

**MINUTES OF WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at The Chequers, Tholomas Drove

**PRESENT**

Councillors:- J Parrin (Chairman) P Barnes P Davies J Fish T Fowler C Fryett D Thrower  
C Bellamy

Parishioners:- T Jennings B Reay S Pitcher

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

- It was reported that there was a broken branch in one of the willow trees near the Pond. It was felt that the responsibility of the pond had been passed to the Pond Committee and the Parish Council had agreed to pay the Liability Insurance. The Parishioner agreed to contact the Pond Committee. It was agreed that these willow trees needed pollarding.
- It was reported that the road leading to the bottle bank at Guyhirn was still muddy and very dangerous. The clerk had not received any response from the FDC since replying to their correspondence when the Parish Council had reputed their statement that this area was not the responsibility of the FDC but the Parish Council.
- It was suggested that play equipment for Guyhirn should be placed in a different area of the playing field and not the area that the Parish Council was trying to purchase from the FDC.
- The meeting was reminded of the open day in Guyhirn Village Hall on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2008.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from K Bagg, P Carpenter, B Payne, T Wadsley and PC J Coales.

34. **TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING** dated the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2008.  
The minutes of the meeting of the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2008 were signed as a true record.
35. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES** (information only)  
The Chairman stated that no progress had been made in respect of a bus service in Murrow. It was understood that Fenland Links were going to pressure on the Cambridgeshire County Council.
36. **MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST** for items on the agenda  
C Bellamy declared a personal interest on items 39c and 40g.
37. **FENLAND LINKS**  
There was no representative from Fenland Links at the meeting
38. **POLICE MATTERS**  
There was no representative from the Police at the meeting.
39. **TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**
- FDC re appeal by C Hooper erection of 8 x 3 bed semi detached house with associated garaging/parking involving demolition of existing bungalow Alasan Lodge 113 Front Road, Murrow. Reply required 6 weeks from the 6.02.08. **The meeting was advised that this development had now been approved. It was agreed that no action be taken.**
  - Reply from the Highways Agency regarding the downgrading of the road from Guyhirn to Wisbech via Wisbech St Mary advising that this road is the responsibility of the Cambridgeshire Highways. **It was agreed that the clerk writes to the Cambridgeshire Highways requesting when was this road downgraded, why the Parish Council was not advised and what was the criteria for this change.**
- List of planning applications determined by the Council.**
- (a) F/YR08/0041/O erection of a house involving demolition of existing dwelling The Paddocks, Selwyn Corner, Guyhirn. Applicant Mr and Mrs Wilson. Agent Vawser and Co. **We support this development and strongly recommend approval.**
  - (b) F/YR08/0072/RM erection of a 4 bed detached house with detached double garage Plot 3 The Acorns, Front Road, Fronting, Back Road, Murrow. Applicant Y Al-Amily. Agent Trevor A Clay Riba Limited. **We support this development and strongly recommend approval.**
  - (c) F/YR08/0087/F erection of a 4 bed detached house with detached double garage involving demolition of existing dwelling. Applicant Mr Dass. Agent Peter Humphrey Associates Limited. **We support this development and strongly recommend approval.**
  - (d) F/YR08/0065/RM erection of a 3 bed house with associated parking involving demolition of existing mobile home Plot 1 The Paddocks, Selwyn Corner, Guyhirn. Applications Mr and Mrs Wilson. Agent Broker. **We support this development and strongly recommend approval.**
  - (e) F/YR08/0115/F erection of a single storey rear extension and conservatory to existing dwelling Romar Selwyn Corner Guyhirn. Applicant Mr and Mrs K Pell. Agent David Broker. **We support this development and strongly recommend approval.**
  - (f) F/YR08/0116/F erection of a conservatory to rear of existing dwelling, Corbiere High Road, Wisbech st Mary. Applicant Mr and Mrs Sharpe. Agent Economy Windows. **We support this development and strongly recommend approval.**

40. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- (a) Communities and Local Government Consultation on Orders and Regulations relating to the Conduct of Local Authority Members in England. **Noted.**
- (b) MHB Services Limited re street lights and other works. **Noted.**
- (c) P Carpenter requesting draft minutes to be placed on the websites. **After a discussion it was agreed that we do not place draft minutes on the websites.**
- (d) Ben Ewan Young Lives with details of Projects Dates **Noted.**
- (e) Notification from the Audit Commission that they are to appoint Moore Stephens for a five year period commencing the 2007/2008 Accounts. **Noted.**
- (f) Fenland Links Village Consultation/Celebration events Wisbech St Mary 20.02.08, Guyhirn 23.02.08, Parson Drove 01.03.08, Murrow 08.03.08 and Thorney Toll 14.03.08. **Noted.**
- (g) Letter from V White Bunkers Hill concerning traffic problems at Bunkers Hill. **After a discussion it was agreed that the clerk writes to CCC Highways requesting more signs at Bunkers Hill for dangerous bends and junctions.**
- (h) CALC courses. **Noted.**
- (i) Reply from Chief Constable Julie Spence regarding level of police and has passed on our letter to Chief Superintendent Gipp. **Noted.**
- (j) Letter from S Pitcher Guyhirn Primary School regarding the traffic problem along Main Road, Guyhirn. **After a discussion it was agreed that the clerk writes to CCC Highways requesting more signs indicating a school road and on verge. To request a reduction in the speed limit outside the school to 20 mph at the beginning and end of the school day. It was agreed that the clerk contacts CCC Highways concerning hedges needing cutting as they are obstructing the pavement between Emblings and the school especially the hedge at Sheraton and the neighbouring house.**
- (k) Letter from Murrow School regarding the new Murrow Pre School building. **The meeting was invited to look at the plans of the new Murrow Pre School to open in September 2008.**

**Correspondence in folder for information only**

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41. **HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS**

- (a) CCC Highways Bus stop at Chapelfield Avenue, Guyhirn advising that they are obtaining quotations to find out cost and it may be that they will have to ask the Parish Council to put funds towards this work. **It was agreed that the clerk writes requesting details of the cost in order that they can make a more informed decision. It was agreed that work needed to be carried out as a matter of urgency to enable wheelchairs to exit the buses safely.**
- (b) CCC re streetlight removed from Murrow is being stored at the contractors depot at Huntingdon. **Noted.**
- (c) Details from CCC Highways concerning work to be carried out that has been reported from previous meetings. **Noted.**
- (d) Reply from Environmental Health concerning the additional dog fouling signs and bins. **Noted.**
- (e) Reply from CCC Highways regarding matters passed from the previous meeting. **Noted.**

**Highways reports from Councillors on problems**

1. The clerk was requested to contact CCC Highways to see if they have made any progress regarding permission to place a seat on the small area of grass opposite the Wisbech St Mary Village Hall.
2. Side of roads at Murrow Bank between the Plash and Pentelows Corner still needs infilling.
3. Numerous pot holes Seadyke Bank especially opposite the Builders Yard and Gary Patricks.
4. Numerous pot holes in Plash Drove, Tholomas Drove from The Chequers to Bramble Corner.
5. Numerous pot holes in Back Road, Tholomas Drove.
6. Request Planning Department what action is being taken on the Enforcement Notices issued to residents in Back Road, Murrow to remove obstacles in the road and verges including posts and trees.

42. **FINANCE**

- (a) To receive a budgetary control report of year to date. **The clerk advised the meeting that the balance of the account is £130907.88.**
- (b) Barclays Bank Treasury Deposit interest £424.66 reinvested until the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2008 interest on maturity £383.12. **Noted.**

**To approve payment of outstanding accounts:**

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| (c) The Cheques Hire of Hall | £15.00 LGAct 1972 S134 <b>Agreed</b>   |
| (d) Clerk February salary    | £452.67 LGAct 1972 S112 <b>Agreed</b>  |
| (e) Tax & NI                 | £173.14 LGAct 1972 S112 <b>Agreed.</b> |

**To approve payment of grants**

**The Chairman closed the meeting to ask Parishioners for information on the request from Young Lives.**

- (f) Young Lives funding to hire Guyhirn Village Hall for Youth Activities £to be agreed LGAct 1972 S137 **It was agreed that the clerk writes for further information to enable the Council to make a more informed decision as no one at the meeting could give any details to support the request.**
- (g) Little Lambs Pre School £350.00 LGAct 1972 S137 **Agreed.**

**At this point of the meeting the clerk left the meeting.**

43. **REVIEW OF CLERK'S SALARY**  
Annual review of clerk's salary. **It was agreed to increase the clerk's salary by £500.00 with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008.**
44. **REVIEW OF ALLOTMENT RENTS**  
Annual review of allotment rents. Any increase decided to take effect from the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2009. **In view of the fact that any increase decided would not take effect until October 2009 it was agreed to place this on the agenda in September 2008.**
45. **PARISH PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT MATTERS**  
(a) Maintenance and Risk Assessment reports from Councillors on problems. **The Councillors had no problems to report.**  
(b) Date to be arranged for the annual risk assessment. **It was agreed to place this on the agenda for the next meeting. Mr Parrin stated that to date he had not met with Mr Mark Fryett to obtain quotations for work on the bus shelters.**
46. **GUYHIRN POND**  
The ROSPA report had been received and as Mrs Thrower had attended the meeting when they had visited the pond. The pond had poor water quality with sewerage seeping into it and ROSPA had stated in their report that whilst this was the case this area was not problem as far as risk was concerned as no one was likely to try and swim in this Pond. If this was rectified then this fact would change. It was stated that part of this report had been changed by Mr Davies, a member of the Pond Committee. These alterations were made without the consent of ROSPA. It was agreed Mrs Thrower would try and obtain a copy of the unchanged ROSPA risk assessment and report back to the Parish Council.
47. **GUYHIRN PLAYING FIELD**  
The clerk advised the meeting that she had written to Mr John Hooper of FDC, but to date no reply had been received. It was agreed that although in the Open Forum it had been suggested that the play equipment should be placed in another area of the playing field that we should still continue to purchase this land for future projects such as a new community centre.
48. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)**
- The clerk advised the meeting that notices had been received for the vacancy on the Parish Council.
  - The Chairman advised the meeting that the Playing Field Committee had agreed that the Parish Council could hold the Parish Assembly at the Pavilion on the Wisbech St Mary Playing Field.
  - The clerk advised the meeting that no replies had been received in respect of the letters sent to the Chief Executives and Leaders of the FDC and CCC regarding the purpose of spending public money to obtain Quality Status when nothing has changed.
- There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.
49. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at The Chequers, Tholomas Drove
50. **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2008/2009**  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008  
Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008  
Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2008 -Annual Assembly and AGM  
Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008  
Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008  
Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2008  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2008  
Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008  
Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2008  
Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2008  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008  
Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2008  
Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2008  
Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009

