

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th January 2013 at 7pm
The Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham

PRESENT: Cllr Richard Whincup (Chairman), Cllr Alison Blinston, Cllr John Charles-Jones, Cllr Andrew Gough, Cllr Geoff Parkinson, Cllr Jan Turton, Cllr Charles Wardle

IN ATTENDANCE: Averil Marczak (Clerk)

1770. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Paul Berrisford and Cllr John Boot (holidays) and Cllr Paul Hough and Cllr Dan Sharp (family illness and illness).

1771. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Personal interests were declared: Cllr Whincup, Cllr Blinston: WCA and allotments; Cllr Wardle: WCA; Cllr Turton, Woodborough in Bloom, Cancer Research.

1772. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on December 10th were approved.

1773. MATTERS ARISING

The following items were reported: anecdotally there had been no improvement in school parking; the school caretaker was storing 60 plastic chairs for their future use; Trevor Aldridge was booked until June therefore electrical works at the hall would be subject to long delay; the suggestion of a tree on the green at Old Manor Close could not be pursued.

1774. DECEMBER FLOODS

Cllrs Gough and Wardle reported their learnings from the pre Christmas floods, which had lasted longer than previous flooding episodes. More flood wardens were needed to limit the time of each on duty to 4 hours (some had been on duty for 18 hours!); the best candidates were those whose own property was not in danger. It was agreed to seek new wardens and "flood buddies" via the website and newsletter.

1775. SPEEDWATCH & LORRYWATCH

Cllr Blinston reported that NCC were only offering one style of illuminated sign free of charge and it was agreed to accept this with thanks. Alternative styles seen in the county were funded and maintained by local councils or groups.

1776. BUDGETS & PRECEPT FOR 2013/14

Following advice from NALC and GBC, the PC resolved to grant a blanket dispensation to all members with a disclosable pecuniary interest in setting the precept for the next 4 years under section 33(2)(a) of the Localism Act. Paperwork had been received from GBC containing deadlines for receipt of parish budgets and precept requirements.

It was agreed to increase the precept by 3%, which had been November's RPI figure. The PC recorded its objective to build reserves over the next 3 or so years to fund a full resurfacing of the car park. Gedling Form C was signed by the Chairman, Cllr Wardle and Cllr Blinston. It was agreed that the parishioners should be consulted on spending priorities at the Annual Meeting of the Parish, which could inform plans for 2013 and beyond.

There was considerable discussion regarding capital expenditure items to be added to the basic maintenance budget agreed in principle in December. It was agreed to add £1500 for the replacement of the Christmas lights; £1000 to the Playing Field, mindful of the potential obligation to repair the fence and dyke; an additional £5000 for village hall improvements, specifics to be agreed; an additional £500 for cemetery maintenance. There was a debate around the wisdom of budgeting to maintain the Governors' Field railings in the absence of a formal agreement with the Woods School.

1777. CORRESPONDENCE & EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

An email had been received from a concerned resident regarding flood water in Lingwood Lane and it was agreed to forward the specific query to the Environment Agency and NCC Highways. PC Anelay had written to report that his agreed priorities for 2013 were speeding, anti social behaviour and school safety. A letter from Paddy Tipping had been received with details of his proposed 5 year plan and an online survey. Details of roadworks on Shelt Hill and a funding fair at GBC were noted. The hall had been booked for NCC elections on Thursday 2nd May. The PC's insurance brokers had written with recommendations regarding public liability claims and it was agreed to discuss this at a later meeting. Various minutes and agendas from GBC, details of GBC's 2013 events and an update on the Gedling Borough Aligned Core Strategy were noted.

1778. WOODBOROUGH CHARITIES

Cllr Parkinson had drafted a proposal for the future of Woodborough Town Lands and Woodborough Poor's Lands Charities, which included the suggested merger of the 2 charities, a formal system for the appointment of trustees and the transfer of the Allotment Land to the Official Custodian for Charities. The PC endorsed Cllr Parkinson's approach which he planned to present to the trustees for their approval on January 16th.

1779. PLANNING

The Clerk had dealt with PC ref 854, GBC 2012/1438TPO an application for tree works at 28 Park Avenue under delegated powers, raising no objections; GBC had subsequently granted consent. It was reported that while demolition of the existing bungalow at 147 Main Street had been approved, the proposed development of 7 dwellings had been declined by GBC (PC ref 850, GBC 2012/1172). PC ref 853, GBC 2012/1318 an application to demolish and build a replacement dwelling at 78 Lowdham Lane, had been withdrawn.

1780. ALLOTMENTS

It was proposed and agreed to raise the rent to £24 in 2014/15. A further resignation had been received, resulting in availability for new tenants from April.

1781. CEMETERY

The Chairman described his ideas for a heritage style sign and noticeboard at the cemetery and agreed to obtain quotes for February's meeting. It was noted that a large plant pot had been stolen from a grave. It was reported that further graves had sunk during the heavy rainfall and the Clerk agreed to notify the affected plots to the gravediggers once the snow and ice had cleared. Cllr Charles-Jones reported that the grounds had been damaged by a heavy vehicle which had used the turning circle; funeral directors who had recently carried out works had been contacted but it was not clear who was responsible. It was reported that the hedge planting had been done but the treeworks and widening of the gates had not commenced. Cllr Wardle agreed to discuss the main hedge cut with Gardenscape. It was agreed to accept a reduced quote of £740 for the digitisation

of the 3 cemetery record books (without collection) and to reimburse Cllr Whincup for his petrol to deliver the books to Northampton.

1782. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement and 12 payments totalling £2253.58 including £119.19 VAT were approved for payment.

1783. VILLAGE HALL

It was agreed to engage the relief caretaker for 1 hour each day during the caretaker's holiday.

Cllr Wardle explained the challenges associated with the installation of a light above the key safe. It was agreed to investigate solar or battery powered options. The security lights on the pole in the car park were damaged; the cost of a replacement bulb and fitting was £103. It was agreed not to repair but to spend £520 on replacement LED lights which would lower electricity bills and should be maintenance free for 15 years. No quote was available for repairs to the car park wall.

Several users had found stacking the new chairs problematic. Notices had been put up showing the correct technique. It was agreed that 3 new trolleys should be purchased to reduce the number of chairs in each stack, enabling the chairs to be stored in four stacks of 15 chairs and five stacks of 20.

1784. NEWSLETTER

It was agreed to advertise for new volunteer flood wardens and flood buddies and to ask users to check the signs on stacking the new chairs.

1785. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as February 11th 2013. The meeting finished at 10.10pm.