

MINUTES OF WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING
held on Monday, 13th May 2013 at Thorney Toll Village Hall

PRESENT

B Payne Chairman	C Allen	D Broker	M Clarke	P Davies	J Fish
	T Fowler	T Jennings	B Reay		
G Booth (District Councillor)					
Parishioners	A Weldon				

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were agreed and accepted from P Barnes and B Britain.

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

Mrs A Weldon thanked the Parish Council for awarding the Thorney Toll Village Hall a grant of £12,500 towards the cost of disabled facilities. The meeting was advised that after considerable effort they have now received match funding from Fenland District Council. These facilities will allow the village hall to be hired to the Thorney School for the Disabled and the MS Society. The Chairman wished the Village Hall Committee well for the future and hoped that the building work went well.

64. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr Payne the current chairman advised the meeting that the Vice Chairman Mr B Britain felt that as he had only been in office for approximately seven months he was unable to take the position of Chairman at this time. After discussions it was proposed by T Fowler, seconded by P Davies and agreed unanimously that Mr B Payne continue as Chairman for a further year to enable Mr B Britain to become better prepared to take office at the next AGM. In view of this it was agreed to suspend our Standing Orders for this item. It was proposed by M Clarke, seconded by P Davies and agreed unanimously that Mr B Britain continue as Vice Chairman for a further twelve months.

65. TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING dated 8th April 2013

The minutes of the 8th April 2013 were signed as a true record.

66. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (information only)

The meeting was advised that the new streetlight in Station Road, Murrow is not working.

67. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on the agenda.

Mr D Broker declared a prejudicial interest on item 69c and left the room at the appropriate time.

Mr D Broker declared a personal interest on item 69j and took no part in discussions on this item.

Mr B Payne declared a personal interest on item 72h.

68. POLICE MATTERS

(a) Report regarding crimes or incidents in the parish.

A Report regarding crimes and incidents in the parish was received outlining thirteen crimes and five incidents including theft of motor vehicles, dwelling burglaries, shed burglaries, rowdy nuisance and criminal damage. Speed watch – Station Road, Wisbech St Mary 32 vehicles checked 3 vehicles exceeding the speed limit, Murrow Bank, Murrow opposite the school 30 vehicles checked 3 speeding and Chapelfield Road, Guyhirn 55 vehicles checked 3 speeding. It was noted that there had been a number of shed/out building burglaries, caravan thefts and farm machinery thefts over the past month in the area and across the Fenland area.

The new Horizon Outreach Vehicle formerly known as the CrimeBUSTER Bus will be in Wisbech St Mary 8.30 to 11.00 am on the 30th May 2013 and Murrow 11.00 to 1.00 pm on the 22nd May 2013. The meeting was advised that when the Outreach Vehicle had visited Thorney Toll there had been a very poor attendance by Fenland District Council officers.

(b) Reply from Police regarding Murrow Primary School double parking. They will visit as often as is possible.

Noted.

69. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

List of planning applications determined by the Fenland District Council.

List of planning applications for discussion.

- (a) F/YR13/0217/F removal of condition 14 of planning permission F/YR10/0631/F (erection of 10 x 3 bed semi-detached houses with associated garages, parking and vehicular accesses involving demolition of existing dwelling) in relation to the construction of footpaths land fronting Back Road and 49 Front Road, Murrow. Applicant Mr I Towler. Agent Mr C Walford. **We object to the removal of the condition 14 as we believe the construction of footpaths in Back Road and Front Road Murrow will only enhance the village scene.**
- (b) F/YR13/0228/FDC erection of 3 dwellings land north of 52 Chapelfield Road, Guyhirn. Applicant Mr T Watson. Agent Mrs T Adams. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (c) F/YR13/0233/F erection of a 4 bed 2 storey dwelling and detached triple garage with store over Willock

Farm, Willock Lane, Wisbech St Mary. Applicant Mr A N White. Agent Mr David Broker. **We support this development and recommend approval.**

AT THIS POINT MR B BRITAIN JOINED THE MEETING.

- (d) F/YR13/0120/F erection of a 2 storey 3 bed dwelling at land North of 97 Front Road, Fronting Back road, Murrow. REVISION RESITING OF HOUSE. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (e) F/YR13/0252/0 Residential Development (1.35ha) – 30 dwellings land north of 19 to 29 Chapel Avenue, Wisbech St Mary. Applicant Mr A Quince. Agent Mr R Briscoe. **We object to this development mainly due to access being a major problem. In the development there was a lack of 2 and 1 bedroom properties.**
- (f) F/YR13/0249/F erection of 2 storey 4 bed dwelling with detached garage involving the demolition of existing dwelling Redfern House, Cants Drove, Murrow. Applicant Mr J A Dale. Ant Mr A C Hornsby. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (g) F/YR13/0236/F erection of a 2 storey 4 bed dwelling with attached garage/car port land south of Old Vicarage, High Road, Guyhirn. Applicant Mrs Russell. Agent Mr M Hall. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (h) F/02002/13/CC erection of 3 by modular building mobile classroom until 31.08.19 Wisbech St Mary C of E Primary School, Church Road, Wisbech St Mary. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (i) F/YR13/0245/F erection of 4 x 2 storey 3 bed dwellings with parking land north of Alason Lodge, Fronting, Back Road, Murrow. Applicant Mr C Hopper. Agent Morton and Hall Consulting Limited. **A vote was taken and it was agreed to support this development and recommend approval by 5 votes to 3 votes with 2 abstentions.**
- (j) F/YR13/0256/F erection of 1 x 4 bed 2 storey dwelling with double integral garage and 2 x 4 bed 2 storey dwellings with single integral garage land south of Toll Farm, Wisbech Road, Thorney Toll. Applicant P & R Harrison. Agent Mr Darren Upton. **A vote was taken and it was agreed to support this development and recommend approval by 3 votes to 1 vote with 6 abstentions.**

70. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- (a) Councillor J Tuck advising that she will not be standing in the elections and thanked the Parish Council for their support. **The meeting thanked Councillor Tuck for her support. The clerk stated that she had written to Councillor Tuck stating that her help in County matters had been very much appreciated.**
- (b) Clerks & Councils Direct May 2013. **Noted.**
- (c) FDC recommendation from the Conduct Committee regarding the appropriateness of members of Town and Parish Councils considering appointments. **Noted. It was agreed that the Clerk distribute a copy to each Councillor.**
- (d) Cambridgeshire Community Services Keeping in Touch Issue 12 Spring 2013. **Noted, a copy was distributed to each Councillor.**
- (e) Clerk Magazine May 2013. **Noted.**

At this point of the meeting the Chairman advised Mr Britain of the decision taken in item 64 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman. He accepted the position of Vice Chairman for a further year with a view to taking over as Chairman when he had gained more experience.

71 **HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS**

- (a) Streetlights to be de-illuminated. **The Chairman advised the meeting that he had received a letter from Highways stating that Balfour Beatty will be commencing the de-illumination of streetlights in Wisbech St Mary in the next two to four weeks. This is a project funded by Central Government. Some streetlights will be replaced as close as possible to existing lights. There will be one replaced in Churchfield Way, one between Church Road and Mayfair Gardens. There is one being removed in Churchfield Way and one in School Close. There is also a light in Station Road and the junction of High Road being replaced and a new one at the Beeches Close junction.**
- (b) New Officer dealing with our area is Amanda Hill. **Noted.**
- (c) Copies of letters from Parson Drove Parish Council regarding Highways Issue in Back Road, Murrow. **Noted.**
- (d) Highways Agency regarding the pot holes on the A47. **A reply had been received from Highways Agency stating that the engineers carry out a week routine inspections and any defects classed as an emergency are repaired in 24 hours. They did not class any pot holes between Guyhirn and Thorney Toll as an emergency. It was agreed that the clerk writes again stating that the Parish Council consider the pot reported near Thomas Haulage is an emergency.**
- (e) CCC Grass Cutting Public Rights of Way. **Noted.**
- (f) Wisbech St Mary School request help regarding parking issues outside the school. **After a discussion it was agreed that the clerk writes to the new Chief Commissioner requesting that yellow lines outside schools becomes a priority.**
- (g) It was reported that vehicles are still turning right onto the A47 from the Gull Road slip road at Guyhirn. It had also been reported that an articulated lorry had gone right of the island. It had also been reported that a pedestrian crossing the road to the garage shop was standing on the island and was nearly taken off her

feet by two passing lorries. The clerk was requested to write to the Highways Agency requesting a crossing.

- (h) The Chairman advised the meeting that he had received two letters from residents of Gull Road, Guyhirn stating that damage is being caused to their properties due heavy goods vehicles. These vehicles are also causing damage to the pavements, side of the roads and drains and therefore these roads are unsuitable for these vehicles. It was agreed that the clerk acknowledges receipt of the two letters and writes to the CCC Highways sending them a copy of these letters.

Highways reports from Councillors on problems

1. Roundabout at Guyhirn needs cutting. The Thorney By pass roundabout is cut on a regular basis why not the one at Guyhirn.
2. Mouth Lane, Guyhirn needs resurfacing. Cars are being damaged.
3. Pot holes are reappearing in Gull Road, Guyhirn with the junction of the slip road to the A47.
4. Junction of Cants Drove, Guyhirn and Murrow Bank water hydrant has been uncovered.
5. Path outside Firtree Lodge, Guyhirn needs resurfacing.
6. FDC maintenance workers in white vans need more supervision as they are wasting time and money.
7. Trees need trimming throughout the Parish.
8. Drain covers are loose in Front Road, Murrow.
9. Traffic parked at Pidgeons corner is causing problems for pedestrians. Cars are having to go onto the pavement due to the parked cars and recently a child walking on the pavement was knocked down by a passing car's mirror.
10. Pot hold on the A47 near Thomas Haulage still needs to be repaired.
11. Parnell Road, Guyhirn is impassable due to the numerous pot holes and the centre of the road is higher than the sides. Some pot holes have been filled in but not the urgent ones.
12. It was requested that the flashing speed signs near the Guyhirn village Pond and the Selwyn Corner be removed. It is not acceptable to just turn them round as they continue to be turned facing the traffic.

Highways reports from Councillors on streetlights

1. High Road, Guyhirn **No further action.**
2. Mill Road, Murrow **Mr Clarke stated he cannot find where this streetlight should go and therefore, it was agreed to take no further actions.**

72. FINANCE

- (a) To receive a budgetary control report for the 2013/14 year to date. **The balance recorded was £144071.16.**
- (b) To approve Accounts and Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2013. **It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk sign the Annual Return.**
- (c) Internal Audit Report 2012/13 Action Plan. **The Action Plan was considered and it was agreed that the figure for formal tendering be reduced to £10,000 and that the clerk place £100,000 on a Treasury deposit. The clerk stated that the additional VAT identified had been reclaimed and the LCRS software purchased.**

At this point of the meeting the members thanked the clerk for all her hard work and were very pleased with the results of the Internal Audit.

To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

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| (d) Clerk May salary | £600.00LGAct 1972 S112 Agreed. |
| (e) Tax & NI | £150.00LGAct 1972 S112 Agreed. |
| (f) S Layton Wisbech St Mary Website | £200.00LGAct 1972 S112 Agreed |
| (g) Crowson and Ward Limited | £44.87LGAct 1972 S112 Agreed |
| (h) Village Voices | £200.00LGAct 1972 S112 Agreed |
| (i) Auditing Solutions Limited | £246.00 Accounts & Audit Regulations1996 S11996/590 Agreed. |
| (j) Westcotec supply and install light | £635.93 LGAct 1972 S133 Agreed. |

73. 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. New Village hall for Murrow.
4. New Village hall between Murrow and Guyhirn to be shared by both communities.
5. Grants given to each of the three schools for educational supplies.
6. Refurbishment of Murrow Village Hall.

No Further action and it was agreed to delete this item from the agenda until further requests were made with financial details to enable the Parish Council to make informed decisions.

74. 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. Letter from Fraser Dawbarns advising that they have received a letter from the Solicitors of the Ely Diocesan Board of Finance stating that they are still waiting for clarification that the Church Commissioners have been made to remove the legal effect of consecration from the land. A signed agreement had been received from the Diocese of Ely and we are now awaiting an Invoice. Once this is received we will be able to go ahead with erection of a fence and pathway.
2. Guyhirn Bus Shelters at Selwyn Corner – Updated Quotation from Matt Ludlow £2150 plus VAT. **Agreed.**
3. Wisbech St Mary Village sign. **The Parish Council are very pleased that the Wisbech St Mary Village sign is now back in place and it was agreed that the clerk writes to Mr Pooley thanking him for painting this on our behalf. There will be no payment for this work and Mr Pooley has completed this work as a gift to the village of Wisbech St Mary.**
4. Guyhirn War Memorial: proposal to move it to the entrance of Parish Council land in High Road. **We have had no response to the Questionnaire in the village voices and it was therefore agreed that the clerk contact the Diocese Ely in order that we can move this project forward.**
5. Work to be undertaken by the Maintenance contractor. **Mr Payne advised the meeting that he had been advised that some additional work needed to be undertaken to repair the bus shelter roof in Wisbech St Mary at a cost of £350.00 and to repair the seating in the bus shelter near The Wheel, Wisbech St Mary at a cost of £150.00. After considerable it was agreed that this work should go ahead and Mr Payne agreed to contact Mr Bowles. Mr Fish stated that the ramp in front of Linden Close, Thorney Toll as in need of attention.**
6. **It was agreed that the clerk request the installation of Dog Bins in Front Road, Murrow, Mill Road, Murrow and Pidgeons Corner, Murrow.**
7. **The Parish Council have been requested the installation of bus shelter in Gull Road. It was agreed that the local Councillors look at this site and report back to the next meeting.**
8. **The Parish Council have been requested to repair the village seat near the Wisbech St Mary Village sign and to install a dog bin.**

75. **EXCEPTION SITES FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING.**

Discussion on sites for affordable housing.

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

The clerk advised the meeting that she had received a copy of an email sent by Mr Gareth Edwards to Karen Freya the Housing Enabler for Fenland District Council stating that he was still awaiting contact from her. He had pointed out that the owners of these sites are chasing him and therefore, he required contact as a matter of urgency. It was agreed that the clerk writes to Karen Freya voicing concerns over the lack of response.

76. **ALLOTMENTS**

Letting of the Allotment 8.39 acres Thorney Road, Guyhirn.

The clerk advised the meeting that she had received a copy of the draft particulars from Maxey Grounds and Co regarding the tenancy of the 8.39 acres of arable land at Thorney Road, Guyhirn for signature. After consideration it was agreed that the clerk sign the approval on behalf of the Parish Council.

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

For information the arches in Rings End will not be removed. They are no longer for sale, but will be placed on the market in the future as storage space. They will not be listed as they do not have any architectural value.

All Councillors have been invited to the official opening of the Coffee shop at 11.30 am on Saturday, 25th May 2013

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

78. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, 17th June 2013 – Guyhirn Village Hall**

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

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

