

## LITTLE WILBRAHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting held in St John's Church, Little Wilbraham on Wednesday 5 March 2014 at 7.30pm

### MINUTES

**Present:** Cllrs P Addecott (Chairman), C Tebbit (Vice Chairman), J. Bramwell, R Tilbrook, J Torode, County Cllr J Williams, PCSO J Coppard, D Bramwell (Parish Clerk)

**Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs J Richardson, D White, District Cllr R Turner

**In Attendance:** 3 members of the public (J Beardsmoore, D Thurnham, C Clewes)

#### Open Forum:

**14/001: Planning Application S/2763/13/FL Proposed solar farm at Home Farms, Mill Road, Great Wilbraham**

Following discussions, it was agreed that the PC would not support this application in its current form and would therefore recommend refusal for this Application to SCDC.

**14/002: Planning Application S/0041/14/FL Proposed new dwelling rear of 2 Station Cottages, Six Mile Bottom**

Following discussions, it was agreed that the PC would support this application and would therefore recommend approval for this Application to SCDC.

**14/003: Tree Application C/11/40/060.15/1 91 High Street, Little Wilbraham**

Following discussions, it was agreed that the PC would support this application and would therefore recommend approval to SCDC for the reduction of tree heights/crowns/branches to 3 cherry, maple, prunus, hawthorn and oak trees and removal of an ash tree in the rear garden.

**14/004: Minutes of previous Parish Council Meeting** held on 11 December 2013 at Dick White's Clinic, Six Mile Bottom were approved and signed by the Chairman

**14/005: Declarations of Interest:** J Bramwell and R Tilbrook Agenda Item 14/017 Memorial Hall, Great Wilbraham

#### 14/006: Reports

**CCC Report** circulated prior to meeting. Cllr John Williams explained that as the County Council had a huge debt costing the County Council £6 million a year in loan repayments and the Government had again cut its funding to the Council, the council tax would be increased by 1.99% to help protect frontline services. Government expect CCC to make savings of £38 million in 2014-15. CCC would be launching consultation on investment in cycling in and around Cambridge. Sole traders, small and medium sized businesses could access a Connectivity Voucher worth £250-£3000 to help upgrade internet connections.

**DC Report** circulated prior to meeting. Cllr Robert Turner wrote that SCDC had approved its budget and proposed 1.99% increase in council tax on 27 February 2014 following the third successive year of 25% cuts to grant funding from Government. SCDC would be investing £7 million in a council housing company to generate income to spend on Council services to residents. Savings required in 2014-15 would include monthly, rather than fortnightly, green waste collections in the winter months.

**Police Report** update from PCSO John Coppard: Police surgery held at Six Mile Bottom on Sunday 16 February 2014 where residents asked questions about property security and reported suspicious vehicles in laybys on Brinkley Road completing their transactions. Police received 48 calls which included loose fencing panels stolen from Station Cottages, SMB, a loose horse in SMB and a road traffic collision injury on SMB Road. Also telephone scams claiming from Cambs Police requesting credit card details. White van accident at junction of Primrose Farm Road and Six Mile Bottom Road, Little Wilbraham on 5 March 2014 left a mangled post with concrete base and road direction signs in the farmer's field at the top of Primrose Farm Road. It was confirmed that the Police had reported this damaged sign to County Highways.

#### 14/007: CCTV

C Tebbit's research suggested 2 cameras and 2 computers would cost approximately £5,000. Plus signage required stating CCTV area. Further investigations required into solar panels, batteries and transformer by the Hole in the Wall.

**14/008: Local Road Little Wilbraham to Great Wilbraham**

Joint bid had been successful to reduce speed limit to 40mph between the 2 villages on the Great Wilbraham Road. It was expected that County Highways work would be carried out in 2014-15 with contributions from Little Wilbraham PC of £350 and £650 from Great Wilbraham PC.

**14/009: Little Wilbraham Fen SSI**

Chris Tebbit had not spoken recently to Hannah Skingley and Paul Currington had told him that the trees and bushes have been impossible to cut with a chain saw.

**14/010: The Pits**

John Bramwell agreed to obtain a price from Nick Fison to construct new steps and a handrail at the entrance to the Pits from the Churchyard end.

**14/011: Church Green**

Nick Fison had removed suckers and branches from the trees on the left hand side of Church Green. An invoice for this work was awaited.

**14/012: Recreation Ground: Playground and Allotments**

As both picnic tables donated by Camgrain had not fared well over the last winter and had suffered from some vandalism, John Bramwell had purchased new wood to repair them. Preservative needed to be applied to ensure that they did not deteriorate any further.

**14/013: Allotments**

All allotments were now being worked on by the 5 Allotment Holders. Currently no-one had applied to go on the waiting list.

**14/014: Village Signs: Little Wilbraham and Six Mile Bottom**

Both Village signs were now back at Teversham Engineering where they were being vandal-proofed. The signwriting had been completed at a cost of £293.61. Verge Protectors (wooden posts on metal spikes) for Little Wilbraham had been ordered from Ridgeons and would be installed by the contractor at the same time as the installation of the LW sign. The agreed sum of £150 (£75 for each sign) *see Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 01/2011 Item 11b* would be paid to the artist Veronica Taylor. It was agreed that the unveiling ceremonies for the 2 signs would take place on Saturday, 10 May 2014; the same day as the Annual Litter Pick.

**14/015: Local Bus Services 18 (Newmarket) & 17 (Cambridge)**

John Bramwell had written an article for the Spring 2014 Warbler Magazine (out on the 1 March 2014) explaining how residents could use these buses using their now limited times in order to get into Cambridge and Newmarket.

**14.016: Wadlow Wind Farm Funding Group**

It was agreed that John Torode would attend the March 2014 meeting in place of Prue Addecott who would not be able to attend due to holidays.

**14.017: Memorial Hall, Great Wilbraham**

Ray Tilbrook explained that the new build works would cost £450,000 and the Memorial Hall Trustees had £150,000; leaving a shortfall of £300,000. Charles Raikes, Chairman of the Trustees would like to give a presentation to the Parish Council at the next Annual Meeting. A Government Service Grant loan, guaranteed by the Parish Councils, for £100,000 over 20 years with the Precept being raised to cover this loan was likely to be suggested. It was noted that the Social Club was not popular and was likely to close.

**14.018: Future of Little Warblers Pre-school, Great Wilbraham**

The current porta-cabin had been condemned and there would be no insurance cover after the 21 July 2014.

Suggestions for the Little Warblers to continue included using the Baptist Church or the Memorial Hall in Great Wilbraham. Great Wilbraham school was also looking into setting up a nursery class for 3 year olds in the school building and the 4-5 year old children could then feed into the school.

**14.019: Budget 2013-14**

It was noted that not all budgeted items had been spent during 2013-14 but would be taken into 2014-15 ie. Village Bus Subsidy of £1368.00; Memorial Hall Pledge of £2500.00 and Road Improvements LW-GW of £350.00.

**14.020: Budget & Precept 2014-15**

SCDC had stated that all Parish Councils would be responsible for paying their own Local Council Tax Support Scheme Grant from next financial year 2014/15. It had been confirmed in January 2014 to SCDC that the Precept requirement for 2014-15 would be £8000.

**14.021: Parish Grass Maintenance**

A quote dated 27 February 2014 had been received from Kelley Harrington of KH Services. He had agreed to set his price for 5 years, commencing 2014-15. His previous charge in 2013 for grass verges in LW and SMB and the Recreation Ground and Church Green in LW was £265.35 per cut. His new rate would be £275.50 per cut giving an increase of £10.15 per cut or 3.8% to be held for the next 5 years. There would be 7 cuts in each year but if the grass was extra long over the winter, there would be a loading of 25% on the first cut. The conservation area was likely to be cut once per year at a cost of £126.00. It was agreed by all present that this would be good value particularly due to holding prices for the next 5 years.

**14.022: Correspondence**

Correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.  
John Torrode agreed to attend the next Parish Liaison Meeting at SCDC Cambourne on 27 March 2014.

**14.023: Planning Application S/2513/13/FL – 2 storey extension at Clifton House, Delamere Close, SMB: Approved by Parish Council and District Council on 17 January 2014.**

**14.024: Planning Application S/2595/13/FL – Raise ridge of bungalow & build 2 storey rear extension and side extension at 35 High Street, LW: Approved by Parish Council; awaiting decision from District Council**

**14.025: Parish Council Website**

Adam Lord of Cambridge Web Solutions based at 237 High Street, Cottenham costed a Parish Council website (similar to Histon/Impington) at £500 with minimum estimated ongoing costs of £96 per year to be hosted on the web; £10 per year for a domain name plus extra costs to expand or change the site in the future. The site would need to be updated regularly to keep it up-to-date and to provide information to go on the site at the beginning. It was agreed that John Torode would take this forward with the Parish Clerk.

**14.026: Agreed Dates for Parish Council Meetings in 2014: All to start at 7.30pm**

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|-----------------|---|
| 7 May 2014      | (3 Meetings: Annual Meeting, Annual Parish Meeting, Parish Council Meeting)<br>St John's Church, Little Wilbraham |
| 23 July 2014    | St John's Church, Little Wilbraham  |
| 1 October 2014  | St John's Church, Little Wilbraham  |
| 3 December 2014 | Venue to be confirmed   |

**14.027: Close of Meeting – 9.40pm**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair) Date \_\_\_\_\_