

WINGERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1 April 2009

Present:

Cllr Ann Sainty (Chairperson)	
Cllr Stuart Ellis	Cllr Peter O'Neill
Cllr Kevin Moore (<i>from 066/2009</i>)	Cllr Bill Pickford
Cllr Carole Nelson	Cllr Michael Prout
Cllr John Ollis	Cllr Diana Ruff
	with Mike Taylor (Clerk)

062/2009 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies from Cllr Chris Hutchings, Cllr Margaret Parker, Cllr Jan Robinson and Cllr Tom Snowdon.

063/2009 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest apart from dual-hatted Members under planning matters.

064/2009 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2009 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

065/2009 Matters Arising

There was no notifications of matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 4 March 2009.

066/2009 Police Matters

PCSO Mike Coates provided statistics for the last month which included nine crimes of which two concerned damage to the Wingerworth Centre and three involved vehicles. Eight reported incidents of anti-social behaviour included five problems caused by motor bikes, three of which took place in Hardwick Woods. The Police had spent time monitoring the speed of traffic and three tickets had been issued for speeding. They were also monitoring the situation regarding irresponsible parking outside Hunloke Park School and one caution had been issued.

The Chairperson reported on the most recent meeting of the Safer Neighbour Team, which had taken place within the Community Partnership meeting, when the profile for the next month in the Parish included the parking problems at Hunloke Park School and the speeding of vehicles on Allendale Road round on to Central Drive. Concerns were expressed about the behaviour of young people in Speighthill Wood where that had been consumption of alcohol, the lighting of fires and the depositing of litter. It was noted that one group of young people appeared to behave responsibly in the wood, but the majority were behaving in an unacceptable manner. PCSO Coates agreed to investigate.

067/2009 Public Forum

No matters were raised in the Public Forum other than concerns about access to Speighthill Wood and it was agreed that agenda item 17 on Access to Speighthill Wood be brought forward and linked with the public concerns. (*The discussion is summarised in minute 078/2009*)

068/2009 Consideration of Planning Applications and Related Matters

Members on the District Council's Planning Committee did 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:

90132	6 Hazel Drive	Extensions and Alterations
90216	51 Joseph Fletcher Drive	Two Storey Front Ext and Rear Balcony
90210	Pumping Station, Hillhouses Lane	Discharge of Condition 3
90237	51 Central Drive	First Floor Extension plus
90176	16 Church Close	First Floor Side Extension plus

The applications were noted.

The following planning decisions were reported:

1182	CA	33 Parkland Drive	Retention of Garden Features
1208	CA	7 Swathwick Close	Porch and Conservatory to Side
1125	CA	42 Longedge Lane	Single Storey Extension to Front
1215	CA	Land between 33 & 37 Central Drive	Erection of New Dwelling
90005	CA	Field 3780, Martins Lane, Old Tupton	Change of Use and Retention ...
90006	CA	34 Davids Drive	Roof Alterations
90014	CA	16 Church Close	Tree Works inc Pruning of 1 Lime
90015	CA	Field opp Parish Rooms	Discharge of Planning Condition

CA=Conditionally Approved R=Refused W=Withdrawn

The planning decisions were noted.

069/2009 Accounts

The Clerk presented details of income received and payments made in February 2009 as well as details of income and expenditure against a phased budget at the end of February. He also presented the current position of the Council's reserves. Payments made during the month were:

Payments

Date	Reference	Payee	Amount (£s)	Detail
04-Feb-09	4468	E-on	1,023.70	Electricity to Parish Hall
04-Feb-09	4469	E-on	196.51	Electricity to Pavilion
04-Feb-09	4470	J Barnes	273.84	Repairs at Parish Hall
04-Feb-09	4471	Cllr Ann Sainty	125.00	Chairperson's Allowance
12-Feb-09	4472	British Gas Business	2,916.08	Gas to Parish Hall
12-Feb-09	4473	Town & Country UK	24.80	Window Cleaning
12-Feb-09	4474	Iris	196.65	Payroll Software Contract
12-Feb-09	4475	NEDDC	730.86	Work on Christmas Tree
12-Feb-09	4476	Mr Andy Stopps	300.00	Refund of Deposit
12-Feb-09	4477	Arden Winch & Co Ltd	230.96	Cleaning Materials
12-Feb-09	4478	NEDDC	262.34	Installation of Dog Bin
12-Feb-09	4479	Abel Alarm Company Ltd	70.73	Service Visit and Testing
12-Feb-09	4480	Jackson Building Centres	275.54	Load of Grit
17-Feb-09	4481	NEDDC	635.07	Dog Bin Collection
17-Feb-09	4482-88	Staff	4,673.45	Salary and Expenses
17-Feb-09	4490	Derbyshire CC	999.92	LGPS Payments
17-Feb-09	4492	HM Revenue & Customs	1,883.83	Tax and NI Payments
17-Feb-09	4493	Town & Country UK	24.80	Window Cleaning
20-Feb-09	DD	AOL	26.43	Internet Services
			14,870.51	Total for Month

There were questions on the phased budget about the high level of other income which was explained by the inclusion of a sum of £23,000 from the Bowling Club towards the cost of the new pavilion. This amount was due to be transferred across as a capital receipt after which the other income would be closer to the phased budget figure. The low expenditure on business rates, which was at 47% of the phased budget, was due to the successful application for small business relief which had effectively halved the original business rate demand. It was also noted that the relatively low expenditure on footpaths was in part due to the continuing unpaid work of the footpath volunteers and in part also because the volunteers had already completed some of the major projects in the preceding year with another factor being the supply of some materials free of cost by the Countryside Service.

Resolved: that the accounts be approved and that the phased budget and reserves reports be received and noted.

070/2009 Finance

The Clerk submitted bank details and reconciliations as at the end of February 2009.

Resolved: that the report be received and noted.

071/2009 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

- Circular 06/2009 – General
 - Police Annual Parish Councils' Evening – Feedback
 - PCSO-of-the-Year Awards
 - Energy Consortium Arrangements
 - Clerk Vacancies
- Circular 07/2009 – Training
 - Planning
 - Internal Audit
 - HMRC Workshops
- Circular 08/2009 – Conservative Party Green Paper on Local Government
- Circular 09/2009 – Local Council Review Subscriber Form
- Circular 10/2009 – General
 - Subscriptions 2009/10
 - Gritting of Car Parks
 - National Salary Award 2008/09
 - Clerk Vacancies

The circulars were noted. It was confirmed that the national salary award for 2008/09 had been implemented for Council staff and Members requested that the Parish's PCSO be entered for one of the annual awards.

072/2009 Correspondence

The Clerk reported on correspondence received during the past month:

- Parish
 - Deer Park School – Request to use Council's Cricket Field
- District
 - NEDDC – Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document
 - NEDDC – Offer of a Licence Agreement for Notice Board at Adlington Avenue
 - NEDDC – Local Development Framework Exhibition at Deer Park School – Thursday 18 June
 - NEDDC – Clay Cross & District 50+ Forum – Report on Inaugural Meeting
 - Linkline Newsletter
 - North Derbyshire Voluntary Network Newsletter
- County
 - DCC – Progress Report on Wingerworth Centre
 - DCC – Rights of Way Minor Maintenance Scheme 2008/09
 - DCC – Conditional Approval for New Pathway at Adlington
 - DCC – Child Car Seat Checking Events
 - Police – Invitation to Join Community Involvement Scheme
 - Police – Policing Pledge
 - Derbyshire LINK – Newsletter
 - DRCC – Newsletter
 - Access Alliance Programme – Sustainable Transport Solutions in North Derbyshire
- Other
 - The Planning Inspectorate – Extinguishment Order for Footpaths inc Wingerworth 4 (Part)
 - Standards Board of England – Town and Parish Standard Newsletter
 - CPRE – Fieldwork Newsletter
 - Dogs Trust – Publicity for Free Service

The correspondence was noted. Members agreed that the Deer Park School should be allowed to use the outfield on the Council's cricket field to play Kwik Cricket provided that the outfield was in a fit state both to ensure safe play and to avoid any damage to the surface of the field, and provided also that the duty of care for the children resided with the school. It was reported that the Cricket Club supported the request from the school. It was recognised that the outfield may need some strips cutting and rolling on the outfield to allow play to take place and it was agreed that this work should be requested of NEDDC notwithstanding that the Council could incur an extra charge.

It was agreed that the Clerk should sign the licence agreement with District Council to allow for the erection of a notice board on their land at Adlington Avenue, acknowledging that the District Council

could impose an annual licence fee of £1. There was some confusion over the District Council dates for events and the Clerk agreed to check and email Members to clarify matters.

The Clerk had been informed by the County Council that good progress was being made by the various parties involved in the development of the new medical practice due to be built on the site of the Wingerworth Centre. Plans had yet to be submitted for this development, but there was sufficient confidence about progress for the County Council to consider the demolition of the derelict building in the forthcoming weeks.

073/2009 Reports from Committees and Representatives

Cllr Bill Pickford reported on the recent AGM of the Allotment Holders' Association which had been well attended and had covered a number of interesting areas. There were 18 on the waiting list for plots.

Cllr Diana Ruff provided a summary of the work of the Footpaths Committee and referred to plans for a linked walk through a number of parishes and the opportunity at a subsequent date to sponsor an information board.

Cllr John Ollis reported on the meeting dealing with issues about the Avenue site when information had been provided about various aspects of the project including the provision of sports facilities and an extensive nature reserve as well as the remediation process which would be in continuous operation 24 hours a day and seven days a week. Members were informed of an event at the Ringwood Hall on 23 April when there would be further presentations on the scheme as well as opportunities for questions and comments. A question was raised about the possibility and even desirability of the Parish Council taking ownership of the sports facilities and it was agreed that Cllr Stuart Ellis would try to raise the matter with emda's Mike Fenton.

074/2009 Chairperson's Business

Cllr Ann Sainty reported on the recent meeting of the Community Partnership and in particular on the involvement of the County's Library Service when it was stated that the Wingerworth Library had an exceptionally high user rating with 95% of users judging it good or very good. The County appeared very pleased with the Wingerworth operation where there were 750 active borrowers with about 26,500 loans a year, 14,000 visits a year and over 1,500 computer sessions.

The County was keen to promote its mobile library service which covered parts of the Parish and mention was made of the Home Visit Service for those unable to access either the Parish Hall Library or the mobile facility. It was agreed to post a schedule of the mobile visits on the notice board and to forward a copy to Wings.

075/2009 Review of Community Partnership

In reviewing progress with the Community Partnership there were a number of questions about the usefulness of the forum and some critical comment about a perception that the Partnership took up a considerable amount of time and effort without having produced anything like commensurate benefits. Looking forward, there was a feeling that there was little prospect of any future benefits of any significance.

There was concern that the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) had recently been incorporated in the Partnership but it was felt that this in itself was not a sufficient reason to continue with the Partnership arrangements and that it would be preferable to lobby for the SNT to revert to being a specialist group for the Parish.

Resolved: that the Council withdraws from the Community Partnership and that the Clerk informs the Partnership of this decision; that the Clerk requests that the SNT be taken out of the Partnership and run as a dedicated forum for a safer Wingerworth.

076/2009 Report on Progress with Y Café Youth Project

Cllr Michael Prout provided an update of progress when a recent meeting of the Youth Forum had picked up on some of the points raised at an earlier meeting with members of the Church Centre's management committee. These included risk assessment and control issues. While volunteer support would be welcomed it was agreed that the Council should be willing to fund a qualified youth worker at least for the initial period of operation to ensure that all went well and to provide support for the

volunteers. There was general appreciation for what was reported as very supportive response from the Church Centre.

077/2009 Report on Progress with Construction of Pavilion

The Clerk reported on continuing good progress with the pavilion close to completion and only a couple of days behind what had been a demanding construction schedule. Following the agreement sought from Members between meetings, the new floor was to be incorporated in the build. The Clerk expressed his appreciation of the committed and diligent overview of the project by the Council's Clerk of Works, Mr Neil McKeown.

078/2009 Access to Speighthill Wood

Although it had yet to be clarified as to whether there were any planning considerations relating to any fencing off of the wood, the County Council had confirmed that there was a process whereby a claim could be made to retain access under certain conditions. Otherwise it appeared that the landowner had a right to erect a fence given that there were no designated rights of way across the land.

Points raised by members of the public, over and above concerns about the possible ending of access to the wood, included worries about housing development in the wood, the time take to reinstate a footpath on ploughed land adjacent to the wood, the possibility of purchasing the wood from the current owner and the possibility of entering into an agreement with Natural England for the retention and maintenance of the wood.

Suggested ways forward included the submission of rights of claim forms (with a minimum of 12 forms required) and a meeting with the owners to discuss the future in terms both of the retention of the wood and responsible public access. To this end, it was agreed that efforts be made to stop the dumping of material and the anti-social behaviour in the woods although it was not always easy for the Police to take action on private land without the consent of the landowner.

Resolved: that a member of the public provides contact details for the landowner to the Clerk who would try to arrange a meeting between the landowner and a small group composed of Members of the Council and two or three local residents.

079/2009 Allocation of Pitches for Winter 2009/10

In the absence of any information from District Council concerning applications, it was agreed that the Council should agree that the football club currently using the ground be approved to use the ground for the 2009/10 season and that the use of the pitch be limited to the one team.

080/2009 Expenditure

The Clerk requested approval for expenditure on a Health & Safety Review and a Fire Risk Assessment at the Parish Hall, on ground work on a new pathway at Adlington and for hire fees and the associated bond for the use of facilities at the Church Centre for the Y Café for a period of up to six months.

Resolved: that the Clerk be authorised to commit expenditure on the listed items.

081/2009 Donations

A request had been received previously from the Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre for a donation towards meeting the costs of running a facility that helped young people from across the county including a number for the Chesterfield area. Consideration of the request had deferred pending the receipt of further information concerning numbers involved from the Parish and the selection criteria employed. Information had now been received that three young people from Wingerworth had benefited from the service in 2008 and it had been confirmed that it was an open access scheme subject to published criteria, a copy of which had been received by the Council. There was also a request for a donation from the Friends of the Peak District (FPD) for campaign funds.

Resolved: that the sum of £25 be donated to DCHE and that no donation be made to the FPD.

082/2009 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting of the Council was 6 May 2009 although prior to that there was the Annual Meeting of Electors Meeting on 24 April 2009.

The Chairperson thanked Members for their attendance before declaring the meeting closed at 8.55pm.