

MINUTES OF WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Monday, 10th February 2014 at Guyhirn Village Hall

PRESENT

B Payne Chairman	C Allen	P Barnes	B Britain	P Davies	J Fish	T Fowler
	T Jennings	M Knight MBE	B Reay			
Visitors	District Councillor	G Booth	County Councillor	G Gillick		
Parishioners	T Coleman	G Edwards	P Newton	Y Parish	J Watson	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from D Broker.

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

Mr G Edwards distributed plans for the proposed new changing rooms and club room on the Guyhirn Playing Field for the Guyhirn Football Club. The portacabin now in use has been in situ since the 1980's. Over the years there have been a number of junior football teams and ladies teams, but they have now been lost due to the changing facilities. The Football club would like the support of the Parish Council to see their dream of up to date facilities brought to fruition. The meeting was advised that they have requested quotations from builders and it is hoped to present these to the Parish Council at their next meeting.

The Chairman welcomed the newly elected Councillor, Mark Knight, to the meeting.

The Chairman presented to Mr J Fish a plaque for Thorney Toll Village Hall, acknowledging the support of the Parish Council in respect of recent renovations and facilities for the disabled.

18. TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING dated 6th January 2014.

The minutes of the 6th January 2014 were signed as a true record.

19. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (information only)

The meeting was advised that Steve Barclay MP and Mr B Sandall were meeting with the Bus Company to discuss the X1 being redirected through Wisbech St Mary and Guyhirn and therefore, whilst the Bus Company are adamant that this will not happen, discussions are still going ahead.

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

There were no members declaration of interest.

21. POLICE MATTERS

- (a) Report regarding crimes or incidents in the parish a copy of which was distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting. This report contained details of 4 crimes and 5 incidents. Included in the crimes were 2 burglaries, 1 theft of calor gas bottles and 1 criminal damage to a vehicle and the incidents were 3 suspicious circumstances, 1 rowdy nuisance and 1 of 2 loose Alsatian dogs who had bitten the informant. The emerging issues were of a number of scams whereby persons stating that they were the police requested bank card and pin numbers and making arrangements for a courier to collect the card and details. The Police stated that no one should request Pin Numbers or cards not even the police. There had been an incident whereby a loose dog had bitten a member of the public in Guyhirn, there were two attempted burglaries in Murrow and burglaries in the Leverington area and that a suspect was in custody. PCSO D Russ stated that he will continue to attend both Wisbech St Mary and Murrow schools as often as possible and continue to issue parking tickets to those parking illegally.
- (b) Copy of a press release regarding a £2m extra Home Office funding for Cambridgeshire Constabulary. **Noted.**

22. CAUSE FOR CONCERN REGARDING DANGEROUS DOGS.

Correspondence had been received from a local resident in respect of an incident where two dogs had strayed into a neighbour's garden and had bitten a parishioner and several residents threatened. The dogs strayed onto the main road nearly causing an accident. The residents of Oliver Twist Public House had tried to contact the FDC dog warden to no avail and then the police who passed them to the RSPCA and they could not be contacted. After a discussion it was agreed that the clerk writes to the Fenland District Council and the Police pointing out their concerns that there was no help for local residents who had been placed in this serious situation through no fault of their own. If children had been in this area this situation could have become very dangerous with serious injury or loss of life.

23. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

List of planning applications determined by the Fenland District Council.

List of planning applications for discussion.

None received.

24. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (a) Clerk Magazine January 2014. **Noted.**

- (b) Clerks and Councils Direct January 2014. **Noted.**
- (c) Correspondence from Council Mac McGuire regarding the Great War Commemoration. **Noted.**
- (d) Request for an allotment in the Murrow area. **The clerk stated that she had replied to this advising that at this time we did not have any vacant allotments in view of the plans to build affordable housing on the land in Gull Road, Guyhirn, but they would be contacted as and when allotments became available.**
- (e) Details of Homelink System for Housing Association allocation for Guyhirn. **The clerk advised the meeting that she had been contacted by Cambridge Housing Association as there was a vacant property 44 Chapelfield Road, Guyhirn. They were advised that the Parish Council did not have any parishioners wishing to rent in Guyhirn on their list. They stated that the only residents on the homelink system did not wish to go ahead and therefore this property was still vacant. After a discussion it was agreed that the clerk contact them stating that the FDC Housing Officer should be contacted as it is understood that there was at least 39 residents wishing to rent in our Parish.**
- (f) Member Briefing about Housing Related Support for Older People. **Noted.**

25. HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS

Highways reports from Councillors on problems

1. Pot holes still outside Ken Thomas Limited on the A47.
2. Pot holes have reappeared at Gull Drove, Guyhirn. These were filled in last year, but they are as bad again.
3. Pot holes on the junction of the A47 and Gull Road.
4. Drain cover opposite side to The Chequers, Tholomas Drove has a loose cover.
5. The gutters the whole length of High Road, Guyhirn need clearing.
6. When is the resurfacing of High Road, Guyhirn going to take place. It was agreed that this would be undertaken in this financial year.
7. Path near Ferntree Lodge, High Road, Guyhirn needs resurfacing.
8. 40% of the cars at Gull Road, Guyhirn turn right onto the A47.e the back of the fish shop Wisbech St Mary.
9. Dog bin near Guyhirn playing field is full and has been knocked off its post.
10. Side of Gull Road, Guyhirn towards Murrow has subsided.
11. Hooks Drove, Murrow has subsided. Particularly bad near Little Scotland caravan Park.
12. Entry to Churchyard is waterlogged.
13. At least 5 cars are regularly parked on the side of the road at The Pidgeons, Murrow. These are obstructing the highway and there will eventually be a serious accident.
14. Numerous pot holes from Seadyke to the Pidgeons and Bellamys Bridge.
15. The road signage at The Pidgeons, Murrow is inadequate.

Highways reports from Councillors on streetlights

- (a) Fenland District Council quotation on replacement streetlights Murrow Bank, Murrow £1116.64. Knocked down by a vehicle and deemed unsafe and need replacing. **It was agreed that the clerk contact FDC stating that these should be replaced under the insurance of the motorist who knocked the streetlight down.**
- (b) Fenland District Council quotation on replacement streetlights Sandbank, Wisbech St Mary £1410.26. **It was agreed that the clerk contact FDC stating that these should be replaced under the insurance of the motorist who knocked the streetlight down.**
- (c) Streetlight in Station Road, Murrow still not connected. **Clerk to contact CCC Highways for this light to be connected.**
- (d) Request for a Streetlight in High Road, Guyhirn from The Oliver Twist to Selwyn Corner. **Noted. Will place this on the agenda for the next meeting for discussion.**
- (e) The Chairman stated that he had received correspondence concerning dog fouling outside the Wisbech St Mary School and Chapel Avenue. He stated that he had placed an article in the March "Village Voices".
- (f) The Chairman stated that he had received correspondence from concerned residents of Mouth Lane, Guyhirn, which is now being used far in excess of its historical usage by articulated vehicles. These vehicles are causing the side of the road to subside and numerous pot holes. It was agreed that the clerk writes stating that this matter is being dealt with by CCC Highways.

26 FINANCE

- (a) To receive a budgetary control report for the 2013/14 year to date. **The balance recorded was £139458.81.**
- (b) Concerns from Benwick Parish Council on the removal of the Concurrent Functions. **After discussions it was agreed to support Benwick and the clerk was requested to write to the Chief Executives of Fenland District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council.**
To approve payment of outstanding accounts:
 - (c) Clerk February 2014 salary £600.00 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed.**
 - (d) Tax & NI £150.00 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed.**
 - (e) Postage £91.80 LG Act 1972 S143 **Agreed.**

(f) Cambs Acre Membership	£48.00 LG Act 1972 S143 Agreed.
(g) Hire of Guyhirn Village Hall for Parish Council meeting 10.02.13	£42.00 LGAct 1972 S134 Agreed.
(h) Hire of Guyhirn Village Hall for Golden Age leaflet drop	£14.00 LGAct 1972 S134 Agreed.
(i) PC World Internet protection	£25.00 LG Act 1972 S143 Agreed.

Payment of grants

None received.

27. DISCUSSION RE CHANGING ROOMS FOR GUYHIRN FOOTBALL CLUB

Discussion re the building of changing rooms for Guyhirn Football Club on Guyhirn Playing Field. **After a discussion it was agreed to support this development. Some concerns were voiced as to when it was agreed that this Playing Field be rented to the Playing Field Committee at a peppercorn rent. The clerk agreed to investigate this further. It is hoped that the Football Club will have some costings for the changing rooms by the next Parish Council meeting to enable the meeting to make a more informed decision as to how to move this development forward.**

28. PARISH PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT MATTERS

Parish Property Maintenance and Risk Assessment reports from Councillors

1. Report on progress of fence to be erected at the Chapel of Ease to allow access to the Play area at Guyhirn. **This work will be undertaken as soon as weather permits.**
2. It was agreed that the clerk contacts the maintenance man to undertake some work at Thorney Toll on the disabled slope and to clear an area of grass near the seat.

29. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF A PLAQUE FOR THORNEY TOLL VILLAGE HALL

Report on progress of purchasing a plaque for Thorney Toll Village Hall notifying parishioners of the contribution made by the Parish Council in the building work. **Plaque presented to Mr J Fish at the beginning of the Parish Council meeting.**

30. GOLDEN AGE SURGERY IN THE NEW YEAR

Murrow Village Hall booked for Tuesday, 18th February 2014 9.00 am to 2.30 pm.

The clerk agreed to attend this day and the Chairman thanked B Reay and T Jennings for producing the presentation board for this event.

31. REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Annual review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. **It was proposed by T Fowler, seconded by T Jennings and agreed unanimously to approve the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. It was agreed to look at placing an item in these Standing Orders concerning the Wisbech St Mary website.**

32. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)

Mr Gillick stated that Guyhirn School are looking for Governors.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

33. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday, 10th March 2014 - Murrow Village Hall

34. DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2014/2015

Monday, 14 th April 2014	-	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday, 19 th May 2014	-	Guyhirn Village Hall – Annual Assembly & AGM
Monday, 16 th June 2014	-	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday, 14 th July 2014	-	Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 11 th August 2014	-	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday, 15 th September 2014	-	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday, 13 th October 2014	-	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday, 10 th November 2014	-	Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 8 th December 2014	-	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday, 5 th January 2015	-	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre