

## LITTLE WILBRAHAM & SIX MILE BOTTOM PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting 2015/3 held in St John's Church, Little Wilbraham on Wednesday 1 July 2015 at 7.30pm.**

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

**15/052: Apologies for Absence:** Cllr J Richardson

**15/053: Open Forum:** Daniel Pollitt, Project Manager, Network Rail explained that there would be upgrades to full barriers at two level crossings in Six Mile Bottom during 2018 and one in Westley Waterless during 2019. This work should ensure that the level crossings would be made much safer than at present.

**15/054: Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 6 May 2015** were approved and signed as a true record by C Tebbit (Chairman).

**15/055: Declarations of Interest:** 15/063: R Tilbrook, J Torode, R Turner; 15/073: R Tilbrook

**15/056: County Councillor Report:** John Williams explained County Council Highways would be carrying out quarterly inspections and storm drains would be inspected annually. Pot holes adjacent to those reported would be repaired. Verge cutting had been reduced to 2 cuts per year beyond villages' 30mph limit. A search for a site to provide another secondary school on the east side of Cambridge was underway; this would not directly affect Great Wilbraham Primary school but would ease demand on Bottisham Village College. The County will be reviewing the quality bus agreement to take account of new EU emission rules and UK disability access requirements. Passenger numbers on the No. 18 bus to Newmarket need to be increased to ensure this service is not cut next financial year.

**15/057: District Councillor Report:** Robert Turner explained the joint District and Cambridge City Councils new housing proposals had been suspended by the Planning Inspectors due to new government guidelines coming into force. Both Councils were working on revised plans which would be put out to consultation during November-December 2015 before re-submission in early 2016. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) had started a review of South Cambs' electoral arrangements as Councillors in some wards represent more electors than Councillors in other wards. Currently, 57 Councillors represent 34 wards across South Cambridgeshire. LGBCE had made it clear that they expect the number of District Councillors to reduce. SCDC were also consulting on proposed changes to the Local Elections system from thirds to all-out elections. This means either keeping the current system of electing 'by thirds' where elections are held for a third of all council seats each year for 3 successive years out of 4 or change to 'all-out' elections where every District Council seat is up for election once every 4 years.

**15/058: Police Report-Panel Meetings:** Operation Oakland – Police called at properties in Little Wilbraham and Great Wilbraham during 2 weeks in May 2015 to advise householders on how to avoid thefts etc. Smartwater at £10.00 and Locks for sheds at £8 could be purchased from the police.

James Sutherland, Police Chief Inspector ecops email on 17 June 2015 explained that Panel Meetings attendance was dwindling so a pilot launch to live-stream the neighbourhood policing panels on the web started on 16 June 2015 and will stream both Melbourn & Histon panel meetings. Residents can watch these meetings and join in discussions by following them on twitter@southcambscops. Police will tweet a link to a meeting shortly before it starts. Cost is negligible to police.

**15/059: Speedwatch:** Geoff Fry from Great Wilbraham reported that Speedwatch had recorded in one hour, 14 vehicles in excess of 36 mph southbound on Rectory Farm Road.

**15/060: Network Rail:** Centurian Traffic had applied for road closures at: London Road, SMB, 2 shifts 23.00hrs Saturday 26 to 09.00hrs Sunday 27 September and Sunday 27-Monday 28 September 2015.

**15/061: Little Wilbraham Fen SSSI: Rural Payments Agency:** It was concluded that the Single Payment Scheme was not appropriate for the Parish Council. However, it was agreed that using Country Living to cut the reeds would be a significant cost.

**15/062: The Pits:** Jonathan Tong: Geocaching container hidden at The Pits, location published late on 20 May 2015 and 2 visitors had spotted it on 21 May 2015.

**15/063: Little Wilbraham Common Rights Holders:** An email request from the Common Rights Holders to hang flowering baskets in the summer on the High Street to be fixed to lamp posts (currently being replaced by Balfour Beatty on behalf of CCC) or wooden posts owned by UK Power Networks was discussed. All Parish Councillors present agreed this was not appropriate and voted against this request.

**15/064: Church Green:** K Pritchard had rubbed down and coated the bench on Church Green with teak oil-cost £30.

**15/065: Recreation Ground: Annual Play Inspection, Allotments:** P Lampton had taken half of J Torode's allotment; they share Allotment No. 5; paying annual fee of £10.00 each (full allotment cost is £20.00).

**15/066: New Street Light Installations:** J and D Bramwell had met Joshua Cooke on Friday 12 June 2015 and walked round Little Wilbraham with the suggested plans from Balfour Beatty. Some changes were agreed with Joshua and Balfour Beatty started work week commencing 22 June 2015 by installing new street lighting columns. It was confirmed by J Cooke that the Give Way and 100 yards sign installed by CCC on Church Road near the junction to Rectory Farm Road would be re-installed on a new post as the street light where the signs were currently installed were to be removed and not replaced.

**15/067: Parish Grass Maintenance:** CGM Maintenance were continuing to cut the grass verges but had not yet sent a price to cut the grass to the rear of St John's church.

**15/068: Local Bus Services 18 (Newmarket) & 17 (Cambridge):** No change to current services. However, the Newmarket bus service could be at risk; it was agreed to publicise this service in the Warbler magazine.

**15/069: Financial Audit Return & Annual Governance Statements 2014-15:** This document had been completed, signed by C Tebbit and D Bramwell and posted to the External Auditors on 8 June 2015 for checking and signing off.

**15/070: Annual Budget Review 2015-16 for Approval:** This was approved by all Councillors present. It was agreed that the Public Works Loan would be activated in August 2015.

**15/071: S106 Contributions: SMB Social Club:** Due to the Club's dissolution clause which allows distribution to its members and is therefore not a charity, it was agreed that the Parish Council could not make a contribution to the Social Club at this time. This decision could be reviewed if the Social Club was able to apply successfully for charitable status.

**15/072: Primrose Farm Road replacement road sign:** Cllr R Turner agreed to contact Diane Duncan at SCDC to request a replacement street sign for the top of Primrose Farm Road.

**15/073: Planning & Tree Applications:** Tree Application from 40 Church Road, LW: SCDC had given consent for 2 years for 8 trees to be removed; 2 sycamore trees in St John's churchyard believed to be dying but with branches overhanging into 40 Church Road's garden to be negotiated with Diocese of Ely by Church Warden.

**15/074: Correspondence:** List circulated to all Parish Councillors.

**15/075: Cheques for signature:** Playsafety Ltd- £78.00; CGM Landscapes: £438.00 - 2 cuts on 5 & 27 May 2015

**15/076: Meeting for residents to meet MP Lucy Frazer:** Arranged for 7.30pm on Tuesday, 4 August 2015 at St John's Church. It was noted that Lucy had been elected onto the Government's cross-party education select committee and supported the fairer funding formula for Cambridgeshire.

**15/077: Future Parish Council Meetings at St John's Church, Little Wilbraham**  
7 October 2015 and 2 December 2015 at 7.30pm

**15/078: Close of Meeting: 9.35pm**

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

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