

He felt that the proposed works on the Wangford Road (closure 6th October – 26th October) might cause much disruption – he would very much like to have it reported to him if this is the case. He said, in reply to a question, that it would not be possible to open another gate – too few personnel to “man” it. Cllr Gathercole wished to welcome the new Wing Commander, Colonel Jay Silveria, - wishing him well and hoping that good Anglo/American relations can be fostered. Sqdn Ldr Neild informed the meeting that Col. Silveria had been born at RAF Lakenheath, graduated from the High School, had had 4 tours of duty here and until last year had been Vice Commander at RAF Lakenheath. Sqdn Ldr Neild was thanked for his contribution and he left the meeting.

The meeting was reopened

4.CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 4th August 2008

Acceptance of minutes was proposed, seconded and agreed by all .

The Chairman closed the meeting

5.REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

A member of the public asked if there was any news on the buses in view of the closure of the Wangford Road. Cllr Gathercole asked if she would be good enough to wait until later in the meeting when her question would be answered.

6.REPORTS FROM

b) FOREST HEATH DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Clerk read out an e-mail from FHDC saying that they were aware of the travellers on the “far field” in the village – it is private land, therefore, out of their control, but they have been in touch with the land owner.

A second e-mail from FHDC is asking for details of problems with delivery of FHDC News.

c)SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr Noble gave fuller details of Wangford Road restrictions and he added that each resident would be receiving a letter giving details. There should also be an article in Lakenheath Times, although it was pointed out that this would be too late for start of work. Cllr Noble was asked if the letter to residents could contain a paragraph explaining/detailing the impact on bus services – he will look into this.

Work on level crossing has been put back – Clerk had not received notification of this.

Re Shippea Hill crossing closure – Network Rail had only informed Cambs Councils – this is being pursued.

Cllr Noble, referring to minutes 4th August 2008 page 458 line 25 said that there had been a misunderstanding – referrals can be made by anyone, they will be looked into by frontline staff.

He urged people to put on pressure for A11 dualling by logging onto the website

Complaints have been made about hedge at 9 High Street – he asked that owners be written to and if no action taken SCC could/would step in.

The “ bump” in the road at Woodlands nr its junction with Station Road is still a problem.

Cllr Gathercole expressed thanks that the long requested chevrons & verge markers were now in situ in Sedge Fen.

Resolved – Clerk to write to owners of 9 High St re hedge

Cllr Noble was thanked for his contribution – he left the meeting.

10.FOREST HEATH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK- CORE STRATEGY-MARIE SMITH (FHDC)

A brief outline of background and timetable of LDF was given, including fact that Lakenheath Parish Council had previously commented on LDF. Ms Smith highlighted 4 areas of potential interest. Prior to these areas being more fully investigated Ms Smith was asked about provisions for transport. Transport is a public/private mix. She stated that there is a structure plan, that all needs should be listed and that there will be 1 to 1 meetings. As Cllr Smith is the PC's transport liaison he will e-mail his suggestions to Marie Smith. On the 4 highlighted areas:-

Housing - it was felt that the proposals would have little impact on development of retail facilities – 200 new houses assuming an occupancy rate of 3 to 1 would mean 600 more people – that is nothing. Main growth would have to go into towns as they have infrastructure e.g. schools/health facilities etc. 600 people would not be able to demand more retail facility but help could be given to existing business. Ms Smith said that agents/landowners need to contact her to see if there are additional sites available for development. Cllr Morley did not believe the village could grow to the extent suggested and Cllr Rolph suggested that with supermarkets in Mildenhall & Brandon (which did not stock all needs) was there a need for a supermarket in Lakenheath? Cllr Gathercole said that this followed on from 2006 Parish Plan which called for more retail outlets and FHDC are trying to meet that request. Ms Smith was asked if a developer would *have* to provide infrastructure e.g. water, sewerage – yes. Allocation provides for a shopping list.

Key Service Centres – it was suggested that this is an expensive document – would it be adopted no matter what the Boundary Review outcome – yes. On submission date (March 2009) it is committed. Could objections to proposals be made – yes, provided within policy.

Overall Housing – it was suggested that the numbers did not add up – has to be a 15 year strategy and numbers are set by government. It was confirmed that “brownfield” sites could be back gardens.

Retail/Town Strategy – it was suggested that there is some adjustment to unified business rates which seems to penalise the smaller retailer. Ms Smith said she would look into this. It was suggested that the first step in this is missing – a business will only be set up if there is going to be profit, therefore, Lakenheath is unlikely to see new businesses – we all go outside of the village to shop. It was suggested that jobs are more important than retail outlets.

Ms Smith was asked about Marshalls (possible relocation) – there is provision to approach them

Ms Smith stressed the need to make representations to her.

Deadlines were asked about – the Clerk asked if she could have the deadline extended to 7th October 2008 – this was agreed.

Ms Smith was thanked for her contribution.

The meeting was reopened

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

The Clerk said that she had heard from the War Memorial Trust and a grant of up to £879.00 based on the quote from Fairhaven would be forthcoming. She had signed the contract and returned it to WMT. There was a query re some Locality Budget being offered for the work . The Clerk stated that she did not want to raise it at the time of the offer but she had made an application to WMT stating no other “grant” being pursued/made. Under these circumstances , if the PC wished her to pursue this, she would advise the WMT accordingly, but it was her personal view that the PC could find some other good & suitable use for Locality Budget. It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all that WMT offer be accepted and Fairhaven be asked to carry out work on memorial.

Resolved – Clerk to make arrangements for work on memorial to be carried out

8. PLANNING MATTERS

a) TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Rolph said that 10 applications had been considered. Of these, there was no objection to the following:-

F/2008/0505/FUL – single storey rear ext. – 67 Warren Close

F/2008/0509/FUL – dem existing bldg. & erection new bldg. Inc. parking & turning space – Aston Timber, Sedge Fen

F/2008/0503/FUL – change of use to hot food takeaway – 111 High St

F/2008/0447/FUL – erection manege with 1.2m fence – Undley House, 61 Undley Rd

F/2008/0496/FUL – erection 4 bungalows & new vehicular access – 3 Eriswell Rd

F/2008/0515/FUL – erection multi use games area – Lakenheath Playing Fields, Eriswell Rd

F/2008/0516/FUL – part retrospective, change of use land for inclusion in Playing Field – land adj. Playing Field, Eriswell Rd

There was an objection to the following:-

F/2008/0464/FUL –(retrospective) single storey garage & carport – Felsted, Drift Rd

F/2008/0341/FUL- erection 18 x 2 storey dwellings & garages, demolition of 10 bungalows – land 1-10 Sharpes Cnr

F/2008/0474/FUL – erection 5 terraced dwellings – land adj 82/82A High St

b) TO CONSIDER- ANY OUTSTANDING APPLICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

The following are in circulation:-

F/2008/0496/FUL – (amended) 2 bungalows & 2 chalet bungalows – 3 Eriswell Rd

F/2008/0567/FUL – erection farm shop/bungalow land rear 44-46 Station Rd

F/2008/0568/FUL – erection bungalow& garage + vehicular access – Curlew Lodge, 6-8 Cemetery Rd

F/2008/0578/OUT –outline 2 chalet bungalows & 2 bungalows with garages – 6 – 8 Cemetery Rd

Cllr Gathercole stated that he had given each Councillor a copy of FHDC Planning Committee Meeting 27 August 2008 because even although some of the PC's representations had not been successful there is recognition of their comments *as long as they fall within policy guidelines*.

9. LAKENHEATH CEMETERY

a) TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Cllr Rissen stated that the drive required weedkiller – seemed not to have been done so long ago – perhaps weedkiller used should be looked into. At the moment no progress had been made on some of the older memorials which required attention. Cllr Rissen is considering an article in Lakenheath Times to see if relatives can be located

The Clerk stated that a new bath is required in Cemetery Cottage – current one has cracked. A new one can be put in for £350.00. There has been some water damage.

Resolved – Clerk to arrange weedkilling of Cemetery drive and to look into possibility of insurance claim for Cemetery Cottage

b) TO CONFIRM GRANT OF EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS

There was one – Pamela Webb, Quayside Court (in resp. of Ray Prentice)

11.CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA – update/work to be done

From last month's inspections the two main issues continue to be "inners" for the bins and signage.

Cllr Whitehand has, as yet, been unable to obtain details of "inners" for bins. Signage (paid for by Playing Fields Association) is to be put in place by Village Keeper & part time Village Keeper Tuesday 2nd

September 2008. Cllr Smith will photograph signs when erected – these will be filed. The Clerk advised the meeting that ROSPA will be carrying out Annual Inspection this month.

Resolved – Village Keeper/PT Village Keeper to put up signs in playground; Cllr Smith to photograph signs in place. Cllr Whitehand to see if he can locate inners for the bins.

12. VILLAGE GREEN – consider the registration thereof

Cllr Smith has looked into registration of village green – Form 44 and instructions on completion have been downloaded by him. Apparently, Mildenhall Town Council have recently gone through the process. He was asked why Parish Council should go down this path – it would prevent possible future development on the site. Ownership of the green was queried – it is thought that the village green & Mutford Green are Common Land. However, ownership is not an issue affecting registration. Cllr Whitehand asked what was happening about bye law which had been suggested for village green & other grassed areas in village following removal of concrete planters. Cllr Gathercole had earlier given the Clerk a letter (Byelaws for Open Spaces/Village Green) from Peter Heard of FHDC. This was read to the meeting – essentially consultation has to be carried out before it can be enacted and it may be that the District Council would have to make the byelaw. However, the government are in the process of allowing Councils to make byelaws without needing Secretary of State approval and there will be powers to use on the spot fines.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all that Cllr Smith look in more detail at registration of Village Green.

It was further proposed, seconded and agreed by all that the Parish Council would await the new government legislation rather than pursuing the alternative (making byelaw through FHDC).

Resolved – Cllr Smith to make further enquiries on registration of greens.

13. PARISH OFFICE – approval of lease (with Village Hall)

The Clerk stated that the lease had come back from the Village Hall Committee, with their comments, having previously been reviewed and commented on by the Clerk, PC Chairman (Cllr Gathercole) and Cllr Ingham – did anyone wish to look at it prior to it being sent to Solicitors. Cllrs Ingham & Frost said they would like sight of it.

Resolved – Clerk to circulate to Cllrs Ingham & Frost.

14. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

A schedule of payments for the month was tabled. It was proposed to accept expenditure as listed, seconded and agreed by all.

(b) BANK RECONCILIATION

A bank reconciliation for month of July 2008 was presented. It was proposed, seconded & agreed by all to accept the reconciliation.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk said she had just received a rather bulky “Consultation on the Housing Renewal Strategy 2008 – 2011” from FHDC who were asking for comments by 14th September 2008. It was suggested this document is circulated round the Planning Committee.

SALC are asking for motions to go before SALC AGM – date of receipt – by 24th September

A letter of thanks for donation of £500 to Village Hall – assistance with new railings

FHDC are promoting “BIG TIDY UP” (Clerk put a small article in September Lakenheath Times) - Cllr Smith suggested that it would be a good idea to get involved – Saturday 13th September 1.00pm was agreed.

Eon have advised that electricity prices will rise, there will be a rise wef 2nd September 2008 and this will last until March 2009. Uncertainty after that.

Suffolk Constabulary have announced reviews of Safer neighbourhood Teams – aim is to make them more effective.

Kings Lynn bus – following enquiries from Cllr Gathercole, SCC replied and reply read to meeting by the Clerk – essentially, there is no service to Kings Lynn that could operate via Lakenheath. Only course of action would be to contact operator directly – Coach Services 01842 821509.

Resolved – Clerk to circulate Housing Renewal Strategy document to Planning Committee and Clerk to make arrangements for Tidy Up on 13th September

16. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Cllr Gathercole proposed “Lighting”; Cllr Smith proposed “Village Green”; Cllr Ingham proposed “Precept” & “Electricity Costings”

17. TO NOTE FUTURE DATES

2 September - Boundary Committee at Millenium Centre

3 September –SPS – FHDC, LDF, Core Strategy- Preferred Option Stage – at Freckenham Village Hall

9 September – SALC Forest Heath Area meeting at Eriswell

27 September – OPTUA Disability Sports Academy – Dome Leisure Centre

23 October – FHDC Parish Forum - West Row Village Hall

SALC are running 2 “Planning –dealing with applications” in October 13th at Thurston & 23rd at Claydon

The Clerk asked that she be notified asap if anyone wished to attend any of the meetings.

18. TO NOTE DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 6th October 2008

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm