

## WINGERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3 March 2010

#### Present:

Cllr Ann Sainty (Chairperson)

Cllr Vince Causey (*from 007/2010*)

Cllr Peter O'Neill (*from 005/2010*)

Cllr Alan Cooper

Cllr Margaret Parker

Cllr Stuart Ellis

Cllr Bill Pickford

Cllr Chris Hutchings

Cllr Michael Prout

Cllr Carole Nelson

Cllr Diana Ruff

with Mike Taylor (Clerk)

#### **041/2010 Apologies for Absence**

There were apologies from Cllr Anne Knyhynyckyj.

#### **042/2010 Declarations of Interest**

The only declarations of interest were those of dual-hatted Members listed under planning matters.

#### **043/2010 Confirmation of Minutes**

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2010 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

#### **044/2010 Matters Arising**

There had been no notification of matters arising.

#### **045/2010 Police Matters**

PCSO Mike Coates had tendered apologies for absence but had forwarded a report which included eight crimes of which five were theft or burglary, two were domestic assaults and one was possession with intent to supply illegal substances. There were four reports of anti-social behaviour, one of which related to nuisance at a house party with two noise incidents and one occurrence of abusive behaviour. The report included feedback on the county wide survey of confidence in the Police and a road safety blitz on the stretch of the A61 from Chesterfield to Wingerworth following concerns raised by Safety Neighbourhood Teams. This blitz resulted in one arrest for drink driving, 18 fixed penalty notices and 28 warnings for not wearing seatbelts, 16 motorists caught using a mobile phone while driving and various other cautions and prohibition orders as well as the seizure of two vehicles.

#### **046/2010 Public Forum**

Concern was raised about the amount of litter around the edges of many of the roads in the parish. District Council had cleared some of the rubbish recently on a couple of the major roads, but these were already blighted with more litter presumably thrown out of passing traffic. It was pointed out that the Parish Council undertook litter picking on their own land but that the clearing of roadsides was the responsibility of District Council and the clearing of overhanging vegetation on roadsides was a matter for Highways. In both cases, parishioners were encouraged to contact the relevant authority with a request for action. A litter pick event was being organised on Saturday 20 March by Mr Mike Sims with morning and afternoon sessions starting at the Parish Hall and District Council were providing litter picking devices as well as fluorescent tops and disposable gloves together with bags for litter. There was a discussion on other ways of lessening the litter problem in the Parish with suggestions that warning signs be erected, that litter louts are reported and that children are made more aware of the many problems associated with the irresponsible disposal of litter. For the last mentioned, it was agreed that the Clerk raise the matter with the two primary schools in the Parish. It was also agreed that the concerns about litter in the Parish be considered at the next meeting of the Finance Committee. The Chair relayed concerns from a parishioner about the newly installed traffic calming measures and in particular the replacement for the removed mini roundabout at the end of Deerlands Road as it the new structure did not seem high enough and appeared to do little to reduce the speed of passing traffic. There was also a concern about the lack of a speed hump in the vicinity of the Smithy Pond. Comments at the meeting indicated a belief that traffic speeds had been slowed

down by the new system at the end of Deerlands Road and it was agreed to refer to the plans concerning speed humps.

#### **047/2010 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:

100044	Renewal of Outline for Major Development	Mill Lane
100033	59 New Road	Rear Extension and Roof Space
100093	33 Central Drive	Convert to Two Storey and Rear Ext'n
100127	63 Nethermoor Road	Detached Garage and Room Over

The applications were noted.

Members had been notified of a consultation exercise about the proposed remediation of the Grassmoor lagoons and had been circulated with comments from John Gower of COTEP who advised the Council on the potential damaging impacts on the community of remediation projects. Members were aware that the Grassmoor, Hasland and Winsick Parish Council were keen for the remediation to go ahead.

The following planning decisions were reported:

90971	CA	Alinor, Middle Road , Hardwick Wood	Erection of Replacement Dwelling
91056	CA	2 Mulberry Close	New Porch, Extension and New Garage
-1048	W	Hardwick Wood	Lighting for Menage

CA=Conditional Agreement W=Withdrawn

The planning decision was noted.

Resolved: that the Clerk contacts the County Council to offer broad support for the proposed remediation of the Grassmoor lagoons with a request that they try to take account of the accompanying comments from COTEP.

#### **048/2010 Accounts**

The Clerk presented details of income received and payments made in January 2010 as well as details of income and expenditure against a phased budget at the end of the month of January. He also presented the current position of the Council's reserves. There was a brief discussion of the precise purpose of presenting the accounts and a query as to the large overspend on gas in comparison to the phased budget which was in part due to a too low estimate of reading at the close of the previous financial year and the severe weather of the current winter.

Resolved: that the accounts be approved and that the reserves report be received and noted.

#### **049/2010 Finance**

The Clerk submitted bank details and a reconciliation as at the end of January 2010. The Clerk noted that a long outstanding cheque to the County Council in respect of the pension payments was being investigated at Matlock and it was pointed out that the level of contribution to the Local Government Pension Scheme may be increased during 2011/12 as a result of a re-evaluation exercise.

Resolved: that the report be received and noted.

#### **050/2010 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils**

- Circular 05/2010 – General
  - Local Government Pay: 2010/11
  - Good Councillor Guide
- Circular 08/2010 – Inland Revenue Warning on Self-Employed Clerks
- Circular 10/2010 – Standing Orders for Local Councils
- Circular 11/2010 – NALC Leadership Academy Programme
- Circular 13/2010 - General
  - DALC Subscriptions
  - Reporting HMRC-Related Phishing e-mails

The circulars were noted.

#### **051/2010 Correspondence**

The Clerk reported on correspondence received during the past month:

- Parish
  - Wingerworth Bowling Club – Request for Discussions on Charges
  - Wingerworth Bowling Club – Concerns about Cricket Balls Landing on Green
  - Wingerworth S Cricket Club – Offer to Lessen Risk from Cricket Balls
  - Parishioners – Issues of Concern about Provision of Grit and Location of Bins
- District
  - NEDDC – Reply to Parish Council’s Response to Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Consultation
  - NEDDC – Gambling Act 2005 – Consultation of Review of Statement of Principles
  - NEDDC - Acknowledgment of Receipt of Audio Trail Bid
  - BCN Building Control – Address for New Dwelling – 104 Deerlands Road
  - CHART Local Strategic Partnership – Invitation to Bid for Local Wildlife Areas
- County
  - DCC – Acknowledgement of Parish Council’s Partnership Proposals
  - DCC – Rights of Way Minor Maintenance Scheme
  - DCC – SACRE Annual Report
  - DCC – Big Choices Report – Views Sought on Planning for Waste
  - Derbyshire Constabulary – “Have Your Say” Report for 2009
  - Derbyshire Biodiversity News – January 2010
  - Rural Action Derbyshire – Newsletter Winter 2010
- Other
  - NSPCC – Request to Promote the NSPCC Helpline
  - Resident of Western Australia – Request for Contact Details of Parishioners

The correspondence was noted. The Clerk informed Members of the planning department’s reply to the Council’s comments on the SHLAA consultation which stressed the limited availability of brownfield sites across the District but noted the concerns expressed in the submission. It was agreed that the Clerk contacts the District Council to emphasise that the Council was adamantly opposed to the use of greenbelt and greenfield land (including wooded areas) for building land.

The County Council’s response to the request for partnership arrangements over the management and supply of grit was disappointing in that they did not feel that the Council’s proposals could be taken forward, but in other ways they were keen to provide such assistance as was possible. The query from Western Australia was for former work colleagues from the 1950’s at least one of whom was believed have lived in the Parish.

### **052/2010 Reports from Committees and Representatives**

Cllr Diana Ruff reported on a recent meeting of the Footpaths Committee about the Adopt-a-Footpath scheme which could be implemented in the Parish with support from the Countryside Service. After a brief explanation of what was entailed, it was agreed that the Committee should introduce and promote the scheme. There were three outstanding issues on Footpaths 16, 28 and 26 which needed attention. Occasional incidents of flytipping were noted and it was reported that an entire gate had been stolen from Footpath 28.

Cllr Bill Pickford reported on continuing good work at the allotments and it was noted that the date for the Council’s annual visit to the allotments was Sunday 8 August 2010.

Cllr Diana Ruff reported on her first attendance at a meeting of the Tennis Club when she had been warmly welcomed. Various issues had been raised which she had responded to, some of which would be considered at the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

The Chairwoman reported on further good progress with the Adlington Focus Group. The Toddlers’ Play Area was close to completion and various activities for young people were being planned including a visit of the NEOs trailer and a climbing wall. Appreciation was expressed for the contribution to the Toddlers’ Play Area from the County Council which had been arranged by the Cllr Kevin Gillott as the County Councillor covering the Adlington area. Cllr Gillott was present at the meeting and was aware of the intention to stage a brief opening event to celebrate the new facility. Some concern was expressed about the amount of bird droppings on playground swings and it was agreed to seek advice from District Council as to ways of resolving what was a problem at the

Allendale Road play area and was likely to be a problem with the new Adlington play area. A large hole that had appeared overnight on the adjacent football field had been reported to District Council.

The Churchyard Committee had met the previous week and Cllr Chris Hutchings reported on requests for the provision of grit for the Church car park which was used by the wider community and for a dog bin in the vicinity of the Church with the possibility of it being located on Church land.

Cllr Michael Prout reported on good progress with the WY Café project following an excellent response from volunteers. CRB checks were underway and there were plans for training in first aid and food hygiene. A request for financial support from the Council would be presented once a budget exercise had been completed. The project had been renamed as Café WY, officers had been appointed and a bank account was being opened. The Clerk raised concerns about the status of the group and following discussions with the internal auditor suggested that it be made clear that the group was a self standing one as was the case with other groups in the parish. This did not affect the ability of the Council to offer financial support to the group, but it avoided confusion and left the group free to develop the project without being subject to continual control and oversight by the Council. It was agreed unanimously that the group should be a self standing organisation under the control of its own elected committee.

#### **053/2010 Chairwoman's Report**

The Chairwoman had nothing further to report.

#### **054/2010 Expenditure**

The Clerk reminded Members that the Council was entering into the third year of a three year agreement with Plantscape for the annual floral display across the Parish and sought approval of the purchase of laptop computer and printer for use by the Chair of the Council to enable more effective communications with the Clerk and other Members. The Clerk also requested approval to reinstate the section of floor in the foyer of the Parish Hall that had previously been occupied by the bar.

Resolved: that the Clerk confirms the fixed price contract with Plantscape and be authorised to purchase a laptop and printer to be associated with and used by the Chair of Council; that the Clerk be authorised to order the work to the floor area in the foyer at a maximum cost of £348.

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

#### **055/2010 Proposed New Medical Centre**

There was a discussion about a statement of support from the Council to accompany the planning application for the new medical centre in Wingerworth. It was agreed to offer a supporting statement and separate this support from any expectation of compensation for the loss of the open air recreation area that had been attached to the former Youth and Community Centre as recent discussions had indicated that there was little likelihood of any significant compensatory funding. The issue of any transfer of land from the Council to enable the development to comply with Highways' requirements was deferred pending the receipt of a detailed request.

Resolved: that the Clerk supply a letter of support to the architects for submission with the planning application for the new medical facilities off Allendale Road.

#### **056/2010 Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting of the Council was 7 April 2010.

The Chairwoman thanked Members for their attendance before declaring the meeting closed at 9.08pm.