

# WINGERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 1 March 2006

**Present:** Councillor Mrs A Sainty (Chair)

Councillor SJ Ellis	Councillor Mrs M Parker
Councillor T Fisher	Councillor W Pickford
Councillor CE Hutchings	Councillor RAC Scothern
Councillor K Moore	Councillor T Snowdon ( <i>from Minute 053</i> )
Councillor J Ollis	Councillor R Stafford ( <i>from Minute 042</i> )
Councillor PW O'Neill	Councillor K Walker

### **039/2006 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **040/2006 Confirmation of Minutes**

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

### **041/2006 Matters Arising**

Further to minute 027/2006, Councillor C Hutchings enquired about the placing of the Clerk's Report on the Council's website. Councillor K Walker confirmed that the report would be added to the website.

Further to minute 032/2008, Councillor C Hutchings commented on the poor state of the compound and adjacent area at the rear of the shops. It was recognised that this was outside the scope of the contractual arrangements with the Council. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Area Manager of Tates to request urgent action in clearing the areas of litter and in generally tidying up the compound.

Further to minute 035/2006, Councillor J Ollis alerted Members to the possibility of having CCTV installed for a limited time to cover the Christmas period.

### **042/2006 Public Forum**

Questions were raised about aspects of the proposed housing development at the junction of Allendale Road and Central Drive. The Chair summarised the discussions that had taken place between the Council and the developer concerning drainage into the Wall Pond and the possibility of a section of Central Drive being made up to adopted standards. Concerns were expressed from a member of the public about the consultation process between the developer and local residents. Councillor W Pickford offered to investigate as he felt that this could well be a planning matter.

With reference to a later item on the agenda, there was a question as to whether the Bowling Club would have an opportunity to discuss the proposed agreement being prepared by the Council. The Chair stated that the agreement was in draft form and would be sent to the Club for comments once the draft had been approved by the Council.

#### **043/2006 Police Matters**

PC Anderson had tendered an apology for absence but had submitted a report on crime statistics in the Parish during February. These included three thefts from garden sheds, three thefts from vehicles and four incidents of criminal damage. Following the repeated incidents of damage to the Council's Christmas Tree, one fixed penalty notice fine of £80 had been levied on an individual. Councillor K Moore asked about seeking costs and the Chair agreed to investigate the matter. It was agreed that Councillor R Scothern should place the report on the Council's notice boards. It was also agreed that the Clerk write to the Chief Constable commending the work of local officers in investigating the repeated instances of damage to the Council's tree and decorations.

#### **044/2006 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:

41	32 Hockley Lane	First Floor Bedroom
134	27 Oak Crescent	Two Storey Side Ext inc w/kshop
152	55A Davids Drive	Front and Side Extensions
173	7-19 Lodge Drive	Pruning of Six Trees

The applications were noted and the only concerns related to application 152 as it was believed that the property had been extended on previous occasions. It was agreed that the Clerk contact District Council and request a site visit.

The following planning decisions were reported:

1393	G	65 Davids Drive	Single Storey Extensions
1394	G	10 Swathwick Close	Single Storey Rear Extension
1446	R	51 Davids Drive	Various Alterations & Extension
1447	G	19 Mill Crescent	Front and Rear Extensions

G=Granted R=Refused W=Withdrawn

The decisions were noted.

#### **045/2006 Accounts**

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

It was confirmed that the payment in respect of work at the Pavilion represented the final payment for the development project and that the payment for grit covered bagged deliveries pending any arrangements for the storage of a bulk delivery of grit.

Resolved: that the accounts be approved.

#### **046/2006 Finance**

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

Resolved: that the report be received and noted.

#### **047/2006 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils**

The following circular had been received:

- Circular 09/2006
  - VAT Matters
  - Awards for All
  - Borrowing Approval
  - Caretaker Workshops

The circular was noted

#### **048/2006 Correspondence**

The Clerk reported on correspondence received during the past month:

- Parish
  - Problems with Unruly Vegetation on Pond Lane
  - Proposals for New Medical Centre – Challenges for Parish Council
  - Wingerworth Bowling Club – Concern over State of Wall Pond Car Park

The Clerk confirmed that the County Council was taking action on the overgrown vegetation on Pond Land which was restricting illumination from a street light. The Chair summarised the correspondence concerning a medical centre. It was stressed that the Council was keen to see adequate medical facilities in the Parish but that the Council's remit did not extend to committing funding to such a venture. It was agreed that the Council should hold an Extraordinary Meeting to review the broad proposals and to consider ways of supporting or endorsing any new proposals.

- North East Derbyshire District Council
  - Street Collection – Save the Children – 27 April 2006
  - House to House Collection – Clothes Aid – 11 April 2006 to 10 April 2007
  - Revision in Trade Waste Collection Charges for Places of Religious Worship
  - Food Hygiene Inspection at Parish Hall
  - Citizen's Panel Comments on Wingerworth
  - Holiday Playscheme Grant

The Clerk confirmed that the recent food hygiene inspection had found the state of the kitchen at the Parish Hall to be good and that the few recommendations made were being implemented. The comments to the District Council's Citizen's Panel concerned

the need for a litter bin near the Pavilion and the desirability of improvements to the land around the bus shelter on the south side of Allendale Road. The Council would consider the former and the latter had been latter had been forwarded to County Council for consideration.

- **Derbyshire County Council**
  - Temporary Closure of Part of Footpath 35
  - Supply of Grit
  - Agreement to Provide New Public Footpath Sign on New Road for Footpath 21
  - Warning about Unruly Hedges and Trees
  - Response on Tree Obscuring Street Light in Pond Lane
  - Response on Problems at Longedge Lane
  - End of Grant Application Scheme for Community Safety Street Lighting
  - Wingerworth Youth Centre
  - Hanging Baskets and Planters
  - Condition of the Public Rights of Way Network

The Clerk reported that the County Council had agreed to recall the contractor to make good the reinstatement of a section of Longedge Lane which had not been sufficiently well restored following recent excavations. The County Council was also looking at carrying out improvements to potholes in Longedge Lane, some of which were the result of earlier reinstatements. In response to a question on the correspondence concerning the Wingerworth Youth Centre, the Clerk read out a brief letter from the County Council's Youth Service stating that all avenues to reach an agreement with the Council appeared to have been exhausted. The Clerk had replied pointing out that the Council still awaited a reply to a suggestion made on 16 November 2005 about the possibility of a partnership approach between the two councils to ensure the continued availability of an improved Centre for community use.

- **Other**
  - STRI – Annual Inspection of Bowling Green – 19 April 2006
  - Linkline – February 2006
  - NHS – Proposals for New Structures and Management in Trent
  - DRCC – Village Hall Away Day – 1 April 2006
  - DRCC – Calor Village of the Year 2006 – Entries by Friday 28 April 2006
  - Relate – Letter of Thanks for Donation

The correspondence was noted.

### **049/2006 Reports from Committees and Representatives**

Councillor T Fisher reported on the recent Listening Service held by himself and Councilor S Ellis when the only matter of concern raised had been to do with the state of Deerpark Crescent. This concern had been forwarded on to the District Council.

Councillor R Scothern reported that there were 14 people on a waiting list for an allotment at the Council's Watson Lane site. Rents had been increased to £12 a year with £6 for a half plot. The Association's shop had recently opened for the season and their AGM was on 29 March 2006.

Councillor R Scothern reported that the Bowling Club was looking forward to receiving the draft agreement from the Council and that he was looking for someone to shadow him at the next meeting of the Club with a view to taking over the role of the Council's representative with the Club from April.

The Chair reported on the recent meeting of the Road Safety Committee when the two main items discussed concerned reported problems at the junction of Joseph Fletcher Drive and New Road at the beginning and end of the school day and the speed of traffic on stretches of Longedge Lane.

Councillor C Hutchings reported on the recent meeting of the Churchyard Committee when thanks were expressed by the PCC for the Council's acquisition of equipment and implementation of new working arrangements. The PCC accepted responsibility for seat that needed replacing. There was a need for some levelling work in the Churchyard and there were some issues about observing Diocesan rules.

*The report on the work of the Footpaths Committee took place after Minute 055 due to the delayed arrival of Councillor T Snowdon.*

Councillor T Snowdon reported on a meeting with a County Council Rights of Way Officer which had been helpful in clarifying ways that the Council could maintain and improve footpaths and which had opened up the opportunity for regular contact for advice and guidance. The recently completed work on Footpath 21 near New Road had raised some concerns about the new stile. The County Council had offered a kissing gate, but it seemed that there was insufficient width for such an installation so alternatives were being considered including the building up of the lower level to lessen the drop which was as high as 19 inches. The County Council had recommended the use of compacted limestone for resurfacing work which avoided some of the problems associated with gravel and other materials. In answer to points raised, it was felt that the County Council's kissing gates did allow passage for push chairs and it was agreed that the Committee would raise with the County Council any concerns about liability in respect of work undertaken with footpaths.

Resolved: that the Clerk writes to the Deer Park School asking that they consider ways of improving the situation and offering such assistance from the Council as may be possible; that the Clerk requests the Police to undertake a survey of traffic speeds on Longedge Lane; that the Clerk raises with County Council the fact that there seem to be inadequate warning signs on Longedge Lane; that the Clerk is authorised to organise the levelling of ground at the Churchyard using Council staff provided that the Church pay for all materials; that the Footpaths Committee look at ways of easing access on Footpath 21; that the Clerk be authorised to order compacted limestone when required by the Footpaths Committee for improvements to footpaths in the Parish.

### **050/2006 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk confirmed that he had notified the Bowling Club of the date of the annual inspection and had received their agreement to the arrangements. Members

congratulated Councillor K Walker on the complimentary comments from District Council about the Council's website.

### **051/2006 Date of Next Meeting**

The Chair confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Council as 5 April 2006.

### **052/2006 Audit Commission Report for 2004/2005**

The Clerk drew the attention of Members to the recently received Audit Commission Report on the Council for financial year 2004/2005. The accounts had been approved with an absence of any qualifying comments and no issues of concern. The Chair expressed appreciation to the Clerk for the good report and for his work in managing the Council's financial affairs.

### **053/2006 Items of Expenditure**

The Clerk detailed items for which approval for expenditure was sought. One was a grounds maintenance contract for 2006/07 based on a continuation of the existing contract with District Council but increased by 3% to £5,116. It was recognised that this service was heavily subsidised by District Council. The subsidy was under review for future years and any change could necessitate a broader review of contractual arrangements by the Council.

Other items were a refrigerator at a cost of up to £160, should a new one be needed following the recent Food Hygiene Inspection, a new water heater for the kitchen where the existing heater was badly corroded and in need of replacement, and three new litter bins in and around the Council's sports complex off Allendale Road.

Resolved: that the Clerk be authorised to renew the grounds maintenance contract with District Council; that the Clerk be authorised to purchase a new refrigerator and a new water heater for the kitchen at the Parish Hall and three litter bins from District Council.

### **054/2006 Agreement with Bowling Club**

The Chair explained the background to and need for an agreement with the Bowling Club in respect of their use of the Council's bowling green. The Chair thanked the Finance Committee for their work in compiling the draft agreement.

Resolved: that the draft agreement be approved for forwarding on to the Bowling Club for their consideration.

### **055/2006 Agreement with Tennis Club**

Following a request from the Tennis Club for an agreement to cover their use of Council facilities, a draft agreement had been formulated by the Finance Committee for consideration by the Council.

Resolved: that the draft agreement be approved for forwarding on to the Tennis Club for their consideration.

### **056/2006 Donations**

In the absence of any assurance from SAFE@Last that they were providing support for parishioners, it was agreed to defer the matter for just one further meeting of the Council.

### **057/2006 Any Other Business**

Councillor R Stafford expressed concern about the damage that seemed to have been caused with the long-running leakage of water on Langer Lane. It was agreed that the Clerk contacts the County Council to ask them to investigate the matter.

Councillor T Fisher informed Members that the trees recently cut down at Lodge Drive were not covered by TPOs. It was agreed that the Council should give consideration to ways of better protecting trees in the Parish.

Councillor C Hutchings, referring to the draft agreement with the Bowling Club, requested that the fence to the green be improved so stop cricket balls running under the fence.

The Chair enlisted the support of Councillors T Fisher, K Moore and T Snowdon to form a Parish Council team for the Community Association's Annual Quiz on 15 March 2006.

The Chair thanked members of the public for their attendance and Members for their contributions before declaring the meeting closed at 8.41pm