

MINUTES OF WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Monday, 7th January 2013 at Wisbech St Mary Community Centre

PRESENT

B Payne Chairman	C Allen	P Barnes	B Britain	M Clarke	P Davies	J Fish
	T Jennings	B Reay				
Parishioners	T Coleman	J Parrin	G Booth			
Visitors	G Edwards	J Tuck	W Sutton			

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were agreed and accepted from T Fowler.

OPEN FORUM – Members of the public are invited to address the Council.

Mr Parrin voiced his concerns that he had been told by parishioners that the Wisbech St Mary sign had been delivered to Mr Pooley who had been very upset as he had not been asked if he would be able to repaint the sign. The meeting was advised that it would be sometime before this work was completed.

The meeting was advised by the Chairman of the sudden death of Mr Robert Scrimshaw. The chairman paid tribute to Mr Scrimshaw as a very enthusiastic Parish and District Councillor who did a great deal in the service of the community. At this point all present stood for a one minute silence in his memory.

Councillor Tuck advised the meeting that the growth of Fenland from one census to another was 12.4%, but when the budget is set for Fenland this is not taken into account. There is also an increase in children being taken into care and the number of elderly living in the District. It is important that Parish Council look at match funding by using their Precept. The Fenland District Council Cabinet is meeting in Wisbech on the 29th January at 10.00 am at the Boathouse, Wisbech. It is important that as many as possible take advantage of this opportunity. The meeting was also advised that the CCC Highways are restructuring. It was pointed out that Governors are needed in many schools within Fenland and that it is important to encourage local people to assist in the management of the schools.

1. TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING dated 3rd December 2012.

The minutes of the 3rd December 2012 were signed as a true record.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (information only)

199 (3) The Sewerage manhole cover at Selwyn Corner, Guyhirn has not been secured. The meeting was advised that this was the responsibility of the Anglian Water Authority.

3. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on the agenda.

There were no declarations of interest.

4. POLICE MATTERS

- (a) A written report regarding crimes or incidents in the parish were received from PC D Russ. This report contained 2 incidents of theft in Guyhirn and Wisbech St Mary and 13 crimes including rowdy nuisance, poaching suspicious circumstances, burglary and mud on the road. It was reported that persons on the road with their car bonnet up flagging down motorist and offering jewellery in return for cash as they state they have run out of petrol. The jewellery and watches are often tagged with a high value price tag, however the items being offered are worth very little. The speed watch report for December was as follows:-
High Road, Guyhirn 16 vehicles 0 exceeding the speed limit.
Murrell Bank, Murrell 21 vehicles 0 exceeding the speed limit.
High Road, Wisbech St Mary 30 vehicles 0 exceeding the speed limit.

5. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

List of planning applications determined by the Fenland District Council.

List of planning applications for discussion.

- (a) F/YR12/0908/F erection of a 2 storey 3 bed dwelling land north East of Orchard Cottage, New Drove, Wisbech St Mary. Applicant Mr A Waling. Agent Mr Matthew Hall. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (b) F/YR12/0940/F erection of a storey 3 bed dwelling with integral garage land east of The Firs, Mill Road, Murrell. Applicant Mr J Peggs. Agent Mr C Walford. **This site is too small for development and is on a corner, which will make it very difficult to access from the main road.**

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (a) Apology from J Barnes regarding the opening of Murrell Village Hall on the 3rd December 2012. **Noted.**
- (b) Stephen Barclay MP regarding the Ambulance Service. **Noted. It was agreed that in the light of the MP's comments that the Ambulance Service is not adequate and that he will continue to press them for improvement that we should support this. Councillor Tuck stated that in many areas Parishioners are training to become First Responders to attend patients prior to the Ambulance.**
- (c) NHS Keeping in Touch Issue 11 Winter 2012. **A copy was distributed to all Councillors.**

7. HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS

- (a) Details required by CCC Highways regarding volunteers gritting roads and footpaths. **Noted. The Councillors and parishioners from Guyhirn and Murrow who are volunteers have already reported the areas they are gritting to CCC Highways.**
- (b) Response from CCC Highways on items passed to them. **Noted. The clerk was requested to report the comments made to C Bedford CCC Highways.**

Highways reports from Councillors on problems

1. The Sewerage manhole cover at Selwyn Corner, Guyhirn is insecure. This is the responsibility of Anglian Water Authority. There are many manhole covers that are in the same condition.
2. Deep pot hole The Pigeons/Seadyke Bank
3. Bellamy Bridge Railings have been smashed.
4. The road signs at the Pigeons Murrow have been missing for some time and now the post on which were erected has now gone missing.
5. Cants Drove, Murrow subsidence to the side of the road. This had been filled, but it is now eroding again.
6. Cars continue to parked at the Pigeons and the path is overgrown with a hedge from 10 The Pidgeons.
7. Junction of Foleys Drove and Black Drove post of white rails have rotted.
8. Gull Drove to Black Drove T junction railings slipping down into the drain.
9. Posts for the 40 mph in Gull Road and 30 mph opposite Oliver Twist rotted off.
10. Parnell Road near Thorney Toll now impassable.
11. Middle of the road from Guyhirn Church to the old Post office breaking up.
12. Footpath from Selwyn Corner towards Wisbech St Mary is breaking up and is in need of urgent attention.

Highways reports from Councillors on streetlights

1. Station Road, Murrow streetlight. **We are still awaiting quotations from Westcotec Limited and it was agreed that the clerk contact them again. Mr M Clarke agreed to meet with them.**
2. Street light in Back Road, Murrow. **We are still awaiting quotations from Westcotec Limited and it was agreed that the clerk contact them again. Mr M Clarke agreed to meet with them.**

8. FINANCE

- (a) To receive a budgetary control report for the 2012/13 year to date. The balance recorded was £152895.21.
- (b) To look at the Precept 2013/14 in the light of new regulations. **The clerk advised the meeting that there appears to be some discussions going on between the Government and District Councils as to how the Precept is to be set this year. The Precept we have already set may need to be resubmitted to FDC. It was agreed that the Precept be kept at £43732.00, the same level since 2008/2009 financial year as agreed at the Parish Council meeting on the 8th October 2012. It was agreed that the clerk will liaise with the Chairman and Vice Chairman so that the new application may be submitted in time as the closing date is the 8th February 2013.**
- (c) Concurrent Functions second instalment £3495.00. **Noted.**

To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

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| (d) Clerk January salary | £533.33LGAct 1972 S112 | Agreed. |
| (e) Tax & NI | £157.78LGAct 1972 S112 | Agreed. |
| (f) Hire of Guyhirn Village Hall 7.11.11 | £30.00LGAct 1972 S134 | Agreed. |
| (g) Hire of Guyhirn Village Hall for 2013 | £90.00LGAct 1972 S134 | It was agreed that the payment for the hall be paid after each of the meetings and not in advance. |
| (h) Clerks Course CPALC | £35.00 LG Act 1972 S143 | Agreed. |

To approve payment of grants

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|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| (i) Murrow Book Café | £1000.00LGAct 1972 S137 | |
| (j) Volunteer Centre | £0.00 LGAct 1972 S137 | It was agreed to decline this request, but write requesting how many people within our parish are involved. |
| (k) Murrow Football Club | £1558.80 LGAct 1972 S137 | |
| (l) Guyhirn School | £to be agreed LGAct 1972S137 | No further information received. |

9.. DISCUSSION REGARDING EXCESS FUNDS AND HOW THEY COULD BE SPENT IN THE PARISH.

List of items from the meeting on the 13th August 2012.

1. New changing rooms on the Guyhirn Playing Field for the football club.
2. New Village hall on the Playing Field at Guyhirn.
3. Subsidence to the Thorney Toll Village Hall and funds required to have this repaired, together with refurbishment of the toilet block. **It was agreed that the clerk writes to the Secretary of the Thorney Toll Village Hall stating that the Parish Council have agreed to match fund the Thorney Toll Village Hall project up a maximum of £10,000 in order that the Grant application can be completed.**
4. New Village hall for Murrow.
5. New Village hall between Murrow and Guyhirn to be shared by both communities.
6. Grants given to each of the three schools for educational supplies.
7. Refurbishment of Murrow Village Hall.

10. **PARISH PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT MATTERS**
 Parish Property Maintenance and Risk Assessment reports from Councillors
 1. Fence to be erected at the Chapel of Ease to allow access to the Play area at Guyhirn. **Nothing to report.**
 2. Guyhirn Bus Shelters at Selwyn Corner. Site meeting to be arranged with CCC Highways and P Davies. **It was agreed that the clerk obtain confirmation from Mr Neil Band that the Bus Shelter can be moved.**
 3. Wisbech St Mary Village sign. **As outlined in the Open Forum this sign is now with Mr Pooley for painting, but due to ill health this may take some time.**
 4. Guyhirn War Memorial: proposal to move it to the entrance of Parish Council land in High Road. **It was agreed that the clerk writes to the Ely Diocesan to move this project forward.**
 5. Consideration to employing a self employed handyman for the parish – job description. **No progress has been made as the meeting of the working party to compile a job description has yet to take place.**
11. **GUYHIRN POND**
 Progress regarding the work on the pond. **Due to the wet weather no further action can be taken.**
12. **EXCEPTION SITES FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING.**
 Two sites have been submitted Station Avenue, Murrow and Gull Road, Guyhirn. A more detailed document will be prepared by Mr G Edwards and submitted to the meeting for further consideration at the next Parish Council meeting on the 4th February 2013.
13. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)**
 Due to the sudden death of Mr Robert Scrimshaw, Mr Gavin Booth agreed to support this Parish Council until a new District Councillor can be elected.

 There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.
14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Monday, 4th February 2013 – Guyhirn Village Hall
15. **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2013/2014**

Monday, 4 th March 2013	–	Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 8 th April 2013	–	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 13 th May 2013	–	Thorney Toll Village Hall -Annual Assembly 7.00 pm (Must take place between 1 st March & 1 st June) followed by the Annual General Meeting (must take place in May)
Monday, 17 th June 2013	–	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday 15 th July 2013	–	Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 12 th August 2013	–	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday, 9 th September 2013	–	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 7 th October 2013	–	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday, 4 th November 2013	–	Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 2 nd December 2013	–	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 6 th January 2014	–	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre