

**MINUTES OF WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**held on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at Murrow Village Hall**

**PRESENT**

B Payne Chairman	C Allen	P Barnes	B Britain	D Broker	P Davies	J Fish
	T Fowler	T Jennings				
Visitors	G Gillick (County Councillor)					
Parishioners	J Barnes	T Rogers				

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from M Clarke, B Reay and G Booth.

The Chairman advised the meeting that he had received a verbal notification from Mr M Clarke of his resignation from the Parish Council, but this would not become official until the clerk had received this in writing. It was agreed that the Chairman writes a letter of thanks for his work whilst a Councillor.

**OPEN FORUM** - Members of the public are invited to address the Council.

- Mrs Barnes advised the meeting that April/May she had reported to CCC Highways that the 30 mph sign in Murrow Lane was missing. This is still the case and no action has been taken to replace this.
- Mr Payne thanked the meeting for his get well card.

**147. TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING dated 7<sup>th</sup> October 2013.**

The minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2013 were signed as a true record.

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

There were no matters arising.

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

Mr B Payne declared a personal interest on item 158 (1).

Mr P Davies declared a personal interest on item 158 (1).

**150. POLICE MATTERS**

A report was received from the Police for October outlining details of 4 crimes and 4 incidents. Included in the crimes were theft of cash left out for the milkman, theft of 20 wooden posts, bilking failing to pay for fuel and criminal damage by driving a vehicle over a grassed area at a front of a property. The four incidents were rowdy nuisances in Murrow by youths firing catapults, knocking on doors and throwing stones at passing vehicles.

It is understood that the Police are spending sometime at Wisbech St Mary and Murrow Schools.

**151 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

**List of planning applications determined by the Fenland District Council.**

**List of planning applications for discussion.**

- (a) F/YR13/0760/O erection of a dwelling land south east of 4 Mayfair Gardens, Wisbech St Mary. Applicant Mr I Ahmed. Agent Mr Christ Walford. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (b) F/YR13/07758/F erection of a 2 storey 4 bed dwelling involving demolition of existing dwelling and retention of existing double garage Greenacres, Long Drove, Murrow. Applicant Mr and Mrs P Tibbs. Agent Mr J Cooper. **We support this development and recommend approval.**

**152. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- (a) Notification of AGM CAPALC 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013 7.00 pm Histon & Impington Recreation Ground Pavillion, Impington, Cambridge. **Noted.**

**153. HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS**

- (a) Local farmer requesting help reporting to the Environment Agency sewerage draining into dyke from bungalows Front Road, Murrow adjacent to his land. **This matter had been verbally passed to the clerk and it was agreed that the farmer writes to the clerk with more information in order that she can contact the Environment Agency at Spalding.**
- (b) Local Highway Improvement Initiative 2014/15. **It was agreed that the clerk pass on this information to all Councillors in order that they can consider areas for improvement in each of the villages and hamlets.**
- (c) CCC regarding Rights of Way meetings. **Noted.**
- (d) Footpath in Front Road, Murrow which is overgrown and has large standing water puddles. **It was agreed that this information be passed onto CCC Highways.**  
**Highways reports from Councillors on problems**

Prior to the Councillors reporting on problems it was agreed that the clerk writes a letter to CCC Highways stating that we have not received any reply from them for several months, which the councillors find insulting and unacceptable. Included in the letter the clerk was requested to include items passed to them from the last four months meetings. It was agreed to send a copy of this letter to County Councillor G Gillick and all future correspondence sent to Highways.

1. Road signs need replacing in Front Road Murrow and Pidgeons Corner, Murrow.
2. Numerous pot holes in Mouth Lane, Guyhirn.
3. Murrow Bank, Murrow side of the road subsiding. The drop both sides of the road is now 8 inches.
4. Path near Fern Tree Lodge, High Road, Guyhirn needs resurfacing.
5. Pot hole near Ken Thomas Haulage on the A47.
6. T junction Gull Drove, Guyhirn road sign needs repairing.
7. Numerous pot holes in Rummers Lane, Wisbech St Mary.
8. Footpath High Road, Guyhirn in need of repair and trees overgrown. There is only a footpath one side of the road and when walking on the road you have your back to the traffic.
9. Gull Bank, Guyhirn subsidence.
10. Sefton, Front Road, Murrow tree obscuring the streetlight.
11. Drain near The Chequers, High Road, Tholomas Drove subsiding.
12. Large pot hole in the A47 outside Ken Thomas Haulage.
13. Road sign near the Turf Fen Bridge Travellers Site Murrow missing.
14. Sheridan House, High Road, Guyhirn overgrown trees obscuring the footpath.
15. Station Road, Wisbech St Mary street name and speed sign missing.
16. Station Road, Wisbech St Mary seeing an increase in lorries due to the fact that the trees in Sand Bank, Wisbech St Mary are growing across the road.
17. White House, Station Road, Wisbech St Mary a 2 metre long pot hole.
18. Hooks Drove, Murrow a large pot hole across the road. This is due to the fact that the conifer trees are covering the whole of the road. This is the second bungalow on the left leading into Hooks Drove from Long Drove.
19. Salt bins in Tholomas Drove need filling.

#### **Highways reports from Councillors on streetlights**

- (a) Fenland District Council quotation on replacement streetlights Murrow Bank, Murrow £1116.64
  - (b) Fenland District Council quotation on replacement streetlights Sandbank, Wisbech St Mary £1410.26.
- Clerk to contact Fenland District Council to find out the reason for the replacement of the above two streetlights.**

#### **154. REVIEW OF CLERK'S SALARY**

The Chairman had met with the clerk and no concerns were expressed about the administration of the council. Councillors unanimously expressed their support and appreciation of the work of their Clerk, particularly in the stewardship of the council's finances. It was agreed that there would be no alteration to the clerk's salary at this time.

#### **155. ALLOTMENT RENTS 2015**

Review of the Allotment Rents – After a discussion it was agreed to increase the rents by 10% in 2015. Notification of this increase will be sent with the Invoices for rents in October 2014. The land recently rented will not be reviewed until 2016 as the rent has been set for three years from 2013.

#### **156. BUDGET FOR 2014/15 FOR PRECEPT**

The Budget comparisons are as follows:-

Budget Set 2013/14

Budget Set for 2014/14

Administration	£16,682.00	Administration	£16,682.00
Cs Exp	£520.00	Cs Exp	£520.00
Grants	£18,200.00	Grants	£25,000.00
Capital Ex	£1,000.00	Capital Ex	£1000.00
137 Provision	£3,640.00	137 Provision	£3640.00
Maintenance	£2,600.00	Maintenance	£5000.00
Streetlights	£1,040.00	Streetlights	£4000.00
Allotment exp	£50.00	Allotment Exp	£50.00

Total amount of Budget set £55892.00, but it was agreed to keep the Precept at £43732.00 the same level since 2008/2009 and to cover any increase in the Budget from the carry forward from 2013/14.

#### **157. FINANCE**

- (a) To receive a budgetary control report for the 2013/14 year to date. **The balance recorded was £147371.43.**

#### **To approve payment of outstanding accounts:**

- (b) Clerk November salary £600.00 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed.**
- (c) Tax & NI £150.00 LG Act 1972 S112 **Agreed.**

- (d) Hire of Guyhirn Village Hall 17.06.13 & 07.10.13  
(e) Archer re Aluminium Speed signs

£60.00 LGAct 1972 S134 **Agreed.**  
£126.66LG(Mis Prov)1953 S4**Agreed**

**To approve payment of grants**

- (f) Grant for Murrow Art Group £500.00LGAct 1972 S137 **Agreed.**  
(g) Victim Support £0.00LGAct1972 S137 **Declined request as there are no figures available as to how many parishioners have been helped.**  
(h) Murrow Pre School £500.00LGAct 1972 S137**Agreed.**  
(i) Murrow Youth Club £1000.00LGAct 1972 S137 **Agreed.**

**The Club had requested a grant of a minimum of £2572.68 running costs for 22 weeks. £1000.00 was agreed with the proviso that they could request a further grant later on in this financial year.**

**158. 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. Notification from Fraser Dawbarns of the completion of the purchase of land from the Ely Diocesan Board of Finance. **Mr Davies stated that the work on the fence would be done after the completion of the work on the Pond.**
2. Guyhirn War Memorial: proposal to move it to the entrance of Parish Council land in High Road. Diocese of Ely advising that we will need to obtain a Faculty for moving the memorial and one or more quotations that detail how the memorial is to be dismantled, moved and re-erected. **It was agreed that the next step before contacting the Diocese of Ely was to obtain planning permission from FDC Planning. It had been suggested that the memorial be sited in the Guyhirn churchyard, but this was not supported by the Vicar or the Parochial Church Council. It was agreed that the new site should be on the left hand side of the gate to the Guyhirn Playing Field, which after clearance of the site would have the Chapel of Ease as a backdrop. This was proposed by T Fowler, seconded by P Davies and proposal was carried by 6 votes with 3 abstentions. Mr D Broker agreed to complete the planning application form and submit it to FDC on the Councils behalf.**

**159. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CHURCHYARD AT THE CHAPEL OF EASE, GUYHIRN**

Discussion regarding the churchyard after visit from Canon Matthew Bradbury.

**It was agreed that the clerk writes to Canon Matthew Bradbury to support his proposals.**

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

- The clerk advised the meeting of the Funding fair to be held at Fenland Hall, March on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2013.
- The clerk advised the meeting of the survey regarding the impact of the Localising Council Tax Support to be completed by the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2013.
- A discussion took place in respect of the Agendas and Minutes being placed on the notice boards throughout the Parish in view of the comments made by members of the public at the last meeting stating that they could not find copies of these documents. It was confirmed by all concerned that this was not the case. There was some problems with the Murrow Notice Board and the clerk stated that she would contact Mr Bowles our maintenance contractor and have this matter resolved.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

**161. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 – Thorney Toll Village Hall**

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

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2014	–	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday, 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2014	-	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday, 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2014	-	Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	-	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2014	-	Guyhirn Village Hall – Annual Assembly & AGM
Monday, 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2014	-	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday, 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2014	-	Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2014	-	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday, 15 <sup>th</sup> September 2014	-	Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday, 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2014	-	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday, 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2014	-	Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2014	-	Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	-	Wisbech St Mary Community Centre

