

WINGERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 5 April 2006

Present: Councillor Mrs A Sainty (Chair)
Councillor SJ Ellis
Councillor T Fisher
Councillor K Moore *from Minute 067*
Councillor Mrs M Parker
Councillor RAC Scothern
Councillor R Stafford
Councillor K Walker
with Mike Taylor (Clerk)

061/2006 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Councillors CE Hutchings, J Ollis, PW O'Neill, W Pickford and T Snowdon with apologies for a late arrival from Councillor K Moore.

062/2006 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2006, 1 March 2006 and 9 March 2006 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meetings.

063/2006 Matters Arising

Further to minute 053/2006, Councillor R Stafford raised concern about the state of the water heater and questioned the need for such a facility. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate the matter.

064/2006 Public Forum

Concern was raised over the tipping of rubbish towards the bottom of Hill Houses Lane.

Questions were raised about the degree of support for the developer's proposals to make up the section of Central Drive to adopted standards. In response to a request, the Clerk read out the contents of a letter from the County Council outlining its position on the drainage requirements for an adopted road. The considerable amount of litter on Birkin Lane was raised as a concern particularly as this litter was likely to be more prominently on view once grass cutting was under way.

Resolved: that the Clerk requests District Council to clear the tipped material on Hill Houses Lane and the litter on Birkin Lane; that the Clerk is supplied with details of the residents most affected by the proposed development at Central Drive and then writes to try and determine the attitude of the residents towards the proposals.

065/2006 Police Matters

PC Anderson, accompanied by a colleague, reported on an increase in car related thefts in the division. It was important that car owners made sure that valuable items such as laptops and satellite navigation equipment were covered up when left in unoccupied cars. The Police had increased patrols as a result of concerns expressed about the congregation of vehicles and young people on the Church car park and at Edinburgh Court, but had not encountered situations that required their intervention.

PC Anderson was asked about the number of cars parking around Longedge Rise at the start and end of the school day. He pointed out that one side effect was to slow traffic at busy times but agreed that it was essential to maintain access for emergency vehicles. He offered to follow up the Council's request for a survey of the vehicle speeds on Longedge Lane and confirmed that the Police had no authority over the safe riding of horses on grass verges.

066/2006 Report from the Wingerworth Tree Warden

The Chair welcomed Wayne Bexton, the recently appointed Tree Warden for Wingerworth, to the meeting. Mr Bexton summarised the main role of the post which was to take an interest in the trees, woods and hedgerows in the Parish and to monitor development proposals, disease and neglect.

He referred to the importance of Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) of which there were about 80 in the Parish. An order could cover a set of trees or a broader area and they were often established to protect rare species, mature trees and very old trees as well as trees with historic connections. TPOs could extend into gardens and could include trees at the edge of highways. Many of the TPOs in the Parish were very old, some dating back to the 1930's, and he saw his role as collating and updating the TPO records and then seeking to extend the coverage of TPOs in the Parish.

In response to questions, Mr Bexton stated that anyone purchasing a property should be aware of any restrictions imposed by TPOs as orders could be with the deeds and should be revealed by searches. Even the pruning of a tree covered by a TPO needed approval from the planning authority. It was not the case that a TPO could be obtained quickly. The County Council took a particular interest in TPOs adjacent to highways but that District Councils often found it difficult to monitor closely the orders.

The Chair thanked Mr Bexton for his interesting presentation and made sure that he had access to funds to cover incidental expenses incurred in this important role. She also expressed the hope that he could return at a future date to update Members on progress.

067/2006 Consideration of Planning Applications and Related Matters

Members on the District Council's Planning Committee do not participate in this section of the meeting other than to provide some information on procedural matters at District Council.

The following planning applications were reported:

275	Fields 2545 and 3961, Steep Lane	Erection of Stable Block
270	Deer Park Primary School, New Road	Erection of Sun Canopy
272	140 Longedge Lane	Single Storey Extensior Side/Rear
232	The Old Woodhouse, Middle Rd, HW	Retention of Timber Store and ...
267	69 Longedge Lane	Bay Windows and Rear Conserv
268	30 Lonedge Lane	Single Storey Rear Extension
334	Field opp Swathwick Farm, Swath Lane	Acces and Retention of Stable
326	35 New Raod	Extension to Garage
328	35 New Raod	Extension to Garage
351	18 Harehill Crescent	Replacement Double Garage

The applications were noted.

The following planning decisions were reported:

1454	R Batemans Mill Caravan Park, Mill Lane	Continued Use of Site
41	G 32 Hockley Lane	First Floor Bedroom

G=Granted R=Refused W=Withdrawn

The decisions were noted after clarification of the reasons for the District Council's refusal of application 1454.

068/2006 Accounts

The Clerk presented details of income received and payments made in February 2006.

Resolved: that the accounts be approved.

069/2006 Finance

The Clerk submitted bank reconciliations as at the end of February 2006.

Resolved: that the report be received and noted.

070/2006 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

The following circular had been received:

- Circular 11/2006
 - Gratuities
 - Vacancies for Parish Clerks

The circular was noted

071/2006 Correspondence

The Clerk reported on correspondence received during the past month:

- Parish
 - Parishioner – Concern about Improper Use of Church Car Parking Area
 - Parishioner – Request for a Dog Bin near Nottingham Drive
 - Parishioner – Acknowledgement of Council Response on Proposals for Medical Centre
 - Wingerworth Tennis Club – Issues Relating to Draft Agreement

The correspondence was noted.

- North East Derbyshire District Council
 - Environmental Health Officer - Need for Health and Safety Risk Assessments
 - Planning Enforcement – Felling of Trees on Longedge Lane
 - Arts Development – Joint Strategy for Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire
 - Local Development Framework – Statement for Community Involvement

The correspondence was noted.

- Derbyshire County Council
 - Road Safety Team – Teenage Safety Campaign
 - Leakage of Water at Edinburgh Court – Now Repaired
 - Damage to Edge of Carriageway at Langer Lane – Not Attributable to Severn Trent
 - Signage on Longedge Lane – Receiving Attention
 - Form of Drainage Likely to be Required on New Development at Allendale Road/Central Drive
 - Issues Concerning Hillside Farm and Surrounding Area
 - Free Countrywide Bus Travel with Derbyshire Gold Card
 - Longedge Lane – Warning Signs
 - Closure of Footpaths 32 and 37

The correspondence was noted.

- Other
 - Natascha Engel MP – Representations about Licensing Act 2003 on Behalf of the Council
 - Derbyshire Constabulary – Acknowledgement of Council's Letter of Appreciation
 - Inland Revenue – Investigation of Complaint from Council
 - Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service – Integrated Risk Management Action Plan 2006-07
 - Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group – Dates of Meeting for 2006
 - WJSA – Acknowledgement of Council's Concerns about State of Changing Rooms
 - Barley Mow FC – Acknowledgement of Council's Concerns about State of Changing Rooms
 - North East Derbyshire Twinning Federation – Request for Pen Friends
 - North Derbyshire Health and Social Care Network – Newsletter – February 2006

The correspondence was noted.

072/2006 Reports from Committees and Representatives

Councillor RAC Scothern reported that Members of the Bowling Club were meeting the following week when they would discuss the draft agreement offered by the Council. He also reported that the Allotments Association was having to put their fees up for the first time in many years.

Councillor K Walker reported on the recent Listening Service that he held in company with Councillor RAC Scothern. Items raised by members of the public included the use of the possible use of the Parish Hall for a Wedding Reception, the position with regard to a new medical centre in Wingerworth, problems resulting from the recent interruption to the refuse collection service (including the conditions placed by District Council on the following collection) and the lack of recycling facilities for plastic containers.

Councillor T Snowdon had submitted a report on behalf of the Footpaths Committee which the Clerk read out. Following the receipt of specifications from the County Council, it was clear that the recently constructed style on Footpath 21 was compliant with BS5709. Notwithstanding that, it was intended to raise the floor level on each side to lessen the step height and consideration was being given to the incorporation of a dog latch in the style.

Future work planned included improvements to the paths around the steam and a new handrail and signpost for Footpath 21. It was agreed that a petrol or electric saw be purchased provided that it was only by members of the Footpaths Committee or by Council staff, and then only with appropriate protective clothing and eye protection. It was also agreed that the Road Safety Committee consider the installation of mirrors on the junction at the end of Footpath 17 and Bole Hill.

Resolved: that the Clerk sends a copy of the approved minutes from the extraordinary meeting concerning a medical centre to the parishioner raising the matter at the Listening Service; that the Clerk arranges for the purchase of materials for the reinstatement of the footpath.

073/2006 Clerk's Report

The Clerk added two items to his pre-circulated report. One was to alert Members to a breakdown with the Parish's e-mail system which had resulted in the unavoidable loss of all e-mails for the period 10 to 15 March. It would be helpful if any e-mails during this period could be re-sent and Councillor K Walker had placed a note to this effect on the Council's website.

The other matter concerned a fine industrial landscape water colour featuring the former Coking Works which had been painted by the late Mr Derek Caister and kindly donated to the Council by his former Derbyshire County Council colleague, Mr John Slater. It was agreed to hang the picture in the Hall.

The Clerk had already written to Mr Slater to express the Council's thanks for the gift. The Chair expressed concern that Spar shop, having acquired a second litter bin, now appeared to keep both bins inside the store rather than outside as had been agreed in earlier discussions with the Area Manager.

Resolved: that the Clerk contacts Tates about the use of the bins at the Spar store.

074/2006 Chair's Business

The Chair reported on the District Council's recent successful Civic Service which she had attended with Councillor T Fisher. She also reported on a recent well attended, short ceremony when the Council dedicated a seat at the Parish Hall to commemorate former Councillor Shelagh Walker's major contribution to the Parish. Looking to the future, she informed Members of the forthcoming retirement of Richard Felton, the Head Teacher at Hunloke Park School.

Resolved: that the Clerk writes to Richard Felton in recognition of his considerable contribution to the Parish for over 30 years and to wish him well in his retirement.

075/2006 Date of Next Meeting

The Chair confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Council as Wednesday 3 May 2006 and reminded Members of the Annual Meeting of Electors on Friday 28 April 2006

076/2006 Donations

With the continuing absence of any information from SAFE@Last, it was agreed that the Council would not meet their request for a donation. Information confirming that the Vitalise Skylarks scheme was benefiting families in the area had been received and it was agreed that a donation be made to this organisation and also to the Clay Cross Consultative Police Consultative Group.

Resolved: that the Clerk arranges for a donation of £25 to be made to Vitalise Skylarks; that the Clerk arranges for a donation of £25 to the Clay Cross Consultative Police Consultative Group.

077/2006 Any Other Business

Matters raised by Members were the disposal of the remaining stock of Millennium mugs, the future of the children's play area at Adlington Road and the possibility of making more use of Chartwell Fields.

The Chair thanked members of the public for their attendance and Members for their contributions before declaring the meeting closed at 8.52pm.

