

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11th December 2023
at 6.45pm in the Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham**

(Rescheduled meeting after flooding on Monday 4th December)

PRESENT: Cllr Liz Anderson (Chair), Cllr John Newsome, Cllr Colin Starke, Cllr Linda Taylor, Cllr Charles Wardle, Cllr Richard Whincup, Cllr Adam Wylie

IN ATTENDANCE: 2 residents (part), Averil Marczak (Clerk)

4883. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Andrew Gough, Cllr Gary Digva, Cllr Phil Hallam, Cllr Richard Pannell, Cllr Helen Greensmith (GBC), Cllr Boyd Elliott (NCC).

4884. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No additional interests were declared.

4885. OPEN SESSION

The meeting was suspended between 6.46 and 7.00 to allow two residents to address the PC on matters regarding flooding, planning and open spaces. One resident thanked the PC for organising works to maintain the open space on Smalls Croft and requested that the condition of the trees be checked. GBC had not pruned the trees and they were in a poor condition.

4886. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on November 6th were approved.

4887. MATTERS ARISING

It had not proved possible to open a fixed term deposit bond as the minimum investment required was £100,000. It was agreed that the new Christmas lights looked excellent, and the switch on event had been a big success. The Chair asked Cllr Taylor to pass on thanks to all members of the WCA involved in organising the event.

4888. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

On behalf of Cllr Gough, Cllr Anderson thanked Cllr Starke for all of his hard work involved in sourcing the new Christmas lights, the Christmas tree and organising the installation. She also recorded thanks to the team of flood wardens who had worked tirelessly during the multiple recent flood events.

4889. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Greensmith had reported that there were no updates of note from GBC.

4890. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Elliott had spoken to the highways team regarding double yellow lines on Roe Lane. It was agreed to add a request for a review of parking restrictions on the short stretch outside the north gate of the church where Main Street narrowed and seek their professional advice as to other potential pinch-points along Main Street. It was acknowledged that some of the issues relate to cars parked too close to junctions in contravention of the highway code.

4891. IMPLEMENTATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT PAY AGREEMENT

It was agreed to implement the local government pay agreement for all staff, including backpay to the former lengthsman.

4892. LENGTHSMAN APPOINTMENT

It was agreed to make a formal offer to Tim Tritton of Gardenscape to provide lengthsman services to the parish on a self-employed basis. A three-month review would be conducted in March. Cllr Wardle reported that he was very pleased with the early work undertaken.

4893. FLOODING

It was noted that the village had flooded again on December 4th and December 7th with a near miss on December 9th when water had covered the road but not forced a closure.

An update meeting between NCC and the Woodborough FLAG group had been held on December 4th, at which the Trent Rivers Trust had presented an analysis of the performance of recently installed natural flood management features. Notwithstanding the damage sustained during Storm Babet, the bunds had held back a significant volume of water.

A multi-agency meeting had been arranged by Rt Hon Mark Spencer MP on January 12th 2024 to discuss flooding in Lambley and Woodborough. It was noted that Woodborough had been described as a resilient village and it was agreed to challenge what this meant, given the frequency of flooding which had an impact on everybody, not just those whose houses were flooded. It was noted that some householders had been refused insurance renewals by their incumbent insurer, and a prospective house buyer had had a mortgage offer rescinded. It was agreed to write an open letter to Mark Spencer MP, Tom Randall MP, Michael Payne (Conservative and Labour candidates respectively at the next Parliamentary election), Cllr Boyd Elliott and Cllr Helen Greensmith demanding a focus on action going forward and recognition of the impact that flooding was having on everybody.

Cllr Wardle had done some research on signs which could be deployed to flag flood road closures to vehicles before they reach the village. He had been advised that NCC would not pay for these, and it was agreed to implement the signs at WPC's expense.

4894. WOODBOROUGH WEBSITE PROPOSAL

Cllr Anderson presented a proposal worked up with Cllrs Digva and Taylor. The site would encompass news, events, details of facilities and Woodborough Heritage and would be hosted by IONOS under WPC's existing contract. Cllr Digva had agreed to build the site and present designs at January's meeting. The proposal was approved and welcomed. It was agreed to consider a .org domain name with a reference to Notts to avoid confusion with Woodborough Wiltshire (eg woodboroughnotts.org or similar). It was agreed that the WPC website should be updated after the launch of the village website.

4895. VILLAGE HALL

The Clerk reported from the VHWP. It was agreed to order replacement velvet stage curtains, colour Rouge, at a cost of £3399. CCTV installation was planned for 20th to 21st December. The Preschool had requested that the tennis courts camera should be turned off during their playtime. After a discussion, it was agreed that the cameras should monitor constantly and that a member

of WPC should discuss this with the preschool safeguarding lead to agree a way forward. It was agreed that the timer should be installed as the cost was insignificant.

4896. PLANNING

The following applications were considered:

PC1213/GBC2023/0785 for a single storey rear extension and replacement of existing tiles on existing garage roof at 136 Main Street: no objection.

PC1214/GBC2023/0772 removal of a 17.5m mast and installation of replacement base station with 26.2m mast and antennas, dishes etc at Bank Hill Farm: no objection.

PC1215/GBC2023/0816 removal of 15m monopole and replacement with 20m monopole plus ancillary works at Foxwood Lane: no objection.

PC1216/GBC2023/0536 for 2 storey side and front extension with garage/storage room and erection of timber garage at 41 Lowdham Lane: no objection.

PC1217/GBC2023/0839 for new dwelling on site of former Bank Hill House, Bank Hill: objection. Design, appearance and materials are out of keeping with a village setting and at odds with the design and materials of Woodborough houses. The application lacks detail and plans contains apparent inconsistencies.

It was noted that WPC's application for a certificate of lawful development for the cemetery extension had been registered as 2023/0646.

4897. PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Wardle had installed new racking for the Boot Camp in the shed. It was agreed that a date should be arranged with other users to empty out the remaining shed contents, and to rejig the storage for the equipment which needed to be kept. Cllr Wardle agreed to ask the lengthsman to cut down the ivy which was growing both outside and inside the shed. The Clerk reported that Calverton Cricket Club had accepted WPC's agreement and would use the pitch in 2024.

4898. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement for December. 21 payments, totalling £17,956.98 net, were approved for payment. Gross payments over £500: £796.09 Rapid Racking (new pavilion shed racking); £1158 RAC Electrical Ltd (install Christmas lights); £5529.60 S P Rose (install internal fence in Governors' Field); £3960 D&M Masons (memorial safety work); £860 HMRC (NI & PAYE); £1051.23 LGPS (staff pensions); £1677 Janice Harrington (1st payment for stage curtains). In addition £904.36 net was paid by direct debits.

4899. CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Several comments had been received regarding bird scarers, with residents observing that they were firing too frequently in violation of the regulations. The Clerk had contacted one of the landowners who had agreed to check the equipment in use. The following items were noted: copies of the Gedling guide "Support and connection in your community"; GBC smoke order consultation; consultation on future responsibilities for smaller premises and venues under Martyn's law; GBC various press releases and agendas.

4900. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (INFORMATION ONLY)

Cllr Taylor advised the need to consider parking for Bonfire Night 2024 (potentially cancelling any Village Hall bookings that night).

4901. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as 8th January 2024 at 6.45pm.

The meeting finished at 9.10pm.