

Minute 170
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL
 Held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 11 July 2012 at 7pm

Present:

Peter Wingrave (Chair), Ken Bowers (Vice-Chair) and Councillors, Nora Swinford, Sue Wingrave, Greg Lye, District Councillor Ian Duly and Erica Fothergill (Clerk).

One parishioner attended.	<u>Action</u>
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1	Public Open Forum – Nothing to report.		
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2	Resolved to approve apologies for absence received from Cllrs Jonathan Hanslip and Michael Thomas.		
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3	To receive members' Declarations of Interest for items on the agenda: Cllr Bowers declared a disclosable interest in items 7.3 and 7.4 and left the room during discussion.		
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4	Resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the annual meeting of the Parish Council held on 9 May 2012.		
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5	Having reviewed Daventry District Council's proposed Code of Conduct, it was resolved to adopt their Code, subject to any amendments that may be made at full Council on 19 July.		
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6	The updated Grant Awarding Policy and application form was reviewed and adopted.		
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7	Finance		
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1	Resolved to accept the Internal Audit Report for the year 2011/12. The Chairman commented on the good report and thanked the Clerk for her hard work.		
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2	After reviewing the Issues Arising Report, it was resolved to approve and accept the 2011/12 Annual Return.		
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3/4	Resolved to approve the grant application for £540 received from St. Andrews church to pay for a 3-year maintenance agreement for the church clock, using the grant obtained from our County Councillor for this purpose. It was further resolved that, rather than give a grant to the Church for maintenance of the churchyard, to continue providing this service, subject to annual review. It was agreed to write to the church to clarify (Appendix 1): 1. Ownership and maintenance of the church clock and graveyard; 2. Confirm that financial assistance is discretionary, to be reviewed annually; 3. Clarify responsibility for repairs.		EF
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5	Resolved to approve the following payments:		
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Cheque No.	Payee	Description	Amount
826	Broker Network	Insurance premium for 2012/13	330.55
Standing Order	E Fothergill	Salary for June 2012	210.00
827	E Fothergill	Expenses for May & June 2012	65.70
828	Orchard Print	Printing of June to August newsletter	127.80
829	Whilton Village Hall	Contribution to Jubilee celebration	137.88
830	Post Office Ltd	PAYE payment for 1 st quarter 2012	101.00
831	Anglian Water	Allotment – Dec 2011 to June 2012	41.26
833	BDO LLP	External auditors	144.00
832	Cancelled		-
834	Smiths of Derby	Service agreement for church clock	648.00

8	It was agreed that Councillor Hanslip would represent the Council at Village Hall meetings.	JH
9	Correspondence – contents noted.	
10	The Chairman reported that the Localism Act 2011 held many uncertainties but also many opportunities, for example the General Powers of Competence that enables a Council to do anything that a reasonable individual may do, subject to statutory duties and restrictions.	
11	The Chairman reported that the Parish & Town Council meeting of 19th June dealt, in the main, with Neighbourhood Planning. It was agreed that the cost was prohibitive and that the Council would not pursue the matter for the time being.	
12	It was agreed that Council did not have the required expertise to respond meaningfully to NCC's Minerals & Waste Development Framework Partial Review; Core Strategy and Consultation on a revised Statement of Community Involvement, in a meaningful way.	
13	Council reviewed DDC's Consultations on Wind Farms, Affordable Housing and Council Tenancy Strategy and decided by majority vote that it did not have the necessary experience to respond in a meaningful way. Our MP is opposed to any wind farms in Northamptonshire and we have his support in this regard.	
14	It was agreed that no further training was required for this year.	
15	It was unanimously agreed not to support Brixworth Parish Council regarding payment of Councillor Allowances / Expenses.	
16	It was agreed to budget towards the cost of transport to local outings for village children.	
17	It was decided to follow up with DDC on the progress of a footpath from the village to Whilton Locks.	
18	The Clerk explained that the Parish Council was the Custodian Trustee of the Village Hall solely for the purpose of holding title to the property. The Management Committee (VHC) of the village hall is a registered charity enabling them to raise the necessary money to maintain the village hall. Residents are urged to support them in their endeavours.	
19	Councillors agreed to adopt a zero tolerance policy against anti-social behaviour and vandalism in the village and to work closely with the community police in this regard.	
20	It was unanimously agreed to donate the obsolete hover mower and strimmer to the Whilton Allotment Group.	
21	Date of the next Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 12 September 2012 at 7pm.	