

# Wisbech St Mary Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 7pm in Murrow Village Hall.

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

District Councillor G Booth. 7 members of the public was present.

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) Engineer Adam Cobb.

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

Nil

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr. Broker.

The Chairman reminded members that it is preferable to give a reason for absence so that it can be approved or otherwise. Cllr Booth added that this is to do with the 'six month' rule (relating to persistent absence) such that a member will automatically cease to be a councillor if a member fails throughout six consecutive months to attend any meetings unless the absence is approved.

### 2. BELLAMY BRIDGE LOCAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) – Adam Cobb (AC). The Chairman welcomed Adam to the meeting and invited him to present options for improvement of the Bellamy's Bridge junction.

AC explained that he had researched accident data and traffic flows which were relatively busy at approximately 5000 vehicles per day. The traffic flows were distributed at approx. 40% from Wisbech and 20% on each of the other three legs of the crossroads i.e. the junction has a split priority. One option was to remodel the junction to a conventional crossroads and realign the road to improve forward visibility. One potential issue could be with signing to make the new arrangement clear to drivers as the through route would be going from a B Class route to a C Class route (currently the B Class to B Class is the through route). AC circulated a plan of the re-prioritisation and explained that it would include works that would increase visibility and make the arrangement clearer for the driver as it would become a conventional crossroads. AC went on to explain Option 2 which retains the current priority and reinforces it with coloured surfacing and new lines. Visibility would be improved by removing roadside vegetation and some signs. The options were discussed in detail with all councillors in favour of option 1, and stressed the need for the arrangement to be well signed and clear. Cllr Knight suggested rumble strips on the approaches to reinforce the signage AC agreed to consider the possibility and to respond. AC concluded that the option would now go to safety audit with the aim of completing the scheme by mid-March 2016. The Chairman thanked AC for attending the meeting and explaining the options.

### 3. TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES OF MEETINGS DATED 12<sup>th</sup> October 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 Clerk referred to an amended draft agreement received from Fraser Dawbarns that included the changes to clauses 3 and 4 stipulated by the Council at the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015. **Noted**

(b) The Clerk confirmed that CCC had been supplied with details of the community gritting volunteers which had been acknowledged and distributed Community Gritting Scheme packs to the new volunteers.

(c) The Clerk confirmed that the Local Highway Improvement scheme bid for 2016/17 at Pigeons corner/Back Road Murrow had been submitted and acknowledged.

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

(a) Cllr Knight declared a personal interest in item 5.3 in that his sister in law is employed by Peter Humphrey Associates.

(b) Cllr Humphrey declared a personal interest in item 5.3 as he is related to Peter Humphrey.

(c) Cllr Fish declared a personal interest in item 9(m).

### 6. TO CONSIDER PLANNING MATTERS

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

(a) F/YR15/0795/F Erection of an entrance canopy and insertion of a door to front of existing building. Play 2 Day Old Station Yard Gull Road Guyhirn. **Granted**

(b) F/YR15/0834/F Erection of 2no balconies and installation of French doors to first floor and bi-fold doors to lounge to rear elevation of existing dwelling. Barnac House 37 Front Road Murrow. **Granted**

(c) F/YR15/0841/F Installation of external wall insulation to existing dwelling. Fengate Cottage Galls Drove Wisbech St Mary. **Refused**

(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 Ltd. Playing Field Beechings Close Wisbech St Mary. **Pending Consideration**

## 2. Planning applications for discussion:

(a) F/YR15/0872/F Conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation to existing dwelling (retrospective). Beechings House Station Road Wisbech St Mary.

Applicant Mrs & Mr C Tolly. Agent R Boor. **Noted as Granted**

(b) F/YR15/0901/O Erection of a single-storey 2-bed dwelling involving the formation of a new access (Outline application with matters committed in respect of access, layout and scale). Land South Of Gull View Gull Road Guyhirn.

Applicant Mr J Cooke. Agent Mrs A Patrick. **Recommend Approval**

(c) F/YR15/0932/PNC04 Change of use of agricultural building to 3 x single storey 5-bed dwellings (Class Q (b)) at Barn At Land North West Of Wayland Farm Bevis Lane Wisbech St Mary.

Applicant Mrs B Ghimire. Agent n/a. **Recommend Refusal**

(d) F/YR15/0944/RM Reserved Matters application relating to the detailed matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to outline permission (F/YR13/0517/O) for the erection of 4 x 2-storey 4-bed dwellings with garages and 2.1 metre high (max) brick walls. Land North Of Violet Cottage Gull Road Guyhirn.

Applicant Mrs B Ghimire. Agent n/a. **Recommend Approval**

(e) F/YR14/0828/F Appeal. Erection of 6no 2-storey dwellings comprising of 3 x 3-bed and 3 x 2-bed involving demolition of existing Public House. Black Hart Public House Wisbech Road Thorney Toll.

Appeal Reference APP/D0515/W/15/3135445 **Noted**

3. Peter Humphrey Associates – Proposed residential development rear of JS Holmes Ltd. High Road, Wisbech St Mary. **Noted**

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

(a) Fenland District Council (FDC) – Planning Training for Councillors. The Clerk to notify FDC that Cllrs Britain, Humphrey and Scrimshaw will attend.

(b) Wryde Croft Wind Farm email. The Clerk reported that a Wryde Croft panel meeting was being arranged and that Cllr Fish has received an invitation and responded. **Noted**

(c) CCC – Budget proposals 2016/17 consultation. The Clerk had circulated details to members and the notice had been posted on notice boards. **Noted**

## 8. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

(a) Street Pride.

Cllr Knight explained that there had been two enquiries and that there was a possibility of progressing a group in the New Year.

## 9. FINANCE MATTERS

(a) Financial Regulations.

(b) Standing Orders.

The Clerk distributed copies of updated Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to all councillors and recommended that they review them.

### To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

(c) Clerk October salary

£575.32 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed**

(d) Tax and NI

£159.13 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed**

(e) Fen Regis Trophies supply of plaques

£90.00 LG Act 1972 S111 **Agreed**

(f) Bowles Tree & Garden Services, maintenance Aug – Oct, grass cutting and gate post repair.

£1715.00 LGMis Prov 1976 S196

Councillors discussed the invoice in detail and were concerned that there was insufficient detail to substantiate it. The Clerk was requested to write requesting more detail as to what was done, where and how many hours were claimed for.

(g) Citizens Advice Rural Cambs Outreach Session Guyhirn	£78.70 LG Act 1972 S137 <b>Agreed</b>
(h) K Clarke remove, repair and refit notice board	£284.40 LG Act 1972 S111 <b>Agreed</b>
(i) Guyhirn Church of England Primary School Grant	£2,500 <b>Noted</b>
(j) Murrow Pre-School Grant	£500 <b>Noted</b>

#### **Grant application**

(k) The Bobby Scheme. The Clerk explained that a representative had been invited to attend but was unable to. Further information had been supplied but not specific to the Parish. The bid was not supported.

(l) East Anglian Air Ambulance £440. Councillors supported the idea and requested the Clerk to reply suggesting that EAAA liaise with local schools to arrange training sessions. A revised bid would then be considered.

(m) Thorney Toll Village Hall c. £1500. The Clerk read the bid that had been received that would enable improvements to be made that may enable a preschool to make use of the facilities. The Chairman invited Cllr Fish to provide further detail. Councillors were supportive of the idea that made better use of facilities but were concerned that there was no certainty of success. Cllr Allen proposed the bid be supported, seconded by Cllr Davies. 9 councillors voted in favour. Cllr Fish took no part in discussions or voting having declared an interest. Following discussions it was agreed that a revised bid would be submitted to the next meeting.

(n) Murrow Playing Field Association £2500 Approved unanimously. **Agreed**

#### **10. WEB SITE**

Cllr Newland reported that the web site was progressing well and would discuss uploading documents and pictures with the Clerk following the meeting.

#### **11. PARISH PROPERTY**

##### **(a) Bus Shelters**

Cllr Knight explained the background and locations considered; 2 in Guyhirn and possibly 2 others totalling 4 at £2800 = £11,200. Cllr Broker has offered to obtain plans from CCC to ascertain highway/property boundaries. It was suggested that an additional shelter at Thorney Toll would be an advantage. All were in favour of improving bus shelter facilities.

##### **(b) Defibrillator**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

#### **12. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Booth reported:

- a. Councillor allowances – It has been recommended to freeze or cut some allowances.
- b. Management of street lighting assets – Balfour Beatty have said that Category 2 units should be replaced within 3 years –Cllr Booth has researched TR22 and queried this timescale with Cllr S King who agrees that there is no timescale in the document. Further discussions will be required and we await the results of the Skanska survey of a specimen number of parish council lighting units.
- c. There has been a good response, 6000, to the FDC spending review consultation. A briefing on the results is expected next week.
- d. Local Highway Initiative bid – Cllr Booth offered to present the bid for Pigeons/Back Road. **Agreed**
- e. Planning Training Session 26 November 2015 – CAPALC session first at 6.30pm. Venue: Fenland Hall County Road March.
- f. Speedwatch Murrow – the possibilities are being explored for Front Road and Murrow Bank. Some volunteers have come forward and a police training day is planned.
- g. Waste bins at bus shelters – Cllr Booth will ascertain costs from FDC.

Cllr Knight raised the issue of the lantern at High Road Wisbech St Mary that has not been replaced although Balfour Beatty removed it when it became a danger. The Clerk will forward details to Cllr Booth who agreed to investigate.

Cllr Davies raised the issue of recycling banks at High Road Guyhirn that frequently overflow with recycling items left in bags on the ground. The Clerk to report this to FDC and request frequent emptying.

It was noted that the bin at the Gull opposite Tall Trees needed emptying and seemed to be frequently missed. The Clerk will ask FDC to ensure that it is on the schedule and that it is emptied more often.

### **13. POLICE MATTERS**

No report. The Clerk reported that he had requested a PCSO to attend but that the PCSO had been moved to other duties. The Clerk had again emailed the police but had not received a response.

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

The Clerk circulated a Budgetary Control Report and would provide an undated version for the next meeting in preparation for discussing the Budget 2016/17.

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

Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015      Thorney Toll Village Hall

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

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2016	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2016	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Murrow Village Hall
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

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Signed: Cllr. B Britain, Chairman