

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held in the Village Hall
immediately following an Annual Meeting
on Tuesday, 23rd May 2000

Present: Cllr R. Homewood (Chairman),
Cllr Duffelen,
Cllr Johns,
Cllr Lloyd,
Cllr Newbold,
the Clerk,

but no Members of the Public.

The Chairman declared the Ordinary Meeting open at 7.49 pm.

1. Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were given for Cllrs Hutchison and Purllant.

2. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 25th April 2000:

A Draft had been circulated and posted prior to this Meeting; it was proposed by Cllr Lloyd, and seconded by Cllr Johns, that this be accepted as a true record of the Proceedings as presented; carried. The Record Copy of the Minutes was duly signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising from the previous Ordinary Meeting:

3.01 Archives (573): the Clerk reported on his visit to the Northamptonshire Record Office, covering study of the 1714 'Book of Maxey' (with references to a 1545 survey of Maxey), and of the Record Copy of the Enclosure Document (which includes neighbouring Parishes). It was agreed that the Clerk should view the 1545 survey, and seek the cost of copying the district Enclosure Map with a view to a joint venture with the Parishes covered.

3.02 Tarmac (573): nothing to add.

3.03 Church Notice Board (573): Cllr Newbold reported that the necessary documents were still under preparation.

3.04 Footway at West End Road (western-end) (573): the Clerk stated that he had written to, and spoken with, the City Council, which said that the delay was due to an administrative oversight, and that the Works should be started within a month.

3.05 Anglia in bloom (573): Cllr Newbold stated that the City Council has stated that progress cannot be made until all responses have been returned. Cllr Newbold further stated that plans to plant daffodil bulbs against the Churchyard-wall have met with approval.

3.06 Hedge on the High Street (573): the Meeting noted that the hedge has been trimmed, but still overhangs the footway, which has

led to a further complaint. It was agreed that Cllr Purllant should be asked to conduct further negotiations with the Householder.

3.07 Seat at High Street/Perkins Lane junction (573): the Meeting noted that the highway has received attention, but it was not known whether or not the problem of spray has been resolved.

3.08 Pavement at Tucker's Nook (573): the Clerk reported that he written to the City Council, which had stated that the intention is to rebuild the footway, as this Council has requested.

3.09 High Street deterioration (572): the Meeting noted that areas of deterioration have received remedial Work.

3.10 Best Value (572): the Clerk stated that, whilst the National Government has indicated that Parish Councils are not bound to practice Best Value, they are exhorted to observe its principles.

3.11 Piped-gas (572): the Clerk stated that he had written to the Director of Global Energy Associates to advise that this Council does not consider signing a Letter of Intent as being within its remit.

3.12 Review of Village Envelope Boundaries (572): the Clerk stated that he had advised the City Council that this Council regarded the 'status quo' for Maxey Village to be satisfactory, but that the proposal to enlarge the Castle End Settlement is not acceptable.

3.13 Land ownership at Perkins Lane/Quarry Lane/High Street (570): the Clerk reported that the strip of land in question appeared to be Highway Land, and responsibility for its maintenance now fell upon this Council. The Clerk was instructed to seek the cost of having the mowing of this strip added to the existing Contract.

3.14 Overhead power-line (569): the Clerk tabled a letter from the City Council, which stated that it has been established that a low-voltage line to a single user did not need Planning Permission. Whilst the Meeting welcomed the letter, it noted that it did not address the issue of the lack of notification to this Council of the Proposal. The Clerk was instructed to seek an answer to this lack of notification from the City Council.

3.15 Bridge over the Maxey Cut at Woodgate Lane (530): the Clerk tabled a letter from the City Council which requested this Council to express a preference regarding the replacement of the bridge either for pedestrian/cyclist/rider usage only, or for vehicular use also. It was agreed that time was needed to seek the opinions of interested and/or concerned Parishioners, and the Clerk was instructed to advise the City Council accordingly.

4. Correspondence:

4.01 Adult Learners' Week: the Clerk tabled details of a Seminar organised by the College of Adult Education.

4.02 Cycling Discovery Festival: the Clerk stated that he had put details on display as requested by the Environment City Trust.

4.03 Fostering: the Clerk stated that he had put posters on display as requested by the City Council.

4.04 Council for the Protection of Rural England: a sample Newsletter and details of Membership have been put on circulation.

5. Planning:

5.01 Quarry Planning Application (571): the Clerk stated that he had written to the City Council to request a copy of the imminent Section 106 Agreement; he tabled the reply, which stated that the Agreement existed in draft form only at the moment, but that a copy would be available when fully ratified.

5.02 14 Castle End Road - windows (571): the Clerk reported that, in response to his enquiry, the City Council stated that the Application has yet to be determined.

5.03 Poultry houses, King Street - change of use (571): the Clerk reported that, in response to his enquiry, the City Council stated that the Application has yet to be determined.

5.04 First Steps Nursery, West End Road (571): the Clerk reported that, in response to his enquiry, the City Council stated that the Application has yet to be determined.

5.05 2b High Street (571): revised Plans were studied and discussed. It was agreed that the overall layout was better than that of the original Proposal. However, it appeared that the overall projected areas of the revised dwellings differed but slightly from the originals, although the overall heights appeared to have been reduced. That the materials of two dwellings differed also caused concerns on aesthetic grounds. The Clerk was instructed to advise the City Council of these observations, and to request a 'street-elevation' in order to judge the overall visual impact of the revised Proposal.

5.06 Plot 2 Arthur's Court - alterations and extensions (571): the Clerk stated that Permission has been granted, with a Condition regarding materials.

5.07 7 High Street - conservatory, hay-barn and stable-block (571):

The Chairman and Cllr Duffelen declared an interest in this matter and took no part in either discussions or decisions.

The Clerk reported that he had received an enquiry from the City Council as to whether or not this Council intended to have this Application referred to Committee. For such an unprecedented step, he (the Clerk) had been unable to elicit a reason from the City Council. He (the Clerk) had placed the facts of the matter before the then Chairman, who, after deliberation, made an Executive decision to have the Application referred. He (the Clerk) had then

advised the City Council, by telephone and letter, of the decision to refer, which advice had been duly acknowledged.

It was agreed that this Council's address to the Committee would be determined by the Vice-chairman and other disinterested Councillors.

5.08 1 West End Road - two-storey extension and lobby:

The Vice-chairman declared an interest in this Application, but stated that he had no concerns regarding it.

Following study of the relevant Documents and Plans, it was agreed that there would be no opposition to the general principle of the Application, but there was insufficient knowledge regarding the matching of materials of the proposed extension with those of the original building. The Clerk was instructed to write to the City Council to seek clarification of this point.

6. Financial:

6.01 Current account (571): the current Statement 166 dated 28 apr 00 shows a Credit Balance of £156.06.

6.02 Reserve account (570): the current Statement 032 dated 28 apr 00 shows a Credit Balance of £5043.54 (inclusive of Gross Interest of £26.95).

6.03 Statement of Inc and Exp 99/00 (570): the Final Report dated 23 may 00 shows an Excess of Income over Expenditure of £292.42; the Report is on circulation.

6.04 Statement of Inc and Exp 00/01 (570): the Report dated 23 may 00 shows an Excess of Income over Expenditure of £1965.51; the Report is on circulation.

6.05 Budget control 00/01 : the Report dated 23 may 00 shows a Budget deficit of £4.00; the Report is on circulation.

6.06 Village Hall extension: No 2 Account (570): the (still) current Statement 17 dated 30 mar 00 shows a Credit Balance of £11.66.

6.07 Newsletter - Millennium special edition (573): cheque 000.241 for £50.00 in favour of Maxey Newsletter in response to the Appeal for the Millennium Edition was drawn and signed.

6.08 Subscription to the Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils (572): cheque 000.242 for £99.00 in favour of CALC for subscription for the 2000/01 was drawn and signed.

6.09 Precept 2000/01 (560): the Clerk stated that £2262.00 had been received from the City Council (£1662 Assistance and £600 Parish Precept), had been paid into the Current Account by Credit 100.157 and Receipt MPC.025 issued.

6.10 Clerk's salary (565): cheque 000.240 for £147.49 in favour of the Clerk for salary for the period 01 mar 00 to 31 may 00 was drawn and signed. The Clerk explained that this sum represented one month at the old rate of £500 pa, and two months at the new rate of £650 pa.

6.11 Complaints about the Audit (537): the Clerk tabled a letter from the Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils requesting written comments regarding the Audit Fees, to substantiate previous verbal complaints made by the Clerk. It was agreed that the request would be met to enable the Association to progress the complaint with the Audit Commission.

6.12 NatWest Bank: the Clerk stated that the Bank was now refusing to accept his requests and instructions regarding day-to-day operation of the three Accounts, as he was not a Designated Signatory, despite their having done so since his Appointment as Clerk; it appears that all communications with the Bank must be supported by Designated Signatories. Clerk and Councillors were agreed that it is not appropriate for the Clerk to be a Designated Signatory. The Meeting derided the Bank's attitude, and the Clerk was instructed to advise the Bank that it must either accept a suitable Letter of Authority for the Clerk to operate the Accounts, or lose this Council's Business.

6.13 Pool appeal: the Clerk tabled the letter of appeal for the Arthur Mellows Pool. After discussion, it was agreed that the Appeal would be met. Cheque 000.243 for £50 in favour of Arthur Mellows Swimming Pool was drawn and signed.

7. Other matters at the Chairman's discretion:

7.01 West End Road/Blind Lane junction: Cllr Newbold observed that there were no dropped-kerbs at the footways of this junction; the Clerk was instructed to request appropriate action of the City Council.

7.02 West End Road pot-holes: Cllr Lloyd stated that the recent patching programme (at the City Council's initiative) had missed some pot-holes; the Clerk was instructed to request appropriate action of the City Council.

7.03 Leisure field (558): Cllr Lloyd stated that there is currently an initiative to form a Maxey cricket team, with need for a pitch.

7.04 Sale of compost-bins: Cllr Newbold tabled a copy of the City Council's leaflet explaining the subsidised sale of compost-bins; it was agreed that it should be displayed on the Notice Board.

7.05 Footpath Number 7 (High Street to West End Road): Cllr Lloyd state that this Footpath was impassable; the Clerk was instructed to request appropriate action of the City Council.

7.06 High Street/King Street junction: it was agreed that this should receive more than the normal 2+2 cuts per year, and the Clerk was instructed to request this action from the City Council.

7.07 Dates of Meetings: it was agreed that the current pattern of Meetings would be maintained, i.e., at 7.30 pm in the Back Room of the Village Hall, on the fourth Tuesday of every month except August and December. The Clerk was instructed to make bookings for 27 Jun 00, 25 Jul 00, 26 Sep 00, 24 Oct 00, 28 Nov 00, 23 Jan 01, 27 Feb 01, 27 Mar 01, 24 Apr 01 and 22 May 01.

7.08 Footway at West End Road (eastern-end) (534): Cllr Lloyd stated that remedial Work has still not been applied to this deteriorating area. The Clerk was instructed to take appropriate action.

8. Public Comment:

No Member of the Public was present.

9. Date, time and venue for the next Ordinary Meeting:

It was agreed that the next Ordinary Meeting would be held in the Back Room of the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 27th June, 2000.

There being no further Business,
the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance,
and declared the Meeting closed at 10.02 pm.

The above Minutes were approved by the Parish Council
at its Ordinary Meeting of the 27th June 2000
as being a true Record of the Proceedings
and the original was duly signed by the Chairman of the Meeting
Cllr R Homewood.