

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th December 2016 at 7pm
The Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham

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

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

3007. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Boyd Elliott (NCC).

3008. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary interests – Cllrs Boot and Smith: item 11, Middups' field. Non pecuniary interests: Cllr Stone: Conservation Area Appraisal; Cllrs Smith and Turton: planning application 2016/1201. The Chairman asked all members to check their online register of interests following advice from Helen Barrington of GBC.

3009. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 6th December were approved.

3010. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk reported that she and Cllr Wardle had met with the Lengthsman regarding additional tasks and he had agreed to evaluate the extra time needed for the checks previously undertaken by Geoff Baggaley.

3011. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that the contract for the purchase of Middups' field had been signed on December 8th, exchanged on December 9th, with completion planned for December 16th. The borrowing application had been approved by PWLB on December 9th, the funds booked on December 12th and funds would be available on December 14th.

There was a discussion regarding the proposed work to clear or dig a better ditch behind the properties on Charnwood Way/Smalls Croft to help prevent flooding. Cllr Charles-Jones recommended immediate work as routine maintenance, but Cllr Smith advised that it would be prudent and good PR to consult the residents before taking any action. It was agreed to establish a working party to consider the ditch upon completion. Cllr Charles-Jones reported that he had held a positive discussion with the previous agricultural tenant regarding a let of up to two years while plans for the field were developed and it was agreed to consider this at January's meeting.

The Chairman expressed disappointment that Cllr Elliott had yet to arrange a road safety meeting following the accident on Main Street discussed at October's meeting.

3012. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Greensmith reported that she continued to receive letters regarding the Middups' field. The claim form for the new picnic bench was required before January 31st.

3013. CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

Cllr Smith read out a proposed response that he had drafted and it was agreed to submit this to GBC.

3014. CLOSURE OF METHODIST CHURCH

Following discussions about potential future community use of the church upon its closure, a group of members and Mrs Lynne Morgan and Mr Steven Tupper (representing the Scouts) had received a guided tour of the church to inform future discussion.

3015. GREENWOOD TREE PLANTING GRANT

Cllr Charles-Jones had successfully applied for a £250 grant for 5 or 6 trees to be planted on the boundary of the Middups' field, the location to be discussed at a future meeting.

3016. GREAT UPDATE

An application for grant funding had been made to NCC's Supporting Local Communities Fund and an application to the Charles Littlewood Hill Trust was planned. The quiz night had raised over £1000. Cllr Briggs presented a proposed design for the new play ground and the Clerk agreed to follow up on procurement requirements.

3017. WREN GRANT MATCH FUNDING

It was resolved to pay £5375 to FCC Recycling (WREN) as match funding to unlock the £50,000 grant for new play equipment.

3018. UPDATE ON FLOOD MITIGATION SCHEME

Cllr Charles-Jones reported that the EA hoped to submit a planning application in January and would hold a public information meeting at the Village Hall.

3019. PLANNING

PC 973, GBC 2016/1138, a variation for the proposed crematorium, Catfoot Lane: the Clerk had responded under delegated powers, expressing concern about the lack of pedestrian access and making suggestions about how that might be addressed. PC 974, GBC 2016/1142, for the demolition of the existing conservatory and erection of a new orangery and change of lounge window to box bay at The Stables Main Street: it was agreed to comment that no details had been posted online, that the building had increased in size and no trees should be cut back or removed as a consequence of the development. PC 975a and b, GBC 2016/1090 and 2016/1091 for refurbishment works and replacement external windows and doors, addition of conservation skylights, demolition of modern flat roofed external first floor walkway and access spiral stairs: it was agreed to observe that the design should be appropriate for its grade 2 listing; to note recent consent for tree works and raise concerns that the site is being cleared for more building; to observe that the new detached garage is a new build in a sensitive area. PC 976, GBC 2016/1021 for the construction of a two-storey and single-storey rear extension at 161B Main Street; it was agreed to observe that the large window was excessively sized and would result in a loss of privacy to neighbours' gardens.

Cllr Smith presented the response that GBC had given to his queries regarding permission for a new garage and driveway for 121 Main Street (GBC2015/1395). It was agreed that Cllr Smith should contact Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust and forward details to Cllr Greensmith.

3020. GATEWAY SIGNS

The Chairman thanked Cllr Wardle for his many months of hard work, leading up to the implementation of the new signs. The old clockface signs had yet to be removed and would be replaced with simple 30 mph roundels. It was agreed that the old signs should be kept for potential recycling.

3021. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT UPDATE AND CO-OP SITE

PV panels at Foxwood Lane: enforcement action would now be taken by GBC. There was no update on the Co-op site. Cllr Smith raised concerns about works to trees at the development to the rear of 161 Main Street which was inconsistent with the requirement to protect the trees as part of the planning permission; it was agreed that this should be reported to GBC.

3022. GOVERNORS' FIELD

Christmas lights had been installed.

3023. CORRESPONDENCE & EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

A resident had forwarded copies of correspondence with GBC and Via EM regarding the crematorium and state of the Main Street footpath respectively. A complaint had been received regarding the reporting of planning enforcement items in the minutes within the newsletter. Emails regarding the dangers of the island on the Epperstone Bypass and leaves in the bus shelter gutters were noted. The Clerk had pre-circulated GBC's Monitoring Officer's email new Register of Interests form for members' consideration. It was noted that the Nationwide Building Society's Business Instant Saver interest rate would reduce to 0.35% from 23rd December. Details of a playground safety training event had been received and it was agreed to enquire whether the Lengthsman was able to attend. The following items were noted: a letter regarding planning application PC 976, GBC 2016/1021; GBC, various agendas and press releases.

3024. CEMETERY

A complaint had been received regarding an encounter with an aggressive dog, off its lead, in the cemetery. It was agreed that a "no dogs" sign should be reinstalled on the gate, to stop the practice of a handful of villagers who routinely used the cemetery as a place for dog walking. A quote for cutting the external hedge on the southern boundary had been received from GBC and it was agreed to seek a second quote.

3025. VILLAGE HALL

It was noted that the WCA had cancelled a booking at short notice and were not entitled under the booking conditions to a refund of any sort. It was agreed that the VHWP should review the cancellations and refunds policy at its next meeting.

3026. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement and 23 payments totalling £12167.79 net were approved. Payments over £500 gross: Notts County Council £5350 (gateway signs), FCC Recycling WREN account £5375 (match funding to unlock £50,000 play equipment grant). It was noted that the deposit had been paid for the purchase of the Middups' land in addition (value to be disclosed after completion).

3027. CLERK'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

It was agreed to consider additional April dates for the Annual Meeting of the Parish to try to find a night when more members were able to attend.

3028. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as January 10th 2017 at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 9.45pm.