

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 02  
DECEMBER 2008 AT 7.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER STANHOPE  
AVENUE**

**PRESENT**

Councillors: D Clarke (Chairman), P Franklin, A Midgley, E Mace, G Baker, J Nelstrop, D Hill, E Pickavance, W Saunders

**5607 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Chair told the Council that he had forgotten to mention at the last meeting that the Remembrance Day parade had gone well. He informed them that to ensure that next years parade runs smoothly a meeting with all the other organisations involved will be arranged for July to confirm arrangements for the parade further in advance than was done this year.

The Chair had spoken with County Cllr Hoyes who had agreed to take the Council's request to borrow speed monitoring equipment back to the County Council.

**5608 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Reasons for absence were accepted from Cllr Pestell, Cllr Storey and Cllr Robinson

**5609 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Clarke declared a personal interest in agenda item 13 (minute ref. 5619) as he is a resident of Grove Drive.

Cllr Hill declared a personal interest in agenda item 16b (minute ref. 5622 b) as he is the Treasurer of the Cottage Museum.

District Cllr Leyland declared a personal interest in agenda item 6 (minute ref. 5612) as he is on the District Council Planning Committee.

**5610 NOTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 4 AND 18 NOVEMBER TO BE APPROVED AS THE MINUTES**

Subject to changing the date to read 'November' on the 18 November minutes, it was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to accept the minutes as being a true record of the meetings.

**5611 CLERKS REPORT AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

5587 The Bench had been ordered and would be delivered in 2 weeks.

**5612 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- S/215/02471/08 - amendments to Woodland Estates application for a touring caravan park at Stixwoud Road: The Chair reminded the Council that they were discussing and voting on the amendments to the application and not the entire application which the

Council had resolved to object to at the October planning meeting. The Council was reminded of the reasons that they had objected to the original application and although it was felt by the Council that the amendments had made an improvement to the application they did not improve it enough to alter the Councils original decision. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to resubmit the Councils original comments and decision to object to the application.

- S/215/03281/08 - Southmead, 7 St Leonards Avenue: It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to support this application.

- S/215/03271/08 – 24 St Leonards Avenue: It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to support this application.

Cllr Saunders told the Council that the Tree Group had discussed both the applications for proposed work to trees and were recommending that the Council object to them. Cllr Saunders showed the Council photos of the trees and explained the reasons behind recommending that the Council object.

- Proposed work to trees with T.P.O's at 49 Woodland Drive. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to object to this application for the following reasons: The reason given for work to be carried out does not seem appropriate. These trees sit on the boundary of the property and are in the line of sight on the outskirts of the village, they contribute to the ambience of Woodhall Spa. Over the years there has been more and more trees lost within this part of the village and councillors seem to recall that permission was refused to do work to a tree on a property on the same road a couple of years ago and this should set a precedent. The trees were there when the owners bought the property and they are very significant trees which add to the character of this area of the village. These issues against not allowing the work to be carried out seem to outweigh the reason stated by the applicant.

- Proposed work to a Cherry tree at Sunnyhurst, The Broadway: It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to object to this application for the following reasons: This is a prominent tree on the Broadway which contributes to the 'Avenue' ambience of the village. The reason stated for carrying out the work is not a good enough reason, as this would remove the tree from the sight line down The Broadway, which would have a negative affect on the visual impact of this area.

## **5613 TO RECEIVE REPORTS:**

### **SPA BATHS**

Cllr Hill had drafted a letter to the CEO at East Lindsey District Council to try and establish what proposals they are prepared to support for the future of the Spa Baths. It was agreed that Cllr Hill would send the letter and report back when he had received a reply.

### **FINANCE GROUP**

The Chair told the Council that the Finance Group had met that afternoon to start looking at next years budget. They were hoping to get some indicative figures to present to the Council at the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> so they could take them away and consider them before

finalising the budget at January's meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk would e-mail the budget spreadsheet to all Councillors so that they could look at the budget headings and let her know if there were any items that were currently not included in the budget that should be present next year. Cllr Mace and Cllr Pickavance asked if litter bins could be included in the budget as new ones were needed and some could do with replacing next year.

The Council had received 5 grant applications which would be considered by the Finance Group at their meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> December and their recommendations would be presented to the Council at the Council meeting on the same date.

#### HERITAGE GROUP

The Museum and Heritage group were looking at producing a newsletter which District Cllr Harness would hopefully be providing the funding for.

#### CORONATION HALL

Cllr Hill reported that the hall was now in local control and the Trustees were working to get some key jobs done, which were the kitchen and promoting the hall better.

#### VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

There had not been much progress made. The Chair offered to speak to Cllr Storey.

#### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The location of the mobile library was currently being reviewed. It had been brought to the Friends of the Library's attention that the 2 hours allocated to the mobile library to spend at Kirkstead Bridge was not being used much and they were going to propose that it parks up at the Golf Hotel during this time slot, which although it isn't very far from the actual library is a period when the library is closed (Monday 1pm – 3pm). The Chair explained that they were worried that if this facility was not used by more people than the village would lose it. It was asked if the Friends of the Library would ensure that those people who do use the mobile service at Kirkstead Bridge are spoken to about this decision. It was agreed that the opening times of the library and mobile library would be an item in the next newsletter.

#### TREE GROUP

Cllr Saunders reported that the tree planting day went well, 400 trees were planted and these were mainly ones purchased by donations. 350 trees will be planted in January and then there will be a quiet period for the group to sort admin out, during this period they would be producing a set of guidelines for the Parish Council on what they can and can't object to on applications to do work to trees.

The group are hoping for a bigger tree planting event next year which will become a regular event in the village.

#### BRITAIN IN BLOOM

Cllr Pickavance had had a meeting with Graham Keegan and had suggested that instead of employing a person to water the plants they could approach the Youth Club and ask them if they could do it. The Chair told the Council that the Finance Group had discussed the idea of moving away from giving the Britain in Bloom group a grant but instead allocating it money in the budget each year. Cllr Saunders suggested that Britain in Bloom may be able to work with the Tree Group on some projects.

#### **FRIENDS OF JUBILEE PARK**

District Cllr Grist had sent apologies for the meeting that had been arranged for last week not being able to take place. He also confirmed that all capital projects were on hold.

District Cllr Leyland told the Council that ELDC had changed their mind and were going to open the Jubilee Park caravan site during the 2009 season so that there was a continuous provision of a caravan site. The Chair questioned this as the Parish Council had been told by ELDC that their decision to close the caravan site was irreversible and councillors mentioned that they thought this area of the park had been decommissioned. Cllr Leyland said that the lights were removed for precautionary vandalism measures and although the park was going to be opened for a further season, ELDC had no commitment to spend money on and renovate the facilities.

#### **5614 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

District Cllr Harness mentioned that ELDC's financial position was very serious. There had been three confidential finance meetings arranged and they were having great budgetary problems. They were hoping that they would get their money that was invested in Icelandic banks returned to them but it would be without any interest. He also mentioned the East Lindsey Town and Parish Assembly taking place on 9<sup>th</sup> December.

District Cllr Leyland provided the Council with feedback on the enforcement issue with a resident of Tor-o-Moor Gardens and also informed the Council that a Street Sweeper had been advertised for Woodhall Spa.

The Parish Council asked the District Councillors to ensure that Jubilee Park caravan park got the largest amount of publicity possible for it opening for next years season.

#### **5615 WITHAM ROAD SPEED SURVEY**

The Parish Council received a proposal from the Community Police Panel for speed survey to be carried out in 4 locations within the village:

- Stixwould Road just past the 30mph sign entering the village.
- Witham Road where the speed limit decreases from 40mph to 30mph
- The bend on Tattershall Road where the speed decreases from 40mph to 30mph
- On The Broadway near the Golf Hotel where the speed limit becomes 30mph.

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** to contact the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership and ask for surveys to be carried out in all of these locations.

PCSO Martin Clough provided the Council with information on the number of warnings that had been given to motorists in the village and also the number of seizures of vehicles that had taken place for re-offenders. He also mentioned the problem of people cycling

on the pavements and the number of complaints he received on this matter. It was agreed that the statistics provided by the PCSO should go in the next edition of the newsletter.

### **5616 RECYCLING FACILITIES IN VILLAGE**

Cllr Saunders explained to the Council why he had asked for this item on the agenda. He told the Council that the village did not currently have facilities in place for recycling Tetra Pak cartons and type 5 and 7 plastics. He spoke about the idea of Woodhall Spa becoming a plastic bag free village and the village having it's own cloth bag. He asked for approval from the Council to investigate these ideas further.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that Cllr Saunders would put together a paper of options on this subject for the Council to consider at a future meeting.

### **5617 NEW WORKING PRACTICES / PROCEDURES**

The Chair emphasised that the reason for these new procedures were to enable councillors to be more prepared and aid discussion and not to replace it.

The Chair had received many comments about the new working practices / procedures proposal and would be summarising all the ideas and circulating the procedures again.

It was mentioned that some of the proposed new working practices were already happening with the Clerk e-mailing minutes, correspondence and agendas and some Cllrs had already opted out of receiving hard copies of certain documents. The Clerk took the names of the Cllrs who did not wish to receive hard copies any longer and agreed that she would contact the 3 councillors who were not present at the meeting to ask them. It was also mentioned that the majority of the financial/general new working practices were already being put into practice. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to proceed with the new financial and general working practices/procedures, but revisit the other areas of the proposals at a future meeting.

### **5618 PARISH COUNCIL SURGERIES**

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that surgeries would start from February 2009. They would take place once per month on a Saturday morning and last 1 hour with two councillors present and a third nominated in reserve.

The Clerk would contact Councillors to ask them for dates when they would not be available and also put together a rota to circulate at 16<sup>th</sup> December meeting.

### **5619 GROVE DRIVE STREET NAME SIGN FOR CUL-DE-SAC**

Cllr Pickavance explained why this item had been put on the agenda and asked the Council to consider putting a small sign at the entrance to the cul-de sac to assist the ambulance service and LIVES first responders in locating the properties in this road.

The Clerk informed the Council that she had contacted Technical Services at ELDC who told her that it could be possible to do this on the grounds of Health and Safety, but due to the current financial situation of ELDC, it is unlikely that they would pay for this and the cost would have to be incurred by the Parish Council.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to consult with the residents in Grove Drive and ask for their comments and feedback before proceeding any further with this issue.

### **5620 ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS FAYRE AND CAROL SERVICE**

The Chair double checked that all arrangements had been made for the service and Councillors were reminded to take a collection tin with them on Friday evening.

### **5621 a) CORRESPONDENCE**

- Woodhall Spa Cottage Museum: Asking the Parish Council to produce a treasure box, representative of our organisation, our history and our connection to Woodhall Spa. To be taken to the museum on 9<sup>th</sup> January. It was agreed that the Council would produce a box and a suggestion was made that the box could contain a list of all the Parish Council Chairman there has been. Councillors were asked to think of ideas and report back at the December planning meeting.

- ELDC: Horncastle Area Committee Meeting - Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm at Horncastle College. Items for agenda to be submitted by 9<sup>th</sup> January

- ELDC: Draft Interim Housing policy Consultation. *To be circulated – comments required by 12<sup>th</sup> January*

- ICO: The new publication scheme (Freedom of Information) – To be adopted by Parish Councils from 1 January 2009. *To go on planning meeting agenda*

- Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue – Integrated Risk Management plan year six action plan 2009/10 consultation. *To be circulated – deadline 6<sup>th</sup> February.*

### **b) TO RESPOND TO LCC MINERALS AND WASTE CORE STRATEGY ISSUES AND OPTIONS**

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the Chair and Clerk would respond to the consultation.

### **5622 a) FINANCIAL POSITION**

The Council was provided with the following information:  
Bank Balance stands at £39,902.59

Total Carry Forward to 2008/09 = £35,021.57

Total income to date = £47,254.28

Total Payments so far this year = £39,600.81

Estimated still to pay this year = £16,582.64

This would result in a carry forward to next year of £26,092.40

### **b) TO APPROVE COTTAGE MUSEUM GRANT APPLICATION**

It was agreed that this application would be considered by the Finance Group along with all the other grant applications on the afternoon of 16<sup>th</sup> December and a recommendation would be presented to the council at the meeting that evening.

### **c) PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the following accounts be paid:

£591.62 (Clerks Wages); £88.02 (HM Revenue & Customs); £6.60 (Photocopying); £125.10 (Xmas Lights); £13 (Mrs Johnson); £31.44 (O.E.R); £25 (Insurance); £150 (M.Hare); £100 (Banovallum Brass Band)

### **5623 DATES AND TIMES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

ELDC Town and Parish Assembly: Tuesday 9 December  
Finance Group meeting to consider grant applications: Tuesday 16 Dec at 1.30pm  
Finance Group Meeting to consider the budget: Tuesday 16 Dec at 2.30pm  
Planning meeting: Tuesday 16 Dec at 7pm  
Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 13 January at 7.30pm

### **5624 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

- New working practices / procedures
- Training arrangements
- Business summit proposal
- Budget and precept setting
- Report of litter bins
- Drainage summit update
- Parish Plan (February)
- Finance Group report (planning meeting)

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.45pm.