

WINGERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 November 2008

Present: Cllr Ann Sainty (Chairperson)
Cllr Stuart Ellis Cllr John Ollis
Cllr Chris Hutchings Cllr Bill Pickford
Cllr Kevin Moore Cllr Michael Prout
Cllr Peter O'Neill (*until 22/10/2008*) Cllr Diana Ruff
with Mike Taylor (Clerk)

204/2008 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies from Cllr Anne Knyhynyckyj, Cllr Carole Nelson, Cllr Margaret Parker, Cllr Jan Robinson and Cllr Tom Snowdon.

205/2008 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest apart from dual-hatted Members under planning matters.

206/2008 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2008 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

207/2008 Matters Arising

There was notification of one matter arising in respect of minute 188/2008 when it was emphasised that Council believed, at the time, that their grounds for making legitimate objections when considering the final planning application for the major housing development adjacent to the cricket field were constrained by the fact that the application had already received outline approval.

208/2008 Police Matters

Crime statistics for October were tabled covering nine incidents including four of criminal damage and three of violence. PCSO Mike Coates reported on a lessening of nuisance behaviour with a relatively quiet Halloween and a reduction in problems in the Allendale Road shops area. He welcomed the news that there was to be a further thinning out of the Island Copse and reiterated his view that a CCTV system would help to address problems in the future.

The Chairperson reported on the most recent meeting of the Deincourt Safer Neighbourhood Team and expressed disappointment at the intention to close the SNTs, which had seemed to be making good progress, and worry that the incorporation of the SNT into the Community Partnerships would lessen the effectiveness of the close liaison with the Police. Cllr Bill Pickford raised the uncertainties around the future of the Police Consultative Groups.

Resolved: that the Clerk relays to the Police the Council's regret over the decision to end the SNTs as a stand-alone group when they had made such good progress over the past year; that the Clerk expresses to the Police the Council's concerns that the effectiveness of the safer neighbourhood work would be diluted when incorporated in the Community Partnerships.

209/2008 Public Forum

No matters were raised by members of the public.

210/2008 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:

845	Field 3780 Martins Lane, Old Tupton	Change of Use and Retention ...
892	576 Derby Road	Car Port to Front
935	119 Nethermoor Road	Single Storey Rear Extension
965	238 Longedge Lane	Enlargement of Bathroom (Listed)
980	Land opp Ivy Farm, Swathwick Lane	Conversion to Dwelling plus ...

988	48 Davids Drive	Balcony and Dormer to Rear
1005	14 Mill Crescent	Two Storey Side Ext and Rear Ext
1006	The Bungalow, Birdhome Farm, Derby Road	Two Bedroom Extension
1015	Robincroft Farm, Swathwick Lane	Discharge of Condition 2
1044	Belfit Hill Farm, Birkin Lane	Erection of Detached Dwelling

The applications were noted. Queries were raised about the condition in application 1015 and concerns were expressed about application 1044.

The following planning decisions were reported:

DCC	G	Former Coking Works, Derby Road	Remediation and Reinstatement
572	G	27 Belfit Drive	Two Storey Side and Rear Ext
581	G	6 Hazel Drive	Two Storey and 2 Single Storey Ex
702	G	51 Davids Drive	Raising of Roof and Extension
721	R	30 Longedge Lane	First Floor Extension to Side
744	G	Hillhouses Lane	Erection of Pumping Station
753	G	Field opp Parish Rooms	Resubmission of amended scheme
764	G	21 Halifield Close	Single Storey Kitchen Extension
773	G	110 Paddock Close	Two Storey Side Extension plus
798	G	Woodthorpe Grange, Ashover Rd	Two Storey Rear Extension
801	G	Oak Bank, Pearce Lane	Work on Two Sycamore Trees
855	G	Oak Dene, Oak Crescent	Change to Private Land plus Wall
890	G	284 Langer Lane	Single Storey Extension plus
904	G	222 Longedge Lane	First Floor Extension to Side

G=Granted R=Refused W=Withdrawn

The planning decisions were noted and the reasons for the refusal of application 721 were summarised.

Resolved: that the Clerk seeks an explanation on application 1015 and then discusses with the Chairperson whether to register an objection; that the Clerk submits an objection to application 1044 on the grounds that the proposed development is contrary to the Council's stated position on new build houses, that the development is of no overwhelming benefit to the community and that the development would be on a greenfield site that would be detrimental to the character of the surrounding area; that the document summarising the granted application DCC relating to the former Coking Works on Derby Road be forwarded to John Gower of COTEP with a request that he submits any comments on the granted application and associated conditions to the Council..

211/2008 Accounts

The Clerk presented details of income received and payments made in September 2008 as well as details of income and expenditure against a phased budget and the reserves held at the end of September 2008 as well as the current position of the Council's reserves. Payments made were:

Wings	460.00	Annual Report and Page
Abel Alarm Company Ltd	707.91	Annual Service Charges
DCIL	30.00	Donation
Mr A Higginbottom	300.00	Refund of Deposit
Post Office	36.00	Postage Stamps
PHS	58.69	Duty of Care Fee
Rentokil Initial UK Ltd	347.79	Watersafe Contract
Staff	3,930.92	Salary and Expenses
HM Revenue & Customs	1,440.03	Tax and NI Payments
Derbyshire CC	960.98	LGPS Payments
PA Wibberley Ltd	290.00	Repairs to Parish Hall
AOL	21.56	Internet Services
NEDDC	176.00	Business Rates
Plantscape Ltd	2,070.94	Floral Display
Birdholme SS	27.60	Petrol for Churchyard
Yeomans	15.99	Protective Clothing
	10,874.41	Total for Month

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

212/2008 Finance

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

Resolved: that the report be received and noted.

213/2008 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

- Circular 47/2008 – Freedom of Information Act
- Circular 48/2008 - General
 - Response to Election Day-Weekend Consultation
 - BT's Proposal to Re-align Pay Phone Provision
 - Making and Enforcement of Byelaws
- Circular 49/2008 - Training
 - Quality Council Scheme Training
- Circular 50/2008 – Communities in Control – Improving Local Accountability
 - Response to Election Day-Weekend Consultation
 - BT's Proposal to Re-align Pay Phone Provision
- Circular 51/2008 - General
 - Banking Crisis
 - Training Course for Caretakers

The circulars were noted and there was a request for more details on the Making and Enforcement of Byelaws.

214/2008 Correspondence

The Clerk reported on correspondence received during the past month:

- Parish
 - Adlington's Tenants & Residents – Survey of Residents
 - Wingerworth Tennis Club – Concerns
- District
 - Advanced Monitoring Solutions – CCTV Systems
 - NEDDC – Follow up Information from Liaison Forum
 - NEDDC – Use of Land off Allendale Road
 - NEDDC – Place Survey
 - NEDDC – Notification of BT Intention to Proceed with All Eight Post Office Closures
 - Links – Newsletter
 - Chesterfield Community Transport – Dial-a-Ride Service
- County
 - DCC – Japanese Knotweed
 - DCC – Arts Derbyshire – Publicity for and Promotion of Arts Events
 - DCC – Need for School Crossing Patrol Staff
 - Derbyshire Constabulary – Incident Number for Criminal Damage to Bus Shelter
 - Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living – Appreciation for Donation
- Other
 - East Midlands Regional Assembly – East Midlands Regional Plan – Partial Review
 - Standards Board for England – Town and Parish Standard – Newsletter
 - DCLG – The Making and Enforcement of Byelaws – Consultation

The correspondence was noted. In reply to queries, it was confirmed that the request to NEDDC for the use of land off Allendale Road was in connection with possible plans to install an open-air recreation area which would replace the area currently adjacent to the Wingerworth Centre in the event that the area covered by the Centre and court was redeveloped for a medical facility.

Resolved: that the Clerk forwards details of the Dial-a-Ride service to the editor of Wings so that the service could be more widely publicised insofar as it was available within the Parish.

215/2008 Reports from Committees and Representatives

Cllr Diana Ruff reported that the Footpaths Committee had started to meet regularly. Cllr Chris Hutchings reported that the Churchyard Committee had met recently when appreciation of the work of Mr T Watts had been coupled with concern at his increasing workload now that the burial plots were extending into a new section of the Churchyard. Mr A Harrop had offered to try and repair the old seat in the Churchyard with the Council meeting the material costs.

Cllr Kevin Moore reported on continuing concerns from the Tennis Club and was looking forward to meeting the committee of the Clay Cross Angling Association now that they had commenced their stewardship of the Wall Pond. The Chairperson reported that the Youth Forum was still seeking a location for a Friday night meetings of young people from the Parish.

216/2008 Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson reminded Members that they were welcome to attend the Remembrance Service at the Parish Church on Sunday 9 November and the Council's own Remembrance Day Ceremony on Tuesday 11 November.

217/2008 Grounds Maintenance Review

It had previously been agreed that the grounds maintenance contract would be reviewed at the November meeting of the Council. The first year of the revised service had yet to be completed, but the Clerk reported that the District Council appeared to be carrying out the various sections of the service in a satisfactory manner. Members were aware that the phasing out of the District Council subsidy would mean another significant increase in the cost for 2009/10 and this would have to be considered at the Council's Budget Meeting in December.

Resolved: that efforts be made to establish the extent to which other town and parish councils in the District had switched to other service providers and, if so, to what effect as regards costs and quality of service.

218/2008 Adlington Survey

The Chairperson expressed appreciation for the conducting of a survey by residents of needs in the Adlington estate. Cllr Michael Prout summarised the results of the survey highlighting some of the issues raised that were within the remit of the Council.

Resolved: that the Chairperson and Cllr Michael Prout meet with two or three Adlington residents and, if possible, PCSO Mike Coates to talk through the survey results and explore opportunities for addressing some of the issues raised.

219/2008 Expenditure

Proposals for the provision of protective netting at the cricket ground were deferred pending further discussions with the Planning Authority. Three items totalling £342 were approved as part of an upgrade to the Council's computer which was in line with a previously approved commitment. Members approved expenditure of up to £500 to support the provision of free places for young people from the Parish on the half term activities programme at Tupton Hall School. A proposal to switch to direct debit payments for the quarterly charges by BT Services for the provision of a landline to the Parish Hall was approved on the basis that it would save transaction charges levied on cheque payments – currently £18 per annum. Expenditure of up to £150 was approved for the purchase of personal safety wear and sundry materials for the use of the Footpath Volunteers. Members approved the expenditure of approximately £240 on a new dog bin as recommended by the Footpaths Committee in the knowledge that there would be a follow up servicing charge by District Council.

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

220/2008 New Pavilion at Bowling Green

Members were provided with an up-to-date position of the gap between funds available and the estimated cost of constructing a new pavilion at the bowling green to replace the building burnt down as a result of an arson attack. The work undertaken by the Finance Committee was summarised including possible differing ways of closing the funding gap. Since the last meeting of the Finance Committee clarification had been sought as to the Council's position as regards making loans. Confirmation had been received to the effect that the Council was able to make a loan towards the cost of building a new pavilion provided that the Council was not borrowing in order to raise monies to make the loan. There was a wide ranging discussion on differing ways of enabling a new pavilion to be built without exposing the Council to either too large a commitment or too great a risk.

There had been some difficulties in obtaining details of the conditions applying to a promised grant of £10,000 from Virador but a copy of the funding offer had been received earlier in the day and this would be examined by Members of the Finance Committee. Members were informed of the details of the competitive quotation obtained by the Club.

Members agreed that a planned meeting of the Finance Committee with officers of the Bowling Club scheduled for Monday morning should proceed in an endeavour to find a way forward whereby it would be possible for the Club to proceed without an unacceptable exposure to the Council. The Finance Committee could then report back to the December meeting of the Council.

221/2008 Staffing Matters

Members were requested to approve a small adjustment to the payment rate for a part of the work undertaken by one member of the Council's staff. Members were also asked to approve a recommendation that an increase of 2.45% be applied to all staff pay backdated to 1 April 2008 as an interim award given the continuing delays in the achievement of a national agreement. There was a request for the staff phone allowance, where applicable, to be increased from £25 a quarter to £30 a quarter and for an extension to the casual staffing pool to increase flexibility in the operation of the Parish Hall with any extra costs being covered by savings in extra hours for existing staff or by increased lettings revenues.

Resolved: that the adjustment in payment rate for part of the work undertaken by one member of staff be approved; that a cost of living increase of 2.45% be applied in the next payroll run and be backdated to 1 April 2008 as an interim payment pending a resolution in the national pay negotiations for the current year; that the standard phone allowance be increased by £5 a quarter; that the Clerk promotes the opportunity for extra casual work at the Parish Hall; that the staff Christmas lunch take place as normal.

222/2008 Dates of Next Meetings

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting of the Council as 3 December 2008 which was followed by the annual Budget Meeting on 10 December 2008.

The Chairperson thanked Members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9.13pm