

MINUTE 151

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 9th MARCH 2011 AT 7.30PM**

The following councillors attended:

Chairman – Mike Lewis, councillors Michael Thomas, Ken Bowers, Nora Swinford, Sue Wingrave and Jonathan Hanslip. County councillor Steve Osborne and Daventry District Councillor Wendy Amos.
5 parishioners were also in attendance.

PARISHIONERS FORUM

Damage to grass bank Main Street - parishioner thought this was down to the lorries passing to and from the building site at Rough Moor Grounds - letter to Edgar Taylor.
Brian Melling expressed his gratitude for those who were part of the working party at the allotments

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AN**1. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

From Alison Nicoll (Clerk) - apologies accepted as son James was appearing the 'Starlight' programme on 9th March 2011.

2. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Mike Lewis item 23 (making individual comment on application)

3. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES DATED 10TH NOVEMBER 2010 and 12TH JANUARY 2011

November meeting Changes Michael Thomas to Mike Lewis and tidying up of wording to letter to the DDC

Proposed Ken Bowers seconded Michael Thomas

12th January meeting minutes changes to £500 to £500,000 proposed MT and seconded KB

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4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) Allotments – separate item. 12

b) Drainage – separate item. 20

c) Noise from Whilton Mill – email received from Ian Collings, Environmental Protection Officer, DDC
Email read out by Chairman, started our own complaint log with aggrieved party at Whilton Lodge.
Agrieved parties to complete a form and send their complaint to Ian Collins and copy to the Parish Council.

ML

Roger Ashby (director and owner of Whilton Mill) has stated that work is taking place, such as repositioning loudspeakers, to reduce nuisance to residents. He will keep us informed as to progress.

5. LIASON WITH DDC**Report of District Councillor Wendy Amos**

Changes to senior management - Ian Vincent permanent MD from April 1st.

Judy Gregory (previous rotating MD) has left the DDC.

Enviromental services will be changed and joined with NCC

Daventry Country Park will be run by a private company.

CCTV will not be funded by DDC after the next 12 months. Parishes to take over funding.

Issues over Wind Farms - sometimes as little low as 3% utilisation factor.

Norton, East Haddon as well as Whilton have concerns about the lack of bus services, we need ideas how to resolve the issues.

New Core Strategy - housing numbers have been scaled down – see Joint Core Strategy document.

Flore Weedon bypass (more than 2000 extra houses will mean the bypass will have to be built).

Chris Wragg seeking funding for part of one option (in folder circulating).

Mike Lewis questioned whether the idea of a Financial Bond by the developer to cover damage to

villages etc has been put forward - letter to Keith Thursfield

Jonathan Hanslip asked if the councils thought of merging to save money, yes, but South Northants are joining Cherwell, other options are being explored AN

Jonathan Hanslip also brought up the issue of slow broad band affecting the sale of houses.

Letter to Spratton PC to see how they have progressed with their Broadband AN

Information received:

- Travel Club
- Daventry District People's Panel
- Parish & town Councils' Liaison Meeting
- Dog Control Orders
- DDC Year Book
- Daventry Job Club
- New guide to generating renewable energy in rural areas
- Country Park Survey
- Open evening for potential councillors
- Daventry Street Football
- Fly Tipping Campaign
- New Project Targets Underage Drinking

6. 6 LIASON WITH NCC

Report of County Councillor Steve Osborne

£73,000,000 cuts 900 staff cut, possibly no buses or mini bus service

Sixth formers will have to pay larger part towards fare to and from college

Information received:

- Royal Wedding Street Party Guide
- Needs and Aspirations Project for Unpaid Carers
- Listed under item 23-Planning

7. LIASON WITH POLICE

Report and update from Police Community Support Officer Sarah Gray

The Clerk has made enquiries about the medical van parked at Norton and had the following reply from PCSO Kev Thompson -

"My self, PC Wright and PC Smith have independently looked at the van parked in Norton on several occasions, it is taxed and was at that times we attended not parked within 10 metres of a junction or on a bend or committing any offences."

Information received:

- Regular updates
- Police Report January 2011
- Police Report February 2011
- Burglary at the locks stole a trailer and a steam power washer.

8. VILLAGE INFORMATION

Personal review by Ken Bowers

At this stage Ken Bowers informed the meeting that he was going to resign from the Parish Council, no date was given.

Attractive parts of the village where Kunda Cottage which is to be called Holly Cottage, Lower Farmhouse,
The Green.

Possible building sites in the future – Rose Cottage combined with the Old Schoolhouse, Jane Clement's bungalow, The Old Plough could make 2 houses.

No 7 High Street has asked for building permission for house between no.7 and no.6 which has been approved.

Ken had concerns that with the amount of parked cars along Main Street that The Green could be earmarked as a car park if we don't adopt it quickly.

In the past twelve months very little had been done - which he blamed on the lack of decision making : footpath to the locks - nothing done, the Green –nothing done, lamp standard at the Locks still hadn't been purchased yet.

9. Financial statement

a) Financial statement

Current account: £2,842.60 at 28th February 2011

Reserve account: £5,646.14 at 28th January 2011

Resolution to confirm and approve income and expenditure

Income:

Bank interest 31/12/10 £0.71

Consolidated stock 5/1/11 £0.02

Expenditure:

Bank charges 31/01/11 nil

Cheque No.			£	VAT to reclaim
769	Orchard Print Services	Newsletter	40.50	
770	Mrs A Nicoll	Salary 8/12/10- 7/3/11 Expenses	280.44 45.90	
771	E.ON	Electricity charges	126.86	
772	Village Hall	Hire of hall	108.00	

Proposal to approve payment - KB seconded MT

10. NCC EMPOWERING COUNCILLORS AND COMMUNITIES FUND GRANT

Nothing put forward

11. LOCAL COUNCIL DOCUMENTS AND POLICIES (appendix 1)

Number of items that should have been specified in Clerk's contract: normal working hours and the fact that the clerk is the RFO.

The Clerk works in the region of 6 hours per week

Records review still have the previous Clerk's name on it – this is being dealt with.

Deeds need to be on the asset register, the clerk is dealing with this

Revised Clerk's contract – approved

Risk assessment policy - approved

Health and Safety policy – approved

Complaints procedure - approved

Document & records – approved

Proposed KB, seconded by NS

Ken Bowers said that the graveyard was not under the control of the Parish Council as church yard grass cutting comes under Parochial Parish Council

Mike Lewis pointed out that the PC were happy for the church to take it on.

Roy Haynes is a volunteer who is covered under PC insurance in the Employers' Liability section when working for the PC. AN

Clarification needed - who is Roy working for and who should pay for mower petrol etc. Michael Thomas- as the Parish Council, are we responsible for the deeds as we 'own' the building known as the Village Hall, but it is down to the Village Hall Committee to insure the building.

Michael Thomas questioned if Village Hall Committee folds who is responsible for the insurance and the deeds? – the Parish Council. AN

Michael Thomas also asked the question 'is the Spinney insured, if so do we have a copy of the insurance'? as the premium is paid from a Parish Council Grant

Check that Village Hall insurance is paid and the Spinney also AN

Check whether Hall & Spinney need to go on the assets Register - proposal B, seconded NS Church Clock query, NALC's opinion now is that the church clock is not a public clock so we cannot fund maintenance directly but could do so under S137 rules. MT/

Volunteers were asked for to help the Clerk with documents and records, Michael Thomas and Mike Lewis agreed to help.

12. ALLOTMENTS

- Rent increase by DDC to £100 per annum
- Access – DDC/DDH are raising an agreement
- Shed – agreement in principle awaiting written confirmation ML
- Empty plots - 4 half plots need to be advertised AN
- E-mail from Mr Onan (Meadow House) re holly hedge and stone wall – ML read out
'We are not in a position to maintain his stone wall as it is privately owned'.

Ken Bowers proposed accept rent rise seconded by Michael Thomas – cheque to be raised – No 773 AN/

Mike Lewis proposed £50 towards for disposal of rubbish on the allotment, the thinking was that it would probably cost more than that as we would need someone with either a skip or a trailer.

Jonathan Hanslip proposed we approach Mr Bell (as he is a resident of the village and might like to help) for a quote to remove the rubbish. Council resolved to accept. AN

13. PATH TO WHILTON LOCKS

Need to follow this up – next meeting AN

14. SPRAYING WEEDS IN VERGES

The DDC said they would spray the weeds but it has never been done, Neither has the matter of litter clearing in village AN

15. BROADBAND

The Clerk to ask the Chair of Spratton Parish Council how they went about getting their faster Broadband AN


16. D6 BUS ROUTE


Should we petition the council to retain the SMS Wednesday bus service which starts at Norton Letter to NCC/DDC to support Long Buckby and Norton to retain the D6 bus service. AN

17. CONCRETE BENCHING BY CHURCH VIEW

Ian Smith - Highways – only maintain from gutter to the further edge of the pavement, not from the edge of the pavement to the property Church Gate, but they are responsible if we look at definitive map from NCC highways. AN/

Clarification is needed



18. **HIGHWAYS – DOWNPIPE OUTLETS ON PAVEMENTS IN MAIN STREET, FREEZING HAZARD**
Ian Smith from MGWSP stated that gratings should be put in across the pavement, he said that the residents were responsible, again we need clarification - whose is responsible for water in these places AN
19. **GAS FOR VILLAGE**
Michael Thomas went to see Mr Eaton- Harris (our MP) with regard to gas for the village with little success.
Ask British Gas when we can expect Whilton to have Gas – official letter AN
20. **UPDATE ON DRAINAGE IN BRINGTON LANE**
Nothing has happened again
Letter to MGWSP for update and site meeting AN
21. **PARISH WALK**
See appendix 2
Updated risk assessment
Parish Walk April/May
22. **ROSE COTTAGE**
Gemma Cooper, DDC going to visit. If any information is available from anyone from the village please pass this information to the Parish Clerk.
Who owns Rose Cottage and how long has it been empty? Nora Swinford is going to make further enquiries. NS
23. **PLANNING**
West Northants Joint Planning Unit and WNDC
Planning application - Re application number: DA/2011/0146 Saxon Lifts, Whilton Locks, Whilton, Northamptonshire, NN11 2NH
Removal of tree growing on the edge of the canal
Mike Lewis left the meeting as he has an interest as a resident of Whilton Locks.
Whilton Parish Council have no objection AN
- Information received:
- West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy pre Submission
 - A45 Northampton to Daventry Study & Flore Weedon Bypass
 - WNDC Meeting minutes from 14 December 2010
 - Are you prepared for the Localism Revolution? – 14 April 2011
 - The Journal of Local Planning info
 - A5 Maintenance Work update
 - Area 7 Carbon Reduction strategy
 - WNJPU newsletter
 - Exercise Watermark
 - Banbury Flood Alleviation Scheme newsletter
24. **NORTHANTS NCALC**
- Information received:
- Update
 - Training Guide 2011
 - Joint Core Strategy
 - NALC's 2011 Network Lunches
 - Poll card Costs
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25. OTHER INFORMATION RECEIVED:

- Rural Services Network & Seminar
- Hinterland Updates
- Digital Switchover
- English Heritage-Nottingham & Northamptonshire projects praised
- Northamptonshire ACRE User Survey
- Molecatching*
- Spinal Injuries Association-Fish & Chips Supper
- Wildlife Trust Conservation Churchyard Award Scheme
- English Heritage urges Congregations to use free Practical Guide
- CWU Rally
- Monster Play*
- Parish Plans - ACRE
- BDO Audit Briefing – Winter 2011
- the Lifetime Prevention Development Project
- Responsibilities of Walkers and Landowners
- Littlethorpe bus shelters*

26. MATTERS TO RAISE ON NEXT AGENDA

- Village sign – (confirm with Alison whether she has the second quote)
- Footpath to Locks
- The Green
- The lamp standard at Locks

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27. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 11th MAY 2011 AT 7.30PM
Annual Parish Meeting to be on 13th April 2011

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

