

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at 7pm  
The Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham**

PRESENT: Cllr Richard Whincup (Chairman), Cllr Alison Blinston, Cllr John Boot, Cllr John Charles-Jones, Cllr Andrew Gough, Cllr Paul Hough, Cllr Geoff Parkinson, Cllr Jan Turton, Cllr Charles Wardle.

IN ATTENDANCE: Averil Marczak (Clerk); part: 2 residents

**1857. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2013/14**

Cllr Turton proposed that Cllr Whincup be re-elected as Chair; this was seconded by Cllr Boot and all present voted in favour. It was agreed that members' responsibilities should remain unchanged.

**1858. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Paul Berrisford (holiday) and Cllr Dan Sharp (family commitments).

**1859. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Personal interests were declared: Cllr Blinston: WCA and allotments; Cllr Hough: Woods School; Cllr Wardle: WCA; Cllr Turton, Woodborough in Bloom, Cancer Research.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting between 7.05pm and 7.35pm to allow an open session for members of the public. A brief summary of comments made is appended. 1 villager left after the open session.

**1860. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The minutes of the meeting held on April 8<sup>th</sup> were approved.

**1861. MATTERS ARISING**

Photographs of a vehicle parked fully on the pavement had been sent to the police. Cllr Wardle had produced some windscreen flyers, politely asking offending motorists to leave room for wheelchairs and pushchairs. In PC Anelay's absence, Cllr Blinston agreed to supply alternative contact details for the PCSO to the Clerk. A speed audit was planned by NCC to evaluate the request to reduce the speed limit to 50mph.

**1862. DRAFT MINUTES FROM ANNUAL MEETING**

It was agreed that the draft minutes could be made available on the website. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to GBC requesting that action be taken regarding the old Coop site. The Chairman suspended the meeting between 7.45 and 7.47 to enable a villager to speak.

**1863. COUNTY & DISTRICT REPORT**

It was noted that Boyd Elliott had been elected county councillor on May 2<sup>nd</sup>; the Clerk had attempted to invite him to the PC's meetings but his email address on the NCC website was not operational. Cllr Boot reported that GBC would consider the planning application for development at 147 Main Street on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Westerleigh's application for a cemetery and crematorium on Catfoot Lane had been approved.

**1864. BUS SERVICES**

Cllr Sharp had sent an update: there were plans to divert the no. 5 bus to serve the Dover Beck loop; the TITAN roadshow would visit Woodborough on 10<sup>th</sup> June between 2 and 3pm; Cllr Sharp was looking into the feasibility and potential demand for a weekly taxibus service to Arnold.

**1865. FLOOD RESILIENCE**

Cllr Gough reported that volunteers were covered by NCC's insurance provided that they had undertaken training. Further volunteers were being trained on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Following a meeting in April, fears that a separate group had formed to tackle flooding had been allayed.

**1866. SPEEDWATCH & LORRYWATCH**

Cllr Blinston reported that the Speedwatch programme had resumed.

**1867. CORRESPONDENCE & EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

Two emails had been received expressing regret at the felling of the ash tree and the timing of the removal of the hedgerow at Foxwood Lane. The Clerk had responded to a letter from Cancer Research which had notified the PC of an accident caused by one of the new chairs. A complaint had been received from the WI regarding mess left in the kitchen on April 15<sup>th</sup>; the issues had been taken up with the Preschool. An allotment tenant had written to advise that he planned to replace his polytunnel with a fruit cage. A villager had emailed to express a view that the PC should not encourage drivers to park partly on the pavement. A request regarding camping from a group of scouts was passed to Cllr Charles-Jones. 2 emails had been received from a villager challenging the PC's policy of not minuting the names of private individuals but reporting their contributions anonymously. There was considerable debate and the Chairman adjourned the meeting from 8.20 to 8.22pm to allow public comment. The second villager left the meeting. The PC agreed to retain its policy as had been advised by NALC. The Clerk had responded to a request for an upgrade to the play ground by inviting a proposal for the type of equipment that was wanted.

A letter had been received from NCC to confirm that a grant for repairs to the church wall would be made under the Local Improvement Scheme. Cllr Wardle agreed to liaise with the Church regarding the responsibility for leading this project. The Clerk agreed to forward a copy of the acceptance form to Cllr Wardle. NCC had formally accepted WPC's application to operate a standalone lengthsmen scheme. Further details would follow. Information regarding the disruption to East Midlands trains caused by the resignalling scheme had been received. Communications regarding broadband, Arnold's first Book Festival, GBC's Community Covenant and various minutes and agendas from GBC were noted.

**1868. CHURCHYARD**

There was nothing discussed.

**1869. PLANNING**

There was no objection to PC ref 870, GBC 2013/0330 and 2013/0331, an application to extend extant planning permission at 151 Main Street, nor to the reissue of PC ref 863, GBC 2013/0076, an application for conversion from 2 dwellings to 3 and a single storey side extension at 152 to 156 Main Street. Under delegated powers, the Clerk had responded to applications for treeworks at 121A Main Street (PC ref 866, GBC 2013/0327TPO), 3A Main Street (PC ref 867, GBC

2013/0242TPO), 7 Main Street (PC ref 868, GBC 2013/0326TPO) and the Governors' Field (PC ref 869, GBC 2013/0325TPO). In each case there had been no objection made to the works but a request made that the officers ensure that the timing of works was appropriate. It was now understood that GBC could only recommend timing, and not make it a condition. Cllr Blinston reiterated her concern that GBC had failed to make any recommendation regarding timing for the works and contended that had they done so the PC might have considered requesting the rescheduling of the works that they had sponsored Woodborough in Bloom to carry out in the Governors' Field. Cllr Boot commented that GBC's dedicated planning officer had recently left, and TPO applications were now being shared out amongst the other officers.

Cllr Hough requested that Cllr Boot ask GBC to notify objectors of the outcome of planning applications more promptly, as he was aware of an episode that had caused distress to a resident.

#### **1870. ALLOTMENTS**

Two existing tenants had not paid the new rent within the 40 days allowable and it was agreed to write to them with a deadline for paying. The request to keep bees was considered at length. It was known that one of the immediate neighbouring tenants had objected and the PC resolved that it should turn down the request on this basis. A majority of members, although not all, felt that the PC should support an initiative to encourage the bee population, and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the tenant concerned and ask whether they would be interested in placing a hive in a far corner of the new cemetery extension, as this could potentially be considered at a future meeting.

#### **1871. CEMETERY**

It was agreed to consider the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust report at the June meeting. The hedge cuttings, which had been piled up to be burnt when dry, had been identified as a likely home for wildlife during the spring and summer. While some misgivings were expressed with regard to its location and untidy appearance, it was agreed to tidy up the cuttings and then leave the pile in situ until the autumn, when it could be moved away from the nearby hedge and gardens and burnt without harm.

A tree had been planted in the turning circle. The Clerk agreed to approach the grave diggers to ask them to turf to the edge by the new posts.

#### **1872. HEALTH & SAFETY**

Cllr Sharp had sent word of his intention to discuss repairs to the play equipment wetpour surface with Cllr Wardle.

#### **1873. GOVERNORS' FIELD**

There was considerable debate about the status of the lease on the Governors' Field. Cllr Wardle agreed to obtain a quote for the repair of the railings. A flowering cherry had been planted and it was intended that this should be commemorated in 2014 to mark the centenary of the outbreak of WWI. Timmermans were thanked for planting the bed of ground cover roses.

#### **1874. PLAYING FIELD**

No further written quotes had as yet been obtained for a more economical repair to the collapsed ditch. Cllr Charles-Jones suggested a different methodology. Cllr Wardle agreed to seek the advice of the Environment Agency.

Cllr Berrisford had reported that the annual legionella test for the pavilion had been carried out and the report was awaited.

#### **1875. FINANCE**

The Clerk presented the financial statement and 16 payments totalling £4295.11 including £188.69 VAT were approved for payment. A meeting with the internal auditor was scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup>.

It was reported that NatWest had lost the PC's signatory details for the deposit account and it was resolved to make Cllrs Wardle, Parkinson and Whincup the signatories to the account.

#### **1876. CLERK'S REPORT & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The end of year return had been submitted to HMRC and the required new Real Time Information system had been installed. A 2 year contract for gas supply from Opus Energy had been agreed under delegated powers following a search of market prices conducted by Make It Cheaper.

#### **1877. VILLAGE HALL**

All members were concerned about the chairs following two identical breakages to the seat backs; the UK manufacturer Race would inspect all chairs at the hall within the week. The PC resolved to write to Race regarding the failure of the two chairs. Cllr Parkinson reported from the VHWP; a proposal for the refurbishment of the toilets would shortly be put to the PC. Cllr Turton passed on Preschool's support for a dishwasher and Cllr Charles-Jones agreed to undertake some research. Cllr Wardle hoped to have a specification for works to the wall shortly. It was agreed to obtain 2 further quotes for the outstanding electrical quotes at the hall. The Clerk advised her intention to dispose of obsolete files held in the committee room to make way for more recent papers; Cllr Parkinson agreed to help with shredding and the PC agreed to consider different storage options if necessary.

#### **1878. RIGHTS OF WAY**

Cllr Berrisford had sent word that a sign was down on the footpath from Woodborough to Lambley; this would be addressed.

#### **1879. NEWSLETTER**

It was agreed to thank Timmermans and to publicise the TITAN roadshow.

#### **1880. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as June 10<sup>th</sup> 2013. The meeting finished at 10.30pm.

#### **SUMMARY OF DEBATE DURING PUBLIC SESSION**

Concern was expressed regarding the removal of a mature ash tree on Foxwood Lane. Cllr Boot explained that the planning application for the removal of the hedgerow in the same field had specifically stated that the ash tree would be left, and this was taken at face value. GBC would have had an opportunity to protect the tree under an emergency TPO had they been alerted to its imminent removal. He hoped that GBC would learn from this.

There was a lengthy debate about the inadequacy of the Woodborough TPO, which had not been updated for many years, and therefore failed to protect trees which were now worthy of

preservation. Work to update the TPO had been shelved by GBC due to cost. Cllr Parkinson asked Cllr Boot to find out whether GBC might adopt a new TPO if the groundwork was done by knowledgeable villagers according to GBC's methodology.

The timing and need for the treeworks in the Governors' Field was questioned. Cllr Bliston was concerned that GBC had not made any recommendations regarding timing when granting approval to several applications for treeworks. The pavement repair on Main Street was inadequate. The PC needs to motivate agencies to combat the risk and consequences of flooding. Highways are going to apply a further layer of tarmac to Main Street and they should plane the road to avoid raising water levels in the event of future flooding.