

Wisbech St Mary Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council held on Monday 13th June 2016 at 7pm in Guyhirn Village Hall.

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

Fenland District Council (FDC) Councillor G Booth.

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) Councillor G Gillick – part of meeting only.

Members of the public 3.

OPEN FORUM

Mr Gareth Edwards raised the issues of village thresholds and community benefit. He explained that Guyhirn, Murrow had exceeded the threshold and Wisbech St Mary soon would such that an applicant must demonstrate community benefit if a future application is to be approved. Community benefit must be sustainable and outweigh flood risk. Such benefits must be spent in the same hamlet as the application is made. Relevant applications are 0194/F, 0074/F and 0298/F for which planning officers must agree community benefit. Mr Edwards suggested £1000 per plot contribution for discussion.

Cllr Booth added that Fenland District Council (FDC) is considering the community gain issue.

It was proposed by Cllr Allen seconded by Cllr Humphrey that community gain of £1000 per plot be accepted. **Agreed**

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr M Knight (Vice Chairman), D Broker, P Davies.

2. TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS dated 9th May 2016

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

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (information only)

It was noted that Nick Harding would be attending the Parish Council meeting 11 July 2016.

4. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on this agenda

Cllr Fish declared an interest in item 9q as he is on the Committee of Thorney Toll Village Hall.

5. TO CONSIDER PLANNING MATTERS

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

(a) F/YR16/0245/F Erection of a porch to front of existing dwelling. 38 Station Drive Wisbech St Mary. **Granted**

2. Planning applications for discussion:

(a) F/YR16/0298/F Erection of 1 x 4-bed and 1 x 5-bed 2-storey dwellings. Land South East of Corner Barn Mouth Lane Guyhirn.

Applicant Mr & Mrs N King. Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd. **Recommend Approval**

(b) F/YR16/0284/O Erection of 2 dwellings (Outline application with all matters reserved). Land South and West of 12 High Road Guyhirn.

Applicant Mr R Shoebridge. Agent Mr H Chapman. **Recommend Approval**

(c) F/YR16/0300/O Erection of a dwelling (outline with all matters reserved). Land South of 14 Garden Lane Wisbech St Mary.

Applicant Mr Anthony Bullion. Agent n/a.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Wheeler seconded by Cllr Newland to recommend refusal due to insufficient access, unsafe access and overdevelopment.

Recommend Refusal Agreed unanimously.

(d) F/YR16/0311/F Erection of a 2-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 Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd. **Recommend Approval**

Cllr Gillick arrived.

3. Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd – Proposed 2 dwellings rear of J Wilson & Son, High Road, Wisbech

St Mary – Public Consultation prior to submission of a planning application.
Following discussion, it was agreed to make no comment at this stage. **Agreed unanimously.**

4. Neighbourhood Strategy. Review of infrastructure requirements.
The Clerk read the list of improvements previously provided to FDC. **Noted**

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (a) Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner **Noted**
- (b) The Local Government Boundary Commission for England **Noted**
- (c) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils – councillor training **Noted**
Councillors reported that it was difficult to attend day time training sessions.

7. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

(a) Pigeons Corner/Back Road Murrow – Local Highway Improvement 2016/17. The Chairman reported that he had met with Matt Pickering CCC Highways. The proposals included road markings, signage, no road realignment, chevrons and chicane markings and potential double yellow lines if supported by residents. The project was programmed for this financial year.

The Chairman explained that Adam Cobb was no longer working at Bellamy Bridge and had moved on to other projects. It was noted that there were proposals to join up Market Town Transport Strategies consequently there may be another opportunity for additional work at Bellamy Bridge.

(b) Highways – reports from Councillors on problems causing *immediate* concerns
The Chairman reported that Police, CCC and FDC enforcement officers had been involved with the issue of a fence at Gull Drove. As it is over 1m high planning permission is required and an FDC enforcement officer has contacted the owner. Other investigations are continuing.

(c) Street Pride

Interest has been expressed by two people. It was suggested they be invited to attend a future meeting. **Agreed**

(d) Local Highway Improvement projects 2017/18

CCC have invited representatives to discuss projects with their Local Projects Team on 20 July 2016. Following discussion Cllr Humphrey raised the issue of excess speed through Wisbech St Mary. It was agreed to suggest a 30mph speed limit from Station Road near Delamores through Wisbech St Mary to The Bridge Inn and Sandbank throughout the built up area. Cllr Booth and Cllr Wheeler will attend.

8. STREET LIGHTING

(a) FPC 11 High Road Guyhirn – revised estimate £1068

Further discussion took place regarding the high cost of replacing an outreach bracket and lantern. Cllr Wheeler commented that it may be cost effective in the long term to abandon the existing unit and install a new column which was not that much more expensive. The Clerk was asked to obtain a quotation for removing the old pole mounted unit and replacing with a new column/lantern.

(b) Future provision and maintenance

The Clerk circulated a summary of Parish Council lighting stock now totalling 149 units as one had been removed during a CCC improvement at Murrow. The summary detailed the 8 units that had been categorised by Balfour Beatty as Fair and Cat2 meaning that in their opinion they needed to be replaced within three years of inspection, the units were later inspected by SKANSKA which reported that none were in need of replacement, minor defects could be repaired followed by inspection every 6 years. He concluded that the Parish Council has a Risk Management Strategy in place consisting of inspections, night scouting, reporting of defects and repair and replacement of damaged units all procured through FDC. The issue that needed to be resolved was those categorised by Balfour Beatty as Cat2.

Discussions considered a further meeting with other Parish Councils in a similar position. Cllr Booth added that the FDC lighting tendering process should be completed within 3-4 months and that Balfour Beatty were continuing with maintenance. It was agreed to await the results of the new tendering process.

9. FINANCE MATTERS

(a) To receive a budgetary control report for 2016/17 to date.

The Clerk circulated the Report and drew attention to the Bank Reconciliation. He advised that Internal Audit recommended that this be verified by a councillor and signed. This was completed by the Chairman.

(b) Barclays Treasury Deposit - deferred to next meeting to obtain latest interest rates.

(c) Internal Audit Report to 31 March 2016 and reappointment of internal auditors
The Clerk presented the Report, referred to improvements recommended and to the Action Plan and progress made to date. The Report was noted and reappointment of Auditing Solutions Ltd Agreed.

To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

(d) Clerk May salary	£693.09 LG Act 1972 S112	Agreed
(e) Tax and NI	£238.40 LG Act 1972 S112	Agreed
(f) Clerk postage and office consumables	£151.80 LG Act 1972 S112	Agreed
(g) Thorney Toll Village Hall – hire 26 April 2016	£40.00 LG Act 1972 S134	Agreed
The Clerk drew attention to (h) which was amended to £200.00		
(h) Bowles Tree & Garden Services –		
Invoice 388 work to planters	£200.00 LG Misc Prov 1976 S196	Agreed
(i) Bowles Tree & Garden Services –		
Invoice 389 remove graffiti	£600.00 LG Misc Prov 1976 S196	Agreed
(j) Bowles Tree & Garden Services –		
Invoice 390 annual maintenance	£580.00 LG Misc Prov 1976 S196	Agreed
(k) Bowles Tree & Garden Services –		
Invoice 391 replace shelter fascia	£230.00 LG Misc Prov 1976 S196	Agreed
(l) SR Signs – supply 2nr Deep Water signs	£84.00 LG Misc Prov 1976 S196	Agreed
(m) K Clarke – maintain war memorial	£100.00 War Memorials (LA Powers) Act 1923	Agreed
(n) Bowles Tree & Garden Services –		
Invoice 399 assist with planters	£1402.00 Highways Act 1980 S96	Agreed
(o) Guyhirn Village Hall hire 13 June 2016	£35.00 LG Act 1972 S134	Agreed
(p) Clerks & Councils Direct annual subs – 2 members	£ 16.00 LG Act 1972 S143	Agreed

Grant application

(q) Thorney Toll Village Hall – storage container LG Act 1972 S133
Cllr Fish left the room for this item. Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Humphrey seconded by Cllr Wheeler that 50% of the sum required be granted. Cllr Scrimshaw proposed £1000 seconded by Cllr Mann. **Agreed £1000** grant passed by 4 votes to 2.
Cllr Fish returned.

- (r) Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn PCC – WStM Parish Church Churchyard maintenance
LG Act 1972 S137 **£750 Agreed** unanimously
- (s) Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn PCC – Guyhirn Chapel of Ease Churchyard maintenance
LG Act 1972 S137 **£750 Agreed** unanimously
- (t) Wisbech St Mary Community Sports & Centre – grass cutting 2015/16 £4000.00
LG Misc Prov 1976 S196

Following discussion, it was agreed to receive one bid only per year. The full grant was proposed by Cllr Scrimshaw seconded by Cllr Wheeler. **Agreed** unanimously

10. PARISH PROPERTY

- (a) Annual inspection and updated Asset Register

The Clerk referred to the photographic record of assets updated following the annual inspections completed with the Chairman 26 May 2016. He referred to Internal Audit recommendations to compile a formal summary and circulated the Asset Register. **Noted**

Cllr Fish raised the issue of footpaths and ramp at Thorney Toll which was not on the Asset Register. Following discussion it was agreed unanimously that members were keen to maintain the appearance of the Parish to a good standard and would therefore continue to maintain the footpath/ramp.

- (b) Asset Risk Assessment

The Clerk circulated the Assessment, explained the process and drew attention to the pond signs, new notice boards and Cat1 lighting renewals that had been completed since last year. **Noted**

- (c) Bus Shelters

The Clerk referred to an estimate from CCC for £1800 to provide footway construction between the bus shelter base at Mouth Lane and the carriageway, approx.. 3m x 1m. All agreed the estimate was excessive.

It was noted that Cllr Broker was progressing proposals for new bus shelter/s.

- (d) Defibrillators

The Chairman reported that Ken Thomas had agreed to a defibrillator being fixed to their building provided it was fixed professionally. **Noted**

Cllr Gillick left.

11. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Booth reported:

- (a) A guidance note on community engagement was being prepared.
- (b) Policies for Taxis was being prepared.
- (c) Selective licensing for landlords in Wisbech was proposed.
- (d) Devolution – FDC would discuss at a meeting 1 July.
- (e) Boundary Commission New Draft Recommendations – this moves Murrow into Roman Bank and consequently splits the Parish. It was agreed that the Clerk would object to the proposal.
- (f) Murrow Village Hall – future uncertain due to a lack of support.
- (g) Highways meeting 20 July – Cllr Booth and Cllr Wheeler will attend.

12. POLICE MATTERS

No updates received.

Cllr Fish reported that the Neighbourhood Watch scheme may be abandoned due to lack of support from the Police and public.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)

- (a) Missing signing at Pigeons corner has been raised by Cllr Booth.
- (b) The Chairman reported a very successful and interesting day at Wisbech St Mary school distributing the medals commemorating the 90th birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth II. The Clerk was asked to explore the possibility of holding Parish Council meetings in local schools.
- (c) Cllr Wheeler reported that he understood that Matthew Bradbury may be leaving.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11th July 2016 Murrow Village Hall

DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2016/2017

Monday 1 st August 2016	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 12 th September 2016	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 10 th October 2016	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday 14 th November 2016	Murrow Village Hall
Monday 12 th December 2016	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 16 th January 2017	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 13 th February 2017	Guyhirn Village Hall

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Signed: Cllr. B Britain, Chairman