

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7pm  
The Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham**

PRESENT: Cllr Pat Woodfield (Chairman), Cllr Margaret Briggs, Cllr John Charles-Jones, Cllr Andrew Gough, Cllr John Newsome, Cllr Daniel Raynor (part), Cllr Patrick Smith, Cllr Colin Starke, Cllr Charles Wardle.

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Boyd Elliott (NCC, part), Inspector Chris Pearson (Nottinghamshire Police), 2 residents (part), Averil Marczak (Clerk).

**3856. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Paul Berrisford, Cllr Jane Stone and also GBC Cllr Helen Greensmith.

**3857. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No additional interests declared.

**3858. OPEN SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

The Chairman suspended the meeting between 7.05pm and 7.10pm. A resident expressed interest in the PC's discussion on flooding, and the Chairman brought this item forward.

**3859. FLOODING**

There was a discussion regarding the flooding episode on November 14<sup>th</sup> and consideration of how water from adjacent farmland had run into the playing field. 2 of the councillors had tried to alleviate this by hand digging channels to divert the flows. It was agreed to chase NCC for action on the blocked drain near the Old School House on Lingwood Lane which might have contributed to this. It was agreed to purchase 6 additional jackets for use by flood wardens. Grant Ilett, Health, Safety and Emergency Planning Officer to GBC, had offered to attend a meeting with the parish to offer flooding support information and advice. It was agreed to forward a couple of dates which key personnel in the emergency team could attend, and ultimately to open the meeting to the whole village. Cllr Raynor arrived at 7.20pm. Cllr Elliott and Inspector Chris Pearson arrived at 7.25pm.

**3860. OPEN SESSION FOR DISCUSSION ON POLICING**

The Chairman suspended the meeting between 7.30pm and 7.50pm. A resident thanked Insp. Pearson, and asked if anything could be done about inconsiderate parking on Roe Lane, and to revive a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the village. It was agreed that Cllr Elliott would write to persistent bad parkers on Roe Lane. Insp. Pearson commented that Neighbourhood Watch schemes were tending to be superseded by social media groups.

Insp. Pearson explained that the neighbourhood policing team would gain 3 new officers by the end of the financial year, and that there would be 300 more officers across the county. Extra officers across the Gedling area would enable the police to be more proactive and once again to engage with communities, working with neighbourhood wardens and parish councils, and attending community events. Their current priorities were tackling burglary, auto crime and antisocial behaviour. The Police and Crime Commissioner's office would issue a survey on priorities in 2020 and Insp. Pearson recommended that everyone have their say by responding. Insp. Pearson wrote a monthly newsletter, which he would forward for publication by WPC website/Woodborough Web. Cllr Briggs asked if the police would be prepared to track down

motorists who refused to respect road closures/flood wardens during the floods and Insp. Pearson said that he would follow up any details sent on to him.

**3861. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November were approved.

**3862. MATTERS ARISING FOR REPORT ONLY**

Preschool had offered to pay for dry cleaning of the curtains to remove any stains caused by paint. They would ensure that future painting took place on the other side of the Hall. The joiner approached to quote for the Lowdham Lane bench repair had declined the work.

**3863. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman asked for budget items to be submitted in time for consolidation on January 10th 2020.

**3864. COUNTY REPORT**

Cllr Elliott had circulated a report. The adoption of Ash Grove still depended on street lighting, road course surfacing and drainage meeting the S38 agreed standards. The footpath from Church Walk to the playing field was unadopted and details had been passed to the Rights of Way Officer; it was noted that lower standards were required for a right of way than an adopted footpath (essentially to remain passable). The request for hardstanding at a Main Street bus stop had been passed to the team charged with bus stop infrastructure improvements, who would evaluate the project. Via had confirmed that Lowdham Lane was on the siding up list. Cllr Elliott committed to delivering on his earlier offer to supply 2 picnic benches for the Governors' Field and a further bench to replace the broken seat on Lowdham Lane. It was agreed that the old Lowdham Lane bench should be salvaged for potential future restoration.

**3865. DISTRICT REPORT**

Cllr Greensmith had emailed to say that she enjoyed the Christmas lights switch on, particularly the singing from the school choir and Just Sing. She wished everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

**3866. PLANNING**

PC1076/GBC2019/1070: for change of use from class D1 (place of worship) to class D2 (gym), Methodist Church, Roe Lane. It was noted that there would be little external change to the building, and there was broad support for the new use for the building and the commitment to maintain its fabric. It was agreed to make no objection, but to ask GBC to request that external maintenance should be carried out before use commences and to consult further on the opening days/times and the projected parking requirements. It was noted that new housing would also increase traffic flows on Roe Hill.

PC1077/GBC2019/1073 for a proposed extension, dormer windows, rooflights, porch and new gable to front elevation at 53, Lowdham Lane: no objection.

A follow up complaint regarding PC1062/GBC2019/0635 for alterations at 151 Main Street had been sent to Mike Avery, GBC Service Manager in accordance with GBC procedures. A response was awaited.

**3867. DEFIBRILLATORS**

It was reported that a resident had attempted to access the defibrillator as a precautionary measure and EMAS had been unable to provide the code. A similar problem had occurred in 2017. Cllr Wardle had contacted EMAS and was given evidence that they had records of the locations and codes for the 3 Woodborough defibrillators; EMAS had committed to provide staff training to ensure that all operators could provide the code if needed.

**3868. SAM MIDDUP FIELD**

Cllr Raynor had visited several neighbouring residents to discuss pruning of trees and hedges. The residents who had excavated their own channel into the ditch were happy to cooperate with works to consolidate drainage using a mini digger in the new year. It was noted that a ridge was developing on the field side of the ditch due to ploughing. Cllr Raynor reported that he hoped to organise the first meeting of the working party to kick off development planning over the school holiday period.

**3869. VILLAGE HALL**

Work to replace fascias and soffits was underway, and subject to weather would be completed by 13<sup>th</sup> December. An electrical fault had been discovered by a user and Cllr Wardle had arranged for an electrician to attend. Cllr Starke had asked for a quote to replace existing lights with LEDs and would report back at a future meeting.

**3870. GOVERNORS' FIELD TREE WORKS**

4 quotes were considered and it was agreed to place the business with WRS Tree Services Ltd at a cost of £850 + VAT.

**3871. NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT/LIS GRANT**

The installation of the new play equipment and safety surfacing was nearing completion, with the inspection due on 11<sup>th</sup> December. The information board would be developed in due course in time for a mini opening ceremony.

**3872. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND SWITCH ON EVENT**

Notwithstanding the absence of a “real” Christmas tree, the switch on event had been a success, enjoyed by all. Cllr Briggs thanked the WCA for helping to arrange the lights switch on and thanked her fellow members for their help on the day.

**3873. CEMETERY FEES FOR NONRESIDENTS**

Following discussion at November’s meeting, Cllr Charles-Jones proposed to modify the PC’s definition of resident as applied to cemetery fees, to state that anyone who could demonstrate residency in the village for 80 years (or more) should be charged resident cemetery fees. This was approved by a small majority. Due to exceptional circumstances, it was agreed to apply this retrospectively to a funeral conducted in November, and to refund the family involved a sum of £1600.

**3874. CEMETERY : DAMAGE TO GRASS CAUSED BY HEARSEs**

The Clerk had corresponded with A W Lymn regarding damage to the turning circle grass caused by their largest hearses. All drivers had been briefed to take extra care.

### **3875. SUPPORT FOR PRESCHOOL**

Cllr Raynor spoke passionately about the fantastic work done by Woodborough Preschool and its importance in the village for young families. He was aware that preschools in other villages received a discounted hire rate and asked the PC to consider helping the preschool if their budget should require it, to ensure its ongoing viability. Cllr Raynor agreed to liaise with the Preschool supervisor to understand its needs and challenges going forward and to report back to the PC.

### **3876. BUDGET SUBMISSIONS**

Members were asked to submit budget submissions prior to the end of December, in detail for 2020/21 and in outline for 2021/3.

### **3877. FINANCE**

The Clerk presented the financial statement for December and 16 payments, totalling £4187.62 net, were approved for payment. Gross payments over £500: £523.56 LGPS (staff pensions).

### **3878. CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

A resident's email had been received supporting the location of the Silent Soldier. A letter from GBC's monitoring officer regarding bullying and intimidation in public life had been circulated to members. An enquiry had been received from the local history group's chair and Cllr Smith agreed to review the letter, to see if he could provide additional information. The headteacher at Woodborough Woods School had advised that the general purpose governors meeting would now be held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020; it was agreed that Cllr Raynor should attend and that agenda items should be considered at February's WPC meeting. The following items were noted: Hall Talk; NALC consultation on strengthening police powers to tackle unauthorised encampments; GBC, press releases regarding improvements to Gedling Country Park and free bulky waste collection; GBC, various agendas and press releases.

### **3879. OTHER UPDATES**

GBC's neighbourhood wardens had put up their banner to deter dog fouling on the railings between the cage and the Village Hall car park. The Chairman asked members (if in the area) to check whether the caged area was left open out of school hours, as she had found it locked on occasions. Cllr Starke reported that the play equipment inspections undertaken by himself and Mr Whincup were going smoothly, and that no issues had been found since 26<sup>th</sup> August.

### **3880. WOODBOROUGH WEB CONTENT**

It was agreed to include the minutes, details concerning the new play equipment and notification of the forthcoming tree works which would necessitate the temporary closure of the Governors' Field.

### **3881. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

An extraordinary meeting would be held on 7<sup>th</sup> January to consider planning applications for new dwellings.

### **3882. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The dates of the next PC meetings were confirmed as 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

The meeting finished at 10pm.