

WINGERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1 November 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 (*from 176/2006*) Councillor T Snowdon
Councillor PW O'Neill Councillor R Stafford
Councillor J Ollis Councillor K Walker
with Mike Taylor (Clerk)

172/2006 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence although Cllr K Moore had apologised for a late arrival.

173/2006 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2006 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting subject to the correction of a typographical on the first page.

174/2006 Matters Arising

Further to minute 168/2006 Cllr CE Hutchings conveyed appreciation from Hunloke Park Primary School for the Council's support in writing to the County Council about new investment in the school's fire damaged premises.

175/2006 Public Forum

A concern was raised over the state of the footpath on a stretch of Birkin Lane which was felt likely to endanger pedestrians. The location of Planning Application 1145 was confirmed. It was reported that the footpaths group was continuing to make good progress and that a meeting with the Council was needed prior to the onset of winter. Questions were raised about the lack of bridle paths in the Parish as there was only one in comparison to forty footpaths. In answer to a question, the Clerk confirmed that the Council had yet to receive final plans for the road arrangements with the Central Drive development and acknowledged that the meetings schedules on some notice boards needed updating.

Resolved: that Cllr W Pickford alerts the County Council about the dangers posed by the poor state of the footpath on a stretch of Birkin Lane; that the Chair and the Clerk meet with the footpaths volunteers before the end of November; that the Clerk writes to the County Council to request details of bridle paths in the Parish and ways of creating new bridle paths; that the Clerk produces new notices of meeting for Cllr RAC Scothern to post on notice boards.

176/2006 Police Matters

The Chair welcomed PC Anderson and his colleague to the meeting and asked for a summary of incidents in the Parish over the past month. It was reported that the month had been a quiet one in terms of crime with only six reported incidents until the final day of the month when seven additional incidents had been reported. The reported incidents were six thefts and one attempted burglary, four cases of criminal damage, one of deception and one involving an assault on a police officer and a public order offence.

It was reported that Inspector Trevor Durham was transferring to the Chesterfield station and would be replaced by a new Inspector. Members expressed appreciation for Inspector Durham's helpful advice and support for the Council and wished him well in his new post.

Issues raised with PC Anderson included aggressive behaviour by dogs in Hardwick Woods and the use of motorised vehicles off-road in the Bole Hill area which was causing damage and disturbing local residents.

Resolved: that the Clerk writes to Inspector Durham thanking him for his work in the Parish and writes to the Chief Constable expressing the Council's appreciation for Inspector Durham's contribution to the Parish while based at the Clay Cross station.

177/2006 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:

321	Field opp Swathwick Farm, Swath Lane	New Vehicular Access & Tracks
1104	24 Davids Drive	Various Extensions
1124	6 Nottingham Close	Two Storey Side Extension
1143	CPL Ltd, Mill Lane	Major Development
1145	Stubbing View, Steep Lane	Erection of Agric. Building
1179	Stoneleigh, Harper Hill	Conservatory to Rear
1199	Hunloke Park Primary School	Emergency Accommodation

The applications were noted.

The following planning decisions were reported:

742	G	220 Longedge Lane	Two Storey Side Extension
780	G	Hunloke Farm, Derby Road	Construction of Stable Block
873	R	Field opp Parish Rooms	Timber Stable Block & Manege
874	R	Rear of 21 & 23 New Road	Erection of 3 New Dwellings
890	G	Woodthorpe Grange Cot, Ashover Rd	Conversion to New Dwelling
893	G	Woodthorpe Grange Cot, Ashover Rd	Change to Residential Dwelling
921	R	27 Nottingham Drive	Two Storey Front Extension
1000	G	31 Nottingham Drive	Construction of Orangery
1002	G	227 Longedge Lane	Conservatory to Rear
1004	G	31 Deerlands Road	Single Storey Rear Ext & Porch

G=Granted R=Refused W=Withdrawn

It was noted the reasons for refusing application 921 included harm to the character and appearance of the property and the consequential impact of the immediate neighbourhood, the resulting incongruous appearance and the significant detrimental effect on the street scene. It was recognised that these factors could well be pertinent to future applications given the increasing attention to these aspects of applications.

178/2006 Accounts

The Clerk presented details of income received and payments made in September 2006 together with a profile of income and expenditure against budgets for the first six months of the current financial year. It was suggested that consideration be given to phasing the budget so as to highlight more clearly any emerging problems.

Resolved: that the accounts be approved and the budget position noted.

179/2006 Finance

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

Resolved: that the report be received and noted.

180/2006 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

The following circular had been received:

- Circular 37/2005
 - The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
 - Parish and Town Council Clustering
 - Clerk Vacancy at Horsley Parish Council

The Clerk reported that a fire risk assessment for the Parish Hall was planned in November and that the council clustering was being developed in the District through Neighbourhood Partnerships.

181/2006 Correspondence

The Clerk reported on correspondence received during the past month:

- Parish
 - Wingerworth Allotment Holders' Association – Request for Help with Purchase of Lawn Mower
 - Air Cadets – Request for Old Mobile Phones for Recycling
 - Wingerworth Community Association – Concern over Lack of Involvement in PPI Forum Meeting
 - Parishioner – Incident with Dogs in Hardwick Woods
 - Parishioner – Problems with Motorised Vehicles Driving Off-Road at Bole Hill.

Concern was expressed over the lack of advance notification of the PPI Forum meeting. One Member of the Council had attended the meeting and had restated the Council's position. It was felt that the limited roles and responsibilities of the Parish Council were not always appreciated and it was suggested that a résumé previously drawn up by the Clerk be published in Wings.

Resolved: that the Clerk replies to the Parishioner concerned with the off-road activities at Bole Hill explaining the Council's position.

- District
 - Precept Requirements 2007/2008

The correspondence was noted.

- County
 - County Council Assistant Director – Response to Letter on Wingerworth Centre
 - County Council Cabinet Member – Response to Letter on Hunloke Park Primary School
 - County Council Environmental Services – Extension to Closure of Footpaths 32 And 37
 - Oakleaf Remembrance Service 2006 – St Peter's Church, Belper on Sunday 19 November

The correspondence was noted.

- Other
 - Friends of the Peak District – Climate Change: Time for Change
 - Natascha Engel MP – Acknowledgement of letter to County Council on Wingerworth Centre

The correspondence was noted.

182/2006 Reports from Committees and Representatives

The Chair and Cllr T Fisher had attended the Council's most recent Listening Service at the Parish Hall when matters raised had included the lack of awareness of the recent public meeting organised by the PPI Forum, the poor condition of the pavements on Mulberry Close and at Meadowside and the difficulty of gaining access to the bowling green which was locked when not in use by the Club.

The Chair reported on discussions with the Bowls Club leading to a revised agreement which was a later agenda item and on attempts to organise a meeting with the Tennis Club. Cllr K Moore volunteered to act as the Council representative to the Tennis Club.

Cllr CE Hutchings reported on the recent meeting of the Churchyard Committee when appreciation had been expressed for the way in which the area had been maintained. The grass cutting arrangements had worked well and had covered the extra work necessitated by the extended growing season at no extra cost and the arrangement for the Council to use storage space at the Church was now in place.

183/2006 Chair's Business

The Chair reported on a meeting arranged by District Council on Clean Neighbourhoods when there were possibilities for Parish Councils to take a range of enforcement powers including the handing out of fixed penalty notices for a range of offences to do with dog control, litter and graffiti. However there were a number of issues that had yet to be resolved and in any case there were concerns about Councillors or Council staff taking on new roles of this type. It was agreed to keep a watching brief on developments and it was also agreed that the Council should only consider taking on new responsibilities in these areas if there was local agreement in the Parish as measured with a

referendum. The Chair mentioned the District Council's new Street Scene programme to improve neighbourhoods although further details were awaited.

The Chair summarised discussions that had taken place with Mr A Stopps about cricket in the community and the possible development of a sports association. It had been agreed that he would form some of the ideas into a more detailed and costed plan.

The Chair had been in discussion with Cllr S Lennon who had been unable to attend meetings for some time. If circumstances didn't alter, it was likely that Cllr S Lennon would be resigning his position as a Councillor. Given the stage in the life of the present Council, he would probably not be replaced and in that event Cllrs RAC Scothern and T Fisher offered to jointly cover the vacated position for the Adlington Ward.

184/2006 Clerk's Report

The Clerk presented his report which covered Vandalism, New Litter Bins and Dog Bins, the Parish Hall, the Bowling Club, the Wall Pond, Footpaths, the Remembrance Day Service, the Christmas Event, Risk Management, Concerns from Parishioners, Derbyshire County Council, the Game Zone Event and Staffing and Training Matters. He confirmed that Cllrs RAC Scothern and T Fisher had selected the new Christmas decorations. Cllr K Moore had a contact who may be able to repair the Council's clock. The report was noted.

185/2006 Date of Next Meeting

The Chair confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Council as Wednesday 6 December 2006.

186/2006 Report for the Youth Forum

The Chair reported on developments since the previous meeting of the Council. Discussions had taken place with the young men who had set up a riding course for bikes in Speighthill Woods. She had been very impressed with the responsible and enthusiastic attitude shown by the young men who were keen to work towards the establishment of a bike park in the Parish. Subsequently the Chair and the Clerk had met with the young men, a parent and representatives from the Police, the District Council and the Safety Partnership. A model of a possible bike park and illustrations had been produced by the young men and a possible project had been discussed in some detail.

Members were keen to try and find some way of supporting the youngsters but also recognised the need to take account of the feelings of residents in the vicinity of any proposed location. One possible venue was on Chartwell Fields, well away from the houses, and it was agreed that all Members available would meet on the fields at 10.30am on Sunday 5 November to see the possible location and hear about the likely scale of the park. It was also agreed that local residents would be invited to a meeting at the Parish Hall if ideas for the development of a park progressed to outline plans.

187/2006 Applications for Cricket Ground 2007

Cllrs CE Hutchings and K Moore declared an interest in this item and did not participate in the discussion other than to provide some factual information.

There were three applications from teams wanting to use the cricket ground in 2007. Two of the applications were from the existing teams – Wingerworth S CC and Whitmoor RC CC – while the third was from a new team being a second team for Wingerworth S CC. Members were keen to support the new second team for Wingerworth as it would provide opportunities for local juniors in a lesser standard senior league, but they also recognised that to refuse an application from an existing user at this stage could jeopardise the future of that club.

A letter had been received from the Derbyshire County Cricket League which was the league to which both existing teams belonged. The League requested that any change be delayed until 2008 as fixtures for 2007 had already been issued. After a lengthy discussion it was unanimously agreed that the two existing teams should continue next season but that advance notice be given for 2008 that priority would be given for two Wingerworth S CC teams.

Resolved: that the Clerk informs District Council of its recommendations both as regards the continuation of the two existing users for 2007 and the priority for two Wingerworth S CC teams for 2008.

188/2006 Agreement with Bowls Club

A revised draft letter of agreement from the Council was tabled covering the Bowls Club use of the Council's facilities at the bowling green. The document, which was similar to one approved earlier by the Council, had been discussed with officers of the Club who had indicated that they felt that the members of the club would endorse the agreement. The revised document was unanimously approved.

Resolved: that the Clerk liaises with the Bowls Club's officers and arrange for the signing of the letter of agreement once approved by Club members.

189/2006 Approval for Expenditure

Members approved expenditure on a new Honda HRX 426 RX (or similar) mower for use at the allotments at a cost of around £400 with a subsequent transfer to the Allotments Society for a contribution of £200 so that the machine would be based with the Society who would be responsible for repairs and maintenance. Members also approved expenditure on a further three litter bins and three dog bins as well as expenditure on new Parish Council signs.

Members also approved a variation to the previously agreed automated sprinkler system for the bowling green. The extra items had been recommended following a site meeting involving the Council, the contractor and the Club and were of the order of £550 to re-site the storage tank and the control system at the far side of the green so that they would not be affected by any future development of the clubhouse.

The Clerk was authorised to implement some of the recommendations coming out of the County Council's anticipated report on energy saving measures at the Parish Hall and to engage structural engineers to undertake a survey and prepare a brief on the work necessary to repair and make good the wall at the Wall Pond. Finally, approval was confirmed over the expenditure of a total of £200 on the recent day of activities for young people in the Parish which had been organised through the Police during half term.

190/2006 Any Other Business

Cllr W Pickford reported that the County Council was giving serious consideration to an extension of the weight limit for large vehicles to cover Nethermoor Land and Birkin Lane.

Members of the Public were thanked for their attendance and asked to leave the meeting for the following items which were of a confidential nature.

191/2006 Request for Alleviation for New Road Nursery

Cllr SJ Ellis presented a fully detailed and carefully assessed document on his investigation into the merit of the recently requested alleviation for the New Road Nursery. There was general appreciation for the clarity of the paper and the recommendations made were accepted to introduce a new socio-commercial band, to set this band (which would be subject to the normal annual review process) at an initial level of £10.50 an hour and to place both the nursery and after-school club on this new rate with effect from 1 September 2006.

Resolved: that the Clerk implements the recommendations.

192/2006 Staffing

The Clerk requested that Mr E Marriott be confirmed in post following a successful trial period and also requested permission to pay for a modest Christmas Lunch for as many of the six Council staff who were able to attend.

Resolved: that the Clerk confirms Mr E Marriott in post and organises a Christmas Lunch for staff.

The Chair thanked Members for their contributions before declaring the meeting closed at 9.29pm