

WINGERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7 May 2008

Present: Cllr Ann Sainty (Chairperson)
Cllr Stuart Ellis Cllr Margaret Parker
Cllr Chris Hutchings Cllr Bill Pickford
Cllr Anne Knyhynyckyj (*from 096/2008*) Cllr Michael Prout
Cllr Kevin Moore Cllr Jan Robinson
Cllr Peter O'Neill Cllr Diana Ruff
Cllr John Ollis Cllr Tom Snowdon
with Mike Taylor (Clerk)

089/2007 Election of Chairperson

Cllr Ann Sainty was elected as Chairperson.

090/2007 Appointment of Vice Chairperson

Cllr Tom Snowdon was appointed as Vice Chairperson.

091/2007 Declaration for Acceptance of Office

The Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson and signed the Council's Declaration for Acceptance of Office which was witnessed by the Clerk.

092/2008 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies from Cllr Carole Nelson.

093/2008 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest other than those of dual-hatted Members listed under planning matters.

094/2008 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 April 2008 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

095/2008 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

096/2008 Police Matters

Crime statistics for April were presented. These detailed five incidents in the Parish during April made up of three offences of damage, one of violence and one theft of a motor vehicle. PCSO Mike Coates reported that the level of nuisance behaviour seemed to have lessened although there had been one bad weekend. Concern was expressed about vehicles driving onto the grassed area of the cricket and football fields and PCSO Coates offered to monitor the situation. He was keen to encourage sporting activity for young people over the summer holidays and would welcome any suggestions. PCSO Coates provided a set of new Key Individual Network (KIN) forms and encouraged Members to join the KIN by completing and submitting a form. Unfortunately, existing KIN members had to complete the new form and submit it to remain as members.

The Chairperson and Cllr Kevin Moore had attended the most recent meeting of the Deincourt Safer Neighbourhood Team. This had been held at North Wingfield and there had been a welcome increase in the level of public participation. The agenda for Wingerworth remained unchanged with attention focussed on the Allendale Road area and playing fields. The next meeting of the SNT was at Grassmoor on 27 May when the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson were due to represent the Council.

097/2008 Public Forum

A Parishioner alerted Members that Planning Application 350 included a new pavilion at the bowling green as well as the temporary store and shelter pending the construction of a new pavilion.

A Parishioner provided an update on the planning application for the reworking of material at the Bole Hill Quarry and in particular the decision to examine in more detail traffic flows in the vicinity of the quarry. It was understood that the examination was based on vehicle movements during the course of one day rather than a more in-depth study and that the method of recording movements was through an observer rather than some form of monitoring device over a longer period. Some concern was expressed over the commissioning of the work if it had been undertaken by the applicant rather than the County Council.

Resolved: that the Clerk enquires of the County Council who had organised and paid for the work and expresses concern that the County Council was not undertaking the work itself, if that were the case.

098/2007 Appointment of Committees and Representatives

The appointment of Members to Committees of the Council and the appointment of Members as representatives of the Council were agreed as follows:

- Standing Orders Committee (3) – Cllrs Chris Hutchings, Margaret Parker and Jan Robinson
- Finance Committee (3) – Cllrs Stuart Ellis, Anne Knyhynyckyj and Tom Snowdon
- Planning Sub Committee (All Members)
- Parish Hall Committee (4) – Cllrs Anne Knyhynyckyj, Margaret Parker and Jan Robinson (with one vacancy)
- Playing Fields Committee (All Members)
- Footpaths Committee (5 including 2 non-Councillors) – Cllrs Jan Robinson, John Ollis, and Michael Prout or Diana Ruff with Mr Mike Sims and Mr Dave McDougal.
- Road Safety Committee (5) – Cllrs Stuart Ellis, Chris Hutchings, Anne Knyhynyckyj, John Ollis and Jan Robinson
- Wingerworth Churchyard Committee (5) – Cllrs Chris Hutchings, Kevin Moore, Margaret Parker, Bill Pickford and Michael Prout
- Wingerworth Community Association (1) – Cllr Margaret Parker
- Wingerworth Tennis Club (1) – Cllr Kevin Moore
- Wingerworth Bowling Club (1) – Cllr Kevin Moore
- Wingerworth Allotment Holders' Association (1) – Cllr Bill Pickford
- Wingerworth Angling Club (1) – Cllr Kevin Moore
- Wingerworth Youth Forum (6) – Cllrs Anne Knyhynyckyj, Kevin Moore, Michael Prout and Jan Robinson (with Diana Ruff on standby and one vacancy)

The Chairperson reminded Members that herself and the Vice Chairperson were members of all committees and stressed the importance of full attendance at committee meetings.

099/2008 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:

102	78 Longedge Lane	Two Storey Extension plus ...
129	23 New Road	Parking to Front and New Access
264	22 Robincroft Road	Replacement Timber Shed
313	564 Derby Road	Side and Rear Extensions
330	Robincroft Farm, Swathwick Lane	Erection on Dwelling
338	Robincroft Farm, Swathwick Lane	Retention of Temp Mobile Home
350	Bowling Green. Allendale Road	Temporary Store and Shelter
359	62 Central Drive	Conservatory, Garage and Access
391	Deer Park Primary School	Erection of Cycle Shelter
398	10 Welbeck Drive	Garage Roof and Conservatory
427	87 Deerlands Road	Two Storey Side + Single Front Ex
441	12 Lakeside	Stone Wall and Fence for Hedge

The Clerk confirmed that concerns about applications 330 and 350 had been submitted. A concern about application 391 was brought to Members' attention but the Council decided not to submit any comments to the planning authority. The rest of the applications were noted.

The following planning decisions were reported:

50 G	37 Central Drive	Erection of New Dwelling
164 G	124 Nottingham Drive	Erection of Detached Garage
184 G	28 Mill Lane	Extensions to Side and Rear
274 G	10 Church Close	Work on Silver Lime Tree
G=Granted R=Refused W=Withdrawn		

The planning decisions were noted.

100/2008 Accounts

The Clerk presented details of income received and payments made in March 2008 and details of income and expenditure to the end of March 2008 against a phased budget. There was a query about the differences between the expenditure of the year as shown on the phased budget and that shown on the Annual Report. The Clerk explained that the phased budget focussed on recurrent expenditure whereas the expenditure figure in the Annual Report included monies spent on projects and, in addition, there were a number of adjustments made to the expenditure figure at the year end to allow for prepayments and accruals.

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

101/2008 Finance

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

Resolved: that the report be received and noted.

102/2008 Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2008

The Clerk presented the Council's Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement on the Audit Commission returns for 2007/08. Members also received the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2008, the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2008 and the Bank Reconciliation for the twelve month period. The Audit Commission also required an analysis of significant variations on the statement of accounts and this was presented to Members.

The deadlines for submission to the Audit Commission had been considerably shortened which necessitated the presentation to the May meeting of Council. This presentation was in advance of the internal audit inspection which was due in June just prior to the Commission deadline of 8 June. Comments and any alterations to any part of the Annual Return resulting from either Internal or External Audit would be reported back to Members.

Resolved: that the Annual Return and supporting papers for the year ended 31 March 2008 be accepted and approved and that any alterations required by Internal and External Audit be reported back to the Council.

103/2008 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

- 16/2008 – Induction Courses
- 17/2008 – Review of Standing Orders and Chairmanship
- 18/2008 – Derbyshire County Training Partnership
- 19/2008 - General
 - Executive Committee Minutes
 - Attendance of Police Officers at Parish Council Meetings
 - Consultation on Draft Policy on Roadside Memorials
 - HM Revenue & Customs Workshops
 - Vacancies for Parish Clerks
- 20/2008 - General
 - 2008/09 Pay Negotiations
 - Car Allowances 2008/09
 - VAT & petrol Element in NJC Car Allowances
 - Sub-National Review of Economic Development and Regeneration
- Parish Council Representation on North East Derbyshire Standards Committee

The circulars were noted.

104/2008 Correspondence

The Clerk reported on correspondence received during the past month:

- Parish
 - Parishioner – Tree Down in Cockshots Wood
 - Parishioner – Use of Motorised Vehicles in Walton Woods
 - Parishioner – Road Safety Issue on Lodge Drive

It was reported that the fallen tree in Cockshots Wood had been removed and that the use of motorised vehicles in Walton Woods was being investigated. The worries over road safety at Lodge Drive were noted although it was a matter for the County Council and the Police.

- District
 - NEDDC – Food Hygiene Inspection of Parish Hall
 - NEDDC – Provision of Bars and Catering
 - NEDDC – Draft Affordable Housing Strategy Consultation
 - NEDDC – Response on Cancellation of Meeting

It was reported that the one issue arising out of the food hygiene inspection had been the need to institute a more regular monitoring of the temperature of the refrigerator in the kitchen although the report had expressed concern about the suitability of the kitchen for luncheon clubs. It was understood that District Council was withdrawing both bar and catering services for parish and town councils. The District Council had written to explain the reason for the sudden cancellation of the meeting and had suggested ways of avoiding the consequential problems in future. The correspondence was noted.

- County
 - DCC – Draft Policy on Roadside Memorials and Tributes
 - DCC – Public Toilet – A61 Wingerworth

The County Council had raised the possibility of the Parish Council taking over responsibility for the public toilets on the A61 lay-by. Members were informed of a possible scheme to keep open these toilets and others in the District that had recently been closed. The rest of the correspondence was noted.

- Other
 - Audit Commission

The correspondence was noted.

Resolved: that the Council's representatives on the next SNT meeting raise the concerns expressed by parishioners about the use of motorised vehicles in Walton Woods and the road safety issues at Lodge Drive; that the Council's Road Safety Committee considers the matters raised about Lodge Drive.

105/2008 Reports from Committees and Representatives

The most recent of the Council's Listening Services had not taken place but in any event the future of the service was due to be considered later in the meeting.

Cllr Kevin Moore reported on queries from the Bowling Club about the possibility of reclaiming VAT on the expenditure, the replacing of strike boards and the restoration of electricity supply to the green. He also gave a brief update on attempts to gain funding for a new pavilion which included one successful application to Virador for £10,000 that had been achieved with the support of the Council. That apart, it had proved difficult to secure funding for the building and even for the junior programme in the current year.

Cllr Kevin Moore had been unable to attend the most recent meeting of the Tennis Club due to late notification of the meeting but was aware of questions about the resurfacing of the court and the replacement of a net.

Cllr Bill Pickford reported on research undertaken by the County Council to try and establish the ownership of and responsibility for land and ditches on the Watson Lane side of the allotments, although these matters had not yet been clarified.

Cllr Anne Knyhynyckyj reported on good progress with the Youth Forum under the energetic chairmanship of a young man. The newly titled W Y Forum was working on the production of a constitution and a mission statement.

106/2008 Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson reported on a visit undertaken with the Clerk to a parishioner who had been concerned at some aspects of the drainage of surface water from the residential development on the junction of Allendale Road and Central Drive where easement had been provided to the Council's Wall Pond. She alerted Members to the newly planted tree adjacent to the Parish Hall which was in memory of Terry Fisher and she looked forward to a short dedication ceremony in the next couple of months. She also reported on progress towards a new plaque and plinth at the sheepwash where the costs to the Council would be minimal as a result of the generosity of a parishioner who was crafting the plaque out of lead and the anticipated donation of a suitable piece of worked stone from the Bole Hill Quarry. It was intended that the plaque would be fixed into the stone as security.

107/2008 Staff Travel Allowances

The Clerk reported on the recently concluded national agreement on mileage allowances for council staff.

Resolved: that the Clerk implements the recent national agreement on staff travel allowances both in terms of the mileage allowance and by a proportional increase in the monthly mileage allowances provided for two members of staff.

108/2008 Future of Listening Service

Members considered whether the Listening Service should continue given the little use made of the service by parishioners. There were plenty of channels of communication with the Council which were being used more frequently including contact with the Clerk and through the Council's website as well as with individual Councillors.

Resolved: that the Listening Service be discontinued; that the Clerk announces the discontinuation of the service in Wings and reminds parishioners that they still have the opportunity to participate in the Public Forum of the Council's monthly meetings as well as raising matters with the Clerk by email or on the Council's website in addition to which matters could be raised with individual Councillors whose contact details were on display at the Parish Hall.

109/2008 Review of Community Partnership

It had been previously agreed that the decision to participate in the Community Partnership should be reviewed after six months but it was acknowledged that whilst six months had elapsed since the decision to join the Partnership, there had only been the one meeting of the Partnership with the next meeting scheduled for June.

Resolved: that the review of the Community Partnership be undertaken six months after the next meeting of the Partnership so as to allow more time to observe progress and to assess the perceived value of participation.

110/2007 Concern over Fencing at Allendale Road

A Member raised concern that the fencing running along the boundary of the new residential development and the cricket field was so high as to unduly restrict what had been an open vista. However checks with the planning authority had revealed that the dimensions of the fence were in accordance with the planning permission. Concerns were then raised about the height of fencing between properties.

Resolved: that the Clerk check with the planning authority on any restrictions on fencing between properties contained in the planning conditions.

111/2008 Possibility of Action over Arson Attack

The Clerk reported that he had taken legal advice on the possibility of taking civil action in the wake of the recent successful criminal prosecution of an individual over the burning down of the pavilion at the bowling green. The critical factor was the level of the loss incurred and since the main loss was incurred by the Bowling Club there was little opportunity for the Council to take civil action. However such action could be taken by the Bowling Club although any decision would need to take account of damages already awarded by the courts.

112/2008 Items for Expenditure

The Clerk brought forward a number of items of expenditure for information and approval.

Resolved: that approval be given to repairs to the roof of the cricket pavilion at an estimated cost of £650 and to replacing the ten windows damaged by vandalism at a quoted cost of £670; that essential repairs to play equipment at Allendale Road as detailed by District Council be undertaken at an estimated cost of £400; that the extension to the fencing at the bottom of the Parish Hall car park be undertaken at a quoted cost of £320; that a mobile unit be purchased to be used alongside the eight units being purchased by the County Council for use by the library service at the Parish Hall at an estimated cost of £400; that the pruning of two trees on the grassed area adjacent to the Parish Hall be undertaken at a quoted cost of £130; that the Council's insurance policy be extended to provide for up to £25,000 worth of loss of revenue due to business interruption at a cost of £50; that any expenditure on vertical banners to promote the well dressing be considered as part of an expected request for a donation from the well dressing committee; that the decision on the purchase of materials for fencing for the Footpath Volunteers be delegated to the Footpaths Committee; that quotations be obtained for the restoration of electricity supply to the bowling green and that the possibility of temporary supply arrangements be investigated.

113/2008 Date of Next Meeting

The Chair confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Council as 4 June 2008.

The Chairperson thanked Members for their attendance before declaring the meeting closed at 9.46 pm.