

Wisbech St Mary Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council held on Monday 16th April 2018 at 7pm at Murrow Village Hall.

Attended by: Councillors B Britain (Chairman), D Wheeler (Vice-Chairman), C Allen, P Davies, J Fish, J Humphrey, S Mann, J Newland, D Scrimshaw.

Members of the public 2

Fenland District Councillor(FDC) and Parson Drove Parish Councillor G Booth.

FDC and Cambridgeshire County Councillor(CCC) S King from 7.05pm.

OPEN FORUM

Mrs Drinkwater of Cants Drove was aware that CCC had works planned but was not sure what. Mrs Drinkwater believed that work was planned to Cants Drove from the Bio Plant to Black Drove but it is the section from the Bio Plant to Gull Bank that is the problem as this is the section that has the majority of vehicle movements. On behalf of residents she asked the Parish Council to make CCC aware of this.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr A Patrick – work commitments and Cllr M Knight work commitments.

2. TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING dated 12th March 2018

The minutes were taken as read, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (information only)

(a) Fence at Seadyke – The Clerk read a response from North Level District IDB (NLDIDB). He read a response from CCC to the effect it was on private property and had replied that the highways concern was that the fence obstructs visibility on the approach to the corner. A response from FDC Planning was awaited. Cllr Humphrey commented that a similar situation at Wisbech St Mary had resulted in Planning Enforcement action and the fence was removed - a potentially inconsistent approach from FDC.

4. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on this agenda

Cllr Mann declared a pecuniary interest item 8(h).

Cllr Wheeler declared a pecuniary interest item 5.2 (a) and (e).

Cllr Fish declared a pecuniary interest item 8(k).

5. TO CONSIDER PLANNING MATTERS

1. Planning applications determined by the Fenland District Council (FDC).

November Meeting

(g) F/YR17/1015/F Erection of 2no 3-bed dwellings involving demolition of existing outbuildings at Land South of 14 Selwyn Cottages Guyhirn. **Pending Consideration**

December Meeting

(c) F/YR17/1077/O Erection of a dwelling (outline application with matters committed in respect of access) at Land East of Roans Devon Gull Drove Guyhirn. **Pending Consideration**

(g) F/YR17/1115/F Erection of 4 x 2-storey 4-bed dwellings with detached double garages at Land North Of Thornbury House High Road Guyhirn. **Pending Decision**

January Meeting

(d) F/YR17/1197/O Erection of up to 4no dwellings (outline application with all matters reserved). Land Rear of Sunset Station Road Wisbech St Mary. **Refused**

(j) F/YR17/1224/F Erection of up to 4no 2-storey dwellings comprising of 1 x 5-bed and 3 x 4-bed with garages. Land South East of The Chase Gull Road Guyhirn. **Refused**

(k) F/YR17/1215/F Erection of a warehousing/vehicle maintenance and historic vehicle showroom building, 2 x covered loading extensions to existing warehouse and a 14.635m high (max height) high bay warehouse building involving demolition of existing buildings and dwelling, and extension of car parking area involving change of use of adjoining agricultural land. Bretts Transport Ltd Thorney Road Guyhirn. **Pending Decision**

(l) F/YR17/1217/F Erection of 80 dwellings comprising of: 29 x 3-storey 4-bed, 27 x 2-storey 4-bed, 12 x 2-storey 3-bed dwellings and 2 x blocks of flats (4 x 1-bed and 8 x 2-bed) with associated garages, parking and landscaping involving the formation of a new access road. Land North of Orchard House, High Road Wisbech St Mary. **Pending Consideration**

February Meeting

(b) F/YR18/0065/O Erection of a dwelling (outline application with all matters reserved). Land South West of Brunlea Gull Road, Guyhirn. **Granted**

(c) F/YR18/0046/F Change of use of stables to commercial kennels involving a rear extension, raising the roof to form first floor and insertion of 2 x dormer windows. Land West of The Cottage Cants Drove, Murrow. **Pending Consideration**

(d) F/YR18/0083/F The siting of a mobile home and 2 x touring caravans, formation of hardstanding and the erection of a 1.8m high (max height) boundary fence (retrospective). Land North East of Orchard Cottage New Drove, Wisbech St Mary. **Pending Consideration**

(e) F/YR18/0086/F Erection of a 2-storey 3-bed dwelling and formation of a shared vehicular access to existing dwelling. Land North of 7 Selwyn Cottages High Road, Guyhirn. **Refused**

March Meeting

(a) F/YR18/0172/O Erection of up to 4 x dwellings involving the demolition of existing building (outline application with matters committed in respect of access). Pitt Farm Spencer Drove, Guyhirn. **Pending Consideration**

(b) F/YR18/0180/O Erection of a dwelling (outline with matters committed in respect of access). Land North of Leighwood Mouth Lane, Guyhirn. **Pending Consideration**

(c) F/YR18/0190/VOC Variation of Condition 10 to enable amendment to approved plans of planning application F/YR16/0719/F (Erection of a 2-storey 5-bed dwelling with detached double garage) to add additional access to site, alter layout and design of dwelling and garage. Plot 2 Land South East of Gore Villas Mill Road Murrow. **Pending Consideration**

(d) F/YR18/0199/F The siting of 2 x mobile homes for residential use (retrospective) in association with a small-holding. Land South and West of Four Winds Sandbank, Wisbech St Mary. **Pending Consideration**

(e) F/YR18/0208/F Erection of a part open-sided extension to existing agricultural building. Redgate Farm Fen Road, Guyhirn. **Pending Consideration**

(f) F/YR18/0216/F Erection of a 2-storey 4-bed dwelling and detached garage and car port, involving demolition of existing dwelling. Bishops Land Farm Black Drove, Murrow. **Pending Consideration**

2. Planning applications for discussion:

Having declared an interest in items (a) and (e) below Cllr Wheeler left the room.

(a) F/YR18/0249/CERTLU Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing): Application to seek confirmation of lawful B2 use. St Marys Auto High Road Wisbech St Mary.

Applicant Mrs A Payne. Agent nil. **Recommend Approval**

(e) F/YR18/0312/F Erection of a 2-storey rear extension to existing dwelling. Treboeth High Road Wisbech St Mary.

Applicant Mr & Mrs RA Payne. Agent Ken Elener Architectural Design. **Recommend Approval**

Cllr Wheeler returned.

(b) F/YR18/0280/F Erection of a single-storey front and side extension to existing dwelling. Kilhams Acre Willock Lane Wisbech St Mary.

Applicant Mr Wheeler. Agent Morton & Hall Consulting Ltd. **Recommend Approval**

(c) F/YR18/0292/F Erection of a 2-storey 4-bed detached dwelling and detached double garage. Land West of Bramble Corner Plash Drove Tholomas Drove.

Applicant Mr A Manning. Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd. **Recommend Approval**

(d) F/YR18/0309/F Erection of a single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling. Olive Cottage 7 Sandbank Wisbech St Mary.

Applicant Mr & Mrs Kinsey. Agent Ken Elener Architectural Design. **Recommend Approval**

Cllr Davies raised concerns that many applications, some going back to November had not yet been determined. Cllr Booth suggested many reasons why some applications took longer than others.

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED Nil

7. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

(a) Street Lighting – meeting 19 March 2018

The Chairman reported a very useful meeting with Electrical Testing Ltd attended by Cllrs Britain and Wheeler and the Clerk. The Clerk reported notes from the meeting. **Noted**

It was unanimously agreed that a new unit should be installed at High Road Wisbech St Mary.

It was noted that in the case of an emergency the emergency services respond including UK Power Networks if necessary to make safe damaged electrical supplies.

Cllr Fish reported that the unit knocked down at Lindens Close had not yet been replaced – Cllr King apologised for the delay and offered to investigate.

(b) Local Highway Improvement Initiative 2018/19

(i) Bellamys Bridge and High Road formal acceptance

The Clerk referred to the successful submission. It was proposed by Cllr Davies seconded by Cllr Scrimshaw that the offer be formally accepted. **Agreed unanimously.**

(ii) Bellamys Bridge - Lining Works Draft Design

The Clerk circulated the plan of proposals. Following discussion it was agreed that additional features to influence a reduction in vehicle speeds such as lines across the roads were required on the Sandbank, Seadyke and Leverington Common approaches to the junction. It was proposed by Cllr Wheeler seconded by Cllr Humphrey that the proposal be accepted with the suggested additions.

Cllr King reminded Council that this was an interim and welcome measure. A more significant improvement could be proposed through the Fenland Transport Plan.

8. FINANCE MATTERS

(a) To receive the final budgetary control report for 2017/18.

The Clerk circulated the report and drew attention to income from a grant, successful insurance claims and S106. He also drew attention to the high Capital spend due to the addition of Bus Shelters, Defibrillators and the Drainage Project. He noted that the end year figure was £79,036, a healthy position. **Noted**

Referring to the Capital Commitment for Guyhirn Playing Field/Football Club Cllr Allen proposed that someone would attend the next meeting at Guyhirn to explain proposals.

(b) To receive a budgetary control report for 2018/19 to date.

The Clerk circulated the report and drew attention to income from FDC recycling credits. **Noted**

(c) Risk Assessment for Finance

The Clerk circulated the Risk Assessment – no changes were proposed from last year. Following review Cllr Fish proposed the Assessment be approved seconded by Cllr Davies. **Agreed unanimously.**

(d) Corporate Governance Questionnaire (CGQ) for certification by the Chairman.

The Chairman read the completed Questionnaire in its entirety. Cllr Humphrey proposed the CGQ be approved seconded by Cllr Davies. **Agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman.**

(e) Approval of the 2017/18 Accounts as they stand prior to internal Audit.

The Clerk circulated copies to all councillors. Following review Cllr Scrimshaw proposed the Accounts be approved seconded by Cllr Fish. **The Accounts were approved unanimously and signed by the Clerk and Chairman.**

To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

(f) Clerk March salary	£639.56 LG Act 1972 S112 Agreed
(g) Tax and NI	£192.74 LG Act 1972 S112 Agreed
(h) SR Mann – grounds maintenance	£600.00 LG Act 1972 S111 Agreed
(i) Murrow Village Hall – hire 13 March 2018	£30.00 LG Act 1972 S134 Agreed
(j) North Level Internal Drainage Board – rates	£12.00 Financial Provisions Act 1963 Agreed

Grant application

(k) Thorney Toll Village Hall – contribution towards new grass cutter, tree trimming and fertilizer
The Clerk read the application – approx. total £2,900. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Wheeler that a copy of accounts be requested prior to reconsidering the application. **Agreed**

(l) Murrow Book Café – Local Government Act 1972 S137

The Clerk read the application and referred to a copy of their accounts. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Davies seconded by Cllr Fish to grant £1,000. **Agreed unanimously.**

9. PARISH PROPERTY

(a) Maintenance Contract review 2018/19

The Clerk referred to the Maintenance Contract and to the request from Cllr Knight for the cleansing regime for the four new bus shelters to be discussed. Following discussion it was agreed that the new

shelters would be added to the contact with the same cleansing regime as for other bus shelters. The effectiveness will be reviewed, and a different cleansing regime considered if necessary. The Clerk will advise Bowles Tree & Garden Services accordingly. **Agreed unanimously.**

Cllr Booth explained that the route 46 service was continuing until 25 August but the future was still uncertain. He asked for support in placing a notice in all bus shelters to publicise the issue and encourage users to voice their concerns. It was agreed the notice should also go in Village Voices and the website.

(b) Bus Shelters

Cllr Newland stressed the need for facilities for passengers that wait at High Road, Guyhirn near Mouth Lane travelling towards Tholomas Drove. During discussions it emerged that the present stop had many disadvantages. A review of the position, access to it and whether a base and shelter were required was needed. Given the uncertainty of the long term future of the Route 46 service it was decided to await the outcome of the Route 46 review before considering options further.

(c) Defibrillators

Cllr Wheeler reported that the planned training course was delayed as the trainer was unavailable for three months.

(d) Planters

The Chairman reported that the landlord of The Bell at Murrow had agreed to sponsor the planter near the war memorial.

Following discussion it was agreed that it was preferable to move the planter at Murrow away from the fence to the other side of the road.

10. THE MIDDLE PIT AND THOLOMAS DROVE WASH PIT FUND

The Clerk circulated the Charity Accounts for 2017/19. He drew attention to the income from interest transferred to the Parish Council to benefit parishioners. He reported the yearend balance was £82,923. The Accounts were signed by Cllr Davies. A suitable parcel of land which could be purchased and rented out had not yet been found. A suitable interest earning account would be considered. **Noted**

11. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Booth reported:

(a) he had received a complaint that FDC were slow to determine planning applications and decisions were inconsistent. The Chairman commented that very few applications were being approved in Guyhirn as it is categorised as a small village and consequently is regarded as having limited capacity for development.

Cllr King reported:

(b) The overgrown hedge at Sandbank at Bellamys Bridge has been reported

(c) Highways performance indicators were being reviewed – planned to better measure the quality of work completed

(d) If roads require surface dressing but are not treated there is a long delay before they are resurfaced – this issue is being reviewed

(e) response to potholes is being reviewed. There are now two ‘dragon patchers’ available with a third planned.

Cllr Wheeler said the repairs were of poor quality and failed very soon e.g. at Cross Drove and suggested that more serious potholes needed a better-quality repair.

Councillors reported New Drove (Wisbech St Mary), Rummers Lane, Foleys Drove and Silt Pit Lane in need of significant repair work. Cllr Davies said High Road Guyhirn had long been awaiting treatment and now required resurfacing.

12. POLICE MATTERS

Cllr Booth reported the meeting at March Police Station 12 April 2018. Inspector Lombardo explained the new Policing Structure. Plans were to keep the Wisbech and March Teams. The Division is now split North and South with additional recruitment planned. Some PCSO's may be promoted to PC's and therefore have more powers. The Inspector explained their system of prioritisation. Parish reports would continue but with less detail and concentrate on themes.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)

(a) Cllr Wheeler read an email from Cllr S Count regarding trees at Tholomas Drove that had been a long standing issue. Notice had been served on the owners, if owners fail to act CCC will take action and recharge the costs. Action was expected imminently.

- (b) Cllr Davies asked for the poor condition of A47 o/s the filling station to be reported.
- (c) Cllr Britain congratulated Murrow Village Hall for the progress they have made.
- (d) Cllr Britain reported a request for a disabled bay o/s the Church at Wisbech St Mary – councillors supported the proposal. The applicant should make the request direct to CCC.
- (e) Cllr Britain had received a request for a static vehicle activated sign. The Clerk reported that the request had gone to CCC – they did not support static signs in Guyhirn and preferred mobile signs.
- (f) Cllr Mann reported the remains of a fallen tree partially cleared by CCC was preventing grass cutting at Tholomas Drove.
- (g) Cllr Britain confirmed that the verges at Tholomas Drove would be reduced in height to enable surface water to run off.
- (h) Cllr Britain reminded Councillors that the next meeting was the Annual Assembly and nominations for Chair and Vice-Chairman were required.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 14th May 2018 Parish Assembly/Annual Meeting Wisbech St Mary Community Centre

DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2018/19

Monday 11th June 2018 Oliver Twist Country Inn Guyhirn
Monday 16th July 2018 Murrow Village Hall
Monday 20th August 2018 Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 10th September 2018 Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 8th October 2018 Oliver Twist Country Inn Guyhirn
Monday 12th November 2018 Murrow Village Hall
Monday 10th December 2018 Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 14th January 2019 Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday 11th February 2019 Oliver Twist Country Inn Guyhirn
Monday 11th March 2019 Murrow Village Hall
Monday 8th April 2019 Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 20th May 2019 Wisbech St Mary Community Centre

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Signed: Cllr. B Britain, Chairman