

Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting held in the Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Lambs Lane, Cottenham on Monday 18th March 2019 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Morris (Chair), Collinson, Dewey, Graves, McCarthy, Smith, Ward, Wilson, Wotherspoon, Young, SCDC Cllr Wilson and the Clerk.

In attendance: 5 members of the public

- 19/054. Chairman's Introduction and Apologies for absence** – Apologies accepted from Cllr Bolitho (work).
- 19/055. To accept Declarations of Interest and Dispensations** – Cllr Wotherspoon declared an Interest as County Councillor for Cottenham and will take no part in the vote.
- 19/056. Public participation** – Standing Orders suspended 7.32pm. Resident 1 raised concerns regarding safety, with several car accidents all occurring on the west side of Twentypence Road. Road name incorrect on resident letter (which is yet to be circulated). There is also a drainage issue. How are CCC proposing to maintain if they can't maintain the existing path? Cllr Dahlqvist arrived at 7.34pm. SCDC Cllr Wilson concurred. She was also concerned about the possible cut to the school bus which would be severely detrimental to a deprived group. Resident 2 stated that he owned one of the adjacent fields but hadn't been approached by CCC in relation to the project. Previously there was a ditch in situ so there could be a compulsory purchase situation. Resident 3 commented that the signage had blocked the view at the junction exiting the Fen which has made it dangerous. Furthermore there are still potholes which haven't been repaired on Lockspit Hall Road. Grips haven't been maintained so the water isn't running away which in turn is flooding the roads and lifts the materials from the repairs already done. Noted that 2 vehicles had to be rescued this week due to damage caused by the potholes. Standing Orders reinstated 7.43pm.
- 19/057. B1049 Twenty Pence Road Footpath & Drainage Works** - consider requesting Cambridgeshire County Council to suspend work on this project at this wildlife-sensitive time, pending a financial re-appraisal and local consultation – Cllr Morris outlined the project and background. Noted that the diversion for the one-day closure was extensive. Consultation was done in 2013 but there is no evidence that Cottenham responded and it would be hard to recognise this scheme from what is in the report. Noted that the money couldn't be spent elsewhere and had to go on this project, although viring was suggested to repair the existing path. Councillors commented that the consultation had been spectacularly mismanaged. The importance of educating the Traveller children was recognised. Noted that the area is prone to flooding. It was widely considered that the scoring for the scheme was done badly and potentially out of date with the situation now. The scheme wouldn't reduce journey times. Safety concerns raised – most accidents occur on the west side of the road. Query regarding the footfall data and whether it was available for inspection. General consensus that the money could be spent on a more worthwhile project, whether in Cottenham or not. Query regarding land ownership and whether CCC could install the footpath on privately owned land. Cllr Graves has measured the area and in most parts it was only 1.8-2m wide but would need the hedge cutting back to the uprights in places. Doubts cast over whether the hedge would be maintained to enable the maximum width for the path. There is also an important culvert which requires maintaining. Standing Orders suspended 8.10pm. Former CCC Mike Mason stated that he was on the County Council in 2013 and had no recollection of being consulted in relation to the project. Noted that if the hedge was to be altered then CCC is required to provide a stock-proof fence. SCDC Cllr Wilson stated that it was an appalling waste to spend money on something that had been so poorly consulted on. Standing Orders reinstated 8.15pm. Resolution that CPC strongly requests Cambridgeshire County Council to suspend work on the B1049 Twentypence Road footpath and drainage works (due to commence 25th March 2019) at this wildlife-sensitive time, pending re-appraisal and local consultation. **RESOLVED.** Cllr Morris to write letter and send to Matt Stanton (Interim Highway Projects & Road Safety Manager), the Chief Executive of CCC and Cllrs Ian Bates and Wotherspoon (Economy and Environment Committee).

Resolution that in the absence of a positive response from CCC to suspend the B1049 project, CPC have the right, at the Chair's discretion, to initiate legal action. **RESOLVED.**

19/058. Close of Meeting – 8.21pm.

Signed _____ (Chair) Date _____