

# Wisbech St Mary Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7pm in Wisbech St Mary Community Centre.**

Attended by: Councillors B Britain (Chairman), M Knight (Vice-Chairman), C Allen, P Davies, J Fish, D Scrimshaw.

Fenland District Council (FDC) Councillor G Booth. Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) Councillor G Gillick.

4 members of the public were present.

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

(a) Mr Brian Payne explained that Wisbech St Mary Parish Church were considering contributing a defibrillator to Wisbech St Mary. He said that defibrillators included instructions on use and were straight forward. Arrangements could be put in place so the key code could be accessed from the emergency services. This could mean that the Parish Council defibrillator could be installed at Guyhirn thereby increasing the area of the Parish in which one was available. The Chairman thanked Mr Payne for the kind offer and said it would be taken into account.

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Broker in the process of moving house, Cllr Reay as a result of illness, Cllr Humphrey on holiday, Cllr Newland due to work commitments.

## 2. TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS dated 11<sup>th</sup> January 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)

The Clerk referred to a complaint received regarding accumulations of rubbish deposited in a garden at Sayers Crescent. The complainant had requested that he contact Cambridge Housing Society Ltd which he had done formally requesting action. He had received a positive response and it remained to be seen whether any action would result.

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

None

## 5. TO CONSIDER PLANNING MATTERS

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

(a) F/YR15/1077/F Erection of an agricultural building and formation of a hardstanding. Land East Of New Bungalow Hooks Drove Murrow. **Granted**

(b) F/YR15/1083/TRTPO Fell 1no Sycamore, 2no Lime, 1no Holly and 2no Acacia and works to 2no Sycamore, 4no Holly, 2no Beech and 2no Yews covered by TPO 07/1978. The Old Vicarage Barton Road Wisbech. **Granted**

(c) F/YR15/1089/F Variation of Condition 14 of Planning Permission F/YR13/0361/O and Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission F/YR14/0448/RM (imposition of a condition listing approved plans) to enable amendments: Remove pitch roof above landing window and kitchen door to SE elevation; amendments to front door and patio door to rear, garage doors and windows to NE, NW and SE elevations; addition of porch to front elevation. Hawthorne Lodge 90 Murrow Bank Murrow. **Pending Decision**

(d) F/YR15/1093/CERTLU Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing): Use of the dwelling under Class C3b. **FDC website states 'Certificate of lawful use may be granted'**

(e) F/YR15/1108/F Erection of a 2-storey, 4-bed dwelling with integral garage. Plot 3 Land North Of 15 to 17 Selwyn Cottages High Road Guyhirn. **Pending Decision**

(f) F/YR15/1109/F Erection of 4 x 2-storey 4-bed dwellings with double garages and paddock facilities including stable blocks. Land North Of 19 To 29 Chapel Avenue Wisbech St Mary. **Pending Consideration**

(g) F/YR15/1077/F Erection of an agricultural building and formation of a hardstanding at Land East Of New Bungalow Hooks Drove Murrow.

Revised Proposals. **As (a) above.**

### 2. Planning applications for discussion:

(a) F/YR15/1132/F Erection of a 2-storey 5-bed dwelling with detached double garage/store with study/store over. Plot 2 Land North Of Meadow View Gull Road Guyhirn.

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

(b) F/YR16/0012/F Erection of a 2-storey 3-bed dwelling with garage. Land West Of The Lodge Mouth Lane Guyhirn.

Applicant J, R, and M Embling. Agent Mr Russell Swann. **Recommend Approval**

(c) F/YR16/0026/F Erection of a 2-storey 5-bed dwelling with detached garage with store above involving demolition of existing dwelling and the formation of a new access. Hazeldene Gull Road Guyhirn.

Applicant Mr M Aylott. Agent Mr Chris Walford. **Recommend Approval**

(d) F/YR15/1061/F Erection of a 2-storey 4-bed dwelling at Land North West of The Bridge Inn Public House Sandbank Wisbech St Mary. Withdrawn. **Noted**

(e) The Clerk read an email from the Agent regarding F/YR15/0901/O requesting comments as part of a Pre-Submission Community Consultation. The application had previously been recommended for approval when considered 9 November 2015. It was proposed that the Clerk respond that the Council would recommend approval providing there were no changes from the original formal submission. **Agreed**

With reference to the Pre-Submission Community Consultation process there was discussion as to what the process was and which villages now exceed the 10% threshold for an increase in the number of dwellings. The Clerk was asked to contact FDC for clarification of the procedure for villages within the Parish and to establish what legal status 'informal comments' have.

### **3. Neighbourhood Strategy.** Review of infrastructure requirements

The Clerk referred to the list of desirable improvements compiled January 2015. The Chairman invited suggestions for any further improvements considered necessary:

- (a) Footway part completed from Bunkers Hill to The Bridge Inn could be completed.
- (b) Extend High Road footway from the Village sign around the corner to Station Road.
- (c) Gull Road, Guyhirn – Cllr Booth added there had been some requests to reduce the speed limit to 30mph.

The Clerk was asked to advise FDC accordingly.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- (a) Fenland District Council (FDC) - Equalities Policy. **Noted**

## **7. HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

- (a) Street Lighting

- (i) Doddington Parish Council - Street Lighting meeting 29 January 2016.

Cllr Britain explained that Cllr King FDC Portfolio Holder for Rural Affairs had listened to the concerns of the Parish Councils and would respond to the questions put to him. He explained differences between the way Balfour Beatty worked and the way Skanska worked. Where Skanska inspect lighting units and pass them as satisfactory they take responsibility for them for the next six years. Cllr Britain added that it may not be permissible to install brackets on poles as had been common practice as overhead cables may be replaced with underground and the poles removed. Cllr Booth added that the timescale for this was uncertain and may be many years as poles may remain even where cables are moved underground. He added that the FDC street lighting maintenance contract was due for review this year.

Cllr Britain concluded that clearly Parish Councils were unhappy with the service received and proposed by Balfour Beatty. Cllr Davies asked if there was a timescale for a response – Cllr Britain replied that Cllr King would need to report to Cabinet so it could be around 2 months.

- (b) Street Pride.

Cllr Knight explained that two people had expressed an interest and the local school. He is exploring the possibility of a 'Clean for the Queen' project to kick-start the initiative. Other projects could be sign cleansing, bus shelter cleansing and planting on some verges where plants/planters could be placed.

Cllr Fish added that CCC authority would be required for sign cleansing. The Clerk was asked to contact CCC.

## **8. REVIEW OF RURAL CAMBS CITIZENS ADVICE (RCCA)**

The Clerk referred to the email from RCCA which he had circulate. Following discussion it was agreed to publicise RCCA services in the notice boards and to monitor interest and review. Brian Payne added that RCCA services were already advertised in Village Voices.

## 9. FINANCE MATTERS

(a) To receive a budgetary control report for the year 2015/16 to date.

The Clerk drew attention to the cheque for allotment rental that had been returned by Barclays and to the replacement cheque and to the cheque from Zurich Municipal being the balance of the damaged notice board less the excess. **Noted**

(b) To receive the allotment account statement for 2015/16. **Noted**

(c) Internal Audit arrangements. 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016. **Noted**

### To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

(d) Clerk January salary	£674.12 LG Act 1972 S112 <b>Agreed</b>
(e) Tax and NI	£225.86 LG Act 1972 S112 <b>Agreed</b>
(f) Archant advert for maintenance	£159.36 LG Act 1972 S112 <b>Agreed</b>
(g) Citizens Advice Rural Cambs outreach session	£78.70 LG Act 1972 S137 <b>Agreed</b>
(h) Cambs ACRE membership	£54.00 LG Act 1972 S143 <b>Agreed</b>
(i) K Clarke repair notice board	£68.45 LG Act 1972 S111 <b>Agreed</b>

**Grant application** Nil

## 10. WEB SITE

The Clerk reported that Cllr Newland had made further progress which would be added to over the next few weeks.

## 11. PARISH PROPERTY

(a) Maintenance Quotations 2016/17

The Clerk reported that five suppliers had expressed an interest and three had returned quotations which had been opened by the Chairman and Clerk. The Clerk circulated a summary of the quotations received. It was proposed that the lowest figures be accepted for each of the five quotations and the work ordered. **Agreed**

Discussion followed as to the best way to ensure the quality required and make payment. It was agreed that this would be discussed with the successful suppliers.

(b) Bus Shelters

Any ad hoc work that became necessary during the year could be ordered consistent with quotation rates or would be subject to separate quotations.

Cllr Davies suggested that the broken window at High Road Guyhirn should not be replaced due to the high risk of further vandalism and consequent risk to passengers and the situation reviewed at a later date. **Agreed**

(c) Defibrillator

Deferred to the next meeting. The offer by Wisbech St Mary Parish Church was agreed in principal. Brian Payne added that doctors would be happy to talk to anyone involved.

Cllr Booth added that an application to fund defibrillators in Guyhirn and Thorney Toll could be made to the Wyde Croft wind farm community panel which was due to meet April/May.

## 12. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Booth reported the FDC Members Seminar on savings – car park charging had been abandoned, they were looking at alternative ways to manage leisure centres, there may be some cuts to grants, charging for brown bins may be introduced and the New Horizons bus may be cut.

Cllr Gillick circulated the CCC Fenland Works programme 2016 – 2019. He explained that it had been decided to retain school crossing patrols and to turn street lights off at 2am rather than midnight. CCC proposed to link up with other authorities to achieve economies of scale but would also build in the opportunity to work with smaller suppliers who could deliver the service locally. The next Infrastructure meeting would be in March.

Cllr Davies asked Cllr Gillick whether he had been able to progress a solution to problems at Gull Road. Cllr Gillick said that he had met with the officer concerned and supplied a map and photographs and would be meeting with him again next week.

## 13. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk had circulated the Police Forums schedule.

The Chairman reported that one man had been arrested for breaking and entering in the Wisbech St Mary/Bunkers Hill area. B Payne added that he had met with PCSO's who were aware of issues and

responding. PCSO's will add a section in Village Voices. It was understood that PCSO Sue Clarks would be returning soon.

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

Cllr Knight had reported blocked gullies twice but no action resulted – it was agreed that he would now submit a complaint.

Cllr Fish expressed dissatisfaction with the planning inspectorate decision to refuse the appeal that would have enabled redevelopment of The Black Hart site. He said that it was difficult to see how it could be converted back to a going concern as it would require significant investment.

The Chairman questioned whether the Pond at Guyhirn required an additional fence at the top of the bank surrounding the pond as a safety measure. Cllr Davies added that RoSPA inspected the Murrow Pond and subsequently 'Deep Water' warning signs and LifeRings had been installed although the LifeRings had repeatedly been taken. It was agreed to add this as an item for the next agenda.

Cllr Knight reported that the Cambs 876 Remembered service had been very well attended including by Richard Barnwell DL.

#### **15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016                      Murrow Village Hall

#### **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2015/2016**

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2016	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2016	Parish Assembly/Annual Meeting: Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2016	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2016	Murrow Village Hall
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> August 2016	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2016	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2016	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2016	Murrow Village Hall
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2016	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2017	Murrow Village Hall
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Parish Assembly/Annual Meeting: Wisbech St Mary Community Centre

Meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Signed: Cllr. B Britain, Chairman