

WINGERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 December 2007

Present:

	Cllr Ann Sainty (Chairperson)	
Cllr Stuart Ellis		Cllr Margaret Parker
Cllr Anne Knyhynyckyj		Cllr Bill Pickford (<i>from 236/2007</i>)
Cllr Peter O'Neill (<i>from 236/2007</i>)		Cllr Michael Prout with Mike Taylor (Clerk)

The Chairperson opened the meeting by informing Members of the sad news of the death of Derek Pollitt, the Chairman of the Wingerworth Community Association.

Two Representatives of District Council were present at the meeting – Kay O’Flaherty and Malcolm Reed – they were welcomed to the meeting by the Chairperson.

232/2007 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Chris Hutchings, Kevin Moore, John Ollis, Jan Robinson and Tom Snowdon.

233/2007 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7 November 2007 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

234/2007 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising. The Chairperson reminded Members that in future prior notice should be given to the Clerk about any matters arising from the minutes. The absence of any prior notification would mean there were no matters arising from the minutes.

235/2007 Resignation of a Member

The decision of Cllr Ron Lewin to resign from the Council was formally recorded.

236/2007 Police Matters

The Chairperson reported that the Police would no longer be attending meetings of Parish and Town Councils following the establishment of the new Safer Neighbourhood Team Forums, which were covered as a later item on the agenda. PCSO Janis Naylor had provided statistics of crimes and nuisance incidents for the preceding month and an example of the new reporting format that would be available in the future. These were tabled and included nine incidents of crime and 28 nuisance incidents for the month of November. The nuisance incidents to the rear of the shops at Allendale Road had reduced in number and a further improvement was anticipated with the installation of a new noise emitting device. A monitoring of traffic speed on Longedge Lane had finally been undertaken but the profile of results did not indicate that any special attention was necessary. The Clerk reported that a young man had been charged with the act of arson that destroyed the Bowling Club’s pavilion and it was also reported that the Police had taken action against a young man for starting a fire to the rear of the Allendale Road shops.

237/2007 Public Forum

Concern was expressed over what was believed to be the dangerous state of a footpath bridge over Tricketts Brook. The Rights of Way Section at the County Council had responsibility for this bridge and both that section and the Countryside Service were aware of the problem and it was understood that a new bridge was on order. There was also concern about fly tipping with further incidents, two of which had yet to be cleared by District Council.

Resolved: that Cllr Bill Pickford stresses to the Rights of Way Section the dangerous condition of the bridge and asks that the bridge be closed if considered dangerous until the installation of the new bridge; that the Clerk be provided with map references of the fly tipping problems to take the matter further.

238/2007 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:

1204	24 Woodview Close	Two Storey Side Extension
1251	Elsway, 76A New Road	Extension to Front Plus ...
1298	South View, Top Road, Hardwick Wd	Erection of Glazed Link
1337	12 Welbeck Drive	Replacement Detached Garage
1356	44 Nethermoor Road	Double Garage and New Access
D167	Hunloke Park Primary School	Alterations and Replacements
1082	41 Chartwell Avenue	Single Storey Extensions to Rear

The applications were noted.

The following planning decisions were reported:

1122	G	222A Longedge Lane	Single Storey Extension to Rear
996	G	Pioneer House, Mill Lane	Refurbishment of Office Block
1015	G	Stubbing Court, Stubbing	Conversion of House to Two ...
1016	G	Stubbing Court, Stubbing	Conversion of House to Two ...
1032	G	12A Hockley Lane	Enlargement of Garage
1054	G	14 Longedge Lane	Kitchen Extension to Front
1089	G	100 Chartwell Avenue	First Floor Extension over Garage

G=Granted R=Refused W=Withdrawn

The planning decisions were noted.

The following planning appeals were reported:

185	17 Central Drive	Rear Conservatory
320	The Old Woodhouse, Middle Rd, HW	Conservatory to SW Elevation

The Clerk pointed out that appeal 185 was against a condition contained in the planning authority's approval of the application. The planning appeals were noted.

239/2007 Accounts

The Clerk presented details of income received and payments made in October 2007 and details of income and expenditure to the end of October 2007 against a phased budget.

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

240/2007 Finance

The Clerk submitted bank details and reconciliations as at the end of October 2007.

Resolved: that the report be received and noted.

241/2007 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

- 31/2007 - General
 - Salary Awards and Allowances from 1 April 2007
 - Vacancy for Town Clerk at Ripley
 - Governance and Accountability in Local Councils
 - Non-Member Councils

The Clerk informed Members that the Council was one of 190 councils that were in membership of DALC out of 214 local councils in the county. The circular was noted.

242/2007 Correspondence

The Clerk reported on correspondence received during the past month:

- Parish
 - Parishioner – Expression of Interest in Becoming a Co-opted Member
 - Parishioner – Request for Toddlers' Equipment at Allendale Road Play Area
 - Parishioner – Request for Explanation on Points of Detail with Council's Accounts
 - Wingerworth Bowling Club – Agreement to Additional Work on Green Maintenance

The request for toddler's equipment on the Allendale play area was noted although Members were aware of the expense of the equipment and other requests for equipment in other parts of the Parish. Members welcomed the expression of interest from a parishioner in becoming a co-opted Member although there was some uncertainty as to whether the Council could proceed to co-opt without re-running the recently adopted procedures. The rest of the correspondence was noted.

- District
 - NEDDC – House to House Collection – Clothes Aid – Four Weeks in 2008
 - NEDDC – Responses to Queries Raised in Connection with Allendale Road/Central Drive Development
 - NEDDC – Development Framework – Adoption of Developer Contributions
 - NEDDC – Polling Review
 - NEDDC – Third Major Event on Issues of Mutual Interest – 30 January 2008
 - NEDDC – Chief Executive – Appreciation about Involvement in New Partnership Arrangements
 - NEDDC – Economic Development Strategy 2007-2013 – Request for Comments
 - Chesterfield BC – Draft sustainable Supplementary Planning Document – Consultation
 - Chesterfield Law Centre – AGM on Thursday 6 December at 7pm at Chesterfield Miners' Welfare
 - Linkline - Newsletter

The Clerk highlighted the Third Major Event scheduled for January and it was agreed that the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson and the Clerk should attend with the Clerk seeking substitutes if necessary. The response from the District Council on queries raised in connection with the Allendale Road/Central Drive development was appreciated although the building line issue had yet to be clarified. The rest of the correspondence was noted.

- County
 - DCC – Proposed Remediation of Avenue Coking Works Site – Annex on Proposed Conditions and S106
 - DCC – Public Path Extinguishment Order – Footpath No 4 (part)
 - DCC – Community Response Plan
 - DCC – “This is Me” Campaign
 - DADLAF (Derby and Derbyshire Local Access Forum) – Desire to Collaborate with Parish and Town Councils
 - Derbyshire Constabulary – Ringmaster
 - Derbyshire Constabulary – Safer Neighbourhood Teams Launch

Interest was expressed in the “This is Me” campaign whose aims were similar to those of the Council's Youth Forum. The rest of the correspondence was noted.

- Other
 - The Standards Board for England – Adoption of Code of Conduct for Members
 - Audit Commission – Stakeholder Survey
 - The Performing Right Society – Licence Arrangements

The Clerk confirmed that the Stakeholder Survey concerned the work of District Council. The rest of the correspondence was noted.

Resolved: that the Clerk contacts the Elections Office for advice on whether a co-option would be in order; that the Clerk informs District Council of the names of the delegates to the Third Major Event; that the Clerk completes the Stakeholder Survey and liaises with the Chairperson over the responses before submission to the Audit Commission.

243/2007 Reports from Committees and Representatives

The Chairperson and Cllr Bill Pickford had taken the Council's most recent Listening Service when the full hour had been devoted to the continuing concerns over the Bole Hill Quarry planning application. The parishioners at the service had been advised to copy all submissions to the County Council's Planning Officers to those County Councillors on the Planning Committee. The Parishioners had again expressed a desire to have a meeting with the applicant, although such a request from the Council had been previously been denied. The Clerk informed the meeting that the District Council's planning enforcement officer had been searching earlier planning approvals to do with activities at the quarry but had not yet found any conditions that appeared to be being breached. It was confirmed that mud left on the public highway was a matter for the Police if it rendered passage dangerous.

There had been no further meetings of the Youth Forum and the Allotment Holders' Association.

244/2007 Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson reported on the Council's successful Remembrance Day ceremony and asked that appreciation be recorded about the work of the Council's staff on the Sunday. She also reported on a recent meeting called by the County Council about the future of the Wingerworth Centre. The meeting included doctors from the two practices providing GP services in the Parish and the Primary Care Trust who were taking a lead role in determining the way in which any new premises would be developed. The Council's concerns about the need to retain community space had been registered and both the County Council the Primary Care Trust appeared to accept that this would be necessary. For various reasons, including the clash of dates with a recently convened Safer Neighbourhood Teams meeting, the Finance Committee earlier in the week had been inquorate but it had been possible to look ahead to some of the issues that Members would have to address at the forthcoming Budget meeting. Finally, the Chairperson informed Members that the planned reception following the Dedication of the Christmas Tree Service on Friday had had to be cancelled.

245/2007 Applications for Cricket Pitches 2008

Confirmation had been received from District Council that there were only two applications for the use of the Council's cricket field in 2008. Both applications were from Wingerworth S Cricket Club.

Resolved: that the Clerk notifies District Council of the Council's approval for the two applications received for 2008.

246/2007 Grounds Maintenance Arrangements for 2008/2009

Members were in possession of a paper from District Council giving notice of the proposed withdrawal of the subsidy currently in force in connection with the provision of grounds maintenance services to town and parish councils. The withdrawal of the subsidy would result in an increase in the Council's current year charges from £5,269 to £25,738. In an endeavour to limit the immediate impact of the withdrawal of the subsidy, District Council was proposing to phase out the subsidy over a three year period, with the subsidy being reduced to 40% of the total cost in 2008/09 and 20% in 2009/10 before being withdrawn in 2010/11.

Resolved: that the issues raised by the paper be considered at the forthcoming Budget meeting.

247/2007 North East Derbyshire Safety Partnership Crime Reduction Project

Members were in possession of a paper from the Partnership requesting that the Council join in a new project which would provide a sophisticated CCTV network linked to a local centre that would enable the real time monitoring and rapid intervention for criminal activity as well as anti-social and nuisance behaviour in designated areas.

Resolved: that the Clerk informs the Partnership of the Council's interest in the project and that the proposal together with the financial implications be considered at the forthcoming Budget meeting of the Council.

248/2007 Safer Neighbourhood Teams

The Chairperson reported on the inaugural meeting of the local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Forum earlier in the week which she had attended with Cllr Bill Pickford. Wingerworth was in the Deincourt Forum together with the parishes of Grassmoor, North Wingfield and Tupton. She outlined the way in which the Forum would work which included the setting of some of the priorities for Police work in the SNT area. There was an intention to try and keep the SNT policing resource in the SNT area rather than being diverted to other duties. The meetings were expected to run from 6pm to 8pm with members of the public invited to raise concerns in the first hour and the SNT partners meeting in closed session for the second hour. It was in this second hour that policing priorities would be considered in conjunction with representatives from the Police. The Chairperson would take a lead role on behalf of the Council but there was an opportunity for another Member to attend. The next meeting of the Deincourt Forum was scheduled to take place at the Parish Hall on Tuesday 22 January 2008.

249/2007 Fly Posters in the Parish

The Chairperson raised concerns about the number of posters being displayed around the Parish advertising a variety of events that were usually taking place outside the Parish. These posters which were often on boards fixed to lampposts were unsightly and on occasions advertised events in direct competition to events in Wingerworth. The Clerk had checked with Highways and it appeared that these posters should not be displayed although Highways were generally unable to police the matter. That being so, the Council was entitled to take the posters down provided that they were held for a short period in case the individual or organisation sought the return of the posters.

Resolved: that the Council removes posters on street furniture in the Parish where the posters are advertising commercial events and considers the removal of other posters.

250/2007 New Pavilion at the Bowling Green

The Clerk reported on progress made by the Bowling Club's Committee on replacing the burnt out pavilion at the bowling green. Draft plans had been drawn up for a 50 sq metre building and early indications were that a suitable pre-fabricated building with services would cost some £50,000 plus. Consideration was being given to a brick built building which may not be a lot more expensive. There were two concerns. One was that the necessary application for planning permission could not be submitted until the preferred type of building had been determined. The other was the funding of the building. The Clerk had attended a meeting with officers of the club at Links earlier in the week and while there were some avenues to be explored, there seemed little likelihood of covering the current gap between available resources and eventual costs.

Resolved: that the Clerk contacts the District Council with a request for a contribution from a development fund that is used for sporting facilities; that the Council considers the probable funding shortfall at its forthcoming Budget meeting.

251/2007 Parish Plan – Preparatory Steps

There was a brief discussion on ways of proceeding with the creation of a Parish Plan and it was agreed to defer the public meeting that would launch the process until March when the weather would be better and when the event could be advertised in the February issue of Wings.

Resolved: that the Clerk organises a date for a public meeting on a Sunday in March and reports back to the January meeting of the Council.

252/2007 Memorial to Terry Fisher

The Chairperson reported on the intention to plant a tree as a memorial to Terry Fisher on the small area of grass adjacent to the Parish Hall close to the Shelagh Walker seat. The Tree Warden had been consulted and had provided some helpful suggestions although the Chairperson felt that a flowering cherry would be the most appropriate tree given the setting and the eventual size of the mature tree.

Resolved: that the Chairperson investigates costs and timings with a view to having a ceremony in the New Year.

253/2007 Memorial to Alec Lenthall

The views of the Bowling Club concerning a memorial to Alec Lenthall had yet to be received but it was expected that a memorial would be incorporated into the developments at the bowling green in the New Year. The Council had prepared a memorial plaque to Alec Lenthall that was due to be placed on the boardwalk at the Wall Pond.

254/2007 Date of Next Meeting

The Chair confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Council as Wednesday 2 January 2008 and reminded Members of the full Council Budget Meeting on Wednesday 12 December 2007.

Members of the Public were asked to leave the meeting for the following item which was treated as an exempt item and discussed in a private session due to the confidential nature of the item.

255/2007 Nationally Agreed Increases to Salaries and Allowances for 2007/2008

The Clerk reported on the recent nationally agreed pay settlement for the current year. This was an increase of 2.47% backdated to 1 April 2007 with increases in allowances similarly backdated.

Resolved: that the Council adopts and implements the increases to salaries and allowances for the current year backdated to 1 April 2007.

The Chairperson reminded Members of the switching-on of the Christmas Tree lights on Friday 7 December and thanked them for their attendance before declaring the meeting closed at 8.54pm.