

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th January 2020 at 7pm
The Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham**

PRESENT: Cllr Andrew Gough (chairman), Cllr Paul Berrisford, Cllr Margaret Briggs, Cllr John Charles-Jones (part), Cllr Daniel Raynor, Cllr Patrick Smith, Cllr Colin Starke, Cllr Jane Stone, Cllr Charles Wardle (part).

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Boyd Elliott (NCC, part), Cllr Helen Greensmith (GBC, part), 1 resident (part), Averil Marczak (Clerk).

3892. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Pat Woodfield and Cllr John Newsome.

3893. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Smith declared a nonpecuniary interest in item 15, footpath on the Sam Middup Field (interest in land and membership of the Ramblers).

3894. OPEN SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The Chairman suspended the meeting between 7.03pm and 7.09pm. A resident made a plea that the existing bench on Lowdham Lane be repaired. Cllr Wardle explained that it was proposed to replace the seat with a new one, funded by Cllr Elliott, but to conserve the original iron for restoration in due course. The resident asked that the restored bench, which he considered to be a historical feature of the Lane, be returned to its position. The resident spoke further about planning application PC1081/GBC 2019/1013 (155 Lowdham Lane), discussed at the Extraordinary Meeting held on 7th January 2020. He gave his views that the land had not previously been developed, that it would impact the openness of the green belt, and that the design was not sympathetic.

3895. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meetings held on 10th December and 7th January were approved.

3896. MATTERS ARISING FOR REPORT ONLY

Cllr Smith reported that a revised site plan for application PC1081/GBC 2019/1013 was now available online.

3897. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Gough asked all members to speak briefly so that the meeting could finish on time.

3898. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Greensmith had circulated her report. GBC had been asked to investigate a potential unauthorised development, but the enforcement team had found nothing of concern. GBC officers wanted to meet with WPC for a debrief on the floods. The 2 houses that had been flooded in November had been sent flood impact forms. Cllr Greensmith was still waiting to hear about a proposed new litter bin at the bus stop opposite the allotments. Cllr Greensmith planned to nominate Woodborough's flood wardens for the Community Heroes Award as part of the Pride of Gedling awards. GBC Chief Executive Karen Bradford had resigned. Cllr Briggs asked Cllr Greensmith to arrange cleaning of the Smalls Croft pavements, which were very slippery.

3899. REVIEW OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 7

Cllr Starke commented that he believed WPC had sent the wrong message when supporting development in the green belt under application PC1081/GBC 2019/1013; WPC was always aggrieved when GBC did not appear to be abiding by the rules. Cllr Smith read out a prepared statement, during which Cllr Charles-Jones arrived at 7.25pm. Cllr Smith said he was appalled by the arrangements made for the meeting on January 7th and that the committee room had been unsafe. He recommended alternative venues should be organised for any future meetings which might attract 8 or more members of the public; options included the school and the Institute as the main hall was generally hired to regular users. Cllr Smith gave his view that the Chairman should have declared an interest, as the applicant was a tenant of WPC. Cllr Smith read an excerpt from The Good Councillors' Guide regarding planning observations and told fellow members that WPC had failed the village by failing to hold a public meeting and through failing to object. It was agreed that Cllr Smith's statement should be circulated for potential future discussion. At 7.50pm Cllr Boyd Elliott arrived. At 7.55pm a resident left.

3900. BUDGET

A draft budget had been circulated; it was agreed that this should be discussed in detail at February's meeting. It was agreed to forward a provisional precept request of £74,120 to GBC, and to agree the final precept demand at February's meeting. It was agreed that fees for the Village Hall, cemetery and playing field should remain as current.

3901. ALLOTMENT RENT

It was agreed that the allotment rent for 2021/22 should remain at £32.

3902. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Elliott reported that the siding up of Lowdham Lane and Shelt Hill would take place before 31st March. The latest LIS grant programme had opened for applications; with a deadline of 28th February. New SLOW markings had been painted on the road near the Nags Head; the Clerk would circulate details. Cllr Charles-Jones asked Cllr Elliott to review the reduction of the speed limit on Lowdham Lane and Shelt Hill to 50 mph; these concerns had been raised by several residents. Cllr Elliott agreed to arrange a petition. It was noted that a number of vehicles had recently tried to use Roe Hill as a through road, and Cllr Elliott was asked to investigate moving the no through road signs located near the Four Bells to a more prominent position further up Roe Lane. Cllr Raynor provided Cllr Elliott with details of a number of potholes on Smalls Croft and Buckland Drive, to be followed up by Via. He asked Cllr Elliott to liaise with Cllr Greensmith to consider placing new bins on Lowdham Lane and Shelt Hill once the pavements had been sided up. Cllr Briggs asked Cllr Elliott to have drains on Lingwood Lane and Foxwood Lane/Westfields cleaned and remedial work carried out as appropriate.

3903. LOWDHAM LANE BENCH

Cllr Elliott agreed to pay £250 to help refurbish the Lowdham Lane bench, rather than replace it with new.

3904. GROUNDSMAN TENDER PROCESS

Cllr Charles-Jones declared a nonpecuniary interest as employer of one of the contractors tendering. Four tenders had been received. It was agreed to request further detail from one of the contractors and to make a decision at February's meeting.

3905. PLANNING

PC1082/GBC 2019/1010 for single storey side, front and rear extensions at 12 Oldacres: correspondence from a neighbour was noted. It was agreed to observe that the skylight window over the mezzanine floor should be obscure glazed; the applicant's ownership of the disused path should be investigated; the building materials were unclear and should timber cladding be used, this would not be in keeping with the character of this part of the village.

PC1083/GBC 2019/1146, to repollard T1 T2 limes to previous pollard points at 121 Main Street: no documents were online and it was agreed to observe that no comment could be made as documents were not available online.

Mike Avery, GBC Service Manager, had sent an email response to WPC's follow up complaint regarding PC1062/GBC 2019/0635 for alterations at 151 Main Street. Cllr Smith gave his view that the response was unsatisfactory. It was agreed to establish whether there was a further stage to the complaint process.

3906. FLOODING

Cllr Briggs had been in contact with Grant Ilett, Health, Safety and Emergency Planning Officer at GBC and agreed to arrange a public meeting involving GBC and other agencies. It was agreed that Cllr Briggs and the Clerk would liaise to agree a shortlist of dates for the meeting in March and April. Cllr Wardle left the meeting at 9.30pm.

3907. SAM MIDDUP FIELD

The working party had met and walked the field to assess options for a permissive footpath and to consider maintenance needs. Cllr Raynor reported that the majority of the group agreed with a proposal to establish a permissive footpath around the perimeter of the field, from the entrance to the South East corner. The adjacent landowners had indicated that they would agree to link this footpath to the established bridleway. Cllr Raynor recognised the need to consult the residents who would be affected by this footpath. Cllr Smith, who had declared a nonpecuniary interest, commented that the effects on privacy and security for the residents would depend on the numbers using the footpath and their behaviour, and that WPC might be expected to fund fencing etc if problems arose. Cllr Charles Jones had calculated approximate costs of £4500 to include stoning the path and installing a kissing gate. The work would best be carried when the tenant was ploughing the field. It would be possible to apply for grants, but the Clerk cautioned that if grant money had been used it might be difficult to close the footpath in future. Cllr Raynor had identified a few boundary maintenance issues that he planned to discuss with the homeowners. Work previously discussed to extend the current ditch to alleviate flooding in one of the gardens would be undertaken when the ground was in a better condition.

3908. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Starke had scheduled a meeting with a sales representative to discuss replacement of the Village Hall lights with LEDs. It was possible that replacement of the dimmable lights in the main hall would be problematic. It was agreed that a booking for New Year's Eve should be accepted and be granted a finishing time of 1am.

3909. GOVERNORS' FIELD BUS SHELTER

Cllr Raynor reported that the shelter was in a sorry state, with the guttering full of leaves and growing weeds, and the floor inside the shelter prone to fill with muddy water during periods of

rain. It was further noted that there were loose tiles on the roof. It was agreed that the Clerk should discuss with Cllr Elliott to investigate whether the bus company would take responsibility.

3910. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement for January and 20 payments, totalling £6771.14 net, were approved for payment. Gross payments over £500: £506.79 LGPS (staff pensions); £1027.99 GBC (for maintenance at the cemetery); £1934.62 GBC (for the Christmas lights installation, payment to be made on once the lights had been removed and returned to WPC).

3911. CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

A resident's email had been received thanking WPC for the presentation of the cemetery. An email had been received challenging the charging of non-resident cemetery fees for former residents of the village. It was agreed that the request for resident fees should be declined. A request that WPC pay more attention to brambles and weeds in the church yard was noted. The Royal British Legion had advised WPC that the lamppost poppies should be displayed in the lead up to VE and VJ Day 75th anniversary celebrations and it was agreed that further lamppost poppies should be ordered, quantity to be confirmed. The following items were noted: Paddy Tipping's *The Beat* newsletter; Nottinghamshire Police stakeholder update; NALC new year letter; GBC, various agendas and press releases.

3912. SUPPORT FOR PRESCHOOL

Cllr Raynor had met with the Preschool supervisor to understand more about their future plans and finances, and the requirements imposed on them by government and OFSTED. Cllr Raynor recommended that WPC support 4 proposals/suggestions: provision of outdoor learning, e.g. boards and games on the wall or on the ground; external signage to say that the Village Hall was the home of Woodborough Preschool, an OFSTED outstanding provider; provision of a display board in the main hall, which could be concealed as necessary; make the ramp outside the main hall fire door flush with the floor level to help disabled access. Cllr Raynor had asked Preschool for their views on hire charges and their ideal timetable, noting they currently did not operate on Wednesday. He expressed a view that WPC were overcharging them when compared to the arrangements that other similar local preschools enjoyed. There was a lengthy debate about this. It was agreed that further information regarding the Preschool's finances needed to be understood, to establish whether their viability was at risk. It was further noted that many other bookings at the hall were made by charities.

3913. GOVERNORS' FIELD

An area of the safe surface near the seesaw had sunk and the Clerk was asked to contact DCM to arrange its repair which it was hoped would be covered by the warranty. A phone call had been received regarding the removal of a memorial bench from the Governors' Field, and the Clerk had explained that it was in an unsafe condition. The family was considering whether they would replace the bench with new.

3914. WOODBOROUGH WEB CONTENT

It was agreed to include the minutes.

3915. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next PC meetings was confirmed as 11th February 2020. The meeting finished at 10.44pm.