

MINUTE 137

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 P.M. ON MONDAY 11TH MAY 2009

The following Councillors attended:

Mr Mike Lewis, Mr Ken Bowers, Mr Jonathan Hanslip, Miss Nora Swinford, Mr Michael Thomas and Mrs Susan Wingrave.

Apologies were received from District Councillor Wendy Amos and County Councillor Steve Osborne.

Police Community Support Officer Lorraine Humfress and one parishioner attended.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Lewis requested that a letter of appreciation be written to Mr Greg Lye, who had resigned after nearly ten years on the Parish Council.

He also announced the resignation of the Clerk, and requested that thanks for her service to the Parish Council be minuted.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Mr Thomas, seconded by Miss Swinford and agreed that Mr Lewis be elected chairman for the coming year.

2. UPDATING OF REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Councillors were given the opportunity to update their registers of interest. No changes were made.

3. VACANCIES

The Clerk reported that she had informed the DDC of the vacancy for a Parish Councillor and posted a notice on the board.

The Clerk has given three months notice, and it was agreed to advertise the post on the notice board and in the Newsletter first. No Councillor was able to volunteer to assist the present Clerk or in liaising with both present and new Clerk over the tasks required.

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

No declarations were made.

5. FINANCE

a) Financial statement at 1st April

Current account: £1296.34

Reserve account: £5641.20

b) Review of Schedule of Assets and Insurance

The schedule of assets was reviewed. There was discussion about the value of the grass mower. The insurance company has index-linked the value of all our assets, increasing their value.

Councillors considered that it would be possible to replace the mower for about £400 rather than the £719 insured. It was agreed to pay the premium, which is due on 1st June, but to inquire about the valuation of a replacement mower.

Following the discussion concerning Parish Council assets, it was agreed to advertise for someone to carry out general maintenance of our assets.

c) It was resolved to approve the following income and expenditure

Income:

HM Customs and Excise: VAT refund: 344.37
 First half of precept: 2875.00
 Allotments rents: 56.00
 Bank interest March 2009: 1.98

Expenditure:

Cheque no.				VAT to reclaim
707	Orchard Print Services Ltd	Printing newsletter	48.60	
708	CPM	Remove existing seat on Green and make good, with extra topsoil Install new seat in new position. Reposition litter bin. Remove steps from allotments and make good allotment wall. Erect old seat on allotments Install new bin at Whilton Locks	770.00	
709	EON	Lighting maintenance	48.33	6.30
710	Allianz Insurance plc	Insurance Premium	555.42	
711	CPM	Move seat on allotments and install in new position	160.00	
712	Northants CALC	Subscription	97.34	
713	Northants CALC	Internal audit fees	138.92	
714	DVT	Contribution	60.00	
715	EON	Electricity	126.86	6.04
716	Whilton Spinney Management Project	Grant	450.00	

d) It was resolved to approve the Annual Accounts as follows:

**WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2009**

Year ended 31 March 2008		Year ended 31 March 2009
	RECEIPTS	
4750.00	Precept	5750.00
144.00	Allotments	136.00
129.78	Interest	71.64
nil	Grants	3112.70
81.39	Refund from DDC and photocopies provided	nil
336.76	VAT refund	270.05
5442.01	TOTAL RECEIPTS	9340.39
	PAYMENTS	
1100.00	Clerk	1100.00
1214.20	General administration (of which bank charges £92.85)	1963.11
845.00	Clock maintenance	2198.63
25.00	Section 137 payments	15.00
506.00	Street lights	651.40
312.40	Parish Magazine	376.65
191.42	Green and Churchyard	769.39
195.30	Allotments	127.54
600.00	Grants	450.00
251.24	VAT	546.35
5240.56	TOTAL PAYMENTS	8208.07

WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL

BANKING RECONCILIATION AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS 31 MARCH 2009

Current Account	£1296.34
Reserve account	<u>£5641.20</u>
	£6937.54
Less unpresented cheque no: 705	<u>348.42</u>
Balance:	£6589.12
Add Stocks in consols	<u>5.37</u>
	£6594.49

**WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS
2008-2009**

Last year ended 31 March 2008		Year ended 31 March 2009
	Balance brought forward	5481.80
5255.35	Less £25 from cheque not presented in previous year	<u>25.00</u>
		<u>5456.80</u>
4750.00	Add Annual Precept	5750.00
692.01	Add other receipts	3590.39
10697.36	Total	14797.19
1100.00	Less staff costs	1100.00
4140.56	Less total other payments	7108.07
5456.80	Balance carried forward	6589.12
	These cumulative funds are represented by:	
1412.16	Current Account No 06511031 at Natwest Bank	1296.34
4069.64	Deposit Account No 15325652 at Natwest Bank	5641.20
5481.80	Total	6937.54
<u>25.00</u>	Less outstanding cheques	<u>348.42</u>
5456.80		6589.12
5462.17	Total reserves with stock (£5.37)	6594.49

e) Annual Audit Return

Following the approval of the Annual Accounts, Section 1 of the Audit Return was completed, the questions on Section 2 were read out, and answered in the affirmative, and the form completed.

6. PARISH RESPONSIBILITIES

The following people were confirmed or appointed to parish responsibilities:

Highways Representative:	Jonathan Hanslip
Footpath Warden:	Maurice Clements
Salt Warden:	Sue Wingrave.
(It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to Janet Bowers, who has done this job for many years, and now wishes to give it up.)	
Representative on Spinney Management Group:	Jonathan Hanslip
Representative on Village Hall Management Group:	Mike Lewis
Village of Year Competition Co-ordinator:	Anthea Hiscock
Representative to Daventry Villages Together:	Michael Thomas
Representatives to WNDC:	Mike Lewis, Michael Thomas

7. PLANNING

- **DA/2009/ 0312 Field View** Listed Building Application for single storey alteration extension and alterations to shed roof. The first part of this application had been responded to in April, and Councillors had considered the fact that it was a listed building. It was agreed to make no change in our response.
- **Proposal to review Parish Design Statement:** after some discussion it was agreed that Mr Hanslip should approach the original members of the team to see if they are interested in joining a working party to review the Statement.

8. ROADS AND TRANSPORT

- **Results of traffic survey**
Mr Lewis reported on the results of the survey undertaken by the NCC. It appears that traffic in the village has increased by 60-70 % at peak times, since the Parish Council survey of a few years ago, but it is not clear how much of this is generated within the village itself. There is also a marked peak in the middle of the day at weekends.
- **Report of Parish Spring Walk**
The report was read out and the Clerk was asked to report items concerning the roads. It was agreed to request the NCC for a new fence at South View again and a firm wooden rail by the steps.
After discussion it was agreed to ask for a “*Slow concealed access*” sign at the Brington end of the village.
The rope edged sign and seats at the Locks need wood treatment. The Clerk was asked to contact the DDC about these and Mr Lewis will arrange the treating of the parish notice board. The new litter bin has been erected and is in use. Mr Roy Haynes has said he is going to treat the wood of the notice board on The Green.
The Clerk was asked to find a new tree firm ready for pruning next year and to advise about the removal of ivy around street lights.
All the allotments have been taken and are showing signs of cultivation; the Clerk has written to all holders reminding them of the need to keep them tidy and weed free. Mr Middleton has offered to paint the newly erected seat on the allotments. The allotment steps have been removed and the wall made good. Miss Swinford offered to encourage some planting in the gap where the old steps used to be. The Clerk was asked to find who owns the hedge at the back of the allotments, which is overgrown in some places. One fence post may soon need to be replaced.
On the Village Green the new seat has been erected and the litter bin moved.
- A request for information about **farmers able to help with snow clearance** had been received. The Clerk will speak with the two farmers before putting forward their names.

9. ENVIRONMENT

- **Report on Parish Litter Pick:** it was agreed that this had been successful, but that the area from the Locks to the A5 still needs attention. The Clerk was asked to arrange another Litter Pick.
- **Green registration:** the Clerk reported that Mr Lewis had stated in his report to the Parish Meeting that we consider our application has been turned down. She has informed the NCC and asked for written confirmation with an explanation. As yet there has been no reply.
- **New Village Sign:** it was confirmed that the design will be a cart wheel, with the old name *Wheal-tun*, and *Whilton*, probably in wrought iron. This was the suggestion of the Clements family. The Clerk will follow this up when she can.

- **Calor Village of Year Competition:** the Clerk reported that the judges will be visiting on 21st May. Mr Bowers said he would be able to accompany them with the Clerk.

10. POLICE

- **Report of Police Community Support Officer:** PCSO Lorraine Humfress reported that on the whole crime figures have decreased, but we should still remain vigilant. She has been holding monthly surgeries in Whilton, which she considers are useful, and will continue to do so. The use of Smart Water is recommended to protect property and leaflets were distributed. There was some discussion about speed monitoring, and Whilton is on the list to use the equipment.
- **Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:** Mr Peter Bennett has resigned from this responsibility. The meeting gratefully accepted the offer by Mr Derek Brown to fill in the gap, but are aware that a new co-ordinator should be found. An advertisement will be put on the board.
- **Parishioners' concerns:** the Clerk had obtained a pro-forma for a questionnaire used by the Police. It was agreed that the Clerk should adapt this and publish it in the Newsletter, giving parishioners an opportunity to express concerns, some of which may be followed up by the Parish Council.

11. LIAISON WITH DDC:

The following have been received from the DDC

- Climate Change briefing pack
- New procedures for litter/dog bins
- Invitation to meeting for reps of Parish/Town Councils reps. with DDC 17 June
- Notice of European and County Council Elections 4 June 2009

12. NORTHANTS CALC AND ACRE

The following have been received and will be circulated:

Village Viewpoint Spring 2009,
Update March-April 2009

13. INFORMATION RECEIVED

These items have been received:

- Information Commissioner's Office: instructional DVD
- Society of Local Clerks VAT course.
- Equality and Human Rights Commission: Public sector duties
- *Open Space* Spring 2009
- East Midlands Regional Assembly : Regional Plan: Partial Review revised timetable

14. MATTERS TO RAISE ON THE NEXT AGENDA

- BT Broadband
- Improving the bus service
- Making a case for traffic mitigation through the village

The meeting closed at 10 p.m.