

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11th October 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 Charles Wardle, Cllr Pat Woodfield.

IN ATTENDANCE: Averil Marczak (Clerk), Cllr Helen Greensmith (GBC, part), Cllr Boyd Elliott (NCC, part), 27 members of public (some part only).

2928. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Jan Turton.

2929. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary interests –Cllrs Boot and Smith: item 34, Middups’ field. Cllr Boot indicated that he would like a dispensation for this matter.

2930. CHAIRMAN’S STATEMENT REGARDING MIDDUPS’ FIELD

The Chairman read out a statement regarding the bid for Middups’ field. WPC’s offer had been accepted subject to contract. The Chairman acknowledged the many comments regarding the proposed purchase. A “FAQ” document would be made available on the WPC website.

2931. PUBLIC SESSION

Between 7.05pm and 7.40pm, the meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to speak. A brief summary of comments made is appended. 15 members of the public left.

2932. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

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

2933. CEMETERY

The Chairman suspended the meeting and a member of the public expressed his concern about the unsightly taping off of 2 memorials. The Chairman explained that GBC had applied the tape for health and safety reasons and that it was not intended as a permanent solution.

GBC had been asked to quote for a number of works at the cemetery and it was agreed to consider their quote in full at November’s meeting.

2934. MATTERS ARISING

The flickering street light had been reported. The speed sign was still malfunctioning.

2935. DIVERSION OF BRIDLEWAY 6

The Chairman suspended the meeting briefly for a resident to address WPC regarding a proposal to revive the application to divert bridleway 6, which had been blocked by the Ramblers Association in 2014. A meeting had been held with Mark Spencer MP and WPC would receive details as a statutory consultee.

2936. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Greensmith reported that Mike Hill, Deputy Chief Executive and Mike Avery, Service Manager for Planning, were now in post. The play equipment at the Gedling Country Park would

be ready at the end of October and works had started on the cafe and toilet block. She had issued a grant form for the picnic bench that she had agreed to fund in the Governors' Field.

Cllr Greensmith reported that she had received numerous letters and emails regarding the purchase of the Middups' field. Her role was to represent everyone but she urged WPC to consider the issues raised by residents, particularly those on Smalls Croft.

2937. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Elliott updated WPC regarding the bus services. It was agreed to send an email regarding bus drivers failing to stop that had been received from a resident to Cllr Elliott. Cllr Elliott reported that the petition for the resurfacing of Main Street had been presented to full council and he awaited the reply at October's full council meeting. The Supporting Local Communities Fund was now open for applications and he recommended an early response.

2938. ACCIDENT ON MAIN STREET: HORSE AND RIDER HIT BY HGV

The Chairman suspended the meeting between 8.20pm and 8.30pm for a resident who was the victim of the above accident to address WPC regarding the events. Her concern going forward was that the village should be safer for pedestrians and she suggested that a pavement be available on both sides of Main Street. Cllr Elliott proposed that she meet with him, Jenny Hawkes from NCC and Cllr Andrew Gough to discuss traffic calming initiatives. At 8.30pm 4 members of the public and Cllrs Elliott and Greensmith left; the Chairman reopened the meeting.

2939. CONCLUSION OF AUDIT AND EXTERNAL AUDITORS' REPORT

The Clerk reported that the audit had been concluded and statutory notices published. Grant Thornton (under "other matters not affecting our opinion") had asked the PC to note that in future the minute references should make it clear that the Annual Governance Statement was considered, approved and signed before the Accounting Statements.

2940. BUDGET REVIEW 1 APRIL TO 30 SEPTEMBER

The Clerk presented a summary of income and expenditure for the first half-year against budget.

2941. GATEWAY SIGNS

The installation of the new gateway signs had been delayed, as NCC had now stated that the Woodborough/30 mph sign had to remain in place and could not be replaced with a simple 30 mph roundel as previously discussed. Key decision makers at NCC were on annual leave and the debate would be resumed upon their return. It was agreed that the cemetery noticeboard, planned to be installed at the same time as the gateway signs, should be installed as soon as possible, providing there was no extra cost to WPC.

2942. PICNIC BENCH TO COMMEMORATE THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

The two picnic benches had been installed, fully funded by Cllrs Elliott and Greensmith. It was agreed that plaques should read "In Celebration of Queen Elizabeth II's 90th Birthday 2016", white lettering on green.

2943. GEOFF BAGGALEY'S RETIREMENT

Geoff Baggaley had submitted his notice after many years of service to the parish. The clerk had agreed to shadow Geoff on the morning of October 24th before a decision about how his workload

could be reassigned. It was agreed in the meantime to ask Gedling Borough Council to take over the play equipment safety inspection.

2944. WOODBOROUGH IN BLOOM, IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW PLANTERS

The new planters had been installed thanks to a full day of hard work by the Woodborough in Bloom committee and their volunteers Mr Robert Hanson, Mr Paul Reed and Cllrs Wardle, Berrisford and Starke. WPC's budgeted contribution towards the new planters, £1500 (S137), was included in the list of cheques for approval.

2945. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

No update had been received and it was agreed to ask for the status of the retrospective application for PV panels on Foxwood Lane and the use of the new garage at 1 Main Street.

2946. PLANNING STRATEGY AND CONSERVATION AREA REVIEW

Cllr Smith reported that the Local Plan part 2 had been submitted to the Planning Inspector and the Inspector's hearings were expected in January and February. Individuals who had previously responded would receive a letter. The consultation on the draft Conservation Area Review had been delayed due to the Local Plan part 2 but was expected during November/December. 6 members of the public left at 9pm.

2947. PLANNING

PC 969, GBC 2016/1011, proposed adaptation of existing stable building at 42 Bank Hill into 2 levels of living accommodation with raised roof, dormer windows and other works: it was agreed to express concern about the height of the development impacting on the openness of the Green Belt.

PC 970, GBC 2016/1029, a proposed side and rear single storey extension and internal alterations including sun tunnels to the roof at 1B Main Street: it was agreed to make no objection, but to notify GBC that the public notice had been put on the wrong lamp post far from the property.

Cllr Smith expressed his concerns regarding GBC's decision to grant conditional approval for 2015/1395, a proposed double garage and new access drive at 121 Main Street . It was agreed that additional information regarding the decision process should be requested.

2948. CHURCH YARD

The brambles had been cut back.

2949. GRASS CUTTING

It was agreed to ask Gardenscape to add the corner of Shelt Hill and Doverbeck Drive to the fortnightly grass cut at a cost of £15 per cut.

2950. PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Berrisford had drained down the pavilion water tank and switched off the electricity. He had found evidence of mice in the roof and put down poison. It was agreed to defer the annual Legionella cleaning procedure until the cricket club returned in the spring. It was agreed to ask Gardenscape to cut back and treat the overgrowth around the pavilion.

2951. GOVERNORS' FIELD

Cllr Wardle reported that the decorator had developed an allergic reaction when sanding down the railings and had downed tools. He had now agreed to return to paint the railings and the play equipment (using protective clothing) in early December. Concern was expressed regarding the weather and it was agreed that the work must only be done if the weather was dry and mild.

It was agreed to ask Gardenscape to clear overgrowth from a bench.

2952. NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT/WOODBOROUGH GREAT

The quiz night tickets were selling well. The GREAT team would apply to NCC's Supporting Local Communities Fund, and also to Veolia and WREN in their next round. An application to a recently identified trust fund depended on being a Community Interest Group and this was being evaluated.

2953. ALLOTMENTS

It was agreed to notify Calverton PC about the vacant allotment, as no interest had been received. Responses had been received from two allotment holders regarding neglect/weeds; one planned to improve the plot and one planned to resign.

2954. RIGHTS OF WAY, TREES & HEDGES

It was noted that the benches on Lingwood Lane were in a poor state of repair and it was agreed that this must be addressed, to be agreed at the next meeting. A resident had complained about an uncut hedge on Shelt Hill and this had been reported to NCC. There had been further complaints regarding the laurels at the back of Smalls Croft; the residents had agreed to cut them in due course. Cllr Berrisford reported that GBC had assessed the trees on the green at Smalls Croft (which were the responsibility of GBC) and agreed that works were needed.

2955. CORRESPONDENCE & EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The Clerk had responded to an email from a villager regarding the exclusion of two councillors from discussion regarding the Middups' field and explained the reasons under the Code of Conduct; 6 letters against the purchase and 1 in favour were noted; an email had been received regarding NCT buses not stopping in Woodborough when running late and it was agreed to forward this to Cllr Elliott; an email had been received regarding overgrowth on Shelt Hill and this had been reported to NCC; details of 2017's Supporting Local Communities Fund had been circulated; NCC had offered their usual free salt as winter assistance and it was agreed to accept the offer; details of the Greenwood Community Tree Planting grants were noted. Information regarding the Local Government Finance consultation and NALC's forthcoming request to support their advocacy on Council Tax referendum principles was noted. The following items were noted: GBC, various agendas and press releases.

2956. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Wardle reported from the VHWP. Cllrs Turton and Wardle had sourced several options for white crockery and the VHWP had agreed to recommend "Ascot" from Nisbets, cost £1936 for 168 place settings and associated teapots, sugar bowls and cream jugs. There was a discussion regarding the merits of changing the crockery and it was agreed not to go ahead at present as the

quote exceeded the budget of £1000. It was agreed to investigate whether the current Berylware could be sold.

The Clerk reported that Preschool would, in due course, formally request a Wednesday booking in order to satisfy the new requirement to offer 30 hours per week. The Preschool “market” increasingly operated from custom premises rather than village halls and offered wrap around care; the Preschool drew the PC’s attention to the link between the hours offered and their long term viability.

The Clerk reported that the Village Hall accident book had gone missing. A replacement book had been purchased.

2957. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement and 21 payments totalling £8784.51 net were approved. Gross payments over £500: Woodborough in Bloom (S137): £1500 donation for new planters, Tallents Solicitors: £4200, agreed payment of vendors’ legal fees to be held in client account. A donation of £25 (S137) to the Royal British Legion was approved to purchase a wreath for Remembrance Sunday.

2958. MEETING DATES FOR 2017

The Clerk asked for feedback on proposed meeting dates for 2017.

2959. NEWSLETTER

It was agreed to include the minutes, and notices regarding the allotment vacancy and the GREAT quiz night.

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

2960. PURCHASE OF MIDDUPS’ LAND

The Heads of Terms excluded use for sporting facilities from the uplift clause; it was agreed to ask for the exclusion to be extended to other facilities for community use. It was agreed that the cheque to Tallents Solicitors should not be sent before this discussion took place. The Clerk presented the latest estimates for WPC’s own professional fees (Fisher German and Tallents Solicitors).

The PC agreed responses to questions and issues regarding the purchase of the field for inclusion on a “Frequently Asked Questions” document to be posted on the WPC website. It was agreed to post a first tranche of questions and answers as soon as possible, and then to add the additional questions raised at the public session.

2961. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as November 8th 2016 at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 11.20pm.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SESSION

The following comments were made regarding the Middups’ field: another public meeting is needed before the contract is signed; the consultation was flawed; the PC should have consulted earlier, as it was known from the Local Planning process that the land might come up for sale;

there has been no discussion about the need for more open space in the village; the cost is too high and will involve a 40 year debt; location is inappropriate; traffic will be dangerous in Smalls Croft; WPC should not pay the vendors' fees; the Governors' Field play equipment is disgraceful; will the facilities be hired to groups outside the village, in which case the village will be funding people from outside; what are the aborted costs for designs to revamp the Pavilion for use by the scouts; there is no need to rush because the land won't be developed for 10 years; the land will never be developed due to flooding and access; we should rent the land out and use the fee to pay the loan; Woodborough United have disbanded; were Cllrs Boot and Smith kept informed about progress; was a vote taken to make decisions; which councillors voted for this – the vote was secretive; we already have a field to walk around and have a picnic; the village should have been consulted using large plans, in the style of GBC's consultation for the Local Planning Document; over what timescale will development take place; what are the plans for levelling, draining, vehicular access, parking, maintenance and provision of services; what are the plans for maintaining the current facilities; will the PC oppose any plans for housing and protect this land as Green Belt; has the PC appointed a project manager; answers are needed to the objections if the PC wishes to persuade the village; a parish meeting must be called before the contract is signed or villagers will force the meeting; councillors should remember that they will come up for re-election. Comments were also made regarding the red tape round 2 memorials in the cemetery and the timing of the Conservation Area review consultation.