

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th October 2024
at 6.45pm in the Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham**

PRESENT: Cllr Liz Anderson (Chair), Cllr Amanda Mellor, Cllr John Newsome, Cllr Richard Pannell, Cllr Colin Starke, Cllr Linda Taylor, Cllr Charles Wardle, Cllr Richard Whincup

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Boyd Elliott (NCC, part), 15 members of the public (part), Averil Marczak (Clerk)

5092. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Andrew Gough, Cllr Phil Hallam and Cllr Helen Greensmith (GBC).

5093. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No additional interests were declared.

5094. OPEN SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The Chair suspended the meeting between 6.46pm and 7.18pm to allow members of the public to address the PC. A resident expressed his support for the council's policy of trapping moles on the playing field. Several representatives from Woodborough Cricket Club spoke to object to a decision taken at the September meeting to reduce the cricket square to a single wicket. The following points were raised: the long history of the Cricket Club, the club's investment in the outfield prior to 2018, the importance of Caythorpe CC for Woodborough's young cricketers, inadequate consultation with the club prior to the decision being made, unsuitability of a single wicket due to recovery time, unsuitability of all weather wicket due to league rules, the School's need for a cricket pitch. Two residents asked whether CIL money might be available for the development of the old Coop site. After the open session 13 members of the public left the meeting.

5095. FLOODING UPDATE

Cllr Mellor gave an update. Some maintenance work had been carried out on village culverts and more was required. A key drain on Lingwood Lane required repair. It was likely that it had collapsed but Highways required photographic evidence of full road flooding before work to this drain would be prioritised. Additional natural flood management measures had been installed in the west of the village. There was a brief discussion about the need for cameras to monitor the bunds and potential sources of funding. Cllr Mellor proposed that a bund be built on the playing field behind Pinfold Crescent to prevent water entering homes and gardens when the field flooded. There was consensus that better management of a key ditch by its landowner could resolve this without compromising the playing field. Cllr Mellor awaited an update from Michael Payne MP who had expressed his continued commitment to a capital scheme.

5096. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on September 2nd were approved.

5097. MATTERS ARISING

The defibrillator for Moor Lane was on order.

5098. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Greensmith had sent a report. She was chasing for gardening works on GBC owned land at Smalls Croft and Ploughman Avenue and for leaf sweeping on the highways.

5099. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Elliott had sent a report. He had an opportunity to speak at NCC's full council for 3 minutes, which he proposed to dedicate to the state of the roads and pavements in Woodborough. Cllr Elliott expressed concern about the impact that the withdrawal of universal winter fuel benefit for pensioners might have on some vulnerable members of the community. He urged everyone to keep an eye out for vulnerable neighbours and agreed to draft a short article for the new community website.

5100. COMMUNITY WEBSITE LAUNCH

Cllrs Anderson and Taylor had worked with Pete Wiles to complete the new community website, which was now ready for launch. A link to a password protected version would be circulated to all members for final comments before going live.

5101. PLAYING FIELD

The objections from Woodborough Cricket Club were noted. Cllr Taylor agreed to discuss the feedback with Woodborough Celtic to see whether additional space for the square could be created to overcome the objection to a single wicket. It was hoped to agree a solution that would enable Woodborough CC to continue to play without compromising additional football pitches for children.

It was agreed to allow the playing field to be used as a rest stop for Central Nottinghamshire Scouts' night hike and to allow access to the pavilion. Cllr Wardle offered to put information notes through the doors on Church Walk to advise neighbours of the hike.

5102. WCA FIREWORK DISPLAY

Cllr Taylor reported that the event would now be held on November 2nd. Tickets would be sold in Woodborough for £5 per adult (children free if accompanied by an adult). The WCA were working with Gedling Borough Council on the necessary paperwork for the event.

5103. GOVERNORS' FIELD

A proposal from HAGS with regard to sharing the cost of the repair of the tunnel mound was expected imminently. Cllrs Starke and Whincup raised the issue of take away litter left in the Governors' Field and the theft of safety guards from the rails on the house on the hill. It was agreed to ask the PCSO to look in on the field and to consider additional signage.

5104. CHURCHYARD

WPC's contractor had reported having had 3 accidents in the churchyard while cutting the grass, due to subsidence caused by mole activity. The Vicar had advised that the Church would not countenance trapping moles, especially as they had a silver eco award in their sights. A meeting had been arranged for mid-month to discuss expectations regarding future maintenance of the area affected. It was agreed to inform the Vicar that, due to safety issues, grass cutting could not continue in this area and that re-wilding might be an option for them to consider. It was noted

that the pruning works to the shrubs in the churchyard were behind schedule and some adverse comments had been received.

5105. CEMETERY

The Clerk recommended that WPC join the ICCM for an annual fee of £100 and this was agreed.

The Clerk presented some proposed revisions to WPC's Cemetery Regulations pertaining to memorials, prompted by a recent application. The revisions were agreed.

5106. VILLAGE HALL

The dishwasher had failed to heat up and had been manually reset by an engineer, who recommended a replacement thermostat (fitted price £163). It was agreed to persist with manual resetting if necessary. It was noted that the machine was 9 years and was becoming less dependable. Several members recommended that a new update to the kitchen was in order and that the dishwasher should be replaced as part of a bigger project.

5107. MANAGEMENT OF VILLAGE HALL

Following the resignation of the caretaker, cleaning was now being carried out by contract cleaners and the Clerk was taking responsibility for administration. The Clerk thanked the outgoing caretaker for working to the last minute and providing a very thorough and helpful handover.

5108. ALLOTMENTS

The driveway repair had been completed. 2 quotes for a replacement gate had been obtained and it was agreed to proceed with Nick Proctor at a cost of £415.

5109. REMEMBRANCE DAY

Cllr Wardle agreed to lay the wreath on behalf of WPC.

5110. HR POLICIES

It was agreed to adopt NALC's recommended policy regarding harassment.

5111. SAM MIDDUP FIELD

3 residents had volunteered to join the working party alongside Cllrs Anderson, Mellor, Pannell and Wardle. Cllr Anderson would set a date for the first meeting. It was noted that the current farm business tenancy finished at the end of January 2025. The tenant had expressed an interest in renewal and it was agreed to renew and advise that the field would not be taken back into WPC's hands until after the harvest of 2025 at the very earliest.

5112. PLANNING

The following application was considered and no objection raised:
PC1236/GBC 2024/0638 TCA to reduce height of Scots pine at 8 Park Avenue.

5113. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement for October. 24 payments, totalling £8932.55 net, were approved for payment. Gross payments over £500: £588 S P Rose Ltd (repair to allotment

driveway), £696 S P Rose Ltd (repair to cemetery access), £2310 Community Heartbeat Trust (defibrillator for Moor Lane), £563.29 HMRC (tax and NI); £883.62 LGPS (staff pensions). A further 7 payments were made by direct debit totalling £369.44 net.

The Clerk circulated a report on the first half year finances.

5114. CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The following items were noted: details of Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service draft Community Risk Management Plan; details of NCC's Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document; message of thanks for the maintenance of the cemetery; GBC, various agendas and press releases.

5115. OTHER UPDATES

Cllr Pannell proposed that a representative from Community Heartbeat Trust be invited to do a public talk and demonstration regarding the use of defibrillators and this was agreed.

5116. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 4th November at 6.45pm.

The meeting finished at 9.34pm.