

# Wisbech St Mary Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 7pm in Murrow Village Hall.**

Attended by: Councillors B Britain (Chairman), D Wheeler (Vice-Chairman), P Davies, J Fish, J Humphrey, M Knight, S Mann, D Scrimshaw. Cllr elect Mrs A Patrick.

Members of the public 5

Fenland District Council (FDC) Councillor G Booth pm.

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) and FDC Councillor S King.

## **OPEN FORUM**

Mr Reader asked why Murrow Village Hall was not on the agenda as previously agreed and asked that the issue be discussed and progressed. The Clerk explained that the item had been on the agenda but was removed in view of significant information provided during a discussion between Mr Reader and the Chairman. The Chairman agreed that the matter would be discussed under item 4.

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Cllr Allen.

### **2. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Mrs Alex Patrick having been elected Councillor read and signed the Declaration of Office. The Clerk handed Cllr Patrick a Cllr Details Form for completion, Code of Conduct, Child and Adults Safeguarding Policy, Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, and Register of Member Interests to be completed and returned to the Clerk.

### **3. TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS** dated 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017

The minutes were taken as read, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES** (information only)

The Clerk read a response from DriveTime. **Noted**

The Chairman agreed to discuss Murrow Village Hall. Cllrs Patrick and Booth declared a personal interest. In view of the importance of a full and free discussion The Chairman allowed all contributions.

By way of background the Clerk explained that the issue was raised at the meeting 12 June 2017, since then a letter dated 6 July had been received from the Management Committee, Mr Reader had conversed with The Chairman and an email received from Cllr Booth 10 July.

Mr Reader explained that Murrow Village Hall Management Committee wished to ensure that the asset was not lost to the community. Ultimately the building may be sold and the proceeds used to fund a new village hall on the playing field – this could be 4 to 5 years hence. Such proposals cannot be progressed without Custodian Trustees hence their request that Wisbech St Mary Parish Council agree to be Custodian Trustees. The issue for the Parish Council was that it needed to be clear what the legal and financial obligations would be. Mr and Mrs Reader clarified that the Management Committee would arrange the registry of the land and the sale, the proceeds would be paid to the Parish Council into an account set up by the Parish Council for that purpose. Cllr Booth explained that the constitution of the Charity was broad and the proposal satisfied Charity Commission requirements, they would not be involved in the Custodian Trustee arrangement.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Wheeler that the Parish Council agree to act as Custodian Trustees seconded by Cllr Humphrey. **Agreed unanimously**

### **5. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST** for items on this agenda **Nil**

### **6. TO CONSIDER PLANNING MATTERS**

#### **1. Planning applications determined by the Fenland District Council (FDC).**

(a) F/YR17/0386/F Conversion of detached double garage to 1-bed annexe ancillary to the main dwelling. Sunningdale Gull Road Guyhirn. **Granted**

(b) F/YR17/0401/F Erection of stables/hay barn and change of use of land to stable yard. Land South West Of Wispers Barn Gull Drove Guyhirn. **Granted**

(c) F/YR17/0403/F Erection of a 2-storey, 4-bed dwelling and a detached double garage involving demolition of existing dwelling and outbuilding. The Broad Willock Lane Wisbech St Mary. **Refused**

(d) F/YR17/0418/F Erection of a 10.561 metre high (max) extension to existing agricultural building. Bishops Farm Wisbech Road Thorney Toll. **Granted**

(e) F/YR17/0421/F Erection of a Day Room. Land South Of Ponderosa Farm Garden Lane Wisbech St Mary. **Granted**

(f) F/YR17/0432/F Erection of a two-storey side extension and single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling involving demolition of existing conservatory and store. Brooklyn High Road Wisbech St Mary. **Granted**

(g) F/YR17/0437/F Erection of a two-storey 2-bed dwelling. Land South West Of Dane End Accessed From Sandbank Wisbech St Mary. **Pending Consideration**

(h) F/YR17/0454/F Erection of single storey extensions to north-east and south-west of existing dwelling. Montrose Gull Road Guyhirn. **Pending Decision**

## 2. Planning applications for discussion:

(a) F/YR17/0466/F Erection of a part single-storey part two-storey side/rear extension to existing dwelling. Beaumont 151 Front Road Murrow.

Applicant Mr & Mrs G Matthew. Agent Mr Ken Elener. **Recommend Approval**

(b) F/YR17/0474/VOC Variation of condition 8 to enable amendment to approved plans of planning permission F/YR15/0587/F Erection of a 3-storey 5-bed dwelling with attached garage, detached workshop and the temporary siting of 2 x mobile homes involving the demolition of existing dwelling (part retrospective). Bridge House 22 Front Road Murrow.

Applicant Mr & Mrs D Cormican. Agent Mr Steven Hall. **Recommend Approval**

(c) F/YR17/0547/TRTPO Works to 4 x Willow trees covered by TPO 1/1995. The Village Pond High Road Guyhirn.

Applicant Wisbech St Mary Parish Council. Agent Mr G Wilkinson. **Recommend Approval**

(d) Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd – Pre-submission public consultation.

Proposed residential development land north-East of Hollycroft House, 180 Front Road, Murrow.

Following discussion it was agreed to make no comment at this stage.

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

(a) FDC Street Lighting Maintenance – letter 13 June 2017 **Noted**

(b) Cambridgeshire Constabulary – Speedwatch Scheme **Noted**

(c) TMO Highways – temporary road closure Bevis Lane **Noted**

(d) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Police and Crime Commissioner – Fenland Parish Council Conference **Noted**

## 8. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

(a) Highways – reports from Councillors on problems causing *immediate* concerns

1) Cllr Humphrey reported a water leak opposite the Oliver Twist Country Inn near a fire hydrant at the base of the river bank.

2) Cllr Fish reported the speed camera at Thorney Toll had been removed despite high speeds and the difficulty exiting onto the A47 and the road in very poor condition.

3) Cllr Mann reported overgrowing vegetation at Sandbank /New Drove opposite The Bridge Inn causing vehicles to deviate from their lane. Cllr Knight recommended passing on such safety issues via 101. Cllr King said he would investigate and pass the issue on.

(b) Local Highway Improvement Initiative – Speed Reduction

Cllr Booth suggested a combined scheme for Sandbank and Murrow Bank would stand a better chance of success. Wisbech St Mary could be a future Local Highway Initiative bid. The Clerk to arrange a meeting with CCC engineers.

(c) High Road Guyhirn – Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs (MVAS)

The Clerk circulated details received from CCC – they do not believe that the location would comply with the updated policy for the provision of a permanent VAS. A MVAS requires volunteer/s to move the sign and four locations, cost c. £3100. The cost of removing the redundant sign could be up to £1000. It was proposed by Cllr Knight seconded by Cllr Fish that the provision of one sign be explored. **Agreed unanimously**

(d) Street Lighting

The Clerk reported that Electrical Testing Ltd were in the process of compiling a database and carrying out inspections.

## 9. FINANCE MATTERS

- (a) To receive the budgetary control report for 2017/18 to date.

### ***To approve payment of outstanding accounts:***

- |  |                                      |               |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| (b) Clerk June salary  | £636.92 LG Act 1972 S112             | <b>Agreed</b> |
| (c) Tax and NI   | £198.42 LG Act 1972 S112             | <b>Agreed</b> |
| (d) Clerk postage and office consumables                                 | £60.26 LG Act 1972 S112              | <b>Agreed</b> |
| (e) Bowles Tree & Garden Services - sign washing, tree work, maintenance | £2,235.00 LG Misc Prov Act 1976 S196 | <b>Agreed</b> |
| (f) Bowles Tree & Garden Services – maintenance, planter                 | £390.00 Misc Prov Act 1976 S196      | <b>Agreed</b> |
| (g) Long Acre Garden Centre – compost                                    | £36.00 Misc Prov Act 1976 S196       | <b>Agreed</b> |
| (h) Oliver Twist Country Inn – hire of hall                              | £30.00 LG Act 1972 S134              | <b>Agreed</b> |
| (i) Parson Drove Parish Council – training                               | £175.00 LG Act 1972 S112             | <b>Agreed</b> |
| (j) SR Signs – ‘sponsored’ signs   | £150.00 LG Act 1972 S111             | <b>Agreed</b> |

### **Grant application**

- (k) Wisbech St Mary Sports and Community Centre – £5,000 contribution to purchase of sports equipment  
LG Misc Prov 1976 S19

Following discussion, it was agreed to defer the item and request a schedule of equipment needed with costs.

- (l) Wisbech St Mary Sports and Community Centre – grass cutting LG Misc Prov 1976 S19  
Following discussion, a grant of £4,000 was proposed by Cllr Davies seconded by Cllr Wheeler.

**Agreed unanimously**

The clerk circulated details of a grant request received from the East of England Ambulance Service Community First Responder. It was agreed to add this item to the next agenda.

## 10. PARISH PROPERTY

- (a) Maintenance

Cllr Davies reported a self-set elder tree obstructing the pathway at Guyhirn Playing Field. Cllr Mann offered to arrange for its removal.

- (b) Bus Shelters

The Clerk read the responses to the consultation on the installation of four shelters. He read the objections received; one to the shelter at Gull Road, two to the shelter at High Road Wisbech St Mary. Cllr Knight spoke of the identified need and support for the shelters. Following discussion taking into account the objections and the pros and cons of each site it was agreed to pursue the installation of four shelters. Cllr Knight explained that the four bases would cost £5,090 and provision and installation of the four shelters £13,906 giving a total cost of £18,996. It was proposed by Cllr Knight to provide four shelters seconded by Cllr Humphrey. **Agreed unanimously**

- (c) Defibrillators

The Chairman reported that units for Thorney Toll and Murrow have been received.

- (d) Planters

All planters have been planted up. The damaged one at Wisbech St Mary is to be repaired. The cost of repair was estimated at £350. The Clerk said that invoices would be required for the insurance claim.

Councillors discussed ways to improve the planters and agreed that more compost and better-quality plants would be the way forward.

## 11. HIGH ROAD WISBECH ST MARY – SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE

Cllr Booth reported that a new engineer was in post so it could be an end of year project. Searches are ongoing.

## 12. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

- (a) Cllr G Booth reported:

- 1) There has been a complaint regarding the extent of double yellow lines. Consultation was carried out – notices were posted on site. If it is decided to amend the lines a new traffic

regulation order will be required at a cost of £1k to £2k. The Parish Council are happy with the scheme and have no desire to change it. The speed of vehicles using Back Road is still a concern. The clerk was asked to contact CCC and request 30mph repeater signs to be funded from the scheme.

- 2) There is a potential pilot scheme for a FACT shuttle service from Parson Drove to Guyhirn to link with the X1 bus service.

(b) Cllr King reported:

- 1) Bellamy Bridge – awaiting CCC officer recommendations.
- 2) Cllr King has viewed the condition of the highway from Murrow to Guyhirn and will explore what can be done.
- 3) He has raised the issue of overgrown vegetation at Gull Drove near Fort Farm – an officer has written to the owner.
- 4) The footpath at High Road Guyhirn – officers will submit a scheme for improvements and a letter will go to owners of vegetation that is overgrown.
- 5) Street lighting (FDC) – Cllr King will write to parish councils further this week.
- 6) Traveller Liaison Officer (FDC) – is now Sophie Wilkinson.

### **13. POLICE MATTERS**

The Report was supplied and circulated prior to the meeting.

### **14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS** (for information only)

- a) The Chairman drew attention to the poor condition of Gull Drove carriageway.
- b) The Chairman expressed his disappointment that only one councillor had attended the recent training session organised by Parson Drove Parish Council. He recommended Cllr Wheeler attend Chairman training and others to attend councillor training.
- c) Cllr Humphrey reported a bus stop sign missing opposite the Bridge Inn Wisbech St Mary

### **15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2017      Thorney Toll Village Hall

### **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2017/18**

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	Oliver Twist Country Inn
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	Murrow Village Hall
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Oliver Twist Country Inn

Meeting closed at 9.55 pm

Signed: Cllr. B Britain, Chairman