

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council Liaison held at the Town Hall on  
6 October 2010

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Cllr David Over (Chairman)  
Cllr David Harrington, Newborough Parish Council  
Cllr Roy Pettitt, Peakirk Parish Council  
Cllr Colin Brown, Ailsworth Parish Council  
Cllr Andy Goodsell, Eye Parish Council

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

Mark Emson, Community Governance Officer  
Mark Speed, Transport Planning Team Manager  
Paul Grundy, 2011 Census Area Manager for Fenland, Huntingdonshire and  
Peterborough  
Sally Crawford, Community Governance Manager

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Janet Goodwin, Orton Longueville Ward Councillor  
If the following are parish councillors, they should have Cllr before their name  
Geoffrey Smith, Werrington Neighbourhood Council  
Sarah Rodger, Castor Parish Council  
Cllr Henry Clark, Peakirk Parish Council  
Cllr Andrew Totten, Bainton and Ashton Parish Council  
Cllr Sydney Smith, Helpston Parish Council  
Ian Dewar, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils

**2. Minutes of Meeting Held on 7 July 2010**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2010 were proposed as a true and accurate record. However, as no one else was present from the 7 July meeting there was no seconder and the minutes could not be approved.

AGREED: to present the minutes for approval at the next meeting.

**3. Sustainable Transport in Rural Areas**

The Transport Planning Team Manager handed out a Local Transport Plan (LTP) consultation leaflet which had been distributed to every household in the area via the Your Peterborough Magazine.

The Transport Planning Team Manager explained that the different areas of Peterborough have different transport needs and in order to address these needs the city had been divided into four main areas; Core, City Centre, City Peripheral, Outer City and Rural.

The meeting considered the proposed improvements to the Outer City and Rural area outlined in the leaflet.

In response to questions the Transport Planning Team Manager advised:

- Cross boundary issues were ongoing and a meeting would be held with neighbouring authorities to discuss potential funding contribution due to the high influx of traffic from nearby areas
- Further investigation was needed into new railway stops/stations and bus times for rural areas in order to better serve commuters and people travelling late at night
- Funding for next year was still uncertain as this was still under consultation

Members commented that the public consultation in Eye Green in relation to traffic calming had been well received.

It was suggested that S106 money put to strategic projects could go towards rural initiatives.

Any further comments relating to Sustainable Transport in Rural Areas should be sent directly to Mark Speed, e-mail [mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk)

It was asked if there was any potential funding contribution from neighbouring authorities due to the high influx of traffic from nearby areas. The Transport Planning Team Manager advised that the cross boundary issue is ongoing and that a meeting with the neighbouring authorities concerned would be taking place soon to discuss potential contribution.

It was asked if there was any information on the prospect of new railway stops/stations in rural areas. The Transport Planning Team Manager advised that he would need to investigate this further.

The issue of bus times for rural areas was raised questioning if they could be extended in order to better serve people travelling late at night and the potential of linking the bus times to the train times for those people who need to commute outside of the city. The Transport Planning Team Manager advised that he would need to investigate this further.

It was noted that the consultation with the public over the Eye Green traffic calming went well.

It is still unclear as to what funding will be made available for next year as still waiting on the spending revenue declaration which is under consultation at the moment and will end 01 December 2010.

For more details on any issue relating to the Sustainable Transport in Rural Areas please contact Mark Speed at [mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk)

#### **4. Census 2011 Presentation**

The Area Manager for the Office for National Statistics (ONS) covering Peterborough presented details of the upcoming Census and highlighted the importance of the return of the Census questionnaire to the meeting.

In presenting the item the Area Manager advised that:

- There had been a significant increase in Peterborough's population since the last census 10 years ago
- For every completed questionnaire the council would receive £600 in funding.
- In 2001 there was a 95% completion rate for the Census questionnaire in the Peterborough area.
- If 5% of questionnaires were not completed in 2011 this would equate to a loss of approximately £3-5 million in funding for Peterborough over the next 10 years
- 250 jobs were being created in Peterborough in order to process the Census
- The calculated cost for the 2001 Census was £240 million which equated to 80 pence per person per annum.
- During the last Census there was no Local Council assistance and some areas of the country had large undercounts in questionnaires resulting in a loss of funding.
- Questionnaires can be completed online at WWW.CENSUS.GOV.UK or returned by freepost.
- Canvassers will be sent out to homes if the questionnaire has not been returned within 10 days.

During discussion, the following questions were raised and responses given:

Q. How will the Census collect questionnaires from the travelling communities?

A. Canvassers to visit traveller sites and return at a later date to collect the questionnaire.

Q. Due to the large number of migrant workers in the area, for how long a period must someone be resident to qualify for the Census?

A. A person must be resident for 6 months or intend to be resident for at least 6 months.

## **5. Policing the Villages**

A letter from the Chair of the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities to the Chief Constable Cambridgeshire Constabulary was circulated at the meeting.

The letter requested resources from the TFU and/or Traffic Divisions within Cambridgeshire Constabulary be used to assist colleagues in the Rural Community Action Team in Policing the rural areas surrounding Peterborough in order to tackle vehicle and farm crime, reduce speeding and help alleviate fear of crime from people who live in these areas.

The chairman hoped to receive a response in time for the next meeting of the Rural Scrutiny Commission due to be held on Tuesday 2 November 2010.

## **6. Village Planning Needs Analysis**

An e-mail from the Policy and Strategy Manager for Planning Policy and Research that summarised how the Council arrived at the decision that villages needed certain sized houses or that townships need more affordable housing was circulated. Details of the email are outlined below:

There were no pre-determined policies which decided that a named village needed x affordable homes or y homes of specified sizes. There was no current intention of preparing such a policy, as this would, on the face of it, be very prescriptive and detail matters that would not normally be included at a policy level.

The Local Development Framework (LDF) (Core Strategy etc) had generic district wide policies on affordable housing and size of dwellings. Thus, when a planning application was received, such generic policies could be applied to the particular circumstances of the village / city the proposal was located in. This might result in the Council encouraging 5 bed homes in one village, whereas smaller in another, as part of the pre-application discussion process. But PCC does not pre-determine such discussions as a 'policy'.

Rural Areas had a Rural Housing Strategy, which was adopted earlier this year by Cabinet. This set out general advice on providing housing in rural areas (but not any specific policy for specific villages)

The planning department was preparing a Village Design Supplementary Planning Document, a draft of which was intended to be taken to PCL on 1st Dec. This was aimed at all villages which had prepared (or were well ahead in preparing) a Village Design Statement. For some villages, this may indicate a preference in village x for a certain style/floor space/design of new homes, but it wouldn't go as far as saying in village x that 'we want only 5 bedroom houses' or 'we want 50% affordable homes'.

Concerns were raised that in previous meetings, resident's views had not being accurately presented by Peterborough City Council and that consultation with local villagers could be improved.

## **7. Parish Question Time**

The Chair enquired as to the progress of the proposed Electric Inter Village Pool Bikes.

ACTION: Mark Emson to find out details for next meeting.

## **8. Parish Council Liaison Work Programme**

- Work programme to be compiled at next meeting
- Parish Liaison to feed into the Rural Commission
- Footpaths strategy to be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

19:35  
Chairman