

# **Minutes of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2014 in Thorney Toll Village Hall.**

Attended by Councillors B Payne (Chairman), B Britain (Vice Chairman), C Allen, P Barnes, D Broker, P Davies, J Fish, T Fowler, T Jennings, M Knight, B Reay. G. Booth (Fenland District Councillor) & 2 members of the public.

**OPEN FORUM** – Parishioners are invited to address the Council.

Gareth Edwards ask the Council for their support for Planning Applications 6a, 6b, 6g & 6h although he had been advised that 6a) had already been granted approval by the District Council.

## **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

There were no apologies received.

## **2. APPOINTMENT OF PARISH CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER.**

The Chairman advised that he and the acting Clerk had met with Geoffrey Wilkinson when most of the files and computer equipment had been handed over to him together with a list of outstanding issues that he could start working on.

## **3 TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES OF MEETING DATED JULY 14<sup>th</sup> 2014.**

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

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

(a) **Councillor Training Evenings: Mondays Sept 8<sup>th</sup>; Oct 6<sup>th</sup>, and Oct 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Councillors were requested to attend these training sessions if possible.

(b) New litter bin outside Guyhirn school. Update.

This matter was discussed under Agenda item number 8e.

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

Councillor Davies declared an interest in respect of Agenda items numbered 9e and 9f.

Councillor Barnes declared an interest in respect of Agenda item 6i.

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

### **1. Planning applications determined by Fenland District Council.**

The following planning applications had been granted approval by the District Council.

Planning Application No. F/YR14/0222/O for the erection of 2 dwellings on land north of 175 Front Road, fronting Back Road, Murrow.

Planning application No F/YR14/0811/F variation of condition 4 in relation to the erection of 3 bed detached house with integral garage granted under planning application F/YR11/0811/F.

### **2. Planning applications for discussion:**

(a) F/YR14/0508/F. Erection of a single-storey extension to front of existing building. Location: Murrow Primary Academy, 73 Murrow Bank, Murrow. Applicant: Mrs R Simmonds. Agent Gareth Edwards.

Councillors noted that this application had already been granted approval.

**(b)** F/YR14/0517/F. Erection of a warehouse extension to existing storage units (B8 use). Location: Ken Thomas Ltd, Seafeld Logistics, Thorney Road, Guyhirn. Applicant: Mr J Thomas. Agent Gareth Edwards.

Councillors resolved to support this application and recommend approval is granted.

c) F/YR14/0525/F. Erection of a stable block and horse walker and the formation of ménage with 8 x 5m high flood lighting for part domestic/part commercial use. Location: Land south and west of Beats Lodge, Hooks Drove, Murrow. Applicant: Mr J Ahern. Agent Miss G Humphrey.

Councillors resolved to support this application and recommend approval is granted.

**(d)** F/YR14/0556/F. Erection of a 2-storey extension with Juliet balcony to side of existing dwelling. Location: 'Rosedene', Garden Lane, Wisbech St Mary. Applicant: Mrs S Russell. Agent Mr M Sturgeon.

Councillors resolved to support this application and recommend approval is granted.

(e) F/YR14/0390/F. Variation of condition 13 of planning permission F/YR13/0268/F in relation to design of plots 7 & 8 at Plots 7 and 8 Land north west of 'Greenacres', Gull Road, Guyhirn. The revision is *Change of application from full to minor material amendment*. Noted by Councillors.

(f) F/YR14/0289/F. Variation of condition 13 of planning permission (f) F/YR13/0268 in relation to the design of plot 9 at Plot 9, Land north west of 'Greenacres', Gull Road, Guyhirn. The revision is: *Change of application from full to minor amendment*. Noted by Councillors.

(g) F/YR14/0599/F. Erection of 2 x 2-storey 4-bed dwellings with detached garages involving the demolition of existing outbuildings. Land south-west of 16 Front Road, Murrow. Applicant: Mr & Mrs Harnwell. Agent Gareth Edwards.

Councillors resolved to support this application and recommend approval is granted.

(h) F/YR14/0609/F. Erection of 2-storey 4-bed dwelling with detached garage and study involving removal of residential caravans and demolition of existing dwelling. Location: The Caravan, Woodview, Gull Road, Guyhirn. Applicant: Mr J Pillans. Agent Swann Edwards. Councillors resolved to support this application and recommend approval is granted.

(i) F/YR14/0610/O. Erection of a dwelling involving demolition of existing building. Location: Bridge House, 22 Front Road, Murrow. Applicant: Mrs I Barnes. Agent John Maxey. Councillors resolved to support this application and recommend approval is granted.

## **7. CAMBRIDGESHIRE FUTURE TRANSPORT BRIEFING**

(a) To receive the Briefing Pack containing the schedule and other details relevant to WSM Parish Council, and an invitation to attend a meeting to discuss Area L (Villages North West of Wisbech), on Monday 15th September at Fenland Hall, 2pm. Councillor Broker confirmed that he would attend the meeting to represent Wisbech St Mary Parish Council.

## **8. HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

(a) Highways and streetlight reports from Councillors on problems causing *immediate concerns*.

The roundabout at Rings End was very badly over grown with weeds.

The road signs at Pidgeons Corner, Seadyke and Back Road, Murrow had been stolen and needed replacing.

There was flooding outside 6, 7 and 8 High Road during heavy rain as the dropped kerbs were very low.

The drains on the road at Lindens Close, Thorney Toll were full of mud.

(b) Report of meeting with Highways Dept concerning High Road, Guyhirn, and drainage problems in High Road, Wisbech St Mary.

The Chairman advised that following the meeting with Amanda Hill, C.C.C. Highways Department the condition of High Road Guyhirn was highlighted and it was stressed that this was deemed more urgent than Selwyn Corner. The problem with the flooding outside the shop at Wisbech St Mary was being investigated by the Highways Department.

(c) Streetlights.

The street light at Ingham Hall had been repaired very quickly.

(d) To discuss the increasing concern about accidents at the Bellamy's Bridge junction.

Councillor Booth advised that Gorefield Parish Council would be considering this matter at their meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> September. He anticipated that it would be agreed for a joint application to be made under the Local Highways Improvements scheme for improvement to this junction.

(e) To discuss the provision of dog waste bins at the Long Jetty, Church Road/Station Drive junction and Sandbank/High Road junction, Wisbech St Mary.

Following a meeting with an Officer from the District Council a quotation had been given for £308.72 to provide and install a dog litter bin at each of these locations. Councillors therefore resolved to approve the installation of the 3 bins at Wisbech St Mary together with 1 at the junction of Gull Drove with Gull Road, Guyhirn. The District Council would be funding the cost of 1 of the bins and the Parish Council the other 3.

(f) County Transport Delivery Plan: Highways Projects.

The Chairman had received a copy of the planned programme of work for the highways during 2015/2016. There was no mention of any work being planned for High Road, Guyhirn and therefore this had been raised with Amanda Hill at the recent site meeting. It was agreed that the Council should continue to press for the work to be completed as promised with Matt Pickering at the County Council.

## **9. FINANCE MATTERS**

(a) To receive a report on the Internal and External Audits. Update.

The Clerk was requested to contact the Internal Auditor following further information now being found regarding the payment of Allotment Rents. There had not been any issues raised so far by the External Auditor.

(b) Report from a further meeting at Fenland District Council concerning Concurrent Functions and streetlighting. The Chairman had been unable to attend the recent meeting but Councillor Booth advised that no decision had been reached. During the meeting some Parish Councils had indicated that they would prefer to have the Concurrent Functions Grant withdrawn if the District Council would take over full responsibility for the parish streetlights. Whilst other Parish Councils wanted the Concurrent Functions Grant to continue and the District Council to provide some financial assistance towards the replacement of the street lights identified in category 2. The District Council had indicated that they would be unable to take over the ownership and full responsibility of all parish street lights but would consider the comments made at the meeting to try and put forward further proposals.

(c) Invoice from FDC for replacement of streetlight FPC21, High Road, Guyhirn. £2,494.27. To confirm that the insurance money had been received.

The Chairman advised that after checking the recorded income received in the cash book for 2013 with the acting Clerk together with the bank paying in book he could confirm that £2,078.56 had been received from the insurance company but incorrectly recorded in the cash book as allotment rent. Councillors therefore resolved to approve payment of this invoice.

(d) Invoice from Auditing Solutions Ltd for Internal Audit Service for 2013-14. £264.00. Councillors resolved to approve this payment. Accounts & Audit Regs

(e) Invoice from Drive Time for work carried out on kerbs at Guyhirn Pond. £1,260.00. Councillors resolved to approve payment of this invoice. P.H.A. 1936 s 260.

(f) Invoice from Drive Time for 80 tons of soil to bank up left-hand side of Guyhirn Pond. £220.00. Councilors resolved to approve payment of this Invoice. O.S.A. 1906 s9 & s10.

### **Grant applications.**

None received.

## **10 TO DISCUSS THE ADOPTION OF THE FOLLOWING POLICIES** (enclosed herewith)

(a) Health and Safety Policy

(b) Equal Opportunities Policy

(c) Code of Practice for handling complaints

(d) Media Policy

(e) Code of Conduct.

The Chairman advised that some of these policies were required in view of the appointment of the new Clerk/RFO. Councillors therefore resolved to adopt the Policies presented to them.

## **11. PARISH PROPERTY**

(a) Guyhirn pond restoration. Update.

Councillor Davies advised that work had now been completed and the project was complete. Councillors agreed that it was a great improvement to the area and conveyed their thanks to Councillor Davies.

Councillor Davies also advised that work to the riverbank near to the bus shelter had finally been completed.

The Chairman advised that he had met with the S Bowles to discuss the parish maintenance contract when it had been suggested that the grass cutting be increased from 4 cuts to 5 and completed during the summer.

Councillors agreed for the roof to be replaced and repairs carried out to the brick work of the bus shelter near the Wheel at Wisbech St Mary and for the wooden bus shelter at Guyhirn to have the graffiti covered with paint. Also for the trees and grass to be cut back around the Guyhirn Village Sign.

British Telecom had removed the telephone box outside the shop at Wisbech St Mary. Some of the parish noticeboards were beginning to look dirty and it was suggested that perhaps they needed replacing together with some of the wooden seats.

## **12. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

(a) Cambs County Council: Changes to the Winter Volunteer scheme.  
Information noted by Councillors. Councillors were also reminded that a new volunteer was required for Murrow.

(b) Wryde Croft Wind Farm: Community Benefits Fund.  
Councillor Booth advised that he had attended a meeting regarding this matter and outlined the current proposals. A representative from all of the parishes effected would be invited to attend future meetings.

c) Consultation on the District Council's Street Trading Policy.  
The Chairman outlined the proposals for consultation until the 5<sup>th</sup> September.  
Councillors resolved to request for all of the roads/streets in the parish to be included in the Policy which would mean that anyone wishing to trade in the street would have to obtain a licence from the District Council.

### **13. NEW PAVILION FOR GUYHIRN FOOTBALL CLUB**

The was no further information available to report to the Council.

### **14. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Booth advised that he had arranged a meeting with Rob Bridges and the Leader of the District Council to discuss how complaints are being dealt with by the District Council.

### **15. POLICE MATTERS**

The Chairman gave a report on the crimes in the parish since 11<sup>th</sup> July and reminded Councillors that the next Rural Forum was being held in Guyhirn on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August.

### **16. CIVIC SERVICE TO COMMEMORATE THE BEGINNING OF WORLD WAR.**

Wisbech St Mary Parish Church, September 7<sup>th</sup> 2014. Advance Notice.  
Noted by Councillors.

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

It was reported that the District Council had laid down several gravestones deemed to be unsafe in Wisbech St Mary Cemetry. This had caused some distress to local residence particularly as no prior warning had been given that this action was taking place.

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** Monday September 15<sup>th</sup> 2014, Guyhirn Village Hall, 7.00pm.

### **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2014/2015**

Monday October 13<sup>th</sup>:2014 Wisbech St Mary Comm Centre.

Monday November 10<sup>th</sup>:2014 Murrow Village Hall.

Monday December 8<sup>th</sup>:2014 Thorney Toll Village Hall.

Monday January 5<sup>th</sup>:2015 WSM Comm Centre.

Monday February 9<sup>th</sup>:2015 Guyhirn Village Hall.

Monday March 16<sup>th</sup>: 2015 Murrow Village Hall.

Monday April 13<sup>th</sup>: 2015 Thorney Toll Village Hall.

*(Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>.2015 Parish Council Elections).*

Monday May 18<sup>th</sup>.2015. Parish Assembly/ Annual Meeting: Wisbech St Mary Community Centre.