

BruNK Minutes
13th March 2006

Apologies: John Messenger, Sue Gordon-Roe, Mike Craven

Minutes of the last meeting approved.

Maureen Donnelly:

We welcomed Maureen Donnelly who is standing for election as a local labour councillor in May. She came to introduce herself to us and give us an opportunity to share local concerns and issues and to ask questions about her priorities should she be elected.

She works as a business consultant and has been active in respect of schooling and education, in particular, as Chair of Governors at Newnham Croft School and currently as a member of the Board of Governors at Hill's Road Sixth Form College. The decision to move National Express to Parker's Piece has been a motivating factor in her in decision to stand as a local councillor.

Issues we raised included, our concern about the ability of councillors to respond to the demands of local voters. The lack of a democratic means to challenge the CC should they overturn the AJC decisions. The City Council's lack of liaison with local resident's associations and their under-representation in the decision making process.

We asked her if labour were elected what would change? Her replies indicated that there would be: -

More listening

More consultation

A willingness to go along with the local community in their concerns.

A commitment to communicating effectively with residents when something needs to be implemented but which isn't necessarily approved of by local residents.

Several members of the committee pressed for her to consider getting cows back onto the common.

Core Scheme:

The exhibition outlining the options will be on display on Thursday 20th April and Wednesday the 3rd of May.

Consultation will take place between the 3rd of April and 19th May.

The AJC meet on the 3rd July. The committee are asked to make a note of this date in their diaries.

Website: HYPERLINK "<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/core5>"
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/core5.

We discussed the proposed leaflet. **Wendy** to feedback to Helen Green.

We agreed on the following: -

Tidal Flow - include as a pro the advantage to buses.

The Do Nothing option should be challenged and deleted.

We proposed a third option to replace this: that there should be no bollards at peak time

However bollards should be in place between 10.00a.m-4.00p.m and 7.00p.m. -7.00a.m.

This way local residents would have some respite from the traffic.

The ring road should be highlighted and printed in different coloured ink.

We will use the AGM to stimulate debate and preview what will be in the leaflet.

It was suggested that we could invite Richard, Brian and Helen to a special local meeting during the exhibition period.

Victoria Avenue

The relocation of National Express buses to Parkside continues to be debated.

Roger to get a written update from the County Council of the plans for Guided Buses.

Will there be a consultation?

What impact on Core Scheme 5?

How green?

Ashwell – Station Plans

Roger has regularly attended the planning meetings. The next is on 5th April.

Huge objections in many areas, which are too big for one resident's association to take on. It has been suggested that individual associations take on a single issue e.g. buses, transport, and housing. So far we have given no commitment.

Christ's Pieces AGM is on 21st March. Christ's Pieces and Parkside may amalgamate.

Roger will attend this meeting.

On March 22nd the council have called a meeting, with resident's associations, to discuss the effectiveness of the Area Central Committees.

Charlotte to investigate how to ensure that our website details get onto the Council Website.

Joint Resident's Association

It was proposed that it would be advantageous to group together within Market Ward.

Councillors @ our Meetings

Councillors already attend the AGM and our Christmas meeting as well as the Summer Barbeque. We agreed that this is satisfactory and that we will ask them to attend when we need them.

Residents Parking

There is to be a meeting to discuss parking in Central Cambridge.

Wendy to pursue getting additional spaces for the Kite.

Zebra, Hopbine and MSH

Issues gradually sorting themselves out re the Zebra.

There is a proposal that the very muddy areas on Midsummer Common around the vehicle access road be surfaced with concrete or tarmac. We don't support this.

Dundy to write outlining our objections.

AGM

Wendy will give a presentation of Core Scheme 5 at the AGM.

The vicar would like to talk about plans for the renovation of the church.

We need new committee members. Individual committee members to ask residents whom they think may be willing to join.

It was agreed that committee members should be allocated an area of responsibility to ensure that the load is more evenly spread.

Committee to meet at 6.45p.m.

AOB

There is a crisis relating to the trees at the lower end of Maids Causeway.

This concerns chopping one tree down and pollarding others. At the time of writing one tree has gone and others have been cut back. It was agreed that we should discuss at one of our meetings the council policy for caretaking the trees on Maids Causeway including the replacement of trees, which are chopped.

The Willow Walk open day is on May 10th.

The Willow Walk Advisory Group meet again on June 6th and September 18th @

6.00.p.m. at Eden Chapel.

Date of next meetings:

28th March, 6.45p.m. @ Burleigh Arms

24th April, 7.30p.m. @ Wendy's.