

MINUTES OF WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL
held on Monday 13th July 2009 at Wisbech St Mary Sports Pavillion

PRESENT

D Thrower (Chairman)	P Barnes	B Britain	P Davies	J Fish	T Fowler	C Fryett
J Parrin	B Payne	C Bellamy	R Scrimshaw			
Parishioners	R Boyce	B Harrison	L Harrison	R Howson	T Jennings	J Martin
	D MacCullough	T Purdy	B Reay			
Visitor	G Harper (Leader of FDC)		P C J Coales			

OPEN FORUM

- A member of the Guyhirn Hall Committee advised the meeting that when it rains there is a large puddle outside the Guyhirn Village Hall and that due to the work carried out by Cambridgeshire Highways on the pavement the camber of this pavement is allowing the water into the hall.
- A number of parishioners were present at the meeting to speak about the speeding along High Road, Wisbech St Mary. They handed in a petition and it was agreed that this would be sent to the Fenland Area Joint Committee in order that this matter could be discussed.
- Whilst speeding was being discussed Mr J Fish voiced concerned over the speeding on the A47 through Thorney Toll.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from J Carney, J Tuck and T Wadsley.

121. **TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING** dated 15th June 2009
After minor alterations the minutes of the 15th June 2009 were signed as a true record.

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

123. **MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST** for items on the agenda
Mr B Payne declared a personal interest on item 128a and b.
Mr P Barnes declared a personal interest on item 131f
Mrs D Thrower declared a personal interest on item 131k.

124. **FDC NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**
There was no report from Fenland Neighbourhood Community Team.

125. **POLICE MATTERS**
The Community Beat Officer stating that there had been general thefts from sheds, but no theft of or from vehicles other than one at the weekend at Thorney Toll. The theft of vehicles and house burglaries were very high in the Wisbech area.

As far as speeding the Police will continue with speed watch, but enforcement was a problem as it needed 24 hour cover and there were not enough police officers.

126. **G HARPER PRESENTATION ON THE STRUCTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

Mr G Harper Leader of Fenland District Council outlined the structure of Fenland District Council. After the presentation the following questioners were asked by the Councillors.

1. Have received a letter from FDC advising the Parish Council that there are streetlights in Chapel Avenue that need replacing at a cost of £1300. Why have we received this notification when the streetlights are on an ex FDC estate and therefore belong to FDC.
2. Guyhirn roundabout is a mess. – It was agreed that this was the responsibility of the Highways Agency, but does not look very nice to visitors to the area.
3. The village signs within our parish do not have Fenland on them like many of the villages within Fenland.
4. Who represents this side of the river on the Cabinet. Mr Mac Cotterell is on the cabinet, but does not represent this side of the river.
5. How is the Neighbourhood Management Board going to work with only one representative from the 12 Parish Councils. Mr Harper stated that this Board would be run along the lines of the Golden Age Fairs.
6. How is FDC the best District Council when so many mistakes are being made by their officers such as trying to tell electorates that the allotments behind the Thorney Toll houses belong to the Parish Council and allowing a wall to be built in the middle of dyke in Wisbech St Mary and advising us that this is covered by Middle Level Drainage when Wisbech St Mary Parish is covered by North Level Drainage.
7. What is the point of going for Quality Status when nothing has changed? Our Liaison Officer Tim Mills left the area and we were not given a replace.

Mr Harper agreed to look into these matters.

127. **CO-OPTION ONTO THE PARISH COUNCIL**

- (a) Letter from Mr A Purdy asking to be considered for this co-option.
- (b) Name put forward by Electoral Services - Mrs J Hall.

- (c) Name put forward by B Britain – Mr Charles Allen

At this point of the meeting a discussion took place in respect of filling the vacancy on the Parish Council due to the resignation of Mr K Bagg. Mrs J Hall was proposed by P Barnes and seconded by J Parrin. Mr C Allen was proposed by J Fish and seconded by B Britain. In order that voting could be kept confidential voting papers were distributed to all existing Parish Councillors at the meeting. Mr C Allen was duly elected by 5 votes to 4.

128. **TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

1. FDC Development Support Manager regarding the planning applications on the public access page of the FDC Website. Have arranged for all plans to be scanned onto the website within one day of receiving them from Development services. **Noted.**

List of planning applications determined by the Fenland District Council.

- (a) F/YR09/0374/O erection of a dwelling land South of Gaultree Farm, High Road, Guyhirn. Applicant Mr and Mrs D Payne. Agent Mr Alan Faulkner. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (b) F/YR09/0375/O erection of a dwelling involving demolition of existing outbuildings land North of Gaultree Farm, High Road, Guyhirn. Applicant Mr and Mrs D Payne. Agent Mr Alan Faulkner. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (c) F/YR09/0368/F erection of part two storey/single storey side extension to existing dwelling The Elders, Panswell Lane, Leverington. Applicant Mr P S Bhogal. Agent Mr David Broker. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- Hill. (d) F/YR09/0394/F erection of an agricultural storage building land North West of Stamford Bridge, Rat Row, Bunkers Applicant Mrs J Smith. Agent Mr David Broker. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- Applicant (e) F/YR09/0414/F erection of a porch to front elevation of existing dwelling The Chequers, High Road, Guyhirn. Mr B Beacon. Agent Mr Robert Powell. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (f) F/YR09/0417/F erection of a 4/5 bed detached chalet bungalow with detached double garage Whitegates, Hooks Drove, Murrow. Applicant Mr c Bedford. Agent Mr G Edwards. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (g) F/YR09/0416/F erection of single storey rear extension involving alterations to roof and part demolition of existing annexe and alterations to porch roof to front elevation of existing dwelling Treetops, Hooks Drove, Murrow. Applicant Mr K Crompton. Agent Mr T O'Shea Brown. **We support this development and recommend approval.**

129. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- (a) Crime Buster Bus in Wisbech St Mary Village Hall on Thursday, 23rd July 2009. **Noted. It was agreed that the clerk writes requesting why this Bus is not visiting Guyhirn and Thorney Toll.**
- (b) FDC Wildlife Events and the great Nature Challenge for 2009 closing date Friday, 31st July 2009. **Noted.**
- (c) Chief Superintendent M E J Gipp and Mark Hopkins of Cambridgeshire Constabulary regarding the theft of the mower from Guyhirn Playing Field. **Noted. It was agreed that this be placed on the agenda for the next meeting in order that we obtain a reply.**
- (d) North Level District Internal Drainage Board inviting two Councillors to attend an open day on the 12th October 2009. **Mr T Fowler and Mr C Fryett agreed to attend.**
- (e) Invite to Fenland Links Celebration event on the 16th July 2009 at The Oasis Centre. **Noted. Mr Parrin would be attending.**

Correspondence in folder for information only

Community Action Summer 2009
Cope Newsletter July 2009

Local Council Review Summer 2009
Clerks & Councils Direct July 2009

130. **HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS**

- (a) CCC Jointly Funded Minor Highways Improvements – 2010/11 Bidding Round. **It was agreed to apply for funding for a footpath from Church Road to High Road and from Bunkers Hill to Wisbech St Mary.**
- (b) Reply from Malcolm Moss MP regarding the A47. **Noted. It was agreed that the clerk sets up a meeting for Mr Andy Jobling of the Highways Agency to meet with Mr Fish at Thorney Toll. It was agreed that the clerk writes to M Moss MP advising him that we are setting up this meeting and also pointing out that the figures from the Highways Agency on accidents in Thorney Toll is incorrect as in June 2007 there was an accident with three fatalities and they are stating that there was only 1 fatality in that year.**
- (c) M Collings Infrastructure Engineer advising that 3 street lights owned by the Parish council in Chapel Avenue need replacing at a cost of £1300 per column. **Mr G Harper agreed to look into this as these Streetlights do not belong to the Parish Council.**
- (d) Reply from Neil Band regarding the footpath in Murrow. **Noted. The clerk advised the meeting that she had spoken to Mr Simeon Carroll from Rural Access and that he had stated that Edf energy had carried out the work and that CCC Highways were happy with the work. It was agreed that no further action be taken.**

Highways reports from Councillors on problems

- Mr Payne advised the meeting that the hole in Church Road, Wisbech St Mary at the back of the fish shop had at last be filled in.

1. Trees overhanging the road in Sandbank, Rummers Lane Wisbech St Mary, Bunkers Hill and various other road junctions within the Parish.
2. Roads in Murrow very uneven especially Murrow Bank between Cants Drove and the Splash Gull Road.
3. Trees overhanging bus stop in Guyhirn.
4. Gull Bank sign is missing
5. Chevrons to slow down traffic in Gull Road are missing.
6. All dog bins and waste bins full in Thorney Toll.
7. Road sign Murrow Bank opposite Mill Road missing.
8. Hole in road at Pentelows Corner and slip road from Guyhirn to the A47.
9. Seadyke Bank dyke filled in and now road flooding.
10. Bellamy Bridge more work need as accidents continue to happen on a regular basis.
11. Walnut Cottage flooding over the road. CCC Highways contractor has stated that this is due to the fact that a root from the Walnut Cottage garden is blocking the drain.
12. Wisbech St Mary village sign needs painting and Mr Parrin has agreed to contact an officer from Whitemoor Prison to see if they are able to undertake this work.

131. **FINANCE**

- (a) To receive a budgetary control report for the 2009/2010 to date. **Balance of account £100038.98.**
 (b) VAT Refund £317.79 **Noted.**
 (c) FDC Parish Council concurrent Functions 2009/2010 £3605.00. **Noted.**

To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

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| (d) Clerk July salary | £495.66 LGAct 1972 S112 | Agreed. |
| (e) Tax & NI | £174.62 LGAct 1972 S112 | Agreed. |
| (f) Murrow Village Hall Hire of Hall for meeting on the 15.06.09 | £30.00 LGAct 1972 S134 | Agreed. |
| (g) Local Council Administration 8 th Edition | £53.60 LG(Financial Provisions Act 1963) | Agreed. |
| (h) Towergate Fidelity Insurance | £1088.40 LGAct 1972 S114 | Agreed. |
| (i) CALC Clerks Wellbeing Course | £25.00 LG(Financial Provisions Act 1963) | Agreed. |
| (j) Fraser Dawbarns to cover land register fee Guyhirn Playing Field | £6.00 LG(Financial Provisions Act 1963) | Agreed. |

To approve payment of grants

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| (k) Murrow Book Café | £500.00 LGAct 1972 S137 | Agreed. |
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132. **PARISH PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT MATTERS**

Verbal reply regarding the footpath at Murrow. Edf energy has carried out the work as required and Highways are happy with the way that the footpath has been left and therefore, will not fund any further work. **Agreed that no further action be taken.**

133. **GUYHIRN POND**

A report from the Guyhirn Pond Committee was submitted to the meeting. **Due to the fact that a previous report had stated that some of the trees adjacent to the Pond were in a dangerous condition the Parish Council stated that no further work should be undertaken until these trees had been dealt with. It was agreed that before any further work is commenced we should see a copy of the Public Liability Insurance. It was agreed that the Guyhirn representatives on the Parish Council inspect the area to see what work needs to be undertaken and the clerk was requested to send a copy of the letter from Nigel Adams, which had set out a plan of the trees.**

134. **POWER OF WELLBEING**

The clerk advised the meeting that she had attended a training day at CPALC on Saturday, 11th July 2009. Parson Drove Parish Council had agreed to join us. After a discussion it was agreed on two dates 7th October or the 4th November. To date we have not heard as to which date was suitable for Parson Drove. It was agreed that the clerk contacts Mr Parrin to book the Wisbech St Mary Sports Pavillion as soon as Parson Drove had contacted her.

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

Mr Parrin advised the meeting that he had received some bus timetables setting out the new service through Murrow.

136. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Monday 17th August 2009 at The Chequers Tholomas Drove

137. **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2009/2010**

- Monday, 14th September 2009 at Guyhirn Village Hall
- Monday, 12th October 2009 at Murrow Village Hall
- Monday 9th November 2009 at Wisbech St Mary Playing Field Pavillion (change of venue)
- Monday, 7th December 2009 at The Chequers Tholomas Drove
- Monday, 4th January 2010 at Guyhirn Village Hall

