

MINUTES OF WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on 11th August 2008 at The Chequers, Tholomas Drove

PRESENT

J Parrin (Chairman)	P Barnes	J Carney	P Davies	J Fish	C Fryett	B Payne
P Wait						
C Bellamy						
Visitors	N Adams	PC J Coales	R Gilbert	T Jennings	B Reay	T Wadsley

OPEN FORUM – Member of the public are invited to address the Council.

- The Parish Council was advised that there was a problem in respect of access to the Pond. It was proposed that the Pond Committee liaise with Mr Gilbert to come to some agreement.
- Some concerns were voiced in respect of the willow trees adjacent to the pond as there was a broken branch and that they were subject to a Tree Preservation Order. Mr P Davies agreed that as he was meeting with the Fenland District Council tree officer later in the week concerning the trees on the Guyhirn Playing Field he would also discuss these trees with him.
- The Parish Council was advised that the Pond Committee had undertaken a survey of the pond and due to the fact that the depth of the pond was between 2ft to 4ft 6 ins in depth that there should be a Deep Water sign.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from K Bagg, T Fowler, D Thrower, and J Tuck.

174. **TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING** dated 14.07.08
The minutes of the 14th July 2008 were signed as a true record.

175. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES** (information only)
There were no matters arising.

176. **MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST** for items on the agenda
P Barnes declared a personal interest on item 180b.

177. **FENLAND LINKS**
Report by T Wadsley stating that the summer programme of activities had been well attended with 20 children at each of the craft activities. The Sports activities were not so well attended.

The meeting was reminded of the AGM of Fenland Links Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder Board on the 13th August 2008 at 1.30 pm to 2.00 pm.

178. **POLICE MATTERS**
Report by the Community Beat Officer stating that the majority of crime in the parish was vehicle related either theft of or theft from particularly catalytic converters as they have scrap metal value. There had been 3 in Murrow and 1 in Guyhirn. Majority of these thefts are taking place over night. The meeting was advised that there would be extra controls and knocking on doors. Parishioners should be vigilant and avoid leaving values in their cars.

The clerk had written on two occasions to Inspector R Sissons concerning a meeting in the Parish concerning Smart Water and also advising him that we would be able to distribute leaflets concerning speeding within the Parish. Mr Parrin had been advised at a Panel meeting that he had not received either of these letters and it was agreed that the clerk writes again sending this letter and copies of the previous two to PC J Coales who would deliver them to Inspector Sissons.

- Mr Parrin advised the meeting that there were only two mobile speed guns throughout the area and at the Police Panel meeting it had been suggested that Parish Council contribute to purchasing further guns at £3600 each. These can only be used in 30mph restriction areas and as these areas are very few within our Parish it was felt that perhaps this would not cost effective.
- It was agreed that the Police Panel meetings were not achieving anything and perhaps the way forward would be for Parish Councils to stop attending. Mr Payne stated that perhaps a more efficient way of getting your views across was to complete a Cambridgeshire County Council questionnaire on line. The address is
- The meeting was advised that the Police are interested in getting the Neighbourhood Watch schemes started.

179. **CO-OPTION OF A COUNCILLOR**
Co-option of a councillor due to the resignation of P Carpenter
Invitation to James Carny Murrow to the meeting as a prospective Parish Councillor.
After a discussion it was unanimously agreed that Mr J Carney be co-opted onto the Parish Council and a Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed and witnessed by the clerk. A Register of Members' Interest was given to Mr Carney for completion. This item on the agenda was discussed after the Open Forum in order that Mr Carney could take part in the meeting.

180. **TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

- CCC notification that planning permission has been granted under delegated powers to Planning Application F/02004/08/CC erection of a replacement pre school Murrow Primary School. **Noted.**
- FDC Appeal hearing on the 2nd September 2008 at the Council Chambers, North Brink, Wisbech for APP/DO515/C/08/2065832 Ms Gedney Enforcement Appeal land at Bevis Lane, Wisbech St Mary **Noted**
- Appeal Decision on APP/DO515/A/08/2068791 40 and 42 Station Drive, Wisbech St Mary – Appeal Dismissed. **Noted.**

List of planning applications determined by the Fenland District Council.

- Murrow. **approval.**
- (a) F/YR08/0531/F erection of a 2 bed detached bungalow Plot 2 land North of 35 front Road, fronting Back Road, Applicant E Connolly. Agent David Broker Associates. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (b) F/YR08/0484/O erection of a dwelling (0.0849 ha) Plot 1 Front Road, Murrow. Applicant D Barnes. Agent David Broker Associates. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (c) F/YR08/0534/F erection of a detached garage The Reeds 3 Spencer Drove, Guyhirn. Applicant R Reed. Agent David Broker Associates. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (d) F/YR08/0585/F change of use of part of existing factory unit (B2) to retail (A1) and formation of external door and access ramp to front elevation All Best cuts Limited Hooks Drove, Murrow, Applicant S Carr. Agent David Broker Associates. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (e) F/YR08/0572/F erection of 4 feed silos at existing barn Redgate Farm Fen Road, Guyhirn. Applicant M Hayes. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (f) F/YR08/0641/F erection of a 4 bed detached bungalow and detached triple garage with store above Pinewood, Garden Lane, Wisbech St Mary. Applicant D Paine. Agent Maple Timber Frame. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (g) F/YR08/0558/TRTPO works to 1 willow tree and 1 beech tree covered by TPO 08/1990 Parsonage House, High Road, Guyhirn. Applicant Mrs Russell. Agent Arboreco (Mr R Singh-Barmi) **We support this and recommend approval.**

181. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- (a) Fenland Adventure advising that they are to abandon grant seeking and enclose a cheque for £80.31. **It was agreed to pass this funding to Wisbech St Mary Playing Field and Guyhirn Playing Field to put towards play equipment.**
- (b) North Level District Internal Drainage Board invite for 2 councillors on the 8th October commencing at 9.00 am until approximately 4.00 pm. **It was agreed that Mrs Thrower and Mr Parrin should attend.**
- (c) Cambridgeshire Acre AGM on the 2nd September 2008 at 5.30 pm at St Ives. **Noted Mr Parrin to attend.**
- (d) Thank you from Wisbech St Mary School re donation of £115.39. **Noted.**
- (e) Invitation to AGM of Fenland Links Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder Board on the 13th August 2008 at 1.30 pm to 2.00 pm. **Noted Mr Parrin to attend.**

Correspondence in folder for information only

CCC Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2007-2008
 CCC Your Cambridgeshire Issue 3

FCVS Newsletter July 2008
 FCVS Training Sept-November 2008

182. **HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS**

- (a) Reply from Jill Tuck regarding highway matters passed to her holes in road at Front Road, Murrow, cutting back the hedge at Selwyn Corner and Lindens Close. **The meeting was advised that the holes in the road at Front Road, Murrow have been filled, the hedge at Selwyn Corner cut and Roddons have agreed that Lindens Close is their responsibility and that ramps will be put in eventually.**
- (b) Details of street lights from Engineers at Fenland District Council. **Noted. It was agreed that Mr Payne should investigate archived minutes to try and find out when the FDC took over ownership of streetlights and the maintenance of them. It is understood that this was sometime ago when the Chief Executive was Mr Thompson and the Leader Mr Cotterell. It was agreed that the clerk should then write to FDC requesting when this was changed back to the Parish Council owning them and therefore responsible for maintenance.**

Highways reports from Councillors on problems

- The meeting was advised that next week work will commence on clearing Guyhirn Church, which will include the trees and hedges overhanging the footpath.
 - Mr Parrin advised the meeting that the weeds along the footpath in Wisbech St Mary had been sprayed.
1. FPC3 Church Road, Wisbech St Mary streetlight not working.
 2. Seadyke still flooding the road. Clerk to arrange a site visit with Highways and Mr Barnes.
 3. Junction of Station Road and Leverington Common at Cheney Bridge hedges need cutting as do all road junctions throughout the Parish.
 4. Bin at Thorney Toll near bus shelter still missing. This was taken away by Rapid Response.
 5. Bus stop on the side of the houses needs marking as vehicles are parking in the area and buses cannot pull in and are having to stay on the main road to pick up passengers, which is very dangerous.
 6. Grass is high at Pentelows corner, which is obstructing the signs for the speed limit and traffic calming.
 7. Five cars now parking at Pidgeons corner on the side of the Road. It was agreed that the Police be informed.
 8. Three bungalows at the Pidgeons gardens need attention. Clerk to write to Roddons.

183. **FINANCE**

- (a) To receive a budgetary control report for the year to date. **Noted.**
- (b) FDC reply to our letter concerning the cost of installing street lights and the amount of Concurrent Functions. **Noted.**
- (c) Barclays Treasury £100,000 invested until the 26th August 2008 Interest £387.86 at 4.29%. **Noted.**
- (d) Details from Auditing Solutions Limited re Risk Assessment. **Noted.**
- (e) Extra details required from Moore Stephens re External Audit. **Noted.**

To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

- (f) The Cheques Hire of Hall £15.00 LGAct 1972 S134 **Agreed.**
- (g) Clerk August salary £495.66 LGAct 1972 S112 **Agreed.**
- (h) Tax & NI £174.62 LGAct 1972 S112 **Agreed.**
- (i) Auditing Solutions Limited £211.50 Accounts & Audit Regulations 1996 SII996/590 **Agreed.**

To approve payment of grants

- (j) Guyhirn Friendship Club £100.00 LGAct 1973 S137 **Agreed.**

184. **PARISH PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT MATTERS**

- (a) Maintenance and Risk Assessment reports from Councillors on problems. **There were no problems to report.**
- (b) Discussion re improvements to the Chapelfield, Guyhirn bus shelter for disabled access. **It was agreed to leave this until we are sure as to what is needed from the disabled persons that use this bus stop.**

185. **GUYHIRN POND**

This area was discussed in the open forum and the following was agreed.

- The Pond Committee liaise with Mr Gilbert to come to some agreement as to access to the pond area.
- Mr P Davies agreed that as he was meeting with the Fenland District Council tree officer later in the week concerning the trees on the Guyhirn Playing Field he would also discuss these trees with him.
- The Pond Committee to install a Deep Water sign.

The meeting was closed in order for representatives of the Pond Committee to up date the Parish Council on progress being made.

- It was reported that the water quality would not sustain fish. The area surround the pond is being cleared and that over hanging branches have been cleared from the speed limit sign. It is expected that it will take another four weeks to get the bank sorted out and to clear the duckweed.

186. **HOUSING ASSOCIATION PROPERTIES**

Reply from Cambridge Housing Society regarding the vacancy passed to Roddons Housing. **The clerk advised the meeting that she had spoken with Cambridge Housing and that they would send us a document setting out the procedure for them and the Parish Council to follow for vacancies in order to avoid delays and for our nominations to miss any deadlines. It had also been agreed that the Parish Council should have the next two nominations.**

187. **GUYHIRN PLAYING FIELD**

Progress in respect of the purchase of land from Fenland District Council. **The clerk advised the meeting that she had not heard from Mr Hooper of Fenland District Council even after Mr Bellamy visited him on our behalf. It was agreed that the clerk writes again and that Mr Bellamy and Mr Wait would speak to Mr Hooper to ensure that he has received the Parish Councils correspondence. The last letter that was sent to Mr Hooper requested whether we would be able to obtain a loan from the Fenland District Council to purchase this land and pay it back through the Concurrent Functions as we have done in the past.**

188. **MURROW FOOTPATH**

Progress in respect of work to be carried out.

Details from S Carroll re work to be carried out. **It was agreed that to improve this area additional work should be carried out and it was agreed that Mr Parrin would liaise with Mr Fowler for him to obtain a further quote for this work from Mr Rowell. The Cambridgeshire County Council have agreed to pay half towards this work. We will have to pay for this work and claim back half the cost as Mr Rowell is not a contractor used by them.**

189. **ALLOTMENTS**

Progress re the sale of land at Mouth Lane, Wisbech St Mary. **No progress had been made, but the clerk to write again.**

190. **DELIVERY OF POLICE LEAFLETS**

As stated earlier in the meeting under Police Matters, the clerk had written on two occasions to Inspector R Sissons concerning a meeting in the Parish concerning Smart Water and also advising him that we would be able to distribute leaflets concerning speeding within the Parish. Mr Parrin had been advised at a Panel meeting that he had not received either of these letters and it was agreed that the clerk writes again sending this letter and copies of the previous two to PC J Coales who would delivery them to Inspector Sissons.

191. **WEBSITE FOR WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

a It was agreed that the clerk contacts Mr S Pulford a self employed website provider to see what would be available with regard to having a Parish Council website. It was agreed that the clerk arranges for Mr Pulford to attend a meeting outside Parish Council meeting.

192. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)**

- Mr Parrin advised the meeting that extra bus routes are being provided and it was agreed that the clerk obtain a timetable for the number 36 which is a route from Wisbech to Peterborough going through Guyhirn and Wisbech St Mary. There will be five buses each way every day.
- Mr Parrin stated that he had received from Fenland Links a document “Effective Three Tier Working in Cambridgeshire a proposal for enhanced Neighbourhood engagement and Management in Fenland”. This is a consultation document, which is going to FDC cabinet in the very near future. It was suggested that the clerk writes to Jill Tuck asking when the Parish Council were going to be consulted and when is it going to cabinet.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

193. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Monday, 1st September 2008

194. **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2008/2009**

Monday, 22nd September 2008
Monday, 13th October 2008
Monday 3rd November 2008
Monday, 24th November 2008
Monday, 15th December 2008
Monday, 5th January 2009