

## LITTLE WILBRAHAM & SIX MILE BOTTOM PARISH COUNCIL

**Parish Council Meeting 2015/1 held in St John's Church, Little Wilbraham on Wednesday 4 March 2015 at 7.30pm.**

### MINUTES

**Present:** Chris Tebbit (Chairman), John Torode (Vice Chairman), Ray Tilbrook, John Bramwell, Julie Richardson, Diane Bramwell (Parish Clerk)

**In Attendance:** Paul Lambton, Chris Anderson, Alex Wright, Geoff Wood

**15/001: Apologies for Absence:** Prue Addecott, David White, County Cllr John Williams, District Cllr Robert Turner, PCSO Julie Hajredini

**15/002: Declarations of Interest:** John Torode:15/012 Ray Tilbrook; 15/012, 15/013 & 15/014, 15/022, 15/023; John Bramwell: 15/022

**15/003: Open Forum:-** The following 2 items were presented and discussed:

**15/004: Proposed new Housing in Church Road, Little Wilbraham** presented by Chris Anderson and Alex Wright. A pre-application had been discussed with SCDC Planners in 2014. It was proposed that the existing dutch barn would be removed and replaced with a dense tree belt, a large single storey dwelling with a 2 storey annexe/home office and 3 smaller dwellings that would mirror previous housing on this site. The large single storey private house would be built with weather-boarding and pantiles. Based on the recent Housing Needs Survey undertaken by Cambridgeshire Acre in 2014, the 3 smaller dwellings would be a small terrace of three 1bed and 2bed houses, to be owned by a Registered Social Landlord, situated at the front of the site looking onto Church Road. This land was in Green Belt on the edge of the village framework but was not in open green belt and SCDC had placed a protective frontage on this site from the Hole in the Wall to Church Green. The Planners could accept this proposed development as a Rural Exception Site. The frontage to this site in Church Road was designated as a Conservation Area along with other areas of Little Wilbraham under the Town & Country Planning Act 1971 which had been arbitrarily drawn, proposed and agreed by Ken Davidson, a previous Chairman of the Parish Council and subsequently designated by SCDC on the 10 April 1984.

The current Parish Councillors would support this proposed development and would prefer to see a good visual link between the two parts of the village where this site cuts the village into two. Also the planting of dense trees was not preferred. There appeared to be scope to move the proposed 3 affordable housing units back from Church Road to provide front gardens and to allow these units to have some sunlight to their rear north facing aspect. A part two-storey private dwelling instead of the proposed very large single storey dwelling should also be looked into.

**15/005: Six Mile Bottom Social Club** funding request by Geoff Wood, Treasurer. This Club used to be the Sports and Social Club. Current membership is 93; 40 of whom live in Six Mile Bottom (not all in the Parish). The lowest estimates of necessary works, including new doors, re-upholstery of existing furniture, painting and new plasterboard ceiling in the Pool Room amounted to £8,102.01. Charity donations of £6,355 had been raised by the Club from 2006 to 2014. The Club was now run by volunteers; membership had increased and they would like to attract more members by refurbishing the Club. A painting sold in 2014 raised £25,000 but the club ran at a loss of £8,000 in 2014 and now only had £17,000. The annual rent for the building from Six Mile Bottom Estates was £6,750. It was noted that there was no disabled w.c. which would need to be provided.

As Six Mile Bottom sits within 5 Parishes ie Westley Waterless, Swaffham Bulbeck, Bottisham, Brinkley and Little Wilbraham, it was suggested that the Club seek funding from all 5 Parishes. To ensure long term use of the Social Club, a Business Plan would need to be presented to the Parish Council as well as the feedback from the other 4 Parishes, before further consideration of the request for funding could be agreed.

**15/006: Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** held on 3 December 2014 were approved and signed as a true record by Chris Tebbit (Chairman).

**15/007: County Councillor Report:** Due to cuts in government funding and the cap on council tax increases, £30 million must be taken out of the CCC revenue budget meaning cuts to front line services and a 1.99% increase for next year's precept. The Highways drop-in session at Fulbourn Library was to be reduced to once a month when Nicola Burden would be available at the Library on the second Thursday of each month from 10am to mid-day.

**15/008: District Councillor Report:** Recent changes to S106 thresholds for housing schemes of 10 or less dwellings indicated that these sites should not be subject to planning obligations for affordable housing,

commuted sums or tariff-style contributions such as recreation and open space for Parish Councils. This also meant that affordable housing on smaller sites could be at risk of being developed.

**15/009: PCSO Police Report:** Apologies had been sent by PCSO Julie Hajredini. There were no significant crimes reported in the Parish since the last Parish Council Meeting in December 2014.

**15/010: CCTV Research:** Dave Humphrey had previously costed 3 cameras for Little Wilbraham at £6,500 plus £75 ongoing maintenance plus signage and houses to install the recording unit. It was agreed to review this item in 12 months' time.

**15/011: Little Wilbraham Fen SSI: Management & Shooting Rights Consent:** £800 had been received from Paul Currington for Rights to Shoot on Fen and £1 had been paid to the Francis Estate via Carter Jonas for the Parish Council's right to use the disputed fen land for sporting rights. The new Basic Payment Scheme now required to be applied for on-line; the closing date for submissions was 15 May 2015. Awaiting shooting rights to be agreed and confirmed by Monica O'Donnell at Natural England.

**15/012: The Pits:** Jonathan Tong's email request for permission to hide a small container in a tree at the Pits based on the Geocaching game where people playing have to find the hidden object. More information was available on line at [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com). It was agreed unanimously that permission would be granted. The Little Wilbraham Common Right Holders were intending to work with Cllr Robert Turner and the County Council and to make a contribution to develop an ecology reserve at the Pits in order to encourage wildlife, with nesting boxes and wild flowers seeded. It was agreed that Carol Williams, Secretary/Treasurer would be asked for more details of this proposed work before the work commences.

**15/013: Church Green:** A dead cherry tree and small sycamores had been chopped down by Robert Turner. The cherry tree stump was still in place. Other outstanding work included burning off the trimmings. Chris Tebbit suggested that a replacement tree could be planted in due course. Mr Buxton had emailed the Parish Council and telephoned South Cambs District Council about the removal of the cherry tree. The Parish Council had received deemed consent following a request to remove this tree and an email had been sent to Mr Buxton explaining that the cherry tree had died as it was believed to be a danger to passers-by due to the heavy branches becoming unstable. It was therefore decided to remove the tree before any accidents occurred. It was agreed that a price for hardcore and plastic matting would be sought for the area where the cherry tree had been removed. This would enable vehicles parking on Church Green to have access to this area without damaging the grass.

**15/014: St John's, LW Churchyard:** Following receipt of the extra donation from the Parish Council to tidy up the churchyard; this work still needed to be carried out.

**15/015: Recreation Ground: Annual Play Inspection, Allotments, Trees:** The next Playground Inspection would be carried out during April 2015. All 5 allotments were let and currently there was no-one on the waiting list. Paul Lambton had pruned the tall trees on the Recreation Ground behind his house.

**15/016: Local Roads & Demolished Road Signs:** On 5 February 2015 the new street sign for Primrose Farm Road had been installed by SCDC. This was demolished on the 16 February 2015 by a vehicle driving into it. SCDC will not replace it until CCC look at and improve the road junction with Primrose Farm Road and the Wilbraham Road (to Six Mile Bottom). This should include new direction signs which had been demolished by a white van in March 2014. 2 more road traffic collisions had occurred during February 2015 at this junction.

**15/017: New Procedure for Reporting Highways & Rights of Way Issues:** Local Infrastructure & Street Management, Cambridgeshire County Council: Website: <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/>. Click link to Report a Highways Fault – this would go directly through to the local officer for the area and would also be logged onto their system for future reference. This would ensure the highway issue was recorded and dealt with according to their customer response standards. If the problem cannot be reported in this way, email their contact centre at [highways@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or phone: 0345 045 5212.

**15/018: Local Buses 17 & 18:** Bus Group Meeting held on 29 January 2015 with Fulbourn Forum, Paul Nelson, CCC and Cllr John Williams. It was confirmed that the current bus subsidy from CCC for the Newmarket Bus would remain for the current and probably the following year. No changes to timetables of either Newmarket or Cambridge bus routes were reported.

**15/019: Joint Wilbrahams' Parish Councils & Warbler Website:** Meetings had been attended with Patricia Davis, Natalie Mulvey, Ian Cummings and Martin Gienke to progress the shared website followed by a joint training session with Adam Lord at his office in Cottenham on 26 February 2015. Great Wilbraham were intending to launch the new website at their Annual Parish Meeting in April 2015.

**15/020: Police Panel Meeting, 26 February 2015 at Sawston:** Not attended

**15/021: SCDC: Liaison Meeting with Cabinet 11 March 2015** with Ray Manning, Robert Turner, Cllr Martin and Cllr Wright - John Torode and Julie Richardson had agreed to attend.

**15/022: Wilbrahams' Memorial Hall:** Approvals for the Public Works Loan had been agreed in principle at the previous Parish Council Meetings held on the 30 October 2014 and 3 December 2014. Public Notices had been displayed on all three of the Parish Notice Boards giving details of the proposed public works loan. A written Report, together with the Budget Estimate was considered at this meeting for formal approval of the application. Following discussions, John Torode proposed acceptance of the report and Julie Richardson seconded it. It was then unanimously agreed by all Parish Councillors. The application would be sent to Ian Dewar at CAPALC, who would assess the application prior to submission to the Public Works Loan Board.

**15/023: Annual Donations:** Confirmation of contributions from the Parish Council had been received as follows: Parish Churches £500; 1<sup>st</sup> Wilbrahams' Scouts & Cubs £100; Wilbraham's Youth Group £100.

**15/024: Annual Budget 2014-15:** The Annual Budget was approved.

**15/025: Precept for 2015-16:** The Precept requirement for 2015-16 of £9,000, which was an increase of £1,000 had been acknowledged by Grant Swain at SCDC. This would give an increase of 8.7% above the previous year.

**15/026: Planning & Tree Applications:**

- i) 3 Mill Road, Little Wilbraham: Application No. 10820 received on 16 January 2015 to prune weeping willow tree at front of house – Approved by Parish Council.
- ii) C/11/40/065: Application to remove 3 sycamore trees at the field adjacent to the Hole in the Wall Pub to allow horses to continue to graze was agreed by the Parish Council and consent given by Jane Green (Head of New Communities) at SCDC.
- iii) Station House, London Road, SMB S/0414/15FL: Application to erect part 2 storey and part single storey extension to rear (south) of dwelling house - Recommended for Approval by Parish Council.
- iv) Following all Parish Councillors meeting on the 12 January 2015 with James Thomas, Land & Strategic Projects Manager from Hill (Housebuilder) at SMB Estate Office and the receipt of a revised plan put forward by Hill on the 29 January 2015 to build 53 houses with a mix of 2,3,4 and 5 beds where 60% would be for sale and 40% would be affordable housing, a letter supporting this proposal had been sent on the 11 February 2015 to Toby Owen at Six Mile Bottom Estate Office. It was understood that the land was non-greenbelt.

**15/027: Correspondence:** Speedwatch was being set up by Geoff Fry from Great Wilbraham. Sue and David Lee had volunteered to be involved on behalf of Little Wilbraham. Training should take place in the next 2 months.

**15/028: Cheques:** Burwell Print, Spring edition of Warbler £156.40; The National Allotment Society Affiliation Fees £66.00; Robert Turner, Removal of Cherry tree & sycamores on Church Green £250.00, D. Bramwell, Parish Council Postage 18 Sept 2014 – 4 March 2015 £9.94.

**15/029: Future Parish Council Meetings in 2015 at St John's Church, Little Wilbraham**

Dates: 6 May 3 meetings: Annual Parish Meeting, AGM, Parish Council Meeting,  
1 July, 7 October, 2 December 2015

**15/030:** Meeting closed at 9.30pm

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

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