

**Minutes of Little Bealings Parish Council meeting held at Bealings Village Hall at 7.30pm  
on Monday 4 March 2013**

**Present:** Mrs F Rogers (Chair), Mrs T Cornish, Dr C Rowe, Mr B Rufford, Mr D Wilson and Mrs M Wilson

**Also present:** PCSO J Moss, Mr T Fryatt (Suffolk Coastal District Councillor), Mr P Bellfield (Suffolk County Councillor) and one resident, all for part of the meeting

During the period of public participation before the meeting the following matter was discussed:

**C13/0180: Kesgrave High School, Main Road, Kesgrave: Retention of Floodlights to the new artificial grass pitch in the school grounds. Alternative Scheme to that approved under C11/2813**

A resident explained that his property looked over countryside towards the school pitches and he had first become aware of the development when construction started; he had not been consulted on an application. He was a supporter of sport in principle, but his property suffered from light spillage and glare as a result of the lighting. His research had confirmed that the development had not been installed in accordance with the permission granted. Poles of a height of 12/13 metres had been installed instead of the approved 17 metres. The applicants stated that this meant there was less visual impact as a result, but this was only true of the poles themselves and did not relate to the lighting glare and spillage. The lower height poles meant more glare due to the angling needed to ensure the whole playing area was lit. Glare affected his house. Other residents in Playford Road had also noticed the reflection in the sky. It also affected Playford Road and the entrance to Lux Farm, creating a road safety issue.

His research suggested two solutions: install higher poles or add shielding to the lights. The contractors had advised that shielding would limit the amount of light falling on the pitches, but this is known to be a solution which works elsewhere. He also commented that all three pitches are always lit, even if only one is in use.

Before the meeting one minute's silence was held in memory of Sylvia Chenery, a former Clerk to the Council.

**Councillor  
Actions**

**1 Apologies and Declarations of Interest**

Apologies were received from Mr P Carr.

Mrs Wilson declared a prejudicial pecuniary interest in item 8: EAOW Cabling Route and Playford Depot, having a beneficial interest in land in the parish affected by the route.

It was **RESOLVED** that the order of the Agenda be changed to deal with the above planning application as the first item.

**2 Planning Application**

**C13/0180: Kesgrave High School, Main Road, Kesgrave: Retention of Floodlights to the new artificial grass pitch in the school grounds.**

### **Alternative Scheme to that approved under C11/2813**

It was noted that the School had replied to the Parish Council's previous informal approach on the light spillage, but had not agreed to install any light shielding as a 'good neighbour'. It relied on the submission of the revised application.

The Council was aware of the need to protect the countryside from light pollution and had previously asked for lighting to be reduced elsewhere. After discussion it was **RESOLVED:**

- That there was objection to the application on the grounds that:
  1. the light spillage and glare was unacceptable in the countryside and on rural residences.
  2. the light spillage and glare was a danger to the users of Playford Road, in breach of LDF Policy DM26.
  3. the installation also breached DM26, not being designed to minimise light glare and spillage. It is noted that reference to the installed development having 'less visual impact' relates to the poles and not the light produced.
  4. the applicants should be required to minimise light spillage and glare by the installation of shielding or other means in accordance with DM26 as a condition of any permission.
  5. A further condition of any permission should restrict use of the lights to the pitches on which activities are taking place. At present all three pitches are always lit, even if only one is in use.

The meeting was adjourned briefly at 7.40pm to answer a question from the resident about the development control process and how any refusal would be enforced.

### **3 Minutes of the Meetings Held on 7 January and 13 February 2013**

The minutes of the meetings held on 7 January and 13 February 2013 were approved and signed as a true record.

### **4 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

### **5 Police**

PCSO Moss reported that no crimes had been committed since the last meeting, compared with one for the same period last year.

#### **Parking in The Street**

PCSO Moss had visited on several occasions but did not consider that there was justification for intervention: there was room to pass and to access properties opposite. It was noted that parking can slow traffic and so be a means of traffic calming. There had been recent damage to the bank nearby by a large vehicle. He will continue to monitor the area. It was noted that Bealings School had asked parents not to park near the Bowls Club entrance where there was also damage. However, the School had not responded to the Council's suggestion that the police visit and give a road safety talk. PCSO Moss would pursue this direct with the School, in respect of parking and pedestrian safety.

PSCO Moss was thanked for arranging for an officer to attend at School

pick-up time on the day of a recent funeral.

#### **Attendance at 12PT meetings**

A letter from the Chairman of the 12PT was considered, in which he urged the smaller parishes to attend meetings, partly so that priority setting could be all inclusive. It was noted that 12PT meetings dealt with long-term issues where a multi-agency approach was appropriate and that this was not usually relevant to any issue in the parish. The Council was also able to raise any issues direct with the SNT or via attendance at a PCEM. It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a representative would not be appointed at present, but the 12PT would be advised of any relevant issues.

#### **Police Commissioner for Suffolk**

Mr Fryatt advised that the new Commissioner had published a policy document. Consultation on it appeared to be limited, but Mr Fryatt advised that the Council should consider it.

#### **Daily Email Notification of Crime**

It was noted that the SNT had ceased daily notification emails to Parish Councils about crimes. Emails would only be sent in extraordinary circumstances. Data would still be available via the police-direct email service and in monthly reports to Councils.

#### **Attendance at the Annual Parish Meeting and Village Review**

PCSO Moss confirmed that he intended to attend both events on 15 April.

## **6 Highways**

#### **Speeding Signs**

Mr Bellfield advised that 20 vehicle activated speeding signs (10 permanently located and 10 moveable) were to be provided by SCC, although the sites were not known.

#### **EAOW**

He also advised that he had made representations at the SCC Cabinet pre-meeting which considered the EAOW application, recommending refusal of the application on highways grounds. An alternative location for the Construction Compound Site proposed at Playford should be pursued. The use of the B1079 by construction traffic needed to be considered in the context of it being a 'one-way' lorry route. There was confusion over whether use of Boot St was proposed. He would be involved in future consultations on the application and would pass information to the Council.

#### **Flooding in Lodge Road**

It was apparent that Gt Bealings Parish Council was not dealing with this matter, but it had also been reported to SCC via CSD by a resident in January.

#### **Exposed Kerb in The Street**

SCC had recently responded saying that from viewing streetgoogle mapping there appeared to be a need for hedge cutting at Bridge Cottage. This was as the Council had advised and SCC would contact the property to discuss the works needed.

### **Vehicle Damage to Highway Verge Bank by Brimar, The Street**

It was noted that this had also been reported to SCC as there was concern that the road would gradually widened due to previous damage and a property fence would soon be vulnerable. No reply had yet been received.

### **Footpath 8A – Manor Farm Lane**

The very muddy condition of this route, as a result of farm vehicle use, had been reported to SCC. However, an inspection had concluded that the route was acceptable for pedestrian use. It was noted that the condition had improved a little due to drier weather.

It was noted that SCC officers were taking a very long time to deal with matters referred by the Council. Mr Bellfield advised that he had raised the performance of the East Area Office with the Director of Economy, Skills and Environment.

### **Walker in Field in Holly Lane**

It was noted that a resident had asked a walker regularly using the edge of the field, and therefore being close to the backs of properties in Michael's Mount, not to walk there as it was intrusive and there was no public footpath. The walker erroneously considered that they were entitled to walk on an unploughed field. The matter had therefore been raised with the farmer and signs had been erected by him to make clear that access was not allowed.

Mr Bellfield also advised that:

- There would be no increase Council Tax by SCC in 2013/14 or for four years thereafter if power remained the same after the elections in May
- School re-organisation would be completed, resulting in two-tier schooling (primary and secondary) throughout Suffolk
- 94.7% of pupils had been allocated their first choice of secondary school this year
- An economic growth strategy had been launched by SCC to attract business to the county
- A proposed merger of Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Fire Services would not take place for financial reasons
- He would attend the APM and Village Review on 15 April.

## **7 Planning Applications**

It was noted that SDCD had approved the following applications:

C12/2391: 10 Holly Close

Erection of first floor rear extension (resubmission of planning application C12/1806)

C12/2189: The Orchard, Holly Lane

Variation of Condition of retention of dwelling without compliance with

Condition 2 of Planning Permission C12/0571 seeking the variation of this condition to remove Class E from the restriction, allowing householder permitted development rights to be reinstated for developments falling within Class E of the Town & Country General Permitted Development Order (2008) for (outbuildings, enclosures and pools)

**Ipswich Borough Council: Development and Flood Risk Supplementary Planning Document: Consultation**

It was **RESOLVED**:

- not to respond to this consultation.

**SCDC Core Strategy Modification Consultation**

It was noted that the need for modification resulted from the examination of the LDF and partly due to the lack of an East of England housing strategy. The modifications were considered to lessen protection for the parish, especially in respect of LDF Policy DM3 concerning development in the countryside. Proposals included the expansion of East Ipswich, with the policy area including Little Bealings. It was **RESOLVED**:

- To respond to the consultation as follows:
  1. Objecting to the diminution of protection for the countryside and especially as a result of the proposed modification of LDF Policy DM3 (MM32)
  2. Requesting consultation by and involvement in the work of the Ipswich Policy Area Board (AM15)

**EAOW Cabling Route and Playford Depot**

Mrs Wilson left the meeting in accordance with her declaration of a prejudicial pecuniary interest in this item.

A draft representation to the consultation had been circulated to Councillors. It was **RESOLVED**:

- To submit the following representation to the Planning Inspectorate about the application:

The Council:

1. strongly supports cable undergrounding to minimise permanent landscape impact.
2. strongly supports future proofing, as in documents 7.1(para2.3-8) and 8.1(para3.5), for the reasons in document 5.1(para3.9).
3. strongly objects to the cabling route through Little Bealings (Preferred Option Cable Corridor (POCC) in document 6.2(d)Consultation Appendix39). Alternative Onshore Cable Corridor A (AOA) in Appendix39 is the appropriate cable route because:
  - a. AOA can avoid Queech Wood; a new comparison of woodland impact is required.
  - b. HDD would not be required.
  - c. The Appendix39 comparison of POCC and AOA is fundamentally flawed in assessing only environmental impacts and giving nil consideration to

the impact on the two communities of Great and Little Bealings. No communities are affected by AOA. The Council maintains that considerable weight must be attached to this factor. POCC crosses two of the three roads which serve Little Bealings. The comparison is further flawed:

- i. Impact on agricultural land is temporary; weight should not be attached to it
  - ii. 3.61km of POCC land is an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) against only 1.67km of AOA land
  - iii. Environmental Stewardship Agreements are an invalid basis for land quality comparison. Stewardship schemes close in 2014.
  - iv. Analysis of public rights of way as part of the local transport network is omitted.
4. strongly objects to HDD construction in Little Bealings (Work No26) because:
    - a. it has consulted with its residents in closest proximity. One prefers trenching: the work will be quicker, and less noisy/disruptive. Another prefers HDD only if this allows tree retention; this is uncertain - no trees are to grow on top of the cable corridor.
    - b. Hedgerows will be replaced.
    - c. The working width corridor is significantly wider, increasing environmental impact.
    - d. 24 hours working increases noise, vibration, air and light pollution for the community; agreed noise levels will be exceeded (document 7.1, Summary (para5.8-27)).
  5. strongly objects to a CCS at Playford (Work No28) because:
    - a. The proposed traffic route fails to acknowledge that the Suffolk Strategic Lorry Route is one-way.
    - b. The Council deplores the lack of Traffic Management, Access Management and Travel Plans; without them the conclusion that Playford is the appropriate location for a CCS is invalid. The site has been chosen wholly for reasons of expediency and without knowledge of local traffic movements or due regard to traffic impact.
  6. considers document 7.4.8 wholly inadequate in failing to assess construction traffic impact on Holly Lane which is crossed by the cable/haul road. Assessment relating to The Street is irrelevant.
  7. deplores the applicant's refusal to fund professional advice for the Parish Council.
  8. is aware the applicant has refused compensation for the intangible adverse impacts of the development on community life. Impacts include travel delay/disruption and disruption to quiet enjoyment of the countryside (eg noise, air and light pollution and visual impact). Community funding is a prerequisite of consent.
  9. requires involvement in preparation of a Local Impact Report.
- To submit the representation independently and not as part of a joint parish response with any other Council

- To request the reinstatement of the verge in Holly Lane by EAOW, damaged by a tracked site survey vehicle accessing the field at this point and not using an existing vehicular access.

Mrs Wilson returned to the meeting.

## 8 Closure of the Admiral's Head Public House

It was noted that SCDC had confirmed that the nomination as a Community Asset was valid. No response had yet been received from SCDC concerning compliance with planning permission and the untidy state of the site.

It was noted that a Gt Bealings resident had approached the Council as she wished to begin raising funds for a community buy-out of the pub, but had been unable to attend the Council meeting. It was noted that the pub was not for sale. It was **RESOLVED**:

- that the Council would pursue the creation of a Working Group, informed by the outcome of the Village Review, but that the current owners would be approached by the Council to appraise them of the situation first.

## 9 Finance

### Income and Expenditure

The Chairman reported the following income and expenditure:

#### Income:

£5.69: NI Savings Account interest for 2012.

£71.29: VAT refund for 2012/13

#### Expenditure:

Cheques were signed as follows:

- SALC for Councillor Training (1 day) for Mrs Cornish (£64.80)
- Clerk's salary for January - March 2013 (net of PAYE) and expenses: £770.21
- PAYE: £186
- Hire of the Village Hall Committee Room for meetings in 2012/13: £127.50

Bank balance after the above expenditure would be £850.94.

Mrs Cornish advised that she had found the Councillor training very interesting and it was noted that, compared with some other Councils, the Council was efficient and benefited from positive relationships between Councillors, and with the Clerk. The training papers would be circulated to Councillors.

## 10 Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting and Village Review

It was noted that the events had been advertised by a flier in the Benefice Magazine. To date no group had said that they wished to give a report at

the APM.

Mrs Cornish and Mrs Wilson advised that family members were available to serve refreshments.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- That a maximum of £100 would be spent on refreshments and that Mrs Cornish would approach a local supermarket for support for the event, before liaising with the Clerk over the purchase of refreshments. **TC**

## **11 Matters Arising from Circulated Items**

There were no matters arising from items circulated following the meeting on 7 January, or subsequently by email.

## **12 Correspondence**

It was noted that:

- the Council would be required to submit a PAYE report for each payroll from 6 April 2013.
- S137 expenditure (donations) would be £6.98 per member of the electorate for 2013/14.
- various posters had been received, for display on the notice boards, and an appeal for funds from Age Concern
- A letter from Gt Bealings Parish Council had passed on concerns from a visiting motorist about the lack of hedge cutting in Lodge Road, but this had been resolved shortly thereafter.
- An Environmental Health Officer from SCDC had contacted the Council concerning a complaint from a Michael's Mount resident about the smell from muck spreading on a field in Holly Lane and asked for the farmer's contact details. The officer had subsequently advised that he had visited but as the field had now been ploughed considered the matter resolved.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- The following items would be circulated to Councillors:
  - 1) Clerks and Councils Direct
  - 2) A letter from Dan Poulter, MP concerning the Growth & Infrastructure Bill.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9.45pm.