

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Town Council held in the Park Lane Primary School, Godmanchester, on the 21st April, 1983.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs. J.M. McCartney (Town Mayor):
Councillors Mrs. E.C. Conway, B.P. Doherty, M.J. Hopkinson,
J.H. Lewis, R.W. Looker, Mrs. M.L. Middlemiss, C.W. Parcell,
Mrs. C. Parker, C.E. Parker, A.E.H. Sursham and B.R. Walsh.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C.E. Dalleywater, R.T.D. Hughes and J.M. James.

82/129 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Town Council held on the 7th April, 1983 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.

82/130 PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on the 24th March and 7th April, 1983 were submitted, whereupon it was

Resolved.- that the Minutes of the meetings be received and adopted.

Following comments by Councillor Doherty with respect to the inconsistency of the District Council Planning Department in their recommendations, the Chairman of the Planning Committee (Councillor Parcell) reported that the Committee did not recommend refusal, nor reach other conclusions without genuine reasons.

82/131 MILNER & ROBERTS, ARCHITECTS

With reference to Minute 82/124 the Town Clerk reported that J.T. Roberts had indicated in a letter that there had been a misunderstanding in that his account was in respect of plans prepared for submission to the former Huntingdon and Godmanchester Town Council on the 15th January, 1980. As there was no prospect of his doing further work on the Queen Elizabeth School, it was appropriate for the account to be submitted. The Town Clerk confirmed that written instructions had been given by the former Town Council for the preparation of the plans; in response to which Members expressed surprise that the matter had not been settled at the separation of the Parishes on the 31st March, 1982 and formed the conclusion that the account, should it be justified, should be dealt with in the ratio with which the balances of the former Town Council had been apportioned. Thereupon, it was

Resolved.- that Councillors Mrs. McCartney, Mrs. Conway, Doherty, Lewis and Hopkinson be authorised to meet representatives of Huntingdon Town Council with a view to settling the matter in the manner described above.

82/132 QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL

The Town Council discussed with Mr. David Stokes the subject of a scheme of repairs and alterations to the Queen Elizabeth School. The Architect indicated his apprehension about the extent to which he and his colleague Mr. J. Willoughby-Fletcher considered they were able to proceed having regard to the outstanding foregoing subject. The Town Clerk reported that he had not confirmed in writing the decision contained in Minute 82/124 for related reasons, but nevertheless, the Town Council

Resolved.- (a) that written confirmation of the decision described in Minute 82/124(a) be given, and

(b) that the Property Working Party be requested

to meet the Architects as soon as possible with a view to giving an adequate brief for the work to be carried out.

82/133 QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

The Convenor gave an interim report of the proceedings of four meetings of the Management Committee and indicated that it was the intention to report more formally in the near future.

82/134 11 CHADLEY LANE

Consideration was given to a request from the Huntingdon and Godmanchester Civic Society for a grant to be made to assist the work of a Preservation Trust to acquire and carry out preservation works to 11 Chadley Lane. The Town Council considered the ways in which it was considered the Council could best help and were sympathetic to the making of a grant. However, before reaching a conclusion on the amount, it was agreed that more information was required and thereupon

Resolved.- that the applicant be requested to furnish figures with respect to anticipated grants and/or loans from statutory and public sources as well as the total of funds being received from other sources; and that the request for financial assistance be considered further at a future meeting.

82/135 HUNTINGDON AND GODMANCHESTER CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

Consideration of the appointment of a representative on the above Committee was deferred in order that details of the number and regularity of meetings could be ascertained.

82/136 VISIT TO WERTHEIM, 1983

Information with respect to an invitation for up to twenty representatives of the Huntingdon and Godmanchester Town Councils to visit Wertheim from the 3rd to 5th June, 1983, was elicited and an interest in paying a visit was expressed by or on behalf of Councillor Mrs. Conway, Councillor and Mrs. Hughes, Councillor and Mrs. Lewis, Councillor Looker and Councillor and Mrs. Walsh. The Town Clerk undertook to convey the information to the Town Clerk of Huntingdon.

82/137 GODSPA PROJECT

Members of the Council described the adventure playground project being undertaken by Godspa and related the problem of access arising out of the non-development of the Quad industrial site where the planning consent related to the provision of a footpath into the southern perimeter of the Godspa site. It was agreed that the matter should be referred to the District Planning Department.

82/138 ACCOUNTS

Resolved.- that the following payments be approved:-

Municipal Mutual Insurance Ltd.	322 - 42
Anglian Water - Churchyard tap	35 - 00
Huntingdon District Council -	
Rates 1982/83	108 - 53
1983/84	175 - 52
J. A. Davie	93 - 61
Inland Revenue	37 - 50
Petty Cash	10 - 00
EMAP Provincial Newspapers	25 - 20

82/139 RATING OF THE QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL

With respect to the foregoing payment of rates, it was

Resolved.- that an appeal be made against the assessment of the District Valuer and Valuation Officer.

A. D. Kelly
Town Mayor

Godmanchester Town Council

MINUTES of the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING held in the Park Lane Primary School on the 21st April, 1983.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs. J.M. McCartney (Town Mayor) supported by eleven Town Councillors: Ten townspeople.

1. Minutes The Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on the 27th May, 1982 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.
2. Town Council Annual Report 1982/83. In introducing comments upon the work of the Town Council in 1982/83, the Town Mayor referred to the uniqueness of the occasion which afforded a second Annual Town Meeting within twelve months. The view was given that the Town Council, which had had relatively little experience of civic government to call upon, had put the interests of Godmanchester townspeople foremost.

There had been 16 Meetings of the Town Council; 20 meetings of the Planning Committee; 4 meetings of the Leisure and Amenities Committee and 3 meetings of the Finance Committee.

Of decisions taken, the following were reported-

- (a) Town Mayor elect - Councillor B.P. Doherty;
- (b) Recreation Ground equipment to be maintained by Huntingdon District Council on an agency basis;
- (c) A street lighting improvement scheme had been instituted at an estimated annual cost of 1p rate;
- (d) Improvements to the Queen Elizabeth School had been proposed;

There had been two public meetings during the year, one on the subject of Emergency Planning in the Community; the other to examine the Huntingdon Area Local Plan. On the latter subject people were urged to communicate their views to the Director of Planning by the end of April, 1983.

3. Publicity. A question raised in the meeting referred to the lack of knowledge of Town Council affairs by townspeople and a suggestion was made that articles in the press and the community magazine would benefit. On behalf of the Town Council, it was explained that the Councillors themselves felt neglected by the press although it was their wish to be fully open to scrutiny. Individual Councillors gave views on the time at which Town Council Meetings were held, and the advantages to be taken as a result of the separation from Huntingdon.

4. Emergency Planning in the Community. Councillor Doherty introduced the subject by referring to the two Town Councillors who had undertaken the training course (Councillors Mrs. Parker and Dalleywater) which of necessity was based on the nuclear hazard. However, there was a need, as shown by the address given at the Public Meeting held on the 23rd March 1983, by the County Emergency Planning Officer, for attention to be given to preparation for major emergencies resulting from weather or accidents. In the complexities of the technological age, needs of inter-dependence were much greater than hitherto, and demanded preparedness and organisation.

5. Conclusion. The Town Mayor concluded the meeting by inviting townspeople to attend the meeting of the Town Council which was to follow.

Town Mayor

