

Godmanchester Town Council

MINUTES of the meeting of the Town Council held in the Queen Elizabeth School, Godmanchester on the 24th October, 1985

PRESENT: Councillor B.P. Doherty (Town Mayor);  
Councillors Mrs. E.C. Conway, Mrs. J.B. Doherty, Mrs. V. Harris, M.J. Hopkinson, R.T.D. Hughes, J.H. Lewis, W.R. Looker, L. Miller, C.W. Parcell, A.E. Sursham and Mrs. P. Tenten.

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors J.M. James and Mrs. M.L. Middlemiss.

TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor announced that since the last ordinary meeting of the Town Council he had been able to represent the town at Mayoral Balls at Wisbech and Ramsey.

In a reference to the visit paid to the Fire Station in Huntingdon, the Town Mayor proposed that thanks should be extended to the Station Officer and the fire crews - which the Town Council endorsed, and it was left to the Town Clerk to ascertain a means by which the Town Council could be assured that any monetary appreciation was credited to the Fire Station's Social Fund

The Town Council were reminded that assembly times for Remembrance Services were to be 10.45 a.m. and 6.15 p.m. on Sunday the 10th November, 1985, and that the Union Flag would be flown.

85/70 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings of the Town Council held on the 26th September, 2nd October and 10th October, 1985 were confirmed as correct records and signed by the Town Mayor, subject to it being noted that Councillor Parcell had asked for apologies for absence to be presented at the meeting held on the 2 October, 1985.

Arising therefrom, and following the correction of Minute Numbers from 85/55 and thereafter, it was announced that the Planning Application referred to in Minute 85/56(c) (Residential development of 8.2 hectares off Silver Street) had been withdrawn from consideration by the Local Planning Authority.

With reference to Minute 85/60 (Churchyard Grass Maintenance) a reply from the Men's Group received that evening was read to the Town Council. As a consequence, it was decided that the tone of the response could not be accepted, that in any future "contracts" precise specifications would be given, and that the balance of fee for the current year be withheld until the Nonconformist Burial Ground grass maintenance was to an acceptable standard.

With reference to Minute 85/69(e) (Residential Development on former Milk Depot, Earning Street) it was confirmed by reference to a copy of the submitted planning application that a footpath link to Saxon Close was intended.

85/71 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Following consideration of the undermentioned applications, it was

Resolved.- that the Director of Planning be informed that the Town Council recommend as follows:

(a) Extension to dwelling, 19 Silver Street - APPROVAL

(b) 5 timber framed animal shelters, Kings Bush Farm -  
APPROVAL

85/72 ACCOUNTS

Resolved.- that the following payments be approved:

Smiths Gore	£120 - 00
Huntingdonshire District Cl.	66 - 00
J.A. Davie	123 - 62
Inland Revenue	43 - 50
British Legion	15 - 00
Petty cash	30 - 00

85/73 QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL WORKING PARTY

Councillor Hopkinson referred to the latest drawings for the projects, copies of which were displayed, and drew attention to the voluminous specification prepared by the Architect, a copy of which was available for perusal. A structural engineer had been appointed (Minute 85/19 refers) to be employed at an hourly rate of £30 per hour. In fact, the structural engineer had carried out some work to determine that the new buildings could be supported on a solid raft foundation.

It was further reported that the neighbouring property owners, Mr. and Mrs. O'Dell, had agreed in principle to access to some of the site via their property.

A list of builders from whom to seek tenders had been agreed with the District Council, namely, Messrs. J.W. Barber of Peterborough, G.B. Brudenell, Conwell Construction Ltd, Coulson & Son Ltd., Cambridge, Linford Building Limited, F.L. Sturgeon Ltd. of Peterborough, David Walsh and Waymans Ltd.

It was envisaged that tenderers would have about one month in which to prepare their tenders which, it was strongly hoped, would be returned in time for them to be opened at the meeting of the Council to be held on the 12th December, 1985.

The Town Council were informed that English Heritage had not agreed to make any grant aid to the project. Whereupon it was

Resolved.-

- (a) that the list of contractors to be invited to tender for the Queen Elizabeth School works under the Selective Tendering procedure set out above be approved:
- (b) that completed tenders be returned by 10th December for opening at the Town Council meeting on the 12th December.
- (c) that John Chaffer & Partners' appointment as Structural Engineers for the project be approved.
- (d) that the Building Regulations fee payment of £66 be approved; and
- (e) that ~~payment of~~ £5 be <sup>reimbursed</sup> made to Councillor Hopkinson for expensed incurred in copying correspondence, etc.

85/74 AMENITY AND RECREATION WORKING PARTY.

The Town Mayor drew attention to the progress being made by the Voluntary Workforce to whom thanks were due.

He referred to a meeting held with the Water Authority's Engineer at which proposals to dredge the Mill race were discussed; when it had been proposed that the spoil could be transported and tipped, spread and levelled on the Osier beds for a comparatively minimal cost - provided access could be obtained to the Mill race. It was explained that it would be necessary to remove entirely at least alternate Willow trees from the Chinese Bridge to the Mill Bridge. The Town Council agreed that it was necessary for the dredging to take place and that, having regard to the history behind the location of the willow trees, they should be removed with a view to a re-planting programme of Silver Birch being undertaken further from the bank. Thereupon it was

Resolved.- that the proposal of Anglian Water to dredge the Mill race and dispose of the spoil in the manner described above be approved, subject to approval by the local planning authority of an application for consent to fell and ~~lop~~ <sup>alternate</sup> trees in a Conservation Area.

Councillor Hughes reported that he hoped to be able to submit an estimate of the cost of refurbishing the Jubilee Hut to the Town Council at the next meeting

85/75 PROPOSED COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Councillor Lewis reported for information that a meeting of appropriate representatives had been held at which useful information was exchanged with respect to the options for providing community facilities. The School Governors would be considering the subject on the 6th November, 1985, following which more helpful information should be available.

85/76 QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

In the light of the continuing absence of Councillor James and having regard to imminent commencement of building works to the Queen Elizabeth School, it was

Resolved.- that consideration of membership of the Management Committee be deferred to the Annual Meeting.

(Councillor Mrs. P. Tenten here left the meeting)

85/77 AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS: STANDING ORDERS AS TO CONTRACTS

The Town Mayor and Town Clerk reported following discussion of the 1984/85 Audit of Accounts with the Assistant District Auditor. Nothing untoward with the accounts had been referred to, but the matters referred to in Minute 85/22 were re-iterated and the need to adopt Standing Orders as to Contracts having regard to the level of contracts now being entertained

Consideration was given to draft Standing Orders as to Contracts prepared by the Town Clerk and based on the Model adopted by the District Council. (copies of which had been distributed together with copies of the National Code of Local Government Conduct). Whereupon, it was

Resolved.- that the Standing Orders as to Contracts now submitted be adopted.

Town Mayor

INITIALS