

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7pm  
The Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham**

PRESENT: Cllr John Charles-Jones (chairman), Cllr Paul Berrisford, Cllr John Boot, Cllr Margaret Briggs, Cllr Patrick Smith, Cllr Colin Starke, Cllr Jan Turton, Cllr Charles Wardle, Cllr Pat Woodfield.

IN ATTENDANCE: Averil Marczak (Clerk), 2 members of public (part only).

**2970. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Andrew Gough, Cllr Jane Stone, Cllr Helen Greensmith (GBC), Cllr Boyd Elliott (NCC).

**2971. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Pecuniary interests –Cllrs Boot and Smith: item 8, Middups’ field.

**2972. PUBLIC SESSION**

Between 7.05pm and 7.15pm, the meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to speak. A brief summary of comments made is appended.

**2973. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> October were approved with minor amendment.

**2974. MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr Boot queried whether work was required to the ditch behind Charnwood Way as a priority, commenting that he thought EA supervision essential for any work and most property owners would be happier to leave the ditch as is. Cllr Charles-Jones commented that the intention was good husbandry, and to address the risk of flooding that had been identified by several residents, but need not be done. Cllr Smith – repeating his declaration of interest - commented that alterations to the ditch may change flows and caution was needed.

Cllr Wardle reported that he now had confirmation from NCC that the 30 mph clockface signs could be removed and the new Gateway signs installed with simple 30 mph roundels.

**2975. CLOSURE OF METHODIST CHURCH**

Cllr Charles-Jones reported that the Methodist Church intended to cease worship in June 2017. The Superintendent Minister had confirmed that the Nottingham East Methodist Circuit would then decide whether the building would be sold (or possibly rented out) but that nothing would be agreed prior to June 2017.

**2976. MIDDUPS’ FIELD: REPORT BY CLERK ON FEEDBACK FROM PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING ON 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER**

The Clerk circulated two “work in progress” documents, summarising the comments made via post-it notes, and the comments made via the 45 questionnaires which had been returned. Further work was required to complete the post-it note report, and a further handful of questionnaires had been returned to the Village Hall. Once finalised, the reports would be published on the WPC website.

At 7.55pm two villagers left.

**2977. ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND GRAFFITI**

Cllr Wardle reported that the pavilion had been spray-painted (on two occasions), the Private Road sign had been sprayed, and there had been an attempt to force open the front door of the Village Hall. Matters had been reported to the police. It was agreed that a quote should be obtained for installing motion sensors on the outdoor lights.

**2978. UPDATE ON FLOOD MITIGATION SCHEME**

Cllr Charles-Jones reported that the EA hoped to submit a planning application pre-Christmas. No funding had been requested from WPC, and it was hoped that government funding would meet the cost. A public meeting would be held in the Village Hall once details of the planning application were available for discussion and it was hoped that construction could take place in 2017.

**2979. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS INSTALLATION**

It was resolved to accept GBC's quote of £450 for the installation and removal of Christmas lights. Cllr Briggs suggested that for 2017 a plan was put in place for a switch on event and the chairman asked her to draw up a recommendation.

**2980. GEOFF BAGGALEY'S RETIREMENT**

The Clerk and Cllr Starke had shadowed Geoff Baggaley during one of his final weekly checks round the village and drawn up a list of his workload. Cllr Starke had agreed to undertake the weekly play equipment inspection as an alternative to accepting the quote from GBC (£59 per visit). It was agreed to ask Monty Oakley whether he might take on some of these extra tasks.

**2981. CLEARANCE OF LEAVES**

It was agreed to seek a quote from Rob Dixon for clearing the leaves in the Governors' Field (approved budget £130), and also for: strimming around the benches in the parish, pressure washing benches, cutting the hedges in the Governors' Field.

**2982. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT UPDATE AND CO-OP SITE**

GBC's enforcement officer had visited the development at 1 Main Street and was satisfied that works were according to plan; the file had been closed. The application for PV panels at Foxwood Lane was still pending awaiting further information and GBC planned to take enforcement action. The planning officer's report on 2015/1395 121 Main Street had been received and Cllr Smith agreed to review. It was agreed that Cllr Turton should approach Geoff Povey to establish his timescale for developing the old Co-op site and to discuss the possibility of the PC assuming interim responsibility for keeping the site tidy and potentially using the front part as a car park.

**2983. PLANNING STRATEGY**

Cllr Smith presented GBC's proposed methodology and timetable for consulting the village regarding the Conservation Area appraisal. It was agreed to confirm that the proposal was acceptable and it was noted that discussion by WPC should be scheduled for December's agenda.

**2984. PLANNING**

PC 970, GBC 2016/1020, a proposed shipping container at the West Field, Bank Hill: no objection. PC 971, GBC 2016/1025, for the lifting of an agricultural occupancy condition at 155

Lowdham Lane: no objection. PC 972, GBC 2016/1099 for a proposed new dwelling on land adjacent to 21 Lowdham Lane: it was agreed to object on the basis of overdevelopment of the site, affecting openness of the Green Belt; loss of privacy due to the balcony at the back; gables on the back of the property not in keeping.

**2985. PLAYING FIELD**

Following the demise of the football club, it was agreed that WPC should take over responsibility for the electricity bill, and pass the charges incurred during the cricket season on to the cricket club.

**2986. GOVERNORS' FIELD**

Cllr Wardle reported that further welding work was required to the railings.

**2987. NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT/WOODBOROUGH GREAT**

Cllr Starke reported that WREN had provisionally agreed to grant £50,000 to the project. Members congratulated the GREAT team wholeheartedly on this achievement.

**2988. ALLOTMENTS**

There had been no interest in the vacant allotment and the Clerk had established that Calverton PC also had surplus plots. It was agreed to enquire whether the school might use the allotment. It was agreed to donate £450 of allotment income to Woodborough charities in accordance with the budget, with the potential to transfer a further balance at year end once income and expenditure for the full year were known.

**2989. WOODBOROUGH IN BLOOM**

Cllr Turton reported that Woodborough in Bloom had purchased 10 planters, 8 of which were now in position and 2 of which were in store at Geoff Baggaley's premises for future use.

**2990. RIGHTS OF WAY, TREES & HEDGES**

Cllr Berrisford reported that a resident had started to cut the laurels back at the rear of Smalls Croft.

**2991. CORRESPONDENCE & EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

Four letters and one email had been received regarding the purchase of Middups' field: raising objections and issues; suggesting that the Methodist Chapel would be a better alternative; requesting that the members who had declared a pecuniary interest should be given a dispensation to enable them to participate in discussion and decision making once the purchase was complete. A note of thanks had been received from Woodborough in Bloom for the donation towards new planters and practical help from several councillors in making the changeover. A letter had been received requesting that the PC cut the hedge along the track to the south of the cemetery. It was agreed to carry out the work and to request a quote from GBC. A request from the owner of a wood fired pizza stall for permission to use the Village Hall car park to sell takeaway pizza was considered; it was agreed to decline. The following items were noted: GBC, various agendas and press releases.

**2992. CEMETERY**

It was agreed to accept GBC's 2 quotes (1) for weed killing on graves (£125.20 + VAT) and (2) for defining lines of grave plots, removing self setting elders and brambles, cutting hedges,

removing roots, tidy bottom left hand corner, lift trees on front (£1414.84 + VAT), without seeking alternative quotes due to the specialist nature of working around graves and memorials. Once the work to clear the overgrowth from the memorials was completed, it was agreed that memorials should be checked and laid down where appropriate. It was agreed to consider laying plastic mesh over the grass near the entrance where cars parked to protect the surface.

#### **2993. VILLAGE HALL**

Cllr Woodfield reported that she had met with the Pre-school manager to discuss their requirements for the refurbishment of the children's toilets and would draw up a specification for quotes. Louis Ayre had reported that the sound box was deteriorating and was beyond economic repair; it was resolved to purchase a replacement sound box for £125 + VAT. Cllr Turton asked members to note that she would object to any proposal to offer Preschool a Wednesday booking. Cllr Wardle reported that he had found the missing accident book in the bar.

#### **2994. FINANCE**

The Clerk presented the financial statement and 19 payments totalling £3651.97 net were approved. A donation was made to Woodborough Charities (S137): £450. It was agreed to order an updated copy of Local Council Administration as part of NALC's bulk buy.

#### **2995. CLERK'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

Details of the 2017 draft business rates valuation had been received. It was noted that the rateable value for the tennis courts had increased from £300 to £1200; at present the increase was academic as the entire Lingwood Land site received small business rates relief. 2017 meeting dates: it was agreed that the Clerk should email members regarding their availability for the proposed Annual Meeting of the Parish date. NCC had confirmed WPC's membership of the LGPS.

#### **2996. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

It was agreed to write a letter to the manager of the newly re-opened shop to wish him every success.

#### **2997. NEWSLETTER**

It was agreed to include the minutes, and notices regarding graffiti, the allotment vacancy and the facility to sign up for updates via the WPC website.

Cllrs Smith and Boot left the meeting at 10.35pm having declared a pecuniary interest in the item to follow.

#### **2998. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was resolved to exclude the press and public under standing order 3C due to the confidential nature of the matter to be discussed.

**2999. PURCHASE OF MIDDUPS' LAND**

Confidential Paper WPC 161108: Cllr Charles-Jones gave an update on item (i). It was agreed that no immediate action was required. The costs of the purchase to date were reviewed against the plan from Confidential Paper WPC 160721.

**3000. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as December 13<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 11.05pm.

**SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SESSION**

The following comments were made regarding the Middups' field: PC was buying land at the top of the market, land prices will collapse and they will incur a big loss. Given access problems will the PC get planning permission from GBC. A bowling green is very expensive to install and run and other bowling greens are closing down. Better facilities will be followed by more housebuilding. GBC's S106 money should pay, not the residents. The tennis committee do not want a third court, for which there was no demand and no advantage. The location of the courts next to the school was vital for children's tennis lessons. The uniformed groups' community building must not be forgotten – would significant developments take place on the Lingwood Lane site or on the Middups' field?