

WINGERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 March 2008

Present:

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| | Cllr Ann Sainty (Chairperson) | |
| Cllr Stuart Ellis | | Cllr Bill Pickford |
| Cllr Kevin Moore | | Cllr Jan Robinson |
| Cllr Carole Nelson (<i>from 052/2008</i>) | | Cllr Diana Ruff (<i>from 052/2008</i>) |
| Cllr John Ollis | | Cllr Tom Snowdon |
| Cllr Peter O'Neill (<i>from 052/2008</i>) | | with Mike Taylor (Clerk) |

047/2008 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Chris Hutchings, Anne Knyhynyckyj, Margaret Parker and Michael Prout.

048/2008 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest other than those listed under planning matters.

049/2008 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2008 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

050/2008 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

051/2008 Co-option of Members

Expressions of interest had been received from two people, both of whom had met with the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to explain the work of the Council and discuss the contributions that the individuals could make to the benefit of the Council. As a result of these meetings both individuals were recommended for co-option as Members.

Resolved: that Carole Nelson and Diana Ruff be co-opted as Members of the Council.

The two individuals accepted and signed a copy of the Council's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

052/2008 Police Matters

The latest set of crime statistics for Wingerworth were tabled which detailed six incidents in the Parish during the month of February.

The Chairperson reported the next recent meeting of the Deincourt Safer Neighbourhood Team was due to be held at Tupton on 6 April 2008. Due to a clash with the first Community Partnership meeting she was unable to attend but Cllrs Kevin Moore and John Ollis would represent the Council at the SNT meeting.

053/2008 Public Forum

Concern was raised about the level of support being offered by the Council to the Bowling Club in securing some form of temporary accommodation for the coming season to replace the pavilion that had been burnt down. It was stressed that the offer of help by the Council's Finance Committee, when meeting with officers of the Club, related to advice and guidance on competitive prices for the short term hire of modular buildings. Unfortunately there was a delay in providing this advice as the Member who had detailed knowledge was currently away on holiday. It was also pointed out that the Cricket Club had offered to share the use of the Cricket pavilion whenever possible.

Concern was raised about the amount of litter blighting many parts of the Parish and questions were raised about the viability of an organised litter pick by members of the community. Whilst there was some support for such an event there were a number of cautionary comments concerning Health and Safety aspects and road safety. It was agreed that District Council be requested to clear the litter and assorted debris alongside the main roads in the Parish and that volunteers be sought to help clear litter from the minor roads. It was suggested that anyone willing to volunteer should forward their name to Mr Mike Sims.

There was a query about the extent to which the Council supported public entertainment events in the Parish and in particular at the Parish Hall. Many such events were staged at various localities around the county, often with the help of an organisation by the name of "Live and Local". The events were generally well supported and the parishioner raising the matter agreed to forward details to the Clerk. Resolved: that the Clerk contacts District Council with a request that they clear the litter lying alongside the main roads in the Parish; that the possibility of staging public entertainment events be considered by the Parish Hall Committee.

054/2008 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:

| | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 50 | 37 Central Drive | Erection of New Dwelling |
| 96 | Hunloke Park Primary School | Canopies, Entrances, Paths plus ... |
| 164 | 124 Nottingham Drive | Erection of Detached Garage |
| 160 | Birdholme Farm, Derby Road | Demolition of Stone Outbuilding |

The applications were noted.

The following planning decisions were reported:

| | | | |
|------|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1244 | G | Adjoining 18 Nethermoor Road | New Dwelling |
| 1356 | R | 44 Nethermoor Road | Double Garage and New Access |
| 1504 | G | 17 Greenway | Single Storey Rear Extension |
| 1514 | G | 167 Longedge Lane | Juilet Balcony and Loft Convers'n |
| 1525 | R | 34 Longedge Lane | Felling of One Beech Tree |
| 1559 | G | 606 Derby Road | Two Storey Side Extension Plus |
| 1567 | G | 39 Longedge Lane | Second Storey Extension |
| 1569 | G | 314 Langer Lane | Twin Wall Flue to Front Roof |

G=Granted R=Refused W=Withdrawn

The planning decisions were noted.

Cllr Stuart Ellis and Cllr Tom Snowdon had represented the Council at the recent hearing when the applicant was appealing against the District Council's refusal of applications for the field opposite the Parish Hall and for land at the rear of 19 New Road. Concerns had been raised about the impact on road safety of both applications and, with regard to the second of the two applications, the extent to which the development would blend into the countryside and the possibility of subsequent further development. The result of the hearing was expected in a matter of weeks and would be reported to Members.

Following a query raised about the recent application related to the quarry at Bole Hill, it was understood that some of the concerns that had been raised over a number of issues about traffic and road safety had prompted a review. Such a review, involving the North Roads Policing Department of the Derbyshire Constabulary and Highways was welcomed and Members looked forward to hearing the results of the review. It was agreed that further recent incidents of concern be sent to the Clerk for forwarding to the North Roads Policing Department.

055/2008 Accounts

The Clerk presented details of income received and payments made in January 2008 and details of income and expenditure to the end of January 2008 against a phased budget.

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

056/2008 Finance

The Clerk submitted bank details and reconciliations as at the end of January 2008.

Resolved: that the report be received and noted.

057/2008 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

- 05/2008 – Representing the Future – The Report of the Councillors Commission
- 06/2008 – General
 - Awards
 - Resignation of Chief Officer of DRCC
 - Advertisements for Parish Clerks
- 07/2008 – Draft Freedom of Information & Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2007
- 08/2008 The Greenspace Community Network
- 09/2008 – Derbyshire Playing Field – New Publication
- 10/2008 – General
 - Annual Parish Councils' Evening with the Chief Constable
 - Advertisements for Parish Clerks
- 11/2008 – Local Council Review Subscriber Form
- 12/2008 – Consultation in Respect of Orders and Regulations Relating to the Conduct of Members

The Chairperson commented on the nature of the event with the Chief Constable. The rest of the circulars were noted.

058/2008 Correspondence

The Clerk reported on correspondence received during the past month:

- Parish
 - Parishioner – Request for a Dog Bin at the lay-by on Swathwick Lane
 - Parishioners – Comments and Requests for Parish Plan
 - Parishioner – Reports on Motorised Vehicles in Hardwick Wood and on Fly Tipping
 - Chairman of Wingerworth S CC – Proposal for a new Pavilion
 - Wingerworth Angling Club – Notice of Closure of the Club

Regret was expressed over the closing of the Wingerworth Angling Club. The rest of the correspondence was noted.

- District
 - NEDDC – Notice of First Meeting of the Wingerworth Community Partnership – Thursday 6 March 2008
 - NEDDC – Bar Facilities – Two Functions in Final Quarter of 2007 – Both Ran at a Loss
 - NEDDC – Concerns over Provision of Play Provision in Wingerworth
 - Links – Newsletter
 - Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group – Meeting on 21 April 2008

Questions were raised about the first meeting of the Community Partnership. Members expressed regret over the clash of dates with the SNT meeting and there was some disquiet about the lack of consultation in the formation and development of the Partnership. The rest of the correspondence was noted.

- County
 - DCC – 1APP Planning Application Forms and “Local List” of Validation Criteria
 - DCC – and Victim Support Derbyshire – Helping People Deal with Anti-Social Behaviour
 - DRCC – Calor Village of the Year 2008
 - DRCC - Newsletter
 - DCC – Provision of Public Rights of Way Map for Wingerworth

The correspondence was noted.

- Other
 - Audit Commission – Arrangements for 2007/2008 Audit
 - Wheeldon Brothers Limited – Apology for Use to Car Park and Undertaking to Rectify Damage
 - Midlands Co-operative Society Limited – Request for Reference for Bowling Club Funding Application
 - CPRE – Planning Seminar

The correspondence was noted.

Resolved: that the Clerk contacts the Clay Cross Angling Club to investigate the possibility of that Club taking on a stewardship role of the fishing facilities at the Wall Pond; that the question of the Council's involvement in the Community Partnership be reviewed by Members as soon as possible following the elapse of six months following the decision to join the Partnership.

059/2008 Reports from Committees and Representatives

Cllr Tom Snowdon reported on two matters raised by a parishioner at the most recent Listening Service. One concerned the notices prohibiting motorised vehicles and horse-riders and in particular the fact that the notices didn't specify that the paths were classified as permissive paths rather than the implication that they were rights of way. The other point concerned the problems resulting from large vehicles mistaking the Hardwick Wood turning for the road to the Bole Hill quarry and having to reverse back onto Birkin Lane with the consequent dangers.

Members were given more information on the unauthorised use of Hardwick Wood by motorised vehicles. With the help of PCSOs, a letter had been delivered to all residents in Hardwick Wood stressing that land owners had not given permission for the riding of motorised vehicles and that they were seeking to prevent all such activity which constituted a nuisance, endangered safety for users of the paths and damaged both paths and plants. The Council continued to oppose the unauthorised use of motorised vehicles on off-road locations and it was suggested that this position be re-stated in Wings and that the volunteers liaise with the editor of Wings to discourage the use of the Wood in this way.

Cllr Kevin Moore reported on the recent meeting of the Churchyard Committee when a number of routine maintenance matters had been discussed. He reported on the new Rector's intention to take a more disciplined approach in the adherence to Diocesan regulations and guidelines and the anticipated help from Church members in strimming and tidying the Churchyard.

Cllr Kevin Moore reported on issues arising out of a recent meeting with the Tennis Club which included the poor state of the surface of the courts, the need for a new net, worries over the cleanliness of the courts and the need for improvements to the perimeter fence. Access to the bowling green for the retrieval of balls was being resolved by the provision of a key to the green. There was continuing disquiet about the free use of the courts by the schools and non-members, and the Club was looking into the use of priority card for members. Questions were raised about the believed lack of maintenance to the courts and the need for a warning notice after the spraying of weeds. Communications with the Council were considered poor and the Club faced considerable difficulties in the face of rising annual charges from the Council at a time of a diminishing number of members.

Cllr Kevin Moore referred briefly to questions raised by the Bowling Club Committee about ownership of a new pavilion and issues to do with planning applications.

Resolved: that the Clerk contacts the County Council to ask for some form of sign to be placed on Birkin Lane to warn HGV drivers from taking too early a turn when trying to get to the quarry; that the Council's opposition to the unauthorised use of motorised vehicles off road be restated in Wings; that the Finance Committee be convened to consider further the possible resurfacing of the tennis courts.

060/2008 Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson reported on a meeting with Plantscape about reviving the Jubilee Garden which would hopefully be undertaken on a fully sponsored basis.

061/2008 Grounds Maintenance Arrangements

Cllr Stuart Ellis reported on recent developments with grounds maintenance contracts across the District and in particular on the decision of Dronfield Town Council to veer away from District Council by engaging a contractor to undertake the work. It was understood that this was at what appeared to be a very competitive price even in comparison to the proposed and subsidised price from the District Council. Given the projected increases in ground maintenance as the District Council subsidy was withdrawn, it was suggested that the Council should review the situation for 2009/2010 and consider the possibility of linking with the Dronfield contract.

062/2008 Support for Wingerworth Bowling Club's Planning Application for a New Pavilion

The Chairperson reminded Members of the continuing attempts of the Bowling Club to obtain a temporary facility for 2008 and a newly constructed pavilion for 2009 and of the resulting need for planning approval.

Resolved: that the Council supports the Bowling Club in applying for planning permission for facilities at the bowling green subject to the scale being commensurate with the old pavilion.

063/2008 Possible Closure of Public Toilet

Members were informed of the possible closure of a number of public toilets in the District, one of which was the facility at the A61 lay-by in the Parish. This was the only one of the toilets under threat of closure that was owned by the County Council although District Council had been contracted to service the facility. There was some concern over the prospect of closure as the facility was in good condition and it was understood that it was used by as many as 100 people a day. Some of the users were customers of the caterer operating in the lay-by and there was a possibility that the caterer concerned would contribute to any costs incurred in retaining the service.

Resolved: that the Council supports the retention of the public toilets at the A61 lay-by in the Parish.

064/2007 Community Response Plan

There was further consideration of ways in which the Council could produce a Community Response Plan given the offer of support from the County Council.

Resolved: that one of the County Council's Emergency Planning Officers be invited to a special meeting of the Council to provide advice and assistance in the production of a Community Response Plan for Wingerworth.

065/2008 North East Derbyshire Twinning Federation

The Chairperson summarised the content of a letter from the Federation outlining the possibility of a twinning arrangement with Elancourt which was close to Paris. There was no commitment in cost but the twinning would afford a wide range of opportunities to organisations, including schools, and individuals in the Parish. There was some doubt as to the need for and appropriateness of a twinning arrangement for the Parish but there was also some interest in the benefits that could accrue from such a relationship.

Resolved: that the Clerk invites a representative of the Federation for a brief presentation on twinning arrangements which could take place at the commencement of the special meeting due to be convened to consider the Community Response Plan.

066/2008 Date of Next Meeting

The Chair confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Council as 2 April 2008 and reminded Members of the launch of the Parish Plan on 9 March 2008 and the Annual Meeting of Electors on 25 April 2008.

Exempt Item - Members of the Public were asked to leave the meeting for the following item to be discussed in private session.

067/2008 The Wingerworth Centre

Cllr Stuart Ellis voiced concern at the apparent lack of progress in the development of a new medical centre on the site of the old Youth Centre. It had previously been reported that a new development at this location, meeting the needs of both of the GP practices operating in Wingerworth, would be supported by the PCT. Such a development had also been welcomed by the Council. Given the apparent delay in progress and the resulting uncertainty about the development, it was agreed that the PCT be asked to provide Members with an update having regard for the urgency need for a new medical centre as well as the continuing problems associated with the current derelict building and the worries over any future alternative use in the event that the proposals for a medical centre do not proceed.

Resolved: that the Clerk invites representatives of the PCT to the next meeting of the Council for a report on progress being made with the proposed development and a statement on possible time scales including deadlines as appropriate; that the Clerk notifies both GP practices and the County Council of the request to the PCT to attend the next meeting of the Council.

The Chairperson thanked Members for their attendance before declaring the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.