

MINUTES of the meeting of the TOWN COUNCIL at a meeting held at the Queen Elizabeth School on the 24th June, 1982.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs. J.M. McCartney (Town Mayor);
Councillors Mrs. E.C. Conway, B.P. Doherty, M.J. Hopkinson,
R.T.D. Hughes, J.M. James, J.H. Lewis, Mrs. M.L. Middlemiss,
C.W. Parcell, Mrs. J.M. Parker, C. Parker, A.E.H. Sursham
and Rev. J.P. Young.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors
C.E. Dalleywater and B.R. Walsh.

82/16 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 27th May, 1982 were approved as correct record and signed accordingly subject to the following:

that in Minute 82/10 (Road Signs - Entry to Godmanchester) the figure of £63 related to one sign in cast iron at £35 and one sign in aluminium at £28 with raised lettering in the same material in each case.

82/17 In relation to Minute 82/5 it was

Resolved

that the Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor M.J. Hopkinson, be appointed to represent the Town Council on the Cambs. Association of Local Councils.

82/18 In relation to Minute 82/6 it was agreed to receive a report on Emergency Planning by Councillor B.P. Doherty in due course.

82/19 PLANNING COMMITTEE - Minutes

Councillor C.W. Parcell submitted the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on the 27th May and Councillor J.H. Lewis submitted the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10th June, 1982 (copies of which are appended in the Minute Book) whereupon it was

Resolved

that the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee be adopted.

82/20 REQUESTS BY THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING TO RECONSIDER DECISIONS

Requests to reconsider decisions reached with respect to the following applications were submitted:

- a) 86H0430/82F - Storage building at John's Freezer Centre.
- b) 86H0428/82F - Use of premises for the sale of furniture, 3 The Avenue.
- c) 86H0519/82F - Access Road, 6 - 10 The Avenue.

Following further detailed consideration of the applications and drawings appended thereto, it was

Resolved

that the previous decisions reached be adhered to in every case.

82/21 PROPERTY WORKING PARTY. Town Hall.

Notes of the meeting of the Property Working Party held on the 10th June, 1982 and of the adjourned meeting held on the 14th June were submitted (copies of which are appended in the Minute Book). The

Working Party had given further consideration to remedial works to the Town Hall and arising out of the Report it was

Resolved

- a) that the conclusion with respect to the treatment of exposed timbers, renewal of floor boards and refixing of w.c. pan by B.B. Preservation Ltd. be endorsed;
- b) that the offer of Clr. Sursham to monitor the progress and hasten conclusion of the work by the contractor be accepted;
- c) that the recommendation for maintaining a list of local craftsmen to undertake future repairs on the Council's properties be adopted; and
- d) that the report on the condition of the roofs be received and referred to the Property Working Party with a view to priorities being determined and estimates for the most urgent works to be obtained. (Councillor Sursham undertook to obtain estimates).

82/22 QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL

The Property Working Party had been in communication with Architect members of the Friends of Q.E. School and had invited them to attend the adjourned meeting of the Property Working Party in pursuance of the decision described in Minute 82/5. In the event the Friends of the Q.E. School representatives were unable to attend but had previously met Councillor Sursham on site. Following prolonged consideration of the subject, and the proposals contained in the Notes, it was

Resolved

- (a) that applications be made to all suitable bodies, including the Historic Buildings Council and the Friends of the Q.E. School, for grants to meet the anticipated cost of repairs and refurbishing of the Queen Elizabeth School;
- (b) that following the completion of the survey and in liaison with the Executive Committee of the Friends of Q.E. School, a programme of remedial works be prepared by the Property Working Party; and
- (c) that the Council's thanks be recorded for the services given by Architects in the repairs and for the work carried out by Councillor Sursham.

82/23 HUNTINGDON OLYMPIC GYMNASTICS CLUB. Request for a grant.

In a letter from Dr. G.C.S. Reynolds (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) a request was made for financial assistance to the Huntingdon Olympic Gymnastics Club. Complete sympathy with the aims of the Club were expressed by many members who, nevertheless, considered that this and similar items should be considered in connection with the preparation of financial estimates for the next financial year. However, a majority of members were of the opinion that a grant could be made from current funds, and it was

Resolved.-

that a grant of £100 be made to the Huntingdon Olympic Gymnastics Club.

(Councillor C.W. Parcell asked for it to be recorded that he did not concur with the foregoing decision).

82/24 TOW PATH ALONG THE RECREATION GROUND

A full debate took place on the dangerous condition of the tow path alongside the Recreation Ground following information from the Town Clerk about an incident in which a young child had fallen into the River. In the ensuing discussion the responsibilities of the County Council, the District Council and the Anglian Water Authority for the path and its environs were enumerated, together with a history of the deterioration of the path; following which it was

Resolved

(a) that the dangerous condition of the footpath be referred to the County Council in the firmest possible terms;

(b) that similar representations be made to the Huntingdon District Council and the Anglian Water Authority, particularly with regard to the replacement of trees whose roots used to help prevent bank erosion.

82/25 TOWN TWINNING

At the request of Councillor Mrs. C.M. Parker consideration was given to the prospect of sharing town twinning with Salon de Provence and Wertheim. The Town Council were generally of the opinion that the current Twinning Agreement embraced Godmanchester, but nevertheless, considered that the financial aspects of town twinning should be examined. Whereupon it was

Resolved

that the financial implications of town twinning be examined at a future meeting.

82/26 LAMP POSTS AND JUBILEE HUT ON THE RECREATION GROUND

Councillor Mrs. Parker asked that consideration be given to selling the lamp posts and putting the proceeds thereof towards the repair of the Jubilee Hut, but in the ensuing discussion it became clear that a majority of Councillors preferred that the lamp posts should be refurbished and, if possible, brought into re-use for supporting a string of lights as had formerly been the case on suitable occasions.

Resolved

that the foregoing subject be referred to the Property Working Party for further examination; together with the question of the repair of the Jubilee Hut following its possible re-siting.

82/27 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON CAMBRIDGE ROAD

Councillor Parker reported details of a survey of traffic and pedestrians over a period during which mothers accompanied their children to the Primary School when the School Crossing Patrol was present, and returned when the Crossing Patrol had left. Further details were given relating to the number of vehicles passing the vicinity of the White Hart public house over a period of 24 minutes and number of traffic interruptions made by the School Crossing Patrol in that period. The information presented, together with the history of a survey in 1980 and previous representations made by the School Managers, assured the Town Council of the paramount need for a pedestrian crossing. It was thereupon

Resolved

That the County Council be strongly urged to take steps with regard to

the provision of a pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of the White Hart public house with maximum expedition, having regard to the fact that the existence of the Huntingdon by-pass has not reduced the number of vehicles using Cambridge Road.

Arising from the foregoing decision, the Town Mayor indicated that she had been a member of the Road Safety Committee since appointed by the former Godmanchester Borough Council (and was still recorded as representing that Council!); and the Town Council unanimously agreed that the Town Mayor should continue her membership as the representative of the Godmanchester Town Council.

82/28

ACCOUNTS

It was

Resolved

that the following payments be approved:

Municipal Mutual Insurance Limited	\ £78-07
J.A. Davie	\ £94-10
Inland Revenue	\ £36-30

Janet M. McCartney

Town Mayor

GODMANCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Planning Committee held at the Godmanchester Primary School on the 27th May, 1982.

PRESENT: Councillors C.W. Parcell (Chairman), B.P. Doherty, R.T.D. Hughes, M.J. Hopkinson, J.M. James, J.H. Lewis, Mrs. J.M. McCartney, A.E. H. Sursham and B.R. Walsh.

82/09 MINUTES.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th May, 1982 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings.

82/10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Detailed consideration was given to the following applications, whereupon it was

RESOLVED

That the following decisions be conveyed to the District Council:

a) 86/H0519/82 - Proposed access road, rear of 6 - 10 The Avenue

REFUSAL. The egress to The Avenue is considered to be dangerous.

b) 86/H0517/82 F & LB - Demolition of fuel bunkers, new store to match existing garage; rebuild conservatory including porch to kitchen door

APPROVAL.

82/11 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

Having regard to the necessity to meet during the absence of the Chairman, the Committee

RESOLVED

That Councillor J.H. Lewis be appointed Vice-Chairman for the municipal year.

Chairman.

J.H. Lewis
10/6/82

Godmanchester Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held at the Queen Elizabeth School on the 10th June, 1982.

Present: Councillors J.H. Lewis (in the Chair): B.P. Doherty, R.T.D. Hughes, M.J. Hopkinson, J.M. James, A.E. H. Sursham and B.R. Walsh.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. J.M. McCartney and C.W. Parcell.

10/12 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 27th May, 1982 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings.

10/13 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Detailed consideration was given to the following applications whereupon it was

RESOLVED

That the following decisions be conveyed to the District Council:

- a) 86H0595/82LB Partial Demolition, Restoration and Rebuilding to Original Outline - 3/4 Old Court Hall.

APPROVAL

- b) AD/86H0021/82 Sheet Panels to Advertise Goods Sold on Premises, The White Hart P.H., Cambridge Road.

REFUSAL. This type of advertisement on a listed building in a Conservation Area is not acceptable.

The advertisement is on a building adjacent to one of the most dangerous corners for traffic in Godmanchester; nothing which might distract the attention of drivers at this point can be acceptable.

Chairman

June 10th MINUTES OF MEETING OF P.W.P., to consider further repairs of Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs Sursham (V/Chairman), Lewis, Hughes, Docherty, Hopkinson.

Cllr Lewis was concerned there was no DPC. It was pointed out that the dampness that caused the dry rot was due to other causes, notably leaking gutters. Many old buildings have no DPC. and remain dry.

Cllr Sursham stated he and Cllr Parcell had inspected the Town Hall, both before and after the meeting on 27th May, which had reversed the decision to accept the contractor's estimated for further repairs. They considered that these extra estimates were not essential (estimates totalling £1,429.00. in B. & B. Preservation's Report of 7th April).

Cllrs Parcell & Sursham further considered that only a) Taking up the floor boards of the Ladies' W.C., treating all exposed timbers with preservative & fungicide, renewing the boards & refixing the W.C. pan, should be ordered as an extra from B. & B., and that

- b) Forming the trap in the S.W. roofspace, (for which B. & B. included £53 in their Extra estimates), should be carried out later by local labour, under the Town Council's direction.

Cllr Sursham undertook to keep B. & B. to their deadline of June 15th or as near as possible to finish the work already approved.

Cllr Docherty and others urged the starting a list of good craftsmen, to be drawn up by the P.W.P., and these craftsmen to be asked if they would do repairs work in the future on terms to be agreed with the Council, to include cleaning the gutters of Town Council buildings twice yearly.

Cllr Sursham agreed to submit his report on the Town Hall roof to the next Council meeting on 24th June, and to have it put on the Agenda.

The Queen Elizabeth School's future was also considered. The need was to work with the Friends of the Q.E. School on a short- and long term programme to put it to the fullest possible community use and get it fully repaired. It was agreed to arrange a meeting (at 20 Barning St at 7.30 on June 14th) of P.W.P. members with the architect members of the Q.E. School Friends, to explore these problems.

present: Cllr Sursham (Chairman), Cllrs Hopkinson, Docherty, Hughes, Lewis.

The P.W.P. meeting held on June 10th adjourned until to-day, after having agreed to invite the Architect members of The Friends of the Queen Elizabeth School to consider with them to-day the short- and long-term plans for repair and adaptation of the School. They were unable to come, but had briefed Cllr Sursham on their views on site the previous week-end.

The short term plans envisaged a) Replacing the 2 oil-fired warm air heaters existing with 2 El.fan blowers; b) moving the glazed screen, possibly utilising it to screen off the sink & future cooker in the far room; c) Removing high spots & sanding existing floors; d) Window Repairs; e) Gutter & drainage repairs. Total Cost: £5-6,000.

The meeting, taking the above items in order, reached these conclusions:

- a) Fan blowers would be noisy, smelly & required much maintenance. So, the existing heaters should be inspected by a heating Engineer, especially the firing chambers, and if possible, brought back into use: Cllr Hughes undertook to bring an engineer to look at them.
- b) As the glass screen does in fact slide, it should be left in situ, & screening of the sink etc, dispensed with short-term.
- c) Agreed. d) Agreed, but it was felt no patching, which might prejudice obtaining a DofE Grant later should be allowed. In fact, glass repairs & minimal mullion repairs should be carried out.
- e) The gutters & downpipes are in working order, but need cleaning, and also a regular maintenance cleaning twice yearly; the gullies are choked, & underground drainage may be blocked or non-existent. If soakways are required, these should be formed before the County Council resurfaces School Hill.

The cost of the above (unless (b) proves expensive), with D.I.Y. help, perhaps on one or more "Queen Elizabeth School Week-ends" should prove to be much less than £5,000, and, since there are enough exits from both rooms (requiring only EXIT signs internally), no complaints are expected from the Fire Officers. Therefore, early use of the School would be possible, and was agreed by the Meeting; its continued use would inhibit vandalism, and be a fund-raiser towards long-term repairs. Such DIY efforts would contribute to the increased publicity felt by the meeting to be needed on behalf of restoring the School for "the fullest possible community use". Donors, e.g. for specific parts (windows etc.), should be encouraged. A leaflet could be distributed widely. It was further agreed, to propose the following Agenda for the next Meeting of the Planning Committee :-

The Council is to ask the Historic Buildings Council to inspect the building and recommend a Grant; also to approach any other suitable bodies for Grants.

In view of the nearness of the 1983 Programme, the Council is to start a dialogue with the Huntington District Council, especially Mr A.Campbell and Mr E.Heads, heads of Planning & Environment Dept, to discuss short-and long-term plans for the School & its environs.

The P.W.Party, in reporting to the Town Council at the Meeting to be held on 24th June, wishes to record their gratitude to the architects who have given their services on behalf of the Queen Elizabeth School over the repairs completed to date.

16th June, 1982.

REPORT ON CONDITION OF ROOFS, RODELROCHESTER TOWN HALL.

Prepared for Meeting of Town Council, June 24th, 1982.

The roofs consist of the main N - S ridge roof over the Council Chamber; the two E - W ridge roofs at right angles to it on the W., with the valley gutter between, all part of the main building of 1844: and the entrance tower with ridge roof over of 1899. The roofs are covered with slates, with lead gutters behind the parapets, and lead valleys and flashings to brick abutments.

Brickwork, All gable and parapet copings need repointing, and & Stonework. areas of the walls of gables also require repointing, totalling about 10 sq.M.

The base of the SE.gable (near the El.substation) is loose, and several courses of bricks and two dressed stones require re-bedding.

Virginia creeper growing on the S. part of the river front (facing W.) is damaging the masonry and should be removed.

The chimney stack on the entrance tower requires repointing to its brickwork, above and below roof level.

Due to a gutter leak, the second buttress from the N.end on the E. side of the Council Chamber wall (towards the yard adjacent to Gemma Watts' shop) is very damp, and requires repointing .

Timber roof structure

Of softwood; there is slight evidence of woodworm, and when recovering of the roofs is undertaken, preservation treatment should be carried out. Timbers generally are in fair condition. There is no roof insulation, as far as the roofs I had access to are concerned.

Roof Coverings

Lancashire or Cumberland slates on battens, with red ridge tiles. The Council Chamber roof appears to be boarded on the rafters.

Although the battens appear sound, many slates have slipped, especially near the eaves gutters, and the nails are rusted. Several ridge tiles are broken or loose and require pointing up. When a full inspection, including the Council Chamber roof, has been made, a definite decision could be taken; in my opinion now, stripping and re-slating, using as many existing slates as possible, should be undertaken within 5 - 10 years. The lead valley should be inspected and remade if necessary at the same time.

Roof Drainage

From the valley and parapet gutters (lead) into cast iron ogee section gutters and 6 No. 3" cast iron down pipes, to 2 No.manholes on the W.(River) side, and to soakways (not traced) on the side towards School Hill. or yard gullies *Damp spot NW corner of entrance tower cracked.*

As noted under brickwork, there is a leaky joint in the gutter on E. side of the Council Chamber. A gutter at SW corner of Council Chamber is All the ironwork of gutters and down pipes requires cleaning off, (loose. priming and repainting; steel window frames also require repainting.

A.E. SURSHAM.
MA., ARIBA.
24th June 1982

2 Sweetings Road
Godmanchester
Huntingdon
Cambs PE18 8JS

April 1982

Dear

Mrs. McCartney

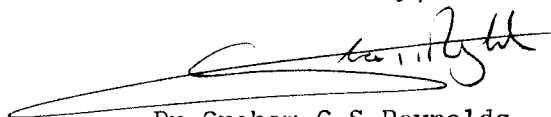
As you may have seen from the local press a purpose built training gymnasium of over 30 metres by 15 metres, together with changing rooms for two local football teams, is being built in Huntingdon by the Huntingdon Olympic Gymnastics Club. This project which is costing £36,000 initially and will require a further £2,000 for car parking and £2,000 - £3,000 for carpeting to the floor of the gymnasium and filling the specialised landing pit has so far been funded to the tune of £71,000 in grants from Huntingdon Town Council, Eastern Region Sports Council, Huntingdon District Council and the King George V Jubilee Trust Fund, together with £6,000 raised by the Gymnastics Club and football club and a further £6,000 in interest free loans from the parents of the gymnasts. This still leaves an outstanding sum of £7,000 and we are writing to all the Parish Councils in the area to ask if it would be possible for them to make a grant of perhaps £50 or £100 towards this project as a token of support towards the project.

The gymnasium is intended as a permanent training base of the Huntingdon Gym Club which at present has some 80 boys and girl gymnasts which include 9 members of the 12 in the County Women's Elite Squad and over a third of the County Development Squads. It is intended with the new facilities to increase these numbers to 200 who will be trained by the 10 fully qualified coaches the club at present has. We already take girls in training from areas as far apart as Yaxley in the north and Fenstanton and St Ives in the west and Buckden and St Neots in the South. Having established ourselves now as the number one club in the County we intend to train girls up to Regional and hopefully National standard in the future. We also intend starting a full boys gymnastics club as there are no provisions for boys gymnastics at all in the Cambridgeshire area, as well as offering our facilities to the local Spring Common School for the disabled and we have also offered them to the Area Health Authority if they would like to use them under the auspices of remedial gymnasts to help the disabled people of the area.

We therefore already train a large number of boys and girls from the smaller Parishes and fully intend this facility not merely to be a Huntingdon town facility, but to attract girls and boys from the whole of the Huntingdon District area as well as training the County Squad which includes girls from Peterborough and Cambridge, which at present meet at our present base at Huntingdon and are trained by our senior coach who is also the County Elite Coach.

We therefore ask that you bring this project to the attention of your Council to see if you could make a nominal contribution of perhaps £50 or £100 towards this project. We would also be interested in hearing of any names of girls in your Parish who would like to join the club to receive the training that is now available, as we are now in the process of increasing our numbers since the facilities will be completed by August of this year. Trusting you can give the above your close attention.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Graham C S Reynolds
Fund Raising Secretary
Huntingdon Olympic Gymnastics Club
and B.A.G.A. Gymnastics Coach