update be received.

15. COMMITTEE REPORTS

To receive minutes of meetings of the following Committees and consider recommendations contained therein:

It was

RESOLVED to receive the minutes.

16. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Exclusion of the press and the public.

MOVE: that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the Meeting.

It was:

RESOLVED that the Press and Public be excluded.

17. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

To consider a report from the Town Clerk.

It was:
RESOLVED to receive the report.

18. STAFFING

To receive a report from the Town Clerk.

It is
RESOLVED to receive the report and to advertise for an office administrator at the same time as the apprentice groundsmen.

19. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Re-admittance of the press and the public.

MOVE: that the confidential business having been concluded, the Press and Public be re-admitted to the meeting.

It was:
RESOLVED that the Press and Public be re-admitted.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 7th December 2021

The meeting closed at 20:38

Signed

Date 7th December 2021.
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