

MINUTE 127

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 8 P.M. ON MONDAY 7 JULY 2008

The following Councillors attended:

Mr Mike Lewis in the chair, Mr Ken Bowers, Mr Greg Lye, Miss Nora Swinford and Mr Michael Thomas.

3 members of the public and County Councillor Steve Osborne attended.

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Jonathan Hanslip and District Councillor Wendy Amos.

PUBLIC FORUM

The question of replacing the village sign was raised, suggesting a Newsletter request for ideas, and that the Local History Society might consider what could be depicted on the sign.

1. CO-OPTION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR TO FILL VACANCY

It was proposed by Mr Bowers, seconded by Miss Swinford and agreed that Mrs Susan Wingrave be co-opted as Parish Councillor to represent the Locks.

Mrs Wingrave, who was present, agreed and took her seat on the Council, completing her Declaration of Acceptance of Office, Undertaking of Compliance with the Code of Conduct for Parish Councils, and her Register of Interests.

2. DECLARATION OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS RELEVANT TO MATTERS ARISING ON THIS AGENDA

All Councillors were provided with a new guidance flowchart on this matter.

Mrs Wingrave declared an interest in Item 5: refusal of permission for conversion of a barn.

3. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was resolved to approve the Minutes of the last meeting.

4. FINANCE

a) Financial Statement

Current account : £3837.68

Reserve account: £4069.64

b) Resolution to confirm and approve income and expenditure

It was resolved to approve the following:

Income:

Allotment rents: £32.00

Expenditure:

Cheque no.				VAT to reclaim
677	Glasdon UK Ltd	Litter bin	286.26	42.63
678	ABB Ltd	Lighting maintenance	49.39	7.36
679	Mrs A Hiscock	Salary April – June	275.00	
680	Orchard Print Services Ltd	Newsletter printing	60.75	
681	Whilton Spinney project	Grant	450.00	
682	Daventry Villages Together	Contribution	60.00	
683	Anglian Water	Allotment water charge: to June	21.37	

c) The clock

The Clerk reported that Smith of Derby have carried out their maintenance of the clock, but that a deterioration had occurred to certain components. They will be providing us with a report and quotations on this.

d) Internal audit

The report of the Internal Auditor was presented with the following observations or recommendations:

- a. Complete the Publication Scheme
- b. Review the policy for retention/ archiving/ destruction of documents
- c. Continue work on the Asset Register
- d. Review the Risk Assessment Policy

It was agreed to accept the report. Items a) and b) have already been completed, and c) and d) will be undertaken in the autumn.

e) Design Statement costs

The Chairman explained that the extensions of the “Awards for All” grant have now come to an end, and that the grant not spent must now be repaid. He proposed and it was agreed that the following payments be confirmed:

684	Design to Print	Printing Design Statement	494.00	
685	Awards for All	Excess grant	68.39	

25 copies of the Statement will be for the DDC; the other 35 will be held by the Parish Council, and their future will be discussed in September.

5.PLANNING

- Application DA/2008/0440 swimming pool, Manor Barn, has been withdrawn
- Permission has been refused for conversion of a barn, Brington Lane. The Chairman drew attention to the Planning Officer’s review and reasons for this.
- Details have been received on the rebuilding of Roughmoor, outside the parish. The Clerk will hold this for information.
- West Northants Joint Planning Unit have produced a West Northants Joint Core Strategy – Village Service Questionnaire, which will be completed by the Chairman.
- Daventry Infrastructure Strategy/WNDC: The Chairman explained that a long consultation document has been produced on what is needed to support the growth of Daventry to 2021. In the ensuing discussion the following were identified as particularly affecting Whilton:
 - The need for much more sewage treatment provision, the updating and enlarging of the Whilton plant and the suggestion of relaxing rules in the meanwhile
 - The suggested plan for a roundabout where the A5 meets the C5 road, making it essential that there should be active traffic management to discourage use of the C5 and encourage the provision of a Flore /Weedon bypass.

Mr Lewis agreed to respond to the consultation on behalf of the Parish Council. There was discussion about the figures for traffic passing through the parish. County Councillor Osborne suggested that the use of a professional independent survey might be helpful.

6.ROADS AND SAFETY

- **Leaks, drainage, parking.**
 - The Clerk said Anglian Water had been informed of the leak at the bottom bends.
 - She reported that the next programmed jetting of drains is currently programmed for December. She was asked to request an earlier date. Mr Lye and Mr Bowers were asked to write a resume of water problems.
 - Both NCC Highways and the Police are aware that parking in narrow village streets is difficult, but are not able to act unless cars are parked illegally i.e. where a curb is lowered, within 10 metres of a junction or blocking the highway.

- Lorraine Humfress, our Police Community Support Officer has offered to hold monthly **surgeries in the Village Hall**, where parishioners may come to discuss any matters where she may be able to help. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would pay for an hour's rent of the Hall each month, and that the dates and times of these surgeries would be included in the Newsletter. The intention would be to start in October.

- **New street furniture**

It was agreed to get quotes for the following work:

 - Removal of the old seat on the Green, removal of the base, and making good, re-seeding with grass.
 - Erection of the new seat on a concrete base further back near the churchyard wall.
 - Removal of the litter bin and base and re-instatement beside the new seat.
 - Erection of the old seat on a new base at top of the village past Hill Top.
 - Removal of the allotment steps, saving the stone to put in the wall above.
 - Erection of a new litter bin by the seats at the Locks

7. VILLAGE GREEN

The Clerk reported that NCC had now replied to her letter asking for reasons for their "being minded to reject" our application. NCC state that they have again referred the matter to their barrister, Mr Petchy. It was agreed that this response is not satisfactory. The Clerk was asked to inform them that both the Parish Council and County Councillor Steve Osborne wished for a speedy answer to our original question.

8. BT PAYPHONE CONSULTATION

The payphone at Whilton Locks is among the 60 proposed to be removed. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council is opposed to this. The kiosk is near the potential danger spots of both railway and canal, where despite the small amount of calls recorded, it is an essential service, especially for emergency calls.

9. PARISH AND VILLAGE VOLUNTEERS

The following were confirmed or appointed as volunteers:

Footpath warden:	Maurice Clements
Highways Representative:	Jonathan Hanslip
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:	Peter Bennett (Deputy: Derek Brown)
Parish Council Representative on Spinney Management Group:	Greg Lye
Parish Council Representative on Village Hall Management Group:	Mike Lewis
Salt warden:	Janet Bowers
Tree warden:	Maurice Clements
Daventry Villages Together representative:	Michael Thomas
WNDC/Parish liaison meetings representatives:	Mike Lewis and Greg Lye

10. LIAISON WITH DDC

The Clerk reported that Rose Cottage is now on the DDC list of empty properties. An invitation to be involved in an environmental audit of Whilton had been received. It was agreed that this is not necessary at present.

11. LIAISON WITH NCC

County Councillor Steve Osborne reported on ongoing changes of chief officers and that he is on the Young People's Scrutiny Committee.

Documents received from the NCC include:

"Strategy for Community Cohesion: Local Area Agreement

NCC Annual General Meeting agenda and reports 15 May 2008.

NCC Meeting agenda and reports and Council Plan 2008-12. 26 June 2008

12. NORTHANTS CALC AND ACRE

Calor Village of the Year

Councillors Ken Bowers, Greg Lye and Nora Swinford will attend the presentation evening on 22 July

Training

Councillors Michael Thomas and Susan Wingrave agreed to attend the course for new councillors at a cost of £29 each

Information

The following have been received and will be circulated:

N CALC *Update* : May – June 2008

Village Viewpoint Summer 2008

The Playing Field Spring 2008

Northamptonshire Partnership Newsletter No.1 (relating to *Local Area Agreement*)

13. INFORMATION RECEIVED

British Red Cross: "Dial a wheelchair" service poster has been put on the board

The following will be circulated:

Northants Environmental Forum: "Improving your patch awards" entry form 2008

Clerks and Councils Direct July 2008

Open Space Summer 2008.

The following are available from the Clerk:

Open Spaces Society Annual report and accounts 2007.

Society of Local Council Clerks: details of national conference and Local Policy training course.

Glasdon street furniture catalogues

14. MATTERS TO RAISE ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Preparation of a policy statement on how to keep the Design Statement updated.

County Councillor Osborne explained that a grant is available for spending on the parish, but that details must be provided by the end of August. It was agreed to hold an extra meeting to make a decision on parish priorities for this at 8 p.m. on Wednesday 23 July.

The meeting closed at 10 p.m.