

Wisbech St Mary Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council held on Monday 13th July 2015 at 7pm in Murrow Village Hall.

Attended by: Councillors B Britain (Chairman), M Knight (Vice-Chairman), C Allen, D Broker, P Davies, J Fish, J Humphrey, T Jennings, B Reay, D Scrimshaw (from 7.10pm), District Councillor G Booth, 8 members of the public were present.

The Chairman welcomed new councillors to their first Parish Council meeting.

OPEN FORUM – Parishioners are invited to address the Council.

Mr Gareth Edwards explained that a planning application for 4 Houses at Gull Road Guyhirn (F/YR15/0189/F) had been approved and that Fenland District Council (FDC) had now raised the question of community benefit. He went on to explain that FDC had issued a draft Interim Guidance Note on how Flood Risk Issues will be considered. More guidance was expected from FDC but it is not known when. Mr Edwards explained that the client had already agreed to fund the upgrade of the footway fronting the site and provide a new fire hydrant, and he now needed to identify what may be required in terms of community benefit.

Mrs Julia Barnes raised the poor condition of Seadyke Road that was breaking up and, east of the traveller site, slipping into the dyke. More houses and more traffic had made an already bad situation even worse.

Mr Terrance Rogers, Chairman of Murrow Village Hall, referred to their application for a grant for roof repairs and asked for clarification of the Parish Councils response which had not been received.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr. J Newland and District Councillor S Bligh.

2. REGISTER OF MEMBER INTERESTS.

The Clerk reported that one was awaited from Cllr Newland who had said that it would be posted to the Clerk this week.

3. TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES OF MEETINGS DATED 8th June 2015 and 22nd June 2015.

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) The Middle Pit and Tholomas Drove Wash Pit Charity. The Clerk reported that he had completed accounts for 2013/14 as circulated to members by email and made the Annual Return to the Charity Commission. He referred to minutes from 2005 that reported the sale of Tholomas Drove Pit and the proceeds received. There remained the question of what those funds could be used for and had contacted C&PALC for guidance. The Clerk will report further as the situation is clarified.

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

Items 6.2 (d) Cllr Broker, Items 6.2 (c) and 6.3 Cllr Humphrey.

6. TO CONSIDER PLANNING MATTERS

1. Planning applications determined by Fenland District Council.

(a) 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 at play To Day Old Station Yard Gull Road Guyhirn. Revised proposals.

Granted

(b) F/YR15/0369/F Erection of a 2-storey rear extension to The Ferns involving demolition of existing single-storey to rear and removal of chimneys to both The Ferns and Highbury. The Ferns and Highbury High Road Wisbech St Mary. **Granted**

(c) F/YR15/0398/F Siting of 2no containers for storage at existing dwelling (retrospective). D2 Dun Movin Churchfield Way Wisbech St Mary. **Granted**

2. Planning applications for discussion:

(a) F/YR15/0846/F Appeal Hearing 15 July 2015. Change of use of land to form a single gypsy and traveller pitch with associated sleeping shed (retrospective) at Land West Of Ponderosa Farm Garden Lane Wisbech St Mary.

Appeal Reference APP/D0515/W/15/3006758. **Noted**

(b) F/YR15/0492/F Erection of 2no agricultural sheds. Redgate Farm Fen Road Guyhirn.

Applicant Mr J Willis. Agent Morton & Hall Ltd. **Recommend Approval**

(c) F/YR15/0502/O Erection of 50 dwellings. Land North Of Orchard House High Road Wisbech St Mary. Applicant Mr M Grange. Agent Mr R Briscoe. Councillors debated the flood risk issues and whether infrastructure was in place to support the development. Cllr Jennings proposed that the application be refused due to the flood risk issues, seconded by Cllr Broker. The motion was carried. **Recommend Refusal due to the flood risk issues**

Cllr Humphrey left the room for this item.

(d) F/YR14/0980/F Revised Proposals. Erection of a single-storey extension to existing Community Centre at Wisbech St Mary Sports and Community Centre Limited Playing Field Beechings Close Wisbech St Mary. **Noted**

Cllr Broker left the room for this item.

3. Residential development for 4no dwellings off Gull Road, Guyhirn. Letter from Peter Humphrey

Associates Ltd. The Clerk read the letter. Councillors debated potential community benefit and concluded that facilities that could be supported are: 2no bus shelters at A47 Guyhirn, refurbishment of the existing bus shelters in Guyhirn, speed limit reduction on Gull Road.

Cllr Humphrey left the room for this item.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

(a) North Level District Internal Drainage Board. Cllrs Davies and Fish accept the invitation.

(b) Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) – Rights of Way Grass Cutting **Noted**

The clerk was asked to contact the Highways Agency and request that the roundabout at Guyhirn be cut. Also to request CCC to cut the top of the river bank at Guyhirn as vegetation is still high and difficult to walk on following the first cut.

8. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

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

(a) Highways.

(b) Streetlights.

The Chairman explained that reporting is now direct by councillors on line and requested the Clerk to circulate contact details as we now have new councillors.

Following debate it was proposed by Cllr Allen, seconded by Cllr Davies that request permission from CCC to cut the grass adjacent to the Chequers PH at Tholomas Drove, between Plash Drove and High Road. **Agreed**

It was agreed to obtain quotations from S Bowles and D Rowell in advance of gaining permission in order to minimise any delay.

(c) Street Pride.

The Clerk reported that Rebecca Robinett (FDC Street Pride) will attend the next meeting.

9. FINANCE MATTERS

(a) To receive a budgetary control report for 2015/16 to date. **Noted**

(b) Internal Audit Report 2014/15 and reappointment of internal auditors. **Noted**

(c) Barclays Treasury Deposit. The Clerk explained that £100k was the minimum that could be invested. **Councillors agreed that this should be invested for a further year.**

To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

(d) Clerk June salary	£575.32 LG Act 1972 S112 Agreed
(e) Tax and NI	£159.13 LG Act 1972 S112 Agreed
(f) Clerk postage and office consumables	£133.82 LG Act 1972 S112 Agreed
(g) K Clarke Supply of additional Notice Board	£559.40 LG Act 1972 S111 Agreed
(h) Auditing Solutions Ltd internal audit	£270.00 Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996 Agreed

(i) Murrow Bowles Club base for shed	£170.40
Part of grant approved 18 May item 9j	Agreed

(j) Bowles Tree & Garden Services 31/2 days maintenance to end May.

Grant application

(k) Wisbech St Mary Sports and Community Centre, 2014/15

maintenance and groundwork of the playing field £3,878 LG Mis Prov 1976 S196

The Clerk circulated details of the accounts. Following debate it was proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Fish that a grant of £2500 be made. An amendment was proposed by Cllr Humphrey, seconded by Cllr Allen that the full amount be granted. The amendment was carried by 7 votes to 3.

(l) East Anglia's Children's Hospices. Caring for and supporting children with life threatening illnesses and their families.

Following debate it was proposed by Cllr Fish, seconded by Cllr Knight that a grant of £250 be made.

Agreed

(m) Cambridgeshire County Council Youth Support Service – Murrow Youth Club.

Following debate it was proposed by Cllr Allen, seconded by Cllr Scrimshaw that a grant of £1000 be made. An amendment was proposed by Cllr Rea, seconded by Cllr Humphrey that a grant of £750 be made. The motion to grant £1000 was carried by 6 votes to 3.

10. PARISH PROPERTY

(a) Parish Notice Boards: (i) 'In Memorium' Mrs C Jobson.

It was agreed that plaques should be provided 'In Memorium - In grateful remembrance of Mrs Carolyn Jobson Parish Clerk 1999 – 2014'

(ii) Quotations for maintenance.

K Clarke has offered to maintain the notice boards and provided a quotation £141.00 per year. This appears to be a good price and is likely to be a good quality service as he made them. An alternative quotation/s will be sought.

(b) Bus Shelter maintenance

Cllr Knight proposed that 2no shelters should be provided at A47 Guyhirn (1 on the inbound route, 1 outbound) and that others should receive maintenance. The Clerk was requested to contact Highways Agency to ascertain the possibilities and procedure.

(c) Defibrillator

Cllr Broker agreed to progress this item and report back.

Cllr Davies raised the issue of vandalism at the book bank at Guyhirn resulting in books/paper being thrown over the adjacent area creating an eyesore. The Clerk was asked to contact FDC and request removal.

11. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Booth reported that FDC had allocated £174,000 to be divided between the Parishes for Category 2 street lighting replacements. As Category 1 are being progressed this year costs will not come through until next financial year.

Bellamy Bridge – vehicle count has been completed and design options being formulated.

Cllr Rea had raised the issue of the effectiveness of FDC telephone call back system – there clearly were problems.

Cllr Booth reported that North Level District IDB proposed to send letters to residents inviting a contribution to their proposed solution to the drainage problem and would ask the Parish Council to reconsider making a contribution.

12. POLICE MATTERS

None received. The Clerk continues to include the police on the circulation list for agendas.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)

(a) The Chairman raised the issue of the condition of the Churchyard at Guyhirn – B Payne was invited to comment, he replied that he had arranged for the area to be tidied up.

(b) The footway o/s Sheraton House, Guyhirn had been reduced to single file pedestrian traffic by the hedge which had been cut but needs further trimming.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 10th August Thorney Toll Village Hall

DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2015/2016

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 9.50 pm

Signed: Cllr. B Britain, Chairman