

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th April 2018 at 6.30pm
The Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham

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

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

3394. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted from Cllr John Boot and Cllr Jane Stone.

3395. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

As registered.

3396. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th March were approved.

3397. MATTERS ARISING

It was agreed to chase GBC for an update on the status of approvals for works at 123 Main Street. Further to approval of 2017/1269 for redevelopment of 20 Main Street, Cllr Smith had approached various experts for their opinions. Stephen Bradwell (the author of the Conservation Area Review) considered it a “pretty horrible decision”. Jason Morden (Senior Conservation Area Officer at NCC) expressed concerns at GBC’s lack of rigour. GBC’s Heritage Officer, Mark Wilkinson, had commented that he considered the approved plan to be an improvement. Cllr Smith had arranged to meet with Graham Wraight from GBC’s Planning Department to discuss further. It was noted that GBC had a legal obligation to consult with Historic England due to the proximity of grade II* listed buildings and Cllr Smith was investigating whether this obligation had been met. Cllr Charles-Jones thanked Cllr Smith for his rigour.

3398. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Greensmith reported that she was applying pressure to Mike Avery (Service Manager for Planning) and John Robinson (outgoing CEO) regarding the availability of planning paperwork. GBC were considering setting up a local lottery to raise funds, and a pet cemetery for use by vets only. The purchase of Arnold market by the GBC was going ahead and a cross party working group would make proposals for future plans. Following recent road flooding in the village, Cllr Greensmith had arranged for the roadsweeper to clear debris, and offered to supply sandbags. The Smalls Croft sign had yet to be replaced and Cllr Greensmith would chase. The date of the first grass cut at Smalls Croft would depend on weather. Cllr Greensmith continued to lobby for the resurfacing of Ash Grove. Cllr Greensmith invited WPC members to forward questions to be raised at the Overview and Scrutiny Meeting on May 14th.

3399. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR) BRIEFING

Cllr Woodfield briefed members on the background to the GDPR, effective May 25th, and highlighted the key changes vs the current Data Protection Act. Cllr Woodfield explained the obligations for the PC and also for members to delete personal data no longer required. Cllr Woodfield planned to train the Village Hall caretaker on the new requirements.

3400. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman asked all members to support his objective to keep proceedings moving at a pace and ensure a timely closure to the meeting,

3401. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Elliott reported that the “walkabout” meeting to look at potholes, pavements and other road hazards/bugbears in Woodborough had taken place, with the following outcomes: Smalls Croft potholes had been repaired and repairs to Lowdham Lane were scheduled; the pavement raised by tree roots outside 153 Main Street would be taken up to assess what could be done to improve the surface while respecting the TPO; the Taylors Croft pavement would be assessed; an enforcement letter had been sent to the owner of an overhanging hedge. Residents had commented about poor visibility when leaving Whites Croft but NCC’s view was that there had been no change to conditions and no action could be taken. A speed flow survey had been undertaken and the whole of Shelt Hill was to be made 30mph. Cllr Elliott was asked to arrange quarterly walkabout meetings. New markings at the junction of Lowdham Lane/the Epperstone bypass were planned in 2018/19 and Cllr Elliott agreed to ensure that Via’s engineers met with Cllr Wardle or Cllr Stone on site to discuss current problems before plans were formulated, particularly as the draft proposal had misinterpreted the issues.

3402. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

The arrangements and agenda for the Annual Meeting of the Parish were agreed.

3403. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Woodfield presented 4 options for replacement curtains. It was agreed to purchase curtains in Porter and Stone Balmoral Cranberry, at a cost of £3411 from Janice Harrington to include fire retardant treatment to fabric, removal of old curtains and hanging of the new.

3404. HAGS

HAGS had yet to respond to WPC’s counter proposal for works, but had offered a start date of May 7th. It was agreed that works could start on May 8th if HAGS agreed to work to the PC’s written requirements.

3405. GOVERNORS’ FIELD

The Chairman, Cllr Starke and the Clerk had met GBC Engineering Officer John Evens to investigate the structure of the path and discuss potential works to improve drainage. Several holes had been dug along the length of the path and although there were some inconsistencies, John Evens had confirmed that the depth and construction was acceptable. Cllr Starke observed that the path had hardened as digging the small holes was more difficult than previously. To improve drainage, John Evens did not recommend drilling, but suggested that a new French drain be installed in the soft area around the seesaw and swing, connected to old drains/a new drain to run under the wet pour. The cost of boring under the wet pour with a mole would be significant, but the cost of restoring the wet pour if a trench was dug through it would also be significant. Cllr Charles-Jones advised that only one of the old land drains was free flowing. It was agreed to get a fully costed proposal.

GBC’s weekly inspection reports were reviewed and found to be in order. It was noted that the roundabout needed adjusting to help it move more easily.

3406. SAM MIDDUP FIELD CONSULTATION

The second copy of the survey with accompanying letter would be delivered over the next week, along with a flyer for the NSPCC Local Gardens event. Deliveries would be made by 3 councillors, 1 NSPCC volunteer and the WPC lengthsman.

3407. PLANNING

Cllr Turton advised that she had asked GBC to provide paper copies of the 3 planning applications on the agenda for consideration at the meeting, and had agreed to pay £3 per application. On arrival at the Civic Centre, Cllr Turton had been asked to pay £57.57. Cllr Turton declined to pay £45.81 for 6 large printouts but had paid £11.88 for 2 x A3 sheets and 2 x A4 sheets.

PC 1029, GBC 2018/0193 for a ground mounted solar array at Environment Agency Fish Farm, Moor Lane: Cllr Charles-Jones using his smart phone rechecked GBC's online planning portal for any updates. It was agreed that no comment could be made as the only information provided online (or on paper provided by the planning officer for £2.94) was a map.

PC 1027, GBC 2018/0246 and 2018/0247 to upgrade a carport to a garage with hipped roof at The Old Coach House, Main Street: it was agreed to observe that the application must be checked with Historic England and to recommend the use of reclaimed brick to blend with the wall behind.

PC 1028, GBC 2018/0182 for a ground and first floor extension, conversion of storage area over garage and internal alterations at 151 Main Street: it was agreed to object to the dormer window as contrary to point 2.8 in the Conservation Area management plan and also to observe: that the roof lights should be conservation style; that materials should be complimentary to the host building; that window style should be consistent throughout the house (as per comments made for previous application 2010/0209).

3408. PLAYING FIELD

It was agreed that the PC should take over the grass cutting contract previously managed by the Cricket Club; the Cricket Club would be charged upfront for the season. Quotes from Ulyetts and GBC had been received for cutting the grass weekly during the cricket season. It was agreed to award the contract to Ulyetts as the Cricket Club's preferred contractor. Cllr Berrisford agreed to talk to the Cricket Club about payment terms for the grass cutting, and also charges for the pavilion and associated electricity and water.

3409. CEMETERY

A further report about an intimidating encounter with a black labrador running off its lead at the cemetery had been received and it was agreed to discuss with GBC's dog warden. The noticeboard had been mended by Malcolm Lane. It was agreed to accept GBC's quote to carry out topple testing in the old part of the cemetery at a cost of £1.75 per stone.

3410. ALLOTMENTS

Several allotment holders had been the victims of theft during Easter weekend with tools and other small items being taken. It was agreed that the padlock and code should be changed as good practice in May, although there was no evidence that the thief had entered or left the site via the gate. There was one vacant plot following the annual renewals process.

3411. LENGTHSMAN REPORT

The Lengthsman's report was reviewed. In addition to regular duties, the Lengthsman had helped clear drains during the road floods. NCC/Via EM had again offered a lengthsman grant of £1200 for 2018/19 and it was agreed to apply.

3412. DONATION TO ROYAL BRITISH LEGION FOR SILENT SOLDIER

It was agreed to make a donation of £100 for a "Silent Soldier" to commemorate the centenary of the end of WW1, with the location for the installation to be agreed at a later meeting. The lamppost poppies had been received and it was agreed to ask the RBL for their recommended timing.

3413. FLOODING: PHONE COVERS FOR WARDENS

Main Street had been shut twice due to road flooding. It was noted that replacement phone covers were required for new wardens/new phones to help communication during road closures. It was agreed that wardens should make their own arrangements and seek reimbursement via the Clerk.

3414. CORRESPONDENCE & EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

It was agreed that Cllr Woodfield should attend a planning course run by NALC. Copy correspondence between a resident and ViaEM had been received. SLCC had sent their "GDPR toolkit". The following items were noted: NAVACH Halltalk; GBC, various agendas and press releases.

3415. OTHER UPDATES

Health & safety: it was agreed to maintain the current policy of asking users to bring any electrical equipment used in the Village Hall for PAT testing, to be paid for by WPC. Footpaths: there had been vandalism to stiles and fence posts on footpath 9 and NCC had been notified..

3416. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement and 21 payments, totalling £4166.68 net, were approved for payment. The Clerk presented a first draft of the accounts for 2017/18.

3417. NEWSLETTER & WOODBOROUGH WEB

It was agreed to include the minutes and to ask the Woodborough Web to feature reminders about the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

3418. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as 8th May 2018 at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 10.00pm.