

MINUTES OF WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Monday, 4th March 2013 at Murrow Village Hall

PRESENT

B Payne Chairman	C Allen	P Barnes	B Britain	P Davies	J Fish	T Fowler
	T Jennings	B Reay	G Booth (District Councillor)			

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were agreed and accepted from M Clarke and J Tuck.

OPEN FORUM – There were no member of the public wishing to address the Council.

33. **TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING dated 4th February 2013.**
The minutes of the 7th January 2013 were signed as a true record.

34. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES** (information only)

- Mr Payne advised the meeting that he had received a thank you letter from Jo Philpott for allowing her to address the Parish Council.
- Mr Fowler stated that the salt bin had been delivered to Tholomas Drove.
- Mr Fowler stated that it had been agreed that he employ a contractor to jet the drainage pipe from the pond in order that the water level be kept at a safe level. At the moment he had felt it unwise to carry out this work as a neighbouring householder to the pond had built a garage adjacent to the pond over the path the pipe may take. It was agreed that he try and contact the builder in order to ensure that the pipe was not damaged.

35. **MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST** for items on the agenda.

Mr P Barnes declared a personal interest on item 37a.

Mr J Fish declared a personal interest on item 41 (3b).

Mr P Davies declared a personal interest on item 43a.

Mr T Fowler declared a personal interest on item 43a.

Mr C Allen declared a personal interest on item 42a.

36. **POLICE MATTERS**

- (a) A written report regarding crimes or incidents in the parish were received from PC D Russ. This report contained 2 incidents of theft in Guyhirn and 16 other crimes and incidents including poaching, suspicious circumstance and criminal damage. It was reported that there had been a number of oil thefts from domestic heating tanks. The speed watch report for February/March was as follows:-
- High Road, Guyhirn 50 vehicles 3 exceeding the speed limit on the 01/03/13
 - Murrow Bank, Murrow 34 vehicles 0 exceeding the speed limit on the 15/02/13
 - Murrow Bank, Murrow 36 vehicles 3 exceeding the speed limit on the 01/03/13
 - Station Road, Wisbech St Mary 40 vehicles 2 exceeding the speed limit on the 28/02/13.
- The clerk was requested to report to the Police of the double parking outside the school at the beginning and the end of the school day.

37. **TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

1. F/YR12/1000/F erection of a first floor extension with balcony to existing dwelling at Corner Barn, Mouth Lane, Guyhirn. APPLICATION WITHDRAWN. **Noted.**

List of planning applications determined by the Fenland District Council.

List of planning applications for discussion.

- (a) F/YR13/0085/F erection of a single-storey side and rear extension to existing building involving the replacement of existing front door with a window Peter Barnes Funeral Directors 38 Murrow Bank, Murrow. Agent D broker. Applicant Mr P Barnes. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (b) F/YR13/0048/F erection of 3 x 2 storey 4 bed dwelling with detached car port (Plot 1) attached car ports (Plots 2 and 3) land East of Two ways, High Road, Bunkers Hill. Applicant Mr and Mrs A White. Agent Mr David Broker. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (c) F/YR13/0057/F display of a non-illuminated free standing sing (3 sided) R Delamore Limited, Station Road, Wisbech St Mary. Applicant Mr P Murray. Agent Mr R Briscoe. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (d) F/YR13/0066/F erection of a shed to rear garden of existing dwelling (retrospective) Penley House, 188 Front Road, Murrow. Applicant Mr L Willis. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (e) F/YR13/0095/RM erection of 2 x 2 storey 3 bed dwellings with associated parking involving the formation of a shared access land west of 60 Back Road, Murrow. Applicant Mrs M Barnes. Agent Mr Ken Elener. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (f) F/YR13/0120/F erection of a 2 storey 3 bed dwelling land north of 97 Front Road, Fronting Back Road, Murrow. Applicant N Proctor, R Proctor and E Thory. Agent Mr R Swann. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (g) F/YR13/0135/F erection of a first-floor extension to existing dwelling Corner Barn, Mouth Lane, Guyhirn. Applicant Mr and Mrs N King. Agent Mr R Swann. **We support this development and recommend**

approval.

Mr Paul Sharman of the North Level Internal Drainage Board has stated that all the houses over the drain in Back Road, Murrow have been piped. There only worry was two or three stagnant parts.

38. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (a) Rural Wisbech West Children's Centre confirming that the play area in Murrow can be used by the School and Pre School. **Noted.**
- (b) CAPALC Bulletin November 2012 and January 2013. **Noted.**

39 HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS

- (a) Jill Tuck requesting some streetlights being removed – some de-illuminations. Church Road, Mowbray Close and School Close, Wisbech St Mary. **After discussions it was unanimously agreed that there was no problem in this respect but they would like more clarification as to why this was happening.**
- (b) CCC Highways regarding items passed from the Parish Council meeting on the 4th February 2013. **Noted.**
- (c) Acknowledgement from Highways Agency regarding road surface on the A47 reported from the Parish Council meeting on the 4th February 2013. **Noted.**

Highways reports from Councillors on problems

- 1. Murrow Bank subsidence from Murrow to Guyhirn.
- 2. Footpath adjacent to Firtree Lodge, High Road, Guyhirn needs resurfacing.
- 3. Large pot hole Pidgeons Corner, Murrow.
- 4. Numerous pot holes Seadyke, Murrow.
- 5. Guyhirn roundabout suggested that they keep it cut and not let it get overgrown as last summer.
- 6. Gull Drove, Guyhirn and Follies Drove, Guyhirn numerous pot holes cannot now get access with a car.
- 7. Highway side of the old pit Gull Drove opposite caravan park brambles growing onto the road.
- 8. Mill Road, Murrow new building contractions lorries parked on the corner and cannot see to get onto the main road.
- 9. Waste bins on the pavement at The Old Police House and Glebelands High Road, Guyhirn.
- 10. Hedges overgrown onto the pavement at Sheridan House, High Road, Guyhirn.
- 11. School tree overgrown and obscuring streetlight.

Highways reports from Councillors on streetlights

- 1. Station Road, Murrow streetlight. Westcotec quotation £529.94 plus VAT. **Agreed to go ahead.**
- 2. High Road, Guyhirn Quotation from Balfour Beatty. **Quotation £2078.56. This was damaged by a road accident and will be covered by their insurance.**
- 3. Mill Road, Murrow quotation from Balfour Beatty. **Quotation received £1081.11 and it was agreed to go ahead.**

40. FINANCE

- (a) To receive a budgetary control report for the 2012/13 year to date. The balance recorded was £148323.19.
- (b) Internal Audit date 21st April 2013 by Auditing Solutions Limited. **Noted.**

To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

- (c) Clerk March salary £533.33 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed.**
- (d) Tax & NI £157.78 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed.**
- (e) Postage £65.60 LG Act 1972 S143 **Agreed.**
- (f) Virus Protection for computer £39.00 LG Act 1972 S143 **Agreed.**
- (g) Cambs Acre Membership £30.00 LG Act 1972 S143 **Agreed.**
- (h) FDC streetlight Back Road, Murrow £1241.21 LG Act 1972 S133 **Agreed. The clerk advised the meeting that she had passed this payment to our Insurance Company for reimbursement.**

To approve payment of grants

- (i) Murrow Playing Field £3000.00 LG Act 1972 S137 **Agreed.**
- (j) Murrow Children's Centre £2000.00 LG Act 1972 S137 **In view of their confirmation that this equipment can be used by the School and Play Group this was agreed (see 38a)**
- (k) Murrow Methodist Church Council £1600.00 LG Act 1972 S137 **Agreed.**
- (l) Wisbech St Mary Play Group £700.00 LG Act 1972 S137 **Agreed.**

41. DISCUSSION REGARDING EXCESS FUNDS AND HOW THEY COULD BE SPENT IN THE PARISH.

List of items from the meeting on the 13th August 2012.

- 1. New changing rooms on the Guyhirn Playing Field for the football club.
- 2. New Village hall on the Playing Field at Guyhirn.
- 3. Subsidence to the Thorney Toll Village Hall and funds required to have this repaired, together with refurbishment of the toilet block.
 - a. Letter from FDC stating that the £10,000 match funding will not now be enough.

b. Letter from Thorney Toll requesting the match funding to be increased to £12,500. **After further quotations in respect of more work that had to be undertaken it was agreed to increase the match fund to £12,500.**

4. New Village hall for Murrow.
5. New Village hall between Murrow and Guyhirn to be shared by both communities.

At this point of the meeting the Chairman advised the meeting that the AGM of the Guyhirn Village Hall had been held and even after their best efforts there was no one who agreed to continue on the committee. This meeting was therefore postponed until the 14th March to enable the village and residents an opportunity to come up with a package to save the hall from closure.

6. Grants given to each of the three schools for educational supplies.
7. Refurbishment of Murrow Village Hall. **The original letter had been received on the 24th November with no exact figures and details of the project. Further correspondence was received by the clerk on the 1st March stating that no reply had been received. It was agreed that the clerk writes to the Murrow Village Hall Management Committee stating that before we are able to agreed any grant details of the project and quotations will be required.**

42. **PARISH PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT MATTERS**

Parish Property Maintenance and Risk Assessment reports from Councillors

1. Fence to be erected at the Chapel of Ease to allow access to the Play area at Guyhirn. **Mr Payne advised the meeting that this scheme has now gone to statutory consultation and if there are no objections we will be able to move this project forward.**
2. Guyhirn Bus Shelters at Selwyn Corner. **No contact has been received from Matt Ludlow.**
3. Wisbech St Mary Village sign. **This is in the process of being painted.**
4. Guyhirn War Memorial: proposal to move it to the entrance of Parish Council land in High Road. **Details of this proposal has been placed in the Village Voices requesting residents for their views. Mr Payne advised the meeting that it is understood that the Guyhirn Church has been sold, the war memorial plot has not been included in the sale.**
5. Consideration to employing a self employed handyman for the parish – job description. **The meeting was advised that three quotations have been received for this work. It was agreed that Mr Payne and Mr Fowler look at these quotations on behalf of the Parish Council and report back at the next meeting.**

At this point of the meeting Mr Davies advised the meeting that FDC has increased the Rates for the changing rooms on the Playing Field from the £200 rebated amount to £2,500. It was agreed that the writes to FDC requesting them to review this.

43. **EXCEPTION SITES FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING.**

Discussion on sites for affordable housing.

- (a) Gull Road, Guyhirn
- (b) Station Avenue, Murrow

It had been agreed at the Parish Council meeting on the 4th February that we go ahead with both these sites. Swann Edwards and Karen Freya the Fenland District Council Housing Enabler had been advised of our decision. Both these plots of land would be available from October 2013. We will now have to have plans drawn up to ensure that both sites are viable.

44. **ALLOTMENTS**

1. Letter from Bowser Ollard & Bentley on behalf of Robert Scrimshaw's Estate advising that they will be happy to surrender the tenancy of the allotment land.
2. Details from CAPALC regarding allotments.
3. Mr Payne stated that he had received a letter from Maxey Grounds and Co stating that they have a client who would wish to either buy or rent this land should be become available.

After discussions it was agreed that the clerk writes a letter to Ollard and Bentley accepting the termination of the tenancy on the 5th April 2013 with no arrears to be paid. It was agreed that Mr Fowler contact Maxey Grounds and Co to go out to tender for this land to be rented.

45. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)**

The meeting raised some concern that they had only received one payment of £9.77 in respect of recycling credits.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

46. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, 8th April 2013 – Wisbech St Mary Community Centre**

47. **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2013/2014**

Monday 13th May 2013 – Thorney Toll Village Hall -Annual Assembly 7.00 pm

(Must take place between 1st March & 1st June)
followed by the Annual General Meeting (must take place in May)

Monday, 17 th June 2013	–	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday 15 th July 2013	–	Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 12 th August 2013	–	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday, 9 th September 2013	–	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 7 th October 2013	–	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday, 4 th November 2013	–	Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 2 nd December 2013	–	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 6 th January 2014	–	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre