

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th April 2014 at 7pm
The Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham

PRESENT: Cllr Richard Whincup (Chairman), Cllr Paul Berrisford, Cllr John Boot, Cllr Paul Hough, Cllr Geoff Parkinson, Cllr Jan Turton, Cllr Charles Wardle.

IN ATTENDANCE: Averil Marczak (Clerk); Patrick Smith (Action Group, part), Ken Mafham (Ken Mafham Associates, part); 10 members of the public (part)

2146. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Alison Blinston, Cllr John Charles-Jones (work commitments), Cllr Andrew Gough (holiday), Cllr Dan Sharp (ill health).

2147. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Non pecuniary interests were declared: Cllr Berrisford, Cllr Parkinson: allotments; Cllr Turton: Woodborough in Bloom, Cancer Research, Action Group; Cllr Wardle: WCA. Pecuniary interests: Cllrs Boot, Berrisford, Turton, Wardle: Local Planning Document.

2148. PUBLIC SESSION

The meeting was adjourned between 7.05pm and 7.40pm to allow public comment.

Mr Patrick Smith spoke on behalf of the Action Group. Their proposed response to GBC's consultation on the changes to the Aligned Core Strategy (ACS) had been precirculated to members. When making its response, the PC had an opportunity to indicate that it would like to attend further hearings, should they take place. Mr Smith proposed to attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish and asked the PC to make villagers aware that the Action Group would be providing an update and the opportunity to sign up to make a joint response to the consultation.

A resident commented that the cemetery was looking neat and tidy, and recommended a solution for Japanese knotweed.

Ken Mafham (KM) gave a presentation on the ACS process and his recommendations. In August GBC's Committee would appraise the feedback on the Local Planning Document given last December; workshops might precede this in June/July. KM believed that a further day of hearings by the Inspector would be helpful as new planning guidance from DCLG strengthened the case for the green belt. Calverton and 3 Rushcliffe parishes were likely to challenge the Inspector's report in the High Court.

Regarding the figure of 260 dwellings for "local need" in "other villages" KM recommended that WPC challenge GBC to (1) define local need with the PCs; (2) estimate numbers; (3) agree what kind of sites would be suitable. The current process had instead started with the SHLAA sites. "Local need" was likely to mean houses only available for current residents with a changing housing need that could not be met by the housing market eg older residents requiring warden aided accommodation; young people who could not afford market rates. A study could be done to project future requirements and the PC should play a major part in that study. KM also contended that more must be said about the design of any developments, and briefs should be drawn up with the local community.

Mr Smith expressed reservations about the potential risks of helping to quantify "local need". KM countered that if the village did not help with the study, then it might be done by consultants with

no local knowledge. Other villagers expressed a view that the risk of more flooding should be the main argument in any response.

2149. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting was reconvened and the minutes of the meeting held on March 10th were approved with minor amendment.

2150. ALIGNED CORE STRATEGY/LOCAL PLANNING DOCUMENT

Cllr Turton proposed that the PC respond to the consultation along the lines suggested by the Action Group, with additional input from KM. It was proposed and agreed to delegate the task of writing the response to Cllr Turton. KM agreed to provide Cllr Turton with his recommendation by 25th April. Cllr Turton asked the Clerk to request that a workshop should not be held on 18th July due to an event in the village.

Ken Mafham and 9 villagers left the meeting.

2151. CHAIRMAN'S PROPOSAL TO ADOPT A NEW SET OF STANDING ORDERS AT MAY'S PC MEETING

The Chairman recommended that the PC adopt NALC's model standing orders (2013) which had been precirculated to members to allow for full consideration before May.

2152. COUNTY REPORT

There was none.

2153. DISTRICT REPORT

The judicial review appeal relating to the wind turbine at Woodborough Park had been heard on April 9th; judgment was awaited. The judicial review relating to the crematorium at Lambley had quashed the planning consent; GBC would appeal.

2154. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH 28TH APRIL

The agenda was finalised and it was agreed to serve tea and coffee from 6.30pm.

Mr Smith and 1 member of the public left the meeting.

2155. WOODBOROUGH IN BLOOM

Cllr Turton reported that Woodborough in Bloom was struggling financially due to fewer private donations and an increased number of planters. It was proposed by Cllr Berrisford, and agreed unanimously, to increase the PC's donation from £750 to £1000 (S137). Cllr Wardle asked Cllr Turton to organise shorter flowers for the planters in front of signs so that they were not obscured, referring particularly to the pinfold and village hall signs.

2156. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Blinston had sent a written report. The Speedwatch team were receiving training from the police on monitoring the weight limit at the team meeting on 20th May. New volunteers were welcome.

2157. CORRESPONDENCE & EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

A letter had been received from Cancer Research asking for confirmation of 150 place settings and chairs for 7th May. It was agreed that the place settings should be checked but to advise the

organisers of the issues with the chairs, which might or might not be repaired in time. An email had been received from a villager regarding noise from Woodborough Hall; it was agreed to refer the complaint to GBC. An email had been received regarding the hazards of the Shelt Hill junction and it was agreed to forward this to Cllr Elliott of NCC. A request for sponsorship for a scout expedition had been received; it was agreed to wish the participant well but to decline the request. News of earlier work to the Woodborough exchange, potentially bringing forward the availability of BT Infinity to cabinet six properties, was welcomed. A letter had been received from PM David Cameron urging the PC to check whether it was eligible to claim the new Employment Allowance; it was noted that local authorities were ineligible. A consultation on the impact of the National Planning Policy Framework was noted; it was not felt that the PC had the experience to comment. Information about new joint customer service points for NCC and district councils was noted. An update on the Minerals Local Plan had been received. The Clerk informed the PC of the primary policy requirements for Fidelity Guarantee. Two requests had been received to display a banner on the railings; it was agreed to decline a request from Cancer Research, on the basis that their event had sold out, and to agree a request for NCC's Open Studio Notts arts event.

2158. CHURCH YARD

The grant cheque had been received from NCC's Local Improvement Scheme and it was resolved to pay 25% deposit to Bonsers, under their terms agreed with NCC to commence the work.

2159. OLD CO-OP SITE

Cllr Turton reported that the wall to the side had been partially demolished; the site was no longer secure and was attracting dumped building materials. It was agreed to ask GBC to serve a section 215 (Enforcement in Respect of Untidy Land) notice on the landowner.

2160. LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

NCC proposed to run the lengthsman scheme in 2014/15 with 50% of the previous funding. The PC agreed to apply for funding on this basis.

2161. PLANNING

There was no comment regarding PC ref 890, GBC 2014/0253 an application to convert a garage to a bedroom and link to dwelling with a utility room at 173 Main Street. Paperwork had not been received for PC ref 891, GBC 2014/0330 an application for a first floor extension above existing bedrooms, extension to rear and internal replanning at 14 Bank Hill, and it was agreed that the Clerk should respond under delegated powers. The Clerk was asked to contact the planning department regarding the new dwelling being built to the rear of 153 Main Street (GBC 2013/0598) as the construction was not consistent with approved plans.

2162. VILLAGE HALL

The Chairman reported that Race planned to fit backs to half of the chairs on April 28th, in time for the Annual Meeting of the Parish. Cllr Wardle agreed to liaise with the Pre-school. Cllr Parkinson presented an update from the VHWP meeting. There was a proposal from Mr Colin Fraser (VHWP) to replace the current sound and light equipment with kit that was cheaper and easier to use. Buyers for some of the old equipment had been identified and it was hoped that fundraising might also be carried it out so that any outlay by the PC would be minimal. Cllr Hough agreed to discuss the plan with Mr Fraser and ensure that the new kit would not compromise cinema nights or any other events. The annual bookings meeting had been scheduled

for May 8th. It had been agreed to adopt a blue colour scheme for the toilet refurbishment and to tile splash backs only. Pre-school had asked for permission to install toilets for very young children in the dressing room (very low sanitaryware and stable doors); they would apply for a grant if the PC gave its consent. It was agreed that Cllr Parkinson should discuss the matter with the Players, who it was believed used the facilities during their performances.

CONFIDENTIAL STAFF ITEM

2163. ALLOTMENTS

Most tenants had renewed. A half plot (25a) had been returned and, as there had been no response to the vacancy notice, it was agreed to reunite the plot and rent it to the existing tenant of 25b.

2164. CEMETERY

The owner of the strip of land (and its trees) which approached the cemetery had been established and it was agreed to write to request reimbursement of the £300 paid by the PC for emergency tree works. It was agreed to request grave top ups after Easter. A W Lymn had informed the Clerk of their intention to remove a memorial for which they had not received full payment. It was agreed to withhold consent for this work until May 1st at the earliest, and to remind Lymns that the approval of the Clerk was required prior to removal.

2165. HEALTH & SAFETY

Governors' approval to reprofile the grassy bank at the entrance to the Governors' Field had been received, and the work would take place shortly.

2166. GOVERNORS' FIELD & PLAYING FIELD

Stones for the first bay of railings had been constructed and the remedial work would start shortly. Drainage slitting had been booked for the playing field.

2167. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement and 14 payments totalling £6522.81 net were approved for payment. Gross payments over £500: Woodborough in Bloom £1000 (S137); Bonsers £3873.60 (25% deposit for churchyard wall repairs). The Clerk shared the first draft of the accounts that would be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

The Clerk had reported an unpaid cheque for £25.50 and associated bank charges on October 14th 2013; no response had been received to the requests for payment and it was agreed that the matter should not be pursued further.

2168. CLERK'S REPORT & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The two signatures rule for cheques had been repealed; however the PC determined to maintain the policy. GBC's rates demand notice had been received; once again small business rates relief had cancelled all charges.

2169. RIGHTS OF WAY

Cllr Charles-Jones had repaired the kissing gate on the bridge in the playing field.

2170. NEWSLETTER

It was agreed to include the minutes, details of the annual booking meeting, details of how to report dog fouling and fly tipping to GBC.

The meeting finished at 9.40pm.