

## WINGERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 3 May 2006

**Present:** Councillor Mrs A Sainty (Chair)  
Councillor SJ Ellis  
Councillor T Fisher  
Councillor CE Hutchings  
Councillor K Moore *from Minute 086*  
Councillor PW O'Neill  
Councillor Mrs M Parker  
Councillor W Pickford  
Councillor RAC Scothern  
Councillor T Snowdon  
Councillor R Stafford  
Councillor K Walker  
with Mike Taylor (Clerk)

#### **078/2006 Election of Chair**

Councillor Mrs A Sainty was unanimously re-elected as Chair of the Council for the current year. She thanked Members for the vote of confidence and undertook to serve the Council as best she could.

#### **079/2006 Appointment of Vice Chair**

Councillor RAC Scothern's re-appointment as Vice Chair for the current year was unanimously approved.

#### **080/2006 Declaration of Office**

The Chair and Vice Chair signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and undertook to carry out the duties of their posts according to the best of their judgement and ability.

#### **081/2006 Apologies for Absence**

There were apologies for absence from Councillors SP Lennon and J Ollis.

#### **082/2006 Confirmation of Minutes**

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 April 2006 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

#### **083/2006 Matters Arising**

Further to minute 063/2006, Councillor R Stafford confirmed that the water heater had been removed and replaced with a tap.

#### **084/2006 Public Forum**

Concerns were raised by members of the public about the proposed development at the junction of Allendale Road and Central Drive and in response to a request, the Clerk read out extracts of an e-mailed letter from the developer. Questions were raised as to the impact of the proposed road on different properties and the impact of a new road on the periodic accumulation of water by some of the houses on the lower section of Central Drive. It was recognised that these matters may not be clarified until detailed plans were available for inspection. It was alleged by members of the public that the developer had not fully engaged in the consultation exercise which was understood to be a requirement of the planning authority.

Resolved: that the Clerk writes to the planning authority to request that they investigate a possible breach of a planning condition and to seek details of the state of progress with the application.

#### **085/2006 Police Matters**

In the absence of any representatives from the Police, the Clerk provided summary statistics of reported incidents in the Parish during the month of April. The twelve cases included six thefts from

cars, two other thefts and four cases of criminal damage. It was understood that someone had been apprehended over at least some of the thefts from cars.

### **086/2006 Appointment of Committees and Representatives**

The following appointments were agreed.

Standing Orders Sub-Committee

Councillors S Lennon, K Moore and T Snowdon

Finance Sub Committee

Councillors SJ Ellis, T Snowdon and K. Walker

Planning Sub-Committee

All Members

Parish Hall Sub-Committee

Councillors T Fisher, SP Lennon, K Moore and K Walker

Playing Fields Sub-Committee

All Members

Footpaths Sub-Committee

Councillor T Snowdon with Mr J Howson and Mr M Simms

Road Safety Sub-Committee

Councillors SJ Ellis, T Fisher, CE Hutchings, J Ollis, T Snowdon and R Stafford

Wingerworth Churchyard Committee Representatives

Councillors CE Hutchings, K Moore, Mrs M Parker and W Pickford,

Wingerworth Community Association Representative

Councillor T Fisher

Wingerworth Tennis Club Representative

To be appointed

Wingerworth Bowling Club Representative

Councillor PW O'Neill

Wingerworth Allotments Association Representative

Councillor RAC Scothern

Wingerworth Angling Club

Councillor K Walker

Wingerworth Youth Forum

Councillors CE Hutchings, S Lennon, K Moore, Mrs M Parker and K Walker

### **087/2006 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:

355	38 Hazel Drive	Two Storey Side Extension
376	9 Hockley Lane	Replace Garage and 1.5 Rear Ext
412	27 Edinburgh Road	Erection of Conservatory to Rear
		Erection of 2 Two-Storey
432	Land adjacent to 67 Longedge Lane	Dwell'gs

There was some concern about whether application 432 would be in keeping with the character of the immediate neighbourhood, but Members were aware that the planning authority was considering this matter. The applications were noted.

The following planning decisions were reported:

134	G 27 Oak Crescent	Two Storey Side Ext inc w/kshop
152	G 55A Davids Drive	Front and Side Extensions

The decisions were noted

### **088/2006 Accounts**

The Clerk presented details of income received and payments made in March 2006 and details of income and expenditure for the year ending 31 March 2006.

Resolved: that the accounts be approved.

### **089/2006 Finance**

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

Resolved: that the report be received and noted.

### **090/2006 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils**

The following circulars had been received:

- **Circular 12/2005**
  - Changes to the Accounts and Audit Regulations
  - 101- The New Single Non-Emergency Phone Number
  - New Limit on Section 137 Expenditure
  - Vacancy for Responsible Financial Officer – Belper Town Council
- **Circular 13/2005**
  - Community Empowerment Awards
- **Circular 14/2005**
  - Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2006
  - OFCOM Final Report on the Review of the Universal Service Obligation
  - Increases in SSP and SMP
  - Good Councillor Guide
- **Circular 15/2005**
  - Local Vision Conference
- **Circular 16/2005**
  - Local Council Administration
  - Car Allowances 2006
  - Licensing Act
  - E-alert on Parcel Delivery Scam
- **Circular 17/2005**
  - NALC/Aon Award for Council of the Year 2006
  - NALC/Aon Award for Clerk of the Year 2006
  - Local Council Review/Co-operative Bank Communications Award for 2006
- **General**
  - War Memorials Trust
  - Parochal Fees
  - Derbyshire Police Re-organisation
  - Minutes of Executive Committee of 4 March 2006
  - Notice of Annual General Meeting on 10 May 2006

The Clerk explained the nature of the Local Vision Conference and confirmed that the Council was well inside the limit on Section 137 expenditure. He clarified issues to do with mileage allowance recommendations and the parcel delivery scam. It was agreed that notification of alerts such as the parcel delivery scam should be forwarded to the editor of Wings. Members welcomed the intention to submit an entry to a national competition for the Council's website. Councillor K Walker was in the process of ensuring that the site was in good condition in readiness for the submission. The other aspects of the circulars were noted.

### **091/2006 Correspondence**

The Clerk reported on correspondence received during the past month:

- Parish
  - Wingerworth Church Theatre Group – Assistance in Saving a Temporary Event Notice
  - Mr AJ Terry – Discussions on Potential Medical Centre
  - Parishioner – Issues about Speed of Traffic and State of Road Surface on Longedge Lane
  - Parishioner – Concerns about Impact of Drainage from New Development into the Wall Pond
  - Parishioner – Complaint about Dogs Fouling to West of Langer Lane

A question was raised about the correspondence concerning the medical centre. It was explained that the parishioner had a long standing interest in the matter and that the Clerk had recently forwarded a copy of the confirmed minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 9 March 2006 as this summarised the current position. The Chair was willing to meet with Mr Terry to discuss the situation as now prevailing. The rest of the correspondence was noted.

- North East Derbyshire District Council
  - Granting of Variation to Premises Licence for the Parish Hall
  - Bar Facilities at the Parish Hall – Loss for the Final Quarter of the Year
  - Local Development Framework – Statements of Community Involvement
  - Arts Connections
  - Public CCTV Monitoring – Support for Clay Cross CCTV System
  - Chesterfield Borough Council – Local Development Framework

The correspondence was noted.

- Derbyshire County Council
  - Barbed Wire Fence on Furnace Hill - Inspection Undertaken
  - Derbyshire Police Re-organisation – Request for Support
  - Derbyshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework – Statement of Community Involvement
  - Derbyshire Open Arts 2006
  - Derbyshire Film – Bringing Film to Community Venues

It was reported that the fence on Furnace Hill was felt by the Highways Authority to need lowering. Questions were raised about the County Council scheme to bring films to community ventures. It was reported that at least one neighbouring parish was making use of the scheme and it was suggested that Members may want to attend a showing to experience the service. The remaining correspondence was noted.

- Other
  - Vitalise Skylarks – Letter of Thanks for Donation
  - Minister for Creative Industries and Tourism (via Natascha Engel MP) – Reasons for TEN Linit
  - Inland Revenue – Apology for Time Taken to Resolve Complaint from Parish Council
  - Severn Trent Water – Failure to Apply Land Drainage Charges at Parish Hall
  - Highways Agency – MI Widening from Junctions 21 to 30
  - Nottingham East Midlands Airport – Request for Comments on Draft Master Plan
  - CPRE Friends of the Peak District – Invitation to Join
  - Wheeldon Brothers Ltd – Clarification of Intention to Construct a Private Road
  - defra – Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 – a Parish Council Guide
  - East Midlands Regional Assembly – Regional Planning Information Sheets
  - Request for a Memorial Seat from Executors of Mrs Annett

The correspondence was noted.

### **092/2006 Reports from Committees and Representatives**

Councillor T Snowdon reported that the Footpaths Committee had made some further progress on improvements to footpaths. He had once again checked the details of the new style on Footpath 21 and it clearly complied with the relevant height regulations and was not as high as the old style lower down the field.

Councillor RAC Scothern reported on a recent meeting of the Allotments Association when there had been some concern about the recent increase in rates although it had been pointed that this increase

was the first for 23 years. Some of the Association's essential machinery would soon be in need of replacement and it was hoped that the Council would be able to meet half of the purchase costs.

Councillor RAC Scothern was aware that the Bowling Club had considered the Council's draft agreement.

The Chair reported that the Tennis Club was meeting the following day although she was unable to attend.

Councillor W Pickford reported on a well-attended and useful meeting of the Clay Cross Community Police Consultative Group.

### **093/2006 Chair's Business**

There was no Chair's Business

### **094/2006 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported on issues to do with the recently approved variation to the Council's Licence for the Parish Hall and a reply from the Minister to the Council's concerns about the constraints imposed by the new legislation. District Council had reported losses with bar operations at the Parish Hall over the past quarter which was due to two of the events being poorly attended.

Members' attention was drawn to some of the concerns reported by parishioners. One of these related to the possible impact on Tricketts Brook of extra surface water running into the Wall Pond. A copy of this letter had been forwarded to District Council with a request that they and other relevant agencies look into the matter.

There was a lengthy discussion of a request to have a memorial seat placed on land at the top of Eden Street. The costs of the seat and inscription would be paid for by the solicitors acting as executors for the deceased, although it was not clear whether the funding would include subsequent care, repair and maintenance. However it was believed that the land specified was owned by District Council and that the request should be re-directed to that body. Members debated the position that the Council should adopt with such requests having regard for a number of issues. There was an over-riding concern about the of creation of a precedent that could eventually damage the character of the village by having too many public seats.

Other matters raised from the Clerk's Report were the request for a contribution towards the costs of the enhanced cctv system being proposed for Clay Cross, which was refused; support for the resisting of the latest re-organisation proposals for the Police, which was agreed by a vote of 10-1 with 1 abstention; and concerns from a regular user of the Main Hall about recent disruptions because of prioritising other bookings.

Resolved: that the Clerk writes to the executors to inform them that the land concerned was believed to belong to District Council and to let the executors know that the Parish Council does not support the placing of memorial seats in the Parish other than the official Parish Council seats that are dedicated to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the work of the Council; that the Clerk writes to District Council to inform them of the Council's position on memorial seats in the Parish; that the Clerk writes to the Community Safety Partnership to inform them that the Council would not be contributing towards the costs of the Clay Cross cctv project; that the Clerk writes to the County Council and to the constituency MP about the Council's support for resisting current reorganisation proposals for the Police; that the Parish Hall Committee consider the concerns raised about disruptions to bookings for the Main Hall.

### **095/2006 Date of Next Meeting**

The Chair confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Council as Wednesday 7 June 2006.

### **096/2006 Staffing Matters**

Members considered a paper from the Clerk outlining some of the difficulties of accommodating all of the booking requests for the Parish Hall given that there was only a staffing allocation of about 1.1

Full Time Equivalent member of staff. It was agreed that the Clerk make arrangements to find a way of easing the situation with the use of some form of part-time or casual contract that conformed to current employment law requirements. It was anticipated that the net increase in expenditure for the year would be of the order of £600. Members also agreed to an increase in the standard travelling allowance from £17.75 a month to £25 to take account of the spiralling costs of petrol over the past few years. It was also agreed that the normal travel costs for the Council's member of staff undertaking landscaping work in the Parish be consolidated into an allowance equivalent to the average of recent monthly claims. The total costs of both changes were of the order of £120 a year.

Resolved: that the Clerk notifies the staff concerned of the changes and implements them with effect from 1 May 2006.

### **097/2006 Any Other Business**

Matters raised by Members were deplorable state of the pavements at Swathwick Close and in other parts of the Parish; the need to have the clock in the Small Hall mended; the need to remove graffiti from the front of the Pavilion; the need for signs on the toilets at the Pavilion; and the continuing illness of Alec Lenthall who did so much for the Council at the bowling green and the Wall Pond,

Resolved: that the Clerk notifies the County Council of the poor state of pavements at Swathwick Close and in various parts of the Parish with a request that they undertake a health and safety audit of pavements in the Parish; that attempts be made to fix the clock in the Small Hall and remove the graffiti from the Pavilion; that the contractor be pressed to fix signs to the toilet doors at the Pavilion; and that a card be sent to Alec Lenthall conveying the best wishes of the Council.

The Chair thanked members of the public for their attendance and Members for their contributions before declaring the meeting closed at 9.12pm.