

Wisbech St Mary Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council held on Monday 13th April 2015 in Thorney Toll Village Hall.

Attended by: Councillors B Payne (Chairman), Cllr. B Britain (Vice-Chairman), C Allen, P Barnes, D Broker, P Davies, M Knight, B Reay, T Jennings, J Fish, District Councillor G Booth, Cambridgeshire County Councillor G Gillick. 2 members of the public were present.

OPEN FORUM – Parishioners are invited to address the Council. **None.**

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr T Fowler – has returned home from hospital.

2. TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES OF MEETING DATED March 16th 2015.

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

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (information only)

Item 5.2 Conifers planted in the highway verge believed to be associated with planning application F/YR14/0390/F. The Clerk had received a response from Fenland District Council (FDC) stating that as the conifers were outside the area covered by the planning application it was not possible for them to take action, and considered it a highways matter. The Clerk had copied the response to Cambridgeshire County Council highways, no response had been received to date. The Clerk was asked to remind highways and request a response.

CAB Outreach Sessions – A poster advertising the sessions had been received from CAB. The Guyhirn venue cannot be confirmed until the meeting of 23 April 2015 to discuss management arrangements and hence the future of the Village Hall.

4. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on this agenda.

Item 8. (j) Cllr B Payne.

5. TO CONSIDER PLANNING MATTERS

1. Planning applications determined by Fenland District Council.

(a) F/YR15/0094/F Erection of an agricultural building. Land East Of New Bungalow Hooks Drove Murrow. **Withdrawn**

(b) F/YR15/0117/F Change of use from agricultural land to form extension to car park involving the erection of a 2.0m high chain link fence and the relocation of the existing agricultural access. Play 2 Day Old Station Yard Gull Road Guyhirn **Pending Consideration**

(c) F/YR15/0014/F Erection of 3-storey 2-bed dwelling with integral garage and conversion of barn to domestic workshop at Barn South West Of Trefields New Drove Wisbech St Mary. **Withdrawn.**

(d) F/YR15/0139/F Erection of 2-storey 4-bed dwelling with integral double garage and detached triple garage/workshop/store. Land East Of Corner Barn Mouth Lane Guyhirn. **Pending Consideration**

(e) F/YR14/0938/PNCOU Appeal Under Section 78 Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling (Class MB (a)). Barn at land North West of Wayland Farm Bevis Lane Wisbech St Mary. **Refused**

(f) F/YR15/0148/F Erection of a single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling. The Gables Gull Road Guyhirn. **Granted**

2. Planning applications for discussion:

(a) F/YR15/0175/O Erection of a dwelling. Plot 1 Land South Of French Cottage High Road Tholomas Drove.

Applicant Mr R Cunningham. Agent Mr H Chapman. Vote: 8 For, 1 Against. **Recommend Approval.**

(b) F/YR15/0168/F Erection of single-storey 2-bed dwelling at Land West Of Moat Field High Road Wisbech St Mary. Revised Proposals.

Applicant Mr L Loveridge. Agent Mr C Walford. **Recommend Approval.**

(c) F/YR15/0189/F Erection of 4 x 2-storey 4-bed dwellings with integral garages involving demolition of existing polytunnels and outbuildings. Land South East Of Sunflower House Gull Road Guyhirn. Applicant Mr D Bagg and Mr A Bagg. Agent Mr C Rudd.

Recommend Approval.

(d) F/YR15/0191/O Erection of a dwelling. Land North East Of 144 Back Road, Murrow.

Applicant Mrs E Sattin. Agent Mr Ken Elener. Vote: 8 For, 1 Against. **Recommend Approval.**

(e) F/YR15/0094/F Erection of an agricultural building at Land East Of New Bungalow Hooks Drove Murrow. Revised Proposals. **Previous comments stand.**

(f) F/YR15/0198/PNCOU Change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling (Class MB(a)). Barn At Land North West Of Wayland Farm Bevis Lane Wisbech St Mary.

Applicant Mr B Ghimire. **No decision – lack of information.**

(g) F/YR14/0846/F Appeal under Section 78 Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Change of use of land to form a single gypsy and traveller pitch with associated sleeping shed (retrospective). Land West Of Ponderosa Farm Garden Lane Wisbech St Mary.

Previous comments stand.

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

(a) FDC Notice of Election. **Noted.** The Chairman congratulated those who had been elected unopposed.

(b) FDC Adoption of Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). **Noted**

(c) CAPALC Training Courses 2015. **Noted**

(d) Sayers Crescent. The Chairman explained the situation in that there was great concern regarding the appearance of some properties. He was aware that the Housing Association had planned to visit the properties but was not aware if this had taken place. Cllr Broker explained that there had been a change of staff at the Housing association and records lost so that the monitoring process had had to be restarted. He was not aware that there had been any contact from Cambridge Housing Association. The Police had been involved. Cllr Knight stated that the Housing Association had a responsibility to clear the rubbish away and keep the site in a respectable condition. Cllr G Booth added that the issue had already been reported to the Safer Fenland Team. The Clerk was asked to write to the Housing Association expressing the Councils concern and requesting a solution to the problem, with a copy to FDC.

(e) FDC Member Services recruitment of Independent Person. **Noted**

7. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Highways and street lighting matters.

(a) Meeting 12 February 2015 with Amanda Hill, Local Highway Officer, Cambridgeshire County Council.

The Clerk confirmed that he had thanked Amanda Hill for attending the meeting and for the repairs that she had arranged. The Clerk was asked to contact Amanda and request action to those defects that had not been attended to, in particular the safety issue at Gull Drove due to overgrowing vegetation.

(b) Bellamy Bridge meeting. This project was now with the Highway Engineers to develop options. Highways and streetlight reports from Councillors on problems causing *immediate concerns*.

(c) Highways

Tholomas Drove loop road – concern that the verge was badly churned up.

Cllr Fish – A47 Guyhirn roundabout – surface was deteriorating badly with loose material causing a skid hazard.

Cllr Allen – T junction at Guyhirn breaking up with numerous potholes 60mm deep.

B Britain – noted new larger signs at the A47 Left Turn Only. Subsidence at The Gull due to main sewer trench settlement.

D Broker – Cants Drove highway issues – The development has permission and operations are in accordance with the approval.

Cllr Knight enquired if there had been any progress in resolving the surface water flooding at Wisbech St Mary bungalows. Cllr Britain replied that he had reported back to North Level IDB and it was with the Engineer to write to the owners to ascertain their response before taking the matter to the Board, possibly in June.

- Plash Drove trees dead branches in danger of falling. The Chairman commented that this had been an issue since 2007 and was considered a significant threat. Highways had been advised but no action had resulted as yet.

Cllr Jennings – issues as previously raised and reported to CCC Highways.

Cllr Barnes - issues as previously raised and reported to CCC Highways.

(d) Streetlights.

Cllr Fish reported that Balfour Beatty had visited Thorney Toll to clean and repair 21 lights.

Cllr Barnes – street light at the Pigeons not working and no number.

8. FINANCE MATTERS

(a) To receive the final budgetary control report for 2014/15. The Clerk confirmed that the anomaly reported in October had been identified as an un-presented cheque from 2013/14 and the figures adjusted accordingly. The 2014/15 balance recorded was £ 144,851.01. **Noted**

(b) To receive a budgetary control report for 2015/16 to date. The Balance recorded was £174,280.03. **Noted**

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for all the work he had put in in preparing the accounts.

(c) Corporate Governance Questionnaire (CGQ) for signature by the Chairman. The Chairman drew attention to the contents of the CGQ as circulated and recommended that accounts be initialled by a councillor or all councillors at least once during the year. **All agreed and the Chairman signed the CGQ.**

(d) Approval of the 2014/15 Accounts as they stand prior to internal Audit. **Agreed**

To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

(e) Clerk March salary £558.40 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed**

(f) Tax and NI £151.67 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed**

(g) Clerk postage and office consumables £75.49 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed**

(h) C&PALC Chairmanship Training £35.00 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed**

(i) C&PALC Membership fee 2015-16 £551.22 LG Act 1972 S143

Councillors debated whether value for money was achieved, on balance the benefits were considered clear. **Agreed**

(j) Village Voices £200.00 LG Act 1972 S112

Cllr Allen proposed the item, seconded by Cllr Britain. **Agreed**

Grant application

(k) Murrow Book Café.

£1000 grant proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Fish. **Agreed**

(l) Magpas The Emergency Medical Charity.

£250 proposed by Cllr Barnes, seconded by Cllr Davies. **Agreed**

9. PARISH PROPERTY

(a) Parish Notice Boards. Cllr. B Britain said the cabinet maker had commenced work and they were likely to start being erected within a month.

(b) Bus Shelter Maintenance. The Chairman reported that S Bowles had been cleaning shelters. It was clear that some of the shelters required additional cleansing visits.

Cllr Broker said that costings were not yet available for the steel design option.

Cllr Knight commented that the existing shelters were poor and not fit for purpose. He would like to see improvements with new shelters with seat/perch.

10. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Broker: FDC had adopted the Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document having given consideration to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). They had decided not to adopt CIL but to keep the section 106 process. Cllr Booth had made the point at FDC that the document was not clear in that some sections were vague. If CIL was adopted the Parish Council would get 25% of CIL funding if a Neighbourhood Plan was in place, 15% it was not.

Cllr Booth:

- Cambridgeshire Community Volunteer Service were promoting opportunities for funding with Heritage Lottery Fund in attendance. The Chairman added that Cambridgeshire ACRE were also promoting help within the community. Cllr Booth said that ACRE has Leader II funding so any organisation looking for funding should get in touch.
- Wryde Croft Wind Farm funding, £55k per year, would not be available until operational at the end of the year. They are likely to invite a representative of the Parish Council to attend a meeting in due course.

Cllr Gillick: had met with various officers at CCC and had been told that the Cants Drove operation would be putting in place lay-bys to ease the passing issue and would fill potholes. He had also

discussed traffic management options for Murrow and Guyhirn with Emma Murden although funding would be an issue.

11. POLICE MATTERS

None received.

It was noted by the Chairman that 4 PCSO's had attended the school at Wisbech St Mary to tackle the parking problem.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)

(a) Cllr Knight complemented the Parson Drove litter pickers (Street Pride Group). He said that this had been impressive and should be considered. It had taken him 12 minutes to report a litter problem to FDC. Apparently 400 callers had abandoned calls which could not be good.

Cllr Britain noted that the service at the Pharmacy had improved Cllr Davies agreed adding that the monthly system seemed to be working well.

Cllr Davies complemented Cllrs Payne and Barnes for their long service and the sterling job they had done on behalf of the Parish – all joined in a round of applause.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Davies and added that Cllr Barnes had worked hard for the Parish for 47 years particularly on behalf of Murrow village and the Parish was indebted to him.

Cllr Allen asked for Guyhirn Football Club lease to be added to the agenda for May 2015. In order to draw down funding they need to demonstrate that they have a link term lease in place. (Believed to expire 2022).

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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

DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2015/2016

Provisional:

Monday 8 th June	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday 13 th July	Murrow Village Hall
Monday 10 th August	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 14 th September	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday 12 th October	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 9 th November	Murrow Village Hall
Monday 14 th December	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 11 th January 2016	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday 8 th February 2016	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 14 th March 2016	Murrow Village Hall
Monday 11 th April 2016	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 9 th May 2016	Parish Assembly/Annual Meeting: Wisbech St Mary Community Centre

Meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Signed: Cllr. B Payne, Chairman