

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th May 2012 at 7pm
The Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham**

PRESENT: Cllr Richard Whincup (Chairman), Cllr Paul Berrisford, Cllr Alison Blinston, Cllr John Boot, Cllr Margaret Briggs, Cllr John Charles-Jones, Cllr Geoff Parkinson, Cllr Dan Sharp, Cllr Jan Turton, Cllr Charles Wardle

IN ATTENDANCE: Averil Marczak (Clerk), 7 parishioners

1565. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2012/13

Cllr Turton proposed that Cllr Whincup be re-elected as Chair; this was seconded by Cllr Briggs and all present voted in favour. Cllr Whincup proposed that Cllr Briggs be re-elected as Vice Chair; this was seconded by Cllr Sharp and all present voted in favour. It was agreed that members' responsibilities should remain unchanged. Cllr Hough had agreed to add the website to his responsibilities.

1566. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hough, who had coaching commitments.

1567. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Personal interests were declared: Cllrs Blinston, Briggs, Wardle and Whincup, WCA; Cllrs Berrisford, Blinston and Whincup: allotments; Cllr Turton, Woodborough in Bloom, Cancer Research; Cllr Wardle, planning application PC ref 835.

1568. OPEN SESSION

At 7.10pm the Chairman adjourned the meeting and invited members of the public to address the PC (a brief summary of comments made is appended). The meeting was reconvened at 7.20pm.

1569. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on April 2nd were approved with minor amendment.

1570. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Blinston commented that the temporary speed sign had been located beyond the double bend sign and was electrical and not battery powered. The idea of the buffer zone was being taken forward.

1571. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH 23RD APRIL 2012

The minutes were reviewed by the PC for approval by the next Annual Parish Meeting. The questions raised by the parish were considered: the cost of a permanent interactive speed sign was £6-7000, but NCC had agreed in principle to provide one to Woodborough; it was agreed that draft PC minutes should not be published; Cllr Briggs agreed to thank the Environment Agency personnel who checked the culverts; Cllr Briggs agreed to contact Mr Crowther regarding the location of the monitoring camera; the problem of cuttings in the culvert could be highlighted in the newsletter and on the website; the issue of aligning the charities in Woodborough had to be considered by the trustees; it was agreed to price up the tarmac needed for interim repairs to the car park. Mark Spencer had provided information regarding the safety of the roundabout on the Epperstone bypass; NCC recognised that traffic lights would have been a better solution but there were budgetary and practical constraints; accident statistics showed the new arrangement to be an improvement on the old.

1572. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

There was none.

1573. COUNTY REPORT

There was none.

1574. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Boot reported that there was a new mayor. GBC had announced their review of priorities and the conservation area review was at the bottom of the list. The PC expressed concern that the Tree Preservation Order (created in 1968) was now hopelessly out of date. It was agreed to write to GBC and ask (1) for the TPO to be updated and (2) for a general TPO to be created to cover all trees in the parish until the detailed work was complete.

GBC would shortly consider the Code of Conduct and this would then be disseminated for PCs to consider.

1575. BT BROADBAND IN THE VILLAGE

The Clerk reported that both she and Mark Spencer had written to BT asking for details of their plans regarding cabinet 6 which serviced the Sunningdale end of the village; an acknowledgment only had been received. Cllr Whincup had found out from RCAN that NCC's definition of high speed broadband was just 2MB+; therefore there was a risk that they would consider that all of Woodborough could access an adequate service. Cllr Whincup agreed to act as the PC's interface with BT but stressed that he could not give it an open ended amount of time.

1576. PC WEBSITE

It was agreed that the website should go live subject to some minor amendments. It was agreed to delegate control of news articles to the Clerk. The "sign up" facility was discussed and it was agreed that all mailings would be sent to all subscribers. There was a discussion about providing links to other village groups but it was agreed not to do this for the time being.

1577. STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Cllrs Charles-Jones and Whincup were reviewing the NALC model standing orders and would make their recommendations in due course. Cllr Boot reminded members that the new code of conduct should also be considered in tandem.

1578. SPEEDWATCH

A Speedwatch schedule was now in place until the end of August and the team would attend the Street Market with PC Anelay. Many comments, some derisory, had been made regarding the location of the temporary speed sign on Bank Hill; Cllr Blinston reminded members that the location had been chosen by NCC following their audit and although some villagers may feel that the problem was greater within the village that had not been substantiated by NCC or the Speedwatch team.

There was discussion regarding the location of the permanent sign and Cllr Blinston agreed to find out whether the PC were at liberty to select the site or whether NCC's traffic statistics would define the choices. It was agreed to ask NCC to collect data by the telephone box on Main Street.

1579. WOODBOROUGH CHARITIES

This was deferred to a later meeting.

1580. PLANNING

There was no objection to PC reference 835, GBC 2012/0531 an application by Mr Anthony Barnes to erect an oak framed garden room extension at 123A Main Street or to PC reference 836, GBC 2012/0551, an application by Mr Craig Smith to install play equipment in the garden at the Four Bells. PC reference 834, GBC 2012/0541 an application by Mr S Swinson to demolish the existing property at 101 Lowdham Lane and erect a replacement dwelling and garage was considered. Cllr Charles-Jones reported that the house had already been demolished and that an earlier application (2011/1025) had been granted permission by GBC. It was noted that the chimneys were now lower but it was agreed to observe that they were still overly decorative and out of keeping. It was agreed to observe that the roof to the proposed garage block was out of proportion and inappropriate for the garaging of 3 cars and to observe that the roof ridge should be lower and the gable removed.

1581. CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Roy Andrews of Hawthorn Close had asked for the PC's support to get a disused telegraph pole on Shelt Hill removed, enabling him to use the pavement safely while travelling in an electric wheelchair. It was agreed to write to NCC forwarding the photographs.

The PC had been made aware of a public meeting regarding a proposed crematorium on Catfoot Lane, Lambley; a planning application was expected in due course. GBC had requested further detail before processing the PC's planning application for PV panels and Cllr Parkinson agreed to provide this. Details on the Police and Crime Commissioner role were passed to Cllr Parkinson. It was agreed not to pursue the invitation to participate in NCC's pilot Lengthsman scheme. NCC had sent details of their street lighting energy and cost saving consultation and it was agreed to circulate the link for members to respond individually. New College Nottingham had invited the PC to advertise National Citizen Service. It was agreed to support NALC's campaign to back an early day motion on planning appeals by writing to Mark Spencer, MP. Cllr Boot reported that he would attend RCAN's localism seminar to be held at GBC on May 16th. Various minutes and agendas from GBC were noted.

1582. CHURCHYARD

There was nothing to report.

1583. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Charles-Jones confirmed that a grant for 180 chairs and 6 trolleys had been submitted to WREN (the chairs were slightly wider than average and the application had asked for 12 with armrests.) If successful, WREN would provide funding of £6000; Cllr Mark Spencer had sent a cheque for £500 and the PC would need to pay £4790.

Cllr Wardle reported that preschool had requested that wifi be installed in the hall; all costs including the ongoing contract would be met by the preschool. This was agreed. Cllr Wardle proposed that a new noticeboard be purchased for the entry hall. It was agreed to purchase a pair of blue boards for £111. It was agreed to defer a decision regarding the sale of the old amp.

Cllr Whincup read out a letter from Mrs Robinson of the Horticultural Society in which she thanked the caretaker Christine Leafe for her hard work clearing the dust and mess after the redecoration prior to the Horticultural show.

1584. ALLOTMENTS

The clerk reported that 3 tenants had not paid their rent and it was agreed to serve them notice. Cllr Charles-Jones reported that the edge of the road before the allotment parking area was being eroded by rain water in the gully and it was agreed to write to NCC to ask them to repair it.

1585. CEMETERY

It was agreed to obtain quotes to (1) widen the gates and to (2) stone closer to the hedge as alternative means of facilitating access by hearses.

Cllr Charles-Jones cautioned that urgent action must be taken to counter the growth of Japanese knotweed in the cemetery extension; regrowth was already 4 foot high in places. Cllr Turton proposed, and Cllr Briggs seconded, expenditure by Cllr Charles-Jones of up to £150 to purchase chemicals and spray the shoots. This was agreed by a majority vote as an immediate measure and Cllr Whincup agreed to follow up long term management options.

Cllr Charles-Jones recommended that a tree surgeon be engaged to remove 2 leylandi in the front (unconsecrated) quarter and it was agreed to obtain 2 quotes for this and for the clearance of diverse self seeded shrubs, brambles etc in the old cemetery.

1586. HEALTH & SAFETY

Cllr Sharp reported that the home shower was not functioning and this had stopped tests taking place. Alan Harrington had been asked to diagnose the problem.

At 9.15 6 parishioners left the meeting.

1587. GOVERNORS' FIELD

The WCA's plans to hold a fun day on the Governors' Field on June 3rd were discussed and it was agreed to close the field to the public for the day and hand over responsibility to the WCA.

1588. LITTER BIN

Cllr Blinston requested that the PC install a litter bin at the bus shelter and it was agreed to monitor the amount of litter found there.

1589. PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Berrisford reported that a fence had fallen over due to cut grass being deposited against it. He had scheduled a meeting with the owner of the adjacent property.

1590. FINANCE

The clerk presented the financial statement and 23 cheques totalling £10806.26 including £289.56 VAT were approved for payment. Gross payments over £500: Paul Nightingale £3325 (redecoration of hall), Gardenscape £540.13 (grass cutting and turfing), National Dry Cleaners £840 (curtain cleaning), P.Wiles £730 (new website and annual hosting), Woodborough in Bloom (£750, S137).

1591. RIGHTS OF WAY

Cllr Berrisford reported that the grass had been cut down Lowdham Lane; he would check the footpaths to identify any overgrowth. There was a discussion regarding the possibility of erecting a new seat on the footpath to Ploughman's Wood.

1592. NEWSLETTER

It was agreed to include a notice asking parishioners not to throw cuttings into the culvert.

The remaining parishioner was asked to leave the meeting.

1593. STAFFING MATTERS

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

1594. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk raised concern that HSBC's bank charges had been raised significantly. The tariff to which the PC had moved no longer offered 20 free cheques paid in and out.

1595. AOB

It was agreed to re-engage Ashforth Cleaning to clean the entry hall floor every 6 or 12 months.

Cllr Wardle reported that the manhole outside the preschool toilet was lifting; Geoff Baggaley would rod the drains to resolve the issue.

1596. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as June 11th 2012. The meeting finished at 10.05pm.

SUMMARY OF DEBATE DURING PUBLIC SESSION

Mrs Yvonne O'Donnell requested details of the diversion of bridleway 6; she was very concerned at the proposal to divert it. It was suggested that she contact NCC directly.

Dawn Edwards asked whether the PC were concerned about the proposed development in the greenbelt of a crematorium at Catfoot Lane, which would be visible from Bank Hill. There would be traffic issues for Woodborough. The Chairman responded that the PC would request to be included on the consultation. Cllr Parkinson reminded members of the agreed policy to hold a public meeting to consider any major development in the green belt.