

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 5th February 2024
at 6.45pm in the Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham**

PRESENT: Cllr Liz Anderson (Chair), Cllr Gary Digva, Cllr Phil Hallam, Cllr John Newsome, Cllr Richard Pannell, Cllr Linda Taylor, Cllr Charles Wardle, Cllr Richard Whincup

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Helen Greensmith (GBC, part), Averil Marczak (Clerk)

4924. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Andrew Gough, Cllr Colin Starke, Cllr Adam Wylie, Cllr Boyd Elliott (NCC).

4925. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Taylor declared her interest in a request from the WCA for exclusive use of the Village Hall and its car park on Bonfire Night.

4926. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on January 8th were approved.

4927. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk had yet to complete the planning application for the Governors' Field fence. The final 2m of the fence had been completed in advance of planning consent to improve safety.

4928. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Elliott had sent a report and had offered £100 funding towards the flood signs.

It was agreed to report the following items for action: streetlight out at 23 Main Street; streetlight out on Bank Hill (lamp stand no. 2); damage to bollards at 34 Main Street; broken white concrete posts along Main Street near Woodborough Hall; erosion of sidings of dyke near 30 Main Street.

4929. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Greensmith had sent a report. GBC had no powers to enforce the correct use of bird scarers and advised the PC to make contact with individual farmers. Cllr Greensmith was asked to arrange cleaning of mud from the pavements on Main Street, Buckland Drive, Smalls Croft and the bus stop near Park Avenue.

4930. FLOODING MEETING

Cllr Pannell reported from the multi-agency meeting on January 12th arranged by Mark Spencer MP. Information had been presented by the Environment Agency, NCC, GBC, Trent Rivers Trust and Severn Trent. Despite the frequency of recent flooding, it had been made clear that under UK Government funding rules Woodborough had not qualified and would not qualify for an engineered scheme to mitigate against flooding.

The Woodborough FLAG continued to compile data to demonstrate the severity of the issue.

It was agreed to write to Mark Spencer MP (copying Tom Randall MP and Michael Payne), expressing disappointment that no plan or follow up actions had resulted from the meeting.

4931. FLOOD SIGNS

Cllr Wardle had circulated a detailed proposal for the location of the new “Woodborough Closed” flood signs. The proposal was agreed with a modification to place the Foxwood Lane/Bonner Hill sign near the allotment site. It was agreed that 3 sets of 3 rung steps should be purchased for use by the flood wardens when deploying the signs.

4932. FLOOD BARRIER FOR PINFOLD

Cllr Wardle described the damage being done by the ingress of water and mud to the pinfold and presented a proposal to purchase a flood barrier at a cost of £2,867 + VAT. This was agreed.

4933. FLOOD WARDEN JACKETS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

Cllr Wardle was in discussion with NCC and hoped that new jackets would be funded by NCC. Cllr Hallam would discuss the possible supply of wellington boots, gloves and head torches with NCC.

4934. 2024/25 BUDGET

An expenditure budget of £126,940 was agreed.

After much consideration it was agreed to increase the precept by 5% to £82,462. It was resolved to authorise GBC Form C (signed by the Chair, Cllr Wardle, Cllr Pannell).

It was noted that Woodborough Charities had requested *not* to receive a donation in 2024/25. It was agreed to make £500 available for Woodborough FLAG’s expenses. A budget of £1,250 was agreed to support Woodborough in Bloom by procuring replacement planters.

4935. FEES 2024/25

Village Hall fees: noting the significant increases in running costs since the last review in 2022, it was agreed that resident fees should be raised to £13/hr in the week and £15/hr at the weekend. Other Village Hall fees to remain the same. Cemetery fees: to remain the same. Playing Field fees: to remain the same.

4936. RESERVES POLICY

The reserves policy was reviewed and amended to reflect the more modest progress made in building reserves for future leisure development of the Sam Middup Field.

4937. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2023

The internal audit report from 2023 was reviewed.

4938. RISK ASSESSMENT

The risk assessment was reviewed and agreed.

4939. ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Taylor reported that there had been a water leak at the site which required repair. The internal driveway had deteriorated and it was no longer possible for a tractor to drive the full length. It was agreed to ask the Lengthsman to recommend a course of action.

4940. CEMETERY

A certificate of lawfulness had been granted (2023/0646) to establish that planning permission 2011/0662 is extant (planning permission for extension to Woodborough Cemetery, currently part of golf course).

4941. PLAYING FIELD

The Clerk shared the cricket match schedule for 2024. Caythorpe and Calverton CCs would play on Saturdays and Woodborough CC hoped to hold some matches on Sundays. This was agreed providing Woodborough CC could work around the commitments of the football club. A meeting with Woodborough CC to sort out storage in the shed would be arranged.

Cllr Whincup reported that the recently laid tennis court surface had deteriorated due to issues with the tarmac. Fosse Contracts had raised the issue with their supplier, and a site visit was planned to agree next steps.

4942. VILLAGE HALL

It was agreed to cancel bookings on the evening of November 5th to allow the car park to be used exclusively for the Bonfire Night event organised by the WCA.

The Cancer Research group had requested the purchase of a replacement lapel microphone for use at their forthcoming event. The request was refused on the grounds that this equipment was not required for regular use.

It was agreed that fire extinguisher covers should be purchased for extinguishers in the public areas, following recent incidents of tampering by children. It was agreed that a sign should be put up on the chair store door stating "No children beyond this point". It was agreed that a photo of the table trolley, properly stacked, should be put on the wall for users to copy when restacking.

The stage curtains had been manufactured and would be hung on a free weekend. It was agreed to ask the Lengthsman to re-paint the black edge to the stage.

4943. PLANNING

The following applications were considered:

PC1220/GBC2023/0863TPO for removal of oak at 26 Main Street: no objection.

PC1221/GBC2024/0118TCA to reduce crown of beech tree at 161 Main Street: no objection.

4944. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement for February. 16 payments, totalling £12,026.12 net, were approved for payment. Gross payments over £500: £3,240 D&M (remove, refix, make safe memorials); RAC Electrical £1,158 (take down Christmas lights); £761.26 LGPS (staff pensions); £2,685 Janice Harrington (final payment stage curtains); £1,317.06 Hirst Signs Ltd (food road closure signs). A further 7 payments were made by direct debit totalling £859.63.

4945. CHANGE OF MAY MEETING DATE

The meeting would now take place on May 20th 2024.

4946. CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

An email had been received regarding a dog running into a garden from the Sam Middup Field. The PC expressed regret that not all dog owners kept their dogs under control and on a lead, but agreed there was little further that could be done, with multiple signs already in place. Details of this year's Best Kept Village Competition had just been received. It was agreed that Woodborough would not enter, due to the ongoing issues with floods. The following items were noted: GBC various press releases and agendas.

4947. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (INFORMATION ONLY)

Cllr Newsome requested that the Lengthsman tidied the boundary of the playing field.

4948. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as 4th March 2024 at 6.45pm.

The meeting finished at 8.53pm.