

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 7pm  
The Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham**

PRESENT: Cllr Richard Whincup (Chairman), Cllr Paul Berrisford, Cllr Alison Blinston, Cllr John Boot, Cllr John Charles-Jones, Cllr Andrew Gough, Cllr Dan Sharp, Cllr Jan Turton, Cllr Charles Wardle

IN ATTENDANCE: Averil Marczak (Clerk)

**1786. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Geoff Parkinson (holiday) and Cllr Paul Hough (detained in traffic).

**1787. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Personal interests were declared: Cllr Berrisford: allotments; Cllr Blinston: WCA and allotments; Cllr Wardle: WCA; Cllr Turton, Woodborough in Bloom, Cancer Research, agenda item Village Hall relief cleaner.

**1788. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The minutes of the meeting held on January 14<sup>th</sup> were approved.

**1789. MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr Gough reported that 3 new flood volunteers had come forward. Cllr Wardle advised that the repair of the dyke in the playing field was now known to be the PC's responsibility and he would obtain 2 quotes for the work. A light had been installed above the key safe. No quote was available yet for the repair of the car park wall.

**1790. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr Whincup reported that the damage caused by a vehicle in the cemetery had still to be explained. Several sunken graves had been identified and the locations notified to the grave digger for topping up.

**1791. COUNTY & DISTRICT REPORT**

There was agreement that the County gritting service had been good during recent cold weather.

Cllr Boot asked for feedback regarding GBC's bin service and there was consensus that it was of a high quality. GBC's precept would increase by 1.9% in 2013/14. The Aligned Core Strategy was going into the latest round of consultation. Cllr Boot asked members to contact him with their thoughts on which parts of the parish should be visited during GBC's parish walkabout.

**1792. BUS SERVICES**

Cllr Sharp summarised the impact of the replacement of the Premier bus service by NCT. The new 47 no longer served the area from the Church to Doverbeck or certain sections of Calverton. The service to Arnold had also been lost. 2 emails from villagers had been received expressing concern.

It was agreed that a leaflet should be circulated in the affected zones of the village asking villagers who would be impacted to contact Cllr Sharp so that numbers and details could be collated and used to try to influence NCC and NCT. Cllr Sharp agreed to liaise with other villages

affected. Cllr Blinston asked Cllr Sharp to request alignment of the bus timetable with the Lowdham to Nottingham train timetable.

### **1793. SPEEDWATCH & LORRYWATCH**

Cllr Blinston reported that the Calverton Speedwatch programme was on hold, but the Lambley programme would soon restart. She thanked Cllr Sharp for his help in pulling together an online rota.

Cllr Blinston asked the PC to support the idea of lowering the speed limit before the current 30mph zones on all roads into the village, arguing that many motorists are still decelerating as they pass the 30mph signs. There was considerable debate about the merits of deviating from the national speed limit, and about the illogic of a 50mph limit on the A6097 coexisting with a 60mph limit on Lowdham Lane and Shelt Hill. The PC resolved to lobby NCC for a reduction to 50mph on Lowdham Lane only.

### **1794. BUDGETS & PRECEPT FOR 2013/14**

The Clerk informed members that, due to changes to the local government finance system resulting from the Local Government Finance Act 2012, the decision to raise the total precept by 3% would result in an increase of 6% on a band D bill, raising it to £41.31. GBC proposed to provide assistance to WPC of £1288, subject to approval by full council. After much debate, the PC resolved to stick with its precept demand of £36,771, on the grounds that the 6% annual increase to a band D was £2.33 only.

It was resolved to keep the 2013/14 fees for the cemetery, the sports clubs and village hall hire at current levels.

### **1795. CORRESPONDENCE & EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

A letter had been received from a villager regarding the impact of flooding, and containing some suggestions as to how it might be better managed. Cllr Gough agreed to contact the Environment Agency regarding the maintenance of the dyke, and to understand further the riparian responsibilities of householders. Cllr Charles-Jones offered to meet with the villager to discuss the farming issues outlined in the letter.

A suggestion had been received that trees should be planted to commemorate the centenary of World War I and the villagers who had fought and died. There was consensus that this would be very worthwhile and members agreed to give some thought as to a possible location. A suggestion to spend the BKV prize money on Christmas lights and new play equipment had been received via the WCA. Provision for new lights had been made in the budget and Cllr Wardle agreed to investigate the costs of a seesaw.

A letter had been received from the Clerk to the Governors of the Woods School regarding parking. Details of the latest parish lengthsman scheme had been received and it was agreed to express an interest, in the absence of a village contractor. An invitation to a parish liaison meeting at GBC had been received and Cllr Whincup agreed to attend. An email from NCC Highways regarding a new crossing point on the A6097 had been received and it was agreed to support a request to investigate feasibility. The Clerk drew the PC's attention to correspondence from the PC's insurers regarding increased frequency in public liability claims and winter weather issues. Various minutes and agendas from GBC were noted.

**1796. CHURCH YARD**

Cllr Boot had obtained details of closed churchyards currently maintained by GBC, which included churchyards in the parishes of Lambley and Burton Joyce. Cllr Boot agreed to circulate the document by email.

**1797. WOODBOROUGH CHARITIES**

Due to Cllr Parkinson's absence, there was no update.

**1798. WOODS SCHOOL**

The PC approved a request from the Woods School to place a skip in the village hall car park while the path to the school was adapted for wheelchair access.

**1799. PLANNING**

There was no objection to PC ref 855, GBC 2012/1524 an application for 2 dormer windows and the conversion of part of the garage to a habitable room at The Stables, Main Street nor to PC ref 856, GBC 2012/1498 an application to demolish and build a replacement dwelling at 101 Lowdham Lane. PC ref 857, GBC 2013/0039, an application for demolition and a proposed replacement dwelling at 78 Lowdham Lane, was debated at length; it was agreed to note the PC's concern regarding the protected species survey item 5.5, and to observe that in the PC's view the plans presented were of an unacceptably poor quality.

**1800. ALLOTMENTS**

It was noted that a full plot and a half plot were vacant; one potential new tenant had come forward.

**1801. CEMETERY**

Cllr Whincup indicated that the noticeboard would cost circa £1000. The Clerk's suggested change in wording for rules and regulations regarding memorials was approved with minor amendment. It was noted that the hedge cutting had still to be completed and Cllr Turton asked that the first grass cut be made before Easter. Cllr Charles-Jones reported that the gates were persistently being left open and it was agreed that a "Close the Gates" sign should be purchased. The Clerk reported that the digitisation of the Registers had been booked for March 18<sup>th</sup>, allowing for some checking of outstanding details.

**1802. HEALTH & SAFETY**

There were no issues to report.

**1803. GOVERNORS' FIELD & PLAYING FIELD**

There was nothing reported.

**1804. FINANCE**

The Clerk presented the financial statement and 12 payments totalling £2887.98 including £182.71 VAT were approved for payment.

**1805. VILLAGE HALL**

It was agreed to engage a relief cleaner for 1 hour each day during the caretaker's holiday. It was agreed to engage Ashford Cleaning to carry out industrial cleaning of the vinyl floors at a cost of circa £120.

The VHWP had prioritised the renovation of the cloakrooms for improvements in 2013/14. It was agreed to obtain quotes. It was agreed to site the Best Kept Village winners' plaques above the kitchen and cupboard doorways in the entrance hall.

Cllr Wardle informed the PC that the planned LED car park lights would not be bright enough to be effective; he recommended reverting to a repair and this was agreed.

It was known that a Mansfield based charity were willing to take the unneeded plastic chairs away; the PC decided to advertise their availability to local users in the coming month and then make the remainder available to this group.

There was further discussion regarding the persistent problem of parking on the pavement at the car park entrance; it was noted that attempts at persuasion, provision of parking at the Four Bells and the school's endeavours had not succeeded in changing the behaviour of certain drivers. It was agreed to purchase and install 2 bollards on the pavement on the left hand side at a cost of £526.

Cllr Turton reported that the 2014 bookings meeting would be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**1806. RIGHTS OF WAY**

There was nothing reported.

**1807. NEWSLETTER**

It was agreed to advertise for new volunteer flood wardens and flood buddies; to advertise the availability of the old chairs and allotment vacancies; to announce the date of the bookings meeting.

**1808. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as March 11<sup>th</sup> 2013. The meeting finished at 10pm.