

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13th October 2014 at 7pm
The Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham**

PRESENT: Cllr Richard Whincup (Chairman), Cllr Paul Berrisford, Cllr Geoff Parkinson, Cllr Andrew Gough, Cllr Patrick Smith, Cllr Jan Turton, Cllr Charles Wardle

IN ATTENDANCE: Averil Marczak (Clerk); 14 members of the public (part)

2296. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr John Boot, Cllr John Charles-Jones, Cllr Paul Hough, Cllr Dan Sharp.

2297. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Non pecuniary interests were declared: Cllr Smith: Woodborough Action Group; Cllr Wardle: WCA; Cllrs Berrisford and Parkinson: allotments; Cllr Turton: Cancer Research and Woodborough in Bloom. Pecuniary interests: Cllrs Gough, Smith, Turton, Wardle: Local Planning Document.

2298. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meetings held on September 1st and 22nd were approved.

2299. PUBLIC SESSION

The meeting was adjourned between 7.05pm and 7.18pm to allow public comment. A brief summary is appended.

2300. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

A letter had been received from the Ramblers Association regarding bridleway 6; they would not withdraw their objection to the diversion. The long promised response from GBC regarding the Co-op site had not been received and Cllr Turton agreed to chase up. The WCA had held a meeting regarding the shop on 8th September; it was understood that a potential buyer had made an offer for the shop and Post Office.

2301. MEETING DATES FOR 2015

The following dates were agreed: January 12th, February 9th, March 9th, April 13th, Annual Meeting of the Parish April 27th, Annual Parish Council Meeting May 11th, June 8th, July 13th, September 14th, October 12th, November 9th, December 14th.

2302. DISTRICT REPORT

In Cllr Boot's absence, Cllr Turton gave a very brief resume of the Special Parish Liaison Meeting held by GBC to improve communication on planning processes.

2303. POTENTIAL FLOOD MITIGATION SCHEME

Cllrs Berrisford and Parkinson had attended Lowdham PC's public meeting to discuss a flood scheme; funds from central government, NCC and the EA were being made available and the community was required to contribute a balancing figure. 277 homes had flooded in Lowdham, making the scheme far more cost efficient/higher priority than any scheme for Woodborough could be. Cllr Parkinson reported that the EA's representative had commented that the previously

discussed potential scheme in Woodborough was a good scheme, with the additional benefit that it would be an attractive feature year round due to planting etc, and that the offer by a private landowner was unprecedented. The Chairman summarised the advice received from NALC's legal team, which specified that the PC's powers to spend money on flood defences were limited to the power to spend money under S137 of the Local Government Act, with a ceiling of £7.20 per elector. As a consequence, the PC would not be able to make a significant contribution towards the scheme, and it was therefore inappropriate to apply for the licences as previously agreed. The EA funding previously discussed had required action before March 31st 2015 and could not be rolled over.

It was noted that Southwell and Lowdham Councils had not let the lack of a statutory power re flood prevention hold them back (indeed a condition of the funding pledged for the Lowdham scheme was that the community contribute a significant sum), and it was agreed that all options that might enable the scheme should be explored, including the potential for GBC and NCC to raise an additional precept on Woodborough, or to delegate their powers. It was agreed that the PC should update the village on the current impasse via the website.

2304. EMERGENCY PLANNING

A request had been received from the chairman of the Emergency Planning Committee that 15 pairs of insulated gloves for use by flood wardens and a rake should be purchased at a cost of £87.70. Cllrs Berrisford and Wardle, as active flood wardens, declared a non pecuniary interest. It was agreed unanimously to purchase the items. An offer to supply 80 free sandbags had been received from NCC; after some debate it was agreed to decline, as these would not be useful in Woodborough due to the location of the resilience store, but to request whether it would be possible to receive an equivalent value of Aqua Sacs instead.

2305. LOCAL PLANNING DOCUMENT/ALIGNED CORE STRATEGY

Cllr Smith reported that GBC had delayed proposed workshops in the village; consultation on part 2 of the Local Planning Document was likely to take place after Christmas. A PC representative would be invited to workshops regarding design and building control and it was agreed provisionally that Cllr Smith should represent Woodborough.

Cllr Smith had reviewed new guidance from the DCLG regarding safeguarding the green belt; in his judgment while the sentiment was to be welcomed there was little in the document that was new.

The SHLAA review had been published by GBC. The sites now in scope had capacity for some 500 dwellings, giving many more permutations to achieve the local need (identified at the Issues and Options stage consultation). The paddock at Taylors Croft was not currently in scope due to its restrictive covenant; however it was known that the covenant had now lapsed and the land might well be considered in future.

2306. INSURANCE

A new key safe had been installed to comply with Zurich's requirements. It was agreed that quotes should be obtained for the replacement value of the railings, on the closest approximation of like for like.

Zurich had recommended that the PC hold copies of the public liability insurance certificates for all commercial users of the hall and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to users to request this.

2307. SPEEDWATCH

A letter had been received from Calverton PC, requesting that the rota be rewritten to divide the month into 3 equal parts for each parish. It was agreed to ask Cllr Hough to meet with a representative from Calverton. It was noted that Woodborough's coordinator of the gun planned to step down shortly.

NCC had sent a proposal for the interactive speed sign on Lowdham Lane and it was agreed to accept the offer with thanks.

2308. CORRESPONDENCE & EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The following items had been received: various minutes and agendas from GBC; NCC Integrated Ticketing Consultation (it was agreed to forward to Cllr Sharp for his consideration); NAVACH Hall Talk. Details of NCC's Supporting Local Communities Fund had been passed to Woodborough GREAT. Cllr Turton agreed to attend NALC's AGM. It was agreed to accept NCC's offer of free road salt. Details of the Greenwood Community Tree Planting Grants had been received, but there were no obvious locations in Woodborough. Details of NCC's budget consultation had been received.

Woodborough Scouts had sent an email asking the PC for financial support towards a £3000 rent demand from the PCC, for the land on which they hoped one day to build their new hut. It was agreed to decline the request as the PC did not support individual groups.

Several thank you cards and 2 small donations had been received from the Brownies and staff at Weaverthorpe Scout Hut following the PC's donation of the old chairs. It was agreed to write a letter and return the donations.

2309. PLANNING

Cllr Whincup asked the PC to make plans for how it would handle the anticipated application for a wind turbine at Woodborough Park. He proposed that all of the electorate should be consulted and that the results of this consultation should form the PC's observations to GBC. He held grave reservations about the PC discussing the issue and voting upon it, as he did not think that members could approach the issue with an open mind, and he was aware of several incidents of bullying/intimidation that had affected the willingness of members to talk and vote during the earlier application in 2011. Cllr Turton echoed the concerns and recounted her personal experiences of intimidation. 3 villagers left the meeting at 8.30pm. The cost of conducting a parish poll via GBC was onerous, and Cllr Whincup advocated the distribution of a paper based survey to every door in the village. Cllr Parkinson felt that the PC should debate and vote on the issue, as well as conducting a survey. It was agreed unanimously that the PC should carry out a survey via a flyer to be distributed through all doors. At 8.35pm 9 villagers left.

2310. WOODBOROUGH IN BLOOM

Cllr Turton reported that GBC had agreed to tend the planted areas at Ploughmans Ave and Smalls Croft; they had removed the lavender and planned to renew the shrubs and bark chips.

2311. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Wardle reported that a window in the gents' toilets had been broken, probably by a ball, and had been re-glazed. Several of the small tables appeared to have gone missing and it was agreed to place a notice asking for their return. Cllr Wardle had replaced the crash bar on the exit door opposite the tennis courts and installed enclosed toilet roll holders. Pre-school had agreed to purchase a trolley for daily moving of the committee room chairs and it was resolved to purchase the trolley then pass the charge to pre-school. The VHWP had asked the PC to consider engaging a cleaning firm to give the hall a deep clean during the summer holidays. It was determined that the caretaker had sufficient hours to undertake this task during the quiet periods.

2312. ALLOTMENTS

A complaint had been received regarding the use of rat poison, which endangered birds and other wildlife. It was noted that nationwide there appeared to be a particular problem with rats this year. The allotment agreement did not prohibit the use of poison, but could be changed providing due notice was given to the tenants. It was agreed to seek advice from a pest control company and to discuss the issue in November.

A tenant had reported a safety issue of overhanging branches and it was agreed that the PC should pay for any tree works required.

2313. CEMETERY

Gardenscape would clear the brambles shortly.

2314. HEALTH & SAFETY

Nothing reported.

2315. GOVERNORS' FIELD

It was resolved to ask Rob Dixon to clear the leaves (once all trees had shed their leaves) at a cost of £130.

2316. PLAYING FIELD

It was agreed that the PC would consider the possibility of requesting a contribution from the school for usage of the playing field at its November meeting.

2317. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement and 11 payments totalling £2306.27 net were approved for payment. The Clerk circulated a 6 month review of performance against budget; year to date expenditure amounted to £48,335 and income £66,212.

2318. RIGHTS OF WAY

NCC had informed Cllr Berrisford that they would clear overgrowth to restore the width of the footpath on Shelt Hill north of Doverbeck. Cllr Wardle agreed to report a burnt out vehicle on Lowdham Lane to GBC. There was a debate regarding a suitable location for an additional dog bin and it was agreed that the Clerk should check with Cllr Elliott if he would fund it.

2319. NEWSLETTER

It was agreed to include the minutes.

2320. AOB

Cllr Berrisford informed the PC that he was Woodborough's snow warden. Cllr Turton informed members that despite a lack of action GBC had recognised WPC's offer to help revise the TPO at the Parish Liaison meeting.

2321. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as November 10th 2014 at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 9.25pm.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SESSION

A query was raised about declarations of interests, and whether members were declaring interests they did not in fact have; an update on the legal advice received on the flood scheme was requested; more than one flood scheme should be considered; a public meeting should be held to discuss the flood scheme; the next wind turbine planning application should be handled differently and the PC should consult the public. Several villagers asked for information to be given on certain agenda items so that they could get involved in the discussion; the chairman declined to pre-empt the debate and said that further public questions could be put at the next meeting.