

Wisbech St Mary Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council held on Monday 12th June 2017 at 7pm in The Oliver Twist Country Inn Guyhirn.

Attended by: Councillors B Britain (Chairman), C Allen, J Fish, J Humphrey, M Knight, S Mann, D Scrimshaw.

Members of the public 1 and 2 joined at 7.28pm.

Fenland District Council (FDC) Councillor G Booth pm.

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) and FDC Councillor S King joined at 7.16pm.

OPEN FORUM

John Spencer complained that the footway at High Road leading to the school was obstructed by vegetation, contained potholes and was generally in poor condition. The 30mph sign was 1.2m high and therefore too low such that children could sustain injury. The conifers outside Sheraton House restricted the footway to single file and as there was no footway on the other side of the road so using the obstructed footway was the only viable option. He requested action to be taken to clear and improve the footway.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllrs D Wheeler, J Newland. P Davies and CCC and FDC Cllr S Count

2. TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS dated 8th May 2017

Cllr Humphrey reported an error in the reporting of item 2. The amendments were agreed unanimously. The Clerk reported that Cllr Wheeler wished it to be recorded that he had abstained from the vote for Chairman. The Clerk amended the minutes accordingly.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (information only)

The Clerk reported that FDC had surveyed Tholomas Drove and proposed to replace street nameplates within the next 6 weeks.

4. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on this agenda

Cllr Scrimshaw declared a personal interest in item 5.2(e)

Cllr Allen declared a pecuniary interest in item 5.2(d) as he is a trustee of the Francis Hardy Charity

5. TO CONSIDER PLANNING MATTERS

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

2. Planning applications for discussion:

(a) F/YR17/0358/TE1 Erection of a 17.5m monopole to support 6no. telecommunications antennae and the installation of 2no. dishes and 3 no. ground based equipment cabinets. Land North Of The Community Centre Beechings Close Wisbech St Mary.

Applicant Shared Access Ltd. Agent Mr Richard Morison. Approved by FDC. **Noted**

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

Applicant Mr J Atkins. Agent Mr R Swann. **Recommend Approval**

(c) 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.

Applicant Mr Short. Agent Miss Grace Humphrey. **Recommend Approval**

(d) 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.

Applicant Mrs L Brownlow. Agent Mr Gareth Edwards. **Recommend Approval**

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

Applicant Mr A Wadsley. Agent Mr Andrew Buesnel. **Recommend Approval**

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

Applicant Miss T Butler. Agent Mr Grahame Seaton. **Recommend Approval**

(g) 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.

Applicant Mr & Mrs P Rowell. Agent Mr G Edwards. **Recommend Approval**

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

Applicant Mr Airey & Mrs Lawrence. Agent Mr G Edwards.

Following discussion refusal was proposed by Cllr Fish seconded by Cllr Humphrey due to overdevelopment and potentially dangerous access on a bend. 6 votes in favour of refusal, none against. **Recommend Refusal**

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

Applicant Mr & Mrs G Rowell. Agent Mr Gareth Edwards. **Recommend Approval**

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

(a) FDC Street Lighting Maintenance – new arrangements

The Clerk referred to a letter dated 9 May 2017 received from FDC which described interim arrangements for street lighting such that reports of defects should go to assets and projects at FDC. Cllr Knight said that he had reported a defect to FDC but they had not been aware of the new arrangements. Cllr King offered to clarify the situation at FDC. He added that they were working through the backlog and expected it to be cleared by end July 2017. As there was a procurement process to be followed he was not yet in a position to say who the new supplier would be.

(b) Murrow Book Café **Noted**

(c) Kier Services – A47/A141 Guyhirn roundabout **Noted**

(d) TMO Highways – temporary road closure High Road, Guyhirn **Noted**

(e) TMO Highways – temporary road closure Plash Drove, Tholomas Drove **Noted**

7. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

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

i. Cllr Humphrey reported that he made a complaint to CCC regarding the lack of action at Bellamys Bridge and referred to fatalities and further accidents. Cllr Booth stated that if more major works were required the Fenland Transport Plan proposed to be published by the end of the year may provide an opportunity to bid for improvements. Cllr Knight added his concern that further delays would risk additional accidents and possible injuries and fatalities.

ii. 2016/17 Pigeons Corner Improvements were underway.

iii. The footway referred to in Open Forum was discussed. Cllr Booth supported the idea of a letter from the school. Cllr King agreed as enforcement action was rarely instigated and he would investigate the possibility of tackling overgrown vegetation and having the footway improved. Cllr Allen concluded that a letter should be sent to the school inviting them to add their weight to the issue. **Agreed**

(b) Local Highway Improvement Initiative 2017/18

The Clerk referred to his email to CCC dated 2 May 2017 requesting estimates for two alternative interactive signs. No response had yet been received. Cllr King offered to investigate the delay.

(c) Street Lighting

The Clerk reported that there were two issues outstanding – FPC5 Front Road Murrow and FPC11 High Road Guyhirn that were awaiting estimated from FDC. Cllr King offered his assistance if necessary. **Noted**

8. FINANCE MATTERS

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

The Clerk presented the report and drew attention to the additional sponsorship received and the grant received from the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation. The Bank Reconciliation balanced and was checked and signed by Cllr Allen.

To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

(b) Clerk May salary £636.72 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed**

(c) Tax and NI £198.62 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed**

(d) Clerk postage and office consumables £60.26 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed**

(e) K Clarke – War memorial maintenance £160.00 War Memorials (LA Powers Act) 1923 **Agreed**

(f) FDC – FPC5A Front Road Murrow £431.93 Parish Council Act 1957 S3 **Agreed**

- (g) Zurich Insurance 2017/18 £996.86 LG Act 1972 S111 **Agreed**
 The Clerk explained the process and alternative quote obtained
- (h) Volmary Ltd – supply of plants £240.00 LG Misc Prov 1976 S196 **Agreed**
 Following discussion some councillors had been disappointed with the quality of some of the plants. It was agreed that a letter be sent accordingly.
- (i) DriveTime – tarmac footpath £4,775.00 Highways Act 1980 S43 **Agreed**
 Following discussion it was agreed that the overall quality was acceptable. There was concern that water may lay in some areas that could cause a problem particularly in freezing conditions. It was agreed that a letter be sent to DriveTime to the effect that remedial works may be required if fears materialised.
- (j) Andrew Deptford – supply 2 x defibrillators £3,300.00 Public Health Act 1936 S234
 The Clerk explained that payment was required on receipt of the defibrillators. As the grant had been received from the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation and delivery was anticipated before the next meeting it was proposed to authorise the payment. **Agreed**

Grant application

Nil

9. PARISH PROPERTY

- (a) Maintenance – it was agreed that an area around the planters should be strimmed and sprayed with glyphosate to improve their appearance.
- (b) Bus Shelters – Cllr Knight reported progress. Quotations for the bases had been obtained. Following a meeting with CCC it emerged that suppliers must be qualified to work on the highway which may affect prices and further quotations would be required including from CCC. Cllr Knight suggested consultations with properties nearby the proposed sites. Four sites were to be explored with the intention of making a final decision at the July meeting. **Agreed**
- (c) Defibrillators - The Clerk reported that the grant had been received and the defibrillators ordered.
- (d) Planters- The Clerk reported an email from Cllr Wheeler expressing his thanks to those councillors who had planted the planters and suggesting the Councils thanks to those who volunteered to maintain them be recorded in Village Voices. **Agreed**
 Cllr Fish passed the payment for the planter 'Sponsored by Thorney Toll Village Hall' to the Clerk.

10. HIGH ROAD WISBECH ST MARY – SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE

Cllr Booth reported investigations were still progressing.

11. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Booth reported the following;

- a) If anyone is aware of FDC land that requires maintenance please raise the issue
 - b) There may be additional landfill charges in respect of food waste that now goes to landfill
 - c) Murrow Village Hall, custodian trusteeship – could this be discussed at the next meeting?
- Agreed**

Cllr King introduced himself as a County Councillor covering Murrow and a District Councillor with a responsibility for street lighting. He added that he was keen to explore the possibilities of devolved power e.g. introducing an enhanced response to potholes. Cllr Humphrey drew attention to the recent poor response to repairing potholes. Councillors reported various highway issues that had been a concern for many months/years.

12. POLICE MATTERS

Report had been supplied and circulated

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)

- a) Cllr Allen suggested that the venue had been a success and suggested £40 as a reasonable charge. **Agreed**
- b) Cllr Britain reported that he and Cllr Davies had met with the FDC Planning enforcement officer who had promised that something would happen by the end of June. He had also met with Stephen Barclay MP who advised that the issue should be referred to Cllr Count.
- c) Cllr Booth explained that Murrow Village Hall had a new Management Committee and the difficulty for them appointing custodian trustees as they needed to go through a solicitor each time a trustee changed. The proposal was for the Parish Council to become custodian

trustees which can be set up through the Charity Commission. Cllr Britain asked what financial obligation there would be, Cllrs Booth and Kink both responded that there would be no financial obligation on the Parish Council. The Clerk asked for copies of the advice they had acquired from Cambs ACRE and the Charity Commission.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 10th July 2017 Murrow Village Hall

DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2017/18

Monday 14 th August 2017	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 11 th September 2017	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 9 th October 2017	Oliver Twist Country Inn
Monday 13 th November 2017	Murrow Village Hall
Monday 11 th December 2017	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 15 th January 2018	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 12 th February 2018	Oliver Twist Country Inn

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed: Cllr. B Britain, Chairman