Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6th February 2023 at 6.45pm in the Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham

PRESENT: Cllr Andrew Gough (Chairman), Cllr Liz Anderson, Cllr Margaret Briggs, Cllr John Charles-Jones, Cllr Richard Pannell, Cllr Colin Starke, Cllr Charles Wardle, Cllr Adam Wylie.

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

4703. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Paul Berrisford, Cllr John Newsome and Cllr Daniel Raynor.

4704. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No additional interests were declared.

4705. OPEN SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The Chairman suspended the meeting for 10 minutes for the open session. A representative from Woodborough in Bloom explained the challenges facing the group with a shrinking number of volunteers, some of whom were becoming less physically able. It was agreed that a list of the planters and details of the weekly bowser rota (and gaps therein) should be supplied to the PC to consider how it could help.

4706. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd January were approved.

4707. MATTERS ARISING

The complaint regarding poor road repairs had yet to be collated.

4708. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman paid tribute to Cllr Charles-Jones for raising more than £10,000 for Ukrainian charity work through the sale of Christmas trees.

4709. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Greensmith had an update regarding community parking at the Four Bells. GBC officers' research had not found any legal basis for the long held view that a proportion of the car park was earmarked for community use. The landlord and brewery had indicated that they were not averse to community use but asked that users were respectful and gave the pub their custom.

4710. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Elliott had sent a report, providing details of work on the D2N2 Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan. Cllr Elliott was asked to find out the function of the camera installed near 57 Main Street, and to chase up the repairs to Lowdham Lane.

4711. BUDGET 2023/24

An expenditure budget of £142,636 was agreed. The following capital expenditure items were provisionally agreed: stage curtains (£6,000); new soft play surface in Governors' Field (£10,000); new white Christmas lights to replace broken strands (£3,480). It was agreed that grants should be sought for the play surface.

After a discussion it was agreed by a majority vote to increase the precept by 5% to £78,535. It was resolved to duly authorise GBC Form C (signed by the Chair, Cllr Starke, Cllr Pannell).

4712. FEES 2023/24

Cemetery fees: it was agreed that resident fees should be maintained at the current level. It was agreed that non-resident fees should be raised to £3,000 for a single grave and £3,000 for interment. It was agreed that a new former resident fee should be introduced for former residents able to demonstrate 15 years+ residency (£2,000 for a single grave and £2,000 for interment).

Playing Field fees: it was agreed that the Tennis Club annual fee should be increased to £400; all other charges should be kept at current level.

4713. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2022

The internal audit report from 2022 was reviewed.

4714. APPOINTMENT OF PARISH GROUNDSMAN

It was agreed to accept Gardenscape's tender for 2023-26. It was agreed to accept Ulyett's quote for weekly cuts to the Playing Field.

4715. PLAYING FIELD

Further quotes were expected shortly to install trace heating on the pipes. The pavilion remained out of action.

4716. VILLAGE HALL

The Clerk reported from the VHWP. Detailed discussions had been held regarding the replacement of the stage curtains, to upgrade the presentation of the hall and to meet flame retardant requirements. An order had been placed with BT for broadband. It was agreed to purchase an iPad for £319 for the caretaker's use to manage online bookings.

4717. CEMETERY

An application for a memorial featuring a non standard illustration was approved.

4718. POLICIES

The following policies were reviewed and adopted for a further 2 years: complaints policy, health and safety policy, social media and electronic communication policy (with minor amendment). It was agreed to adopt SLCC's Abusive, Unreasonable and Vexatious Complaints Policy, adapted to reflect WPC's structure.

4719. PLANNING

The following applications were considered:

Reconsultation: PC1191/GBC2022/1262 for erection of double garage and new access to Main Street at Dovecote House 121 Main Street; a neighbour objection was considered but it was resolved to make no objection.

PC1195/GBC2023/0014 application for a lawful development certificate relating to the use of land and buildings for residential purposes without complying with condition 3 of planning permission 7/18/83/0655, the bungalow, Bank Hill Farm: it was agreed to make no comment. PC1196/GBC2023/0053 for change of use of 2 no. existing (former) agricultural buildings to dwelling houses (C3) including creation of domestic curtilages and vehicle parking areas at Old Manor Farm, Lowdham Lane: it was agreed to make no objection.

4720. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement for February. 16 payments, totalling £6798.79 net, were approved for payment. Gross payments over £500: £756.37 LGPS (staff pensions); £607.64 HMRC; £1692 Kent Services (install Christmas lights).

4721. CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The first North Notts Artists, Makers and Fine Foods Market to be held at the Village Hall was scheduled for February 12th. The following items were noted: GBC, various agendas and press releases.

4722. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

It was agreed to plan for the Annual Meeting of the Parish (to be held on April 17th).

4723. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as 6th March 2023 at 6.45pm.

The meeting finished at 8.53pm.