

**Minute 237**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 11th March 2020 - 7:30pm**

Attendance: Parish Councillors – A Gilbert, K Hiscock, A Lee, J Melling, R Smith (Chairman), M Thomas, S Porter (Clerk), District Councillor J Amos and 2 members of the public

**1. OPENING PROCEDURES**

**1.1 APOLOGIES** – J Hanslip, S Osborne (NCC)

**1.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS** – Nil

**2. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 8th JANUARY 2020** – It was approved by R Smith, seconded by J Melling and all voted in favour that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting and were signed and dated by the Chairman.

**3. MATTERS ARISING** - Nil

**4. PUBLIC TIME** – It was noted that the Whilton village name sign is in need of a clean, or maybe even replacement. The dog waste problem in the village was highlighted. The railway bridge at Whilton Locks could do with better signage; the directional sign is partially obscured. The Clerk will contact NCC Highways for advice.

**5. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

**J Amos (DDC)** – The Structural Change Orders have been passed through parliament. The Shadow Unitary Authority will be elected from 7th May 2020, with Vesting Day planned for 1st April 2021. There are concerns for the elderly and vulnerable within rural communities, and strategies put in place for provisions to be delivered. There will be an e-mail circulated to the distribution list and a leaflet drop around the village.

**6. THE SPINNEY** – There have been 3 working parties since the last PC meeting, the stream is flowing well and has been cleared nicely. Parishioners have been advised in the latest newsletter to contact the Clerk if any issues are spotted in The Spinney. A colony of rooks have taken up nesting in The Spinney. The bank balance (as at 28/02/2020) stands at £812.70. Monthly reports are being undertaken. An annual assessment could be included within the PC Risk Assessment policy.

**7. BUSINESS**

**7.1 Felled Willow Trees** – Whilton Locks – The Chairman will write to the Garden Centre and state the disappointment over these trees being removed, and ask if they will be replaced? It will also be asked what the plans for the area are? No update has been received from M Venton (DDC Tree Officer)

**7.2 DACT - Parish Transport Bus** – Brington and Whilton PC's will continue with the bus service for an additional 9 months and the latest timetable has been issued and circulated. This will be reviewed around July. It was asked by a member of the public that trips to Rugby are favourable over Northampton. Figures will be requested from Brington PC on a regular basis.

**7.3 Gigaclear Installation** – Whilton Village – The groundworks are now underway from Whilton Locks to the village turning. The works along Brington Lane are scheduled for May/June 2020, with the side streets in the village planned for April/May 2020. There are no plans for Main Street as yet.

**7.4** Whilton Village Hall – Following the recent Village Hall Committee meeting and the AGM, the possibility of extending the kitchen has been discussed along with clearance of the land behind the Village Hall. Discussions then continued further as to the constitution of the Village Hall committee and the trust deed of the Village Hall and accompanying land. The Parish Council are the owners of the Village Hall and will take more interest in the overall running of the building, which is being excellently run by the Committee. The Clerk will request from the Secretary, copies of the minutes from the committee meetings and the latest insurance certificate.

There will be an item on the agenda for a Village Hall update at each PC Meeting.

There is a lease held with the neighbour, Maurice Clements, over a strip of land and the porch which leads to the entrance to the Village Hall and to whom the PC pay a peppercorn rent. It may be beneficial for the PC to purchase this land to avoid any problems in the future.

It was mentioned that the footpath opposite the Village Hall needs siding out and the hedge cutting back; this may prevent the dog mess situation also. There will be a working party arranged to side out the path and an informal letter sent to the resident by K Hiscock regarding the hedge, as initial discussions have already been held.

**7.5** Dog Fouling Issues in the village – The Chairman has erected posters warning of the fines for not clearing up dog mess, and also an article in the latest newsletter. The Clerk will ask Norse for the cost of an additional dog waste bin to be installed.

**7.6** Parish Council Elections – Thursday 7th May 2020 – The nomination forms will be completed and the Clerk will make an appointment to deliver these to DDC.

**7.7** DDC - Parish & Town Councils Meeting – Update from the Chairman – Various topics were discussed, from Sgt Sam Dobbs who advised that violent crimes and thefts from vehicles have risen in the District and NCC Highways reported the issues and funding of pot hole repairs and blocked drains.

**7.8** Brington & Whilton Pre School – Request for funding for Annual Forest School – The PC are unable to use public funds to support individuals and they will be advised to contact the charities in the village to see if assistance can be provided for the students.

**7.9** Brington Lane – Highway Condition – The Chairman has sent concerns to NCC Highways over recent sub-standard repairs being undertaken in Brington. A response from Ian Smith is awaited.

**7.10** Defibrillator Network – The British Heart Foundation are creating a list to detail all defibrillators in the UK.

**7.11** Citizen's Advice, Daventry - Request for funding – It was proposed by R Smith that the PC provide a donation of £100.00 to support the service, seconded by J Melling and all voted in favour.

## **8. FINANCE**

The following accounts were approved by all:

### **8.1 Income/Expenditure Update & Bank Reconciliation from November & December 2019**

#### **8.2 Accounts Paid (January to March 2020):**

|        |   |          |                 |
|--------|---|----------|-----------------|
| Online | S Porter – Clerk's Salary January 20    | £ 242.04 | LGA 1972 s112   |
|        | S Porter – Clerk's Expenses January 20  | £ 18.00  | LGA 1972 s112   |
| Online | S Porter – Clerk's Salary February 20   | £ 242.04 | LGA 1972 s112   |
|        | S Porter – Clerk's Expenses February 20 | £ 18.00  | LGA 1972 s112   |
| Online | 123 Reg – Domain Renewal 2 years        | £ 23.98  | LGA 1972 s111   |
| Online | Anglian Water – Allotments              | £ 12.07  | SH & A Act 1908 |
| Online | HMRC – PAYE 2019/20 Q3                  | £ 181.60 | LGA 1972 s112   |

### 8.3 Payments Received

|                      |   |        |  |
|----------------------|---|--------|--|
| Nat West Interest    | £ | 1.48   |  |
| Allotment Rents 2019 | £ | 150.00 |  |

### 8.4 Approve Accounts to be paid:

|  |   |        |               |
|--|---|--------|---------------|
| Chq No 1025 Orchard Print – Newsletter               | £ | 195.60 | LGA 1972 s142 |
| Chq No 1026 E-On – Street Lighting Oct-Dec 2019      | £ | 172.96 | PCA 1957 s3   |
| Chq No 1027 Brington Parish Council – DACT Bus Trial | £ | 200.00 | LGA 1972 s111 |
| Chq No 1028 Aylesbury Mains - Street Light Repairs   | £ | 70.20  | PCA 1957 s3   |

### Bank Balance (as at 28.02.2020)

|                 |   |          |
|-----------------|---|----------|
| Current Account | £ | 7,978.83 |
| Reserve Account | £ | 4,273.82 |

## 9. PLANNING

**DA/2020/0100** - Outline application (all matters reserved save for part access in respect of a re-aligned B4036 and a new roundabout at its junction with the A5) for the development of an urban extension to the north-east of Daventry including circa 3,400 dwellings (Use Class C3), elderly persons accommodation (Use Class C2), a new local centre (including convenience store (Use Class A1)), pub/restaurant (Use Class A3/A4), day nurse/communitiy and other uses within Use Class D1 and retail terrace (Use Classes A1 - A5 & D1), an extension to Daventry Country Park, two new primary schools, a new secondary school, highway infrastructure (including a new access into the site off Eastern Way and a new road link to Norton, involving stopping up part of Daventry Road to vehicular traffic), new walking and cycling routes, structural greenspace, wildlife corridors and associated landscaping, drainage and infrastructure works – **Daventry North East, B4036 Long Buckby Road, Daventry**

- There should be no construction traffic through the village of Whilton*
- There are concerns of the extra traffic that will be generated through Whilton Locks, during the construction phase.*
- There will be a bottleneck on the A5 at Whilton Locks with traffic turning right; it would be beneficial to widen the junction.*
- It was requested that the proposed road improvements be implemented before any construction works start.*

### PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

The Parish Council noted the following planning permission granted:

**DA/2019/0969** – Works to trees within a Conservation Area – **Whilton Locks Carpet Company, Whilton Locks, Whilton**

**DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Wednesday 13th May 2020 7:30pm**

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – Wednesday 13th May 2020 6:30pm**

**Meeting Closed: 9:15pm**