

MINUTE 134

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 P.M. ON MONDAY 2ND MARCH 2009

The following Councillors attended:

Mr Mike Lewis in the chair, Mr Ken Bowers, Mr Jonathan Hanslip, Mr Greg Lye, Miss Nora Swinford, Mr Michael Thomas and Mrs Susan Wingrave, District Councillor Wendy Amos and County Councillor Steve Osborne.

Two parishioners attended.

PUBLIC FORUM

It was reported that, although E.ON has attended to the street light opposite Tudor House, it continues to function erratically. Despite repair work in Wadd Close Lane, water is running there again. The Clerk was requested to follow these up.

PCSO Lorraine Humphries attended this part of the meeting, and there was a discussion about parking in the village.

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

No declarations were made.

2. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

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

3. FINANCE

a) Financial Statement

Current account : £3,795.85

Reserve account: £5,639.22

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

Income:

Bank interest (29 Aug) 25.81 (31 Jan) 17.74

Stocks interest (6 Oct) 0.02

Expenditure:

Cheque no.				VAT to reclaim
702	E.ON	Electricity	126.86	6.04
703	Orchard Print Services Ltd	Printing Newsletter	64.80	
704	Smith of Derby Ltd	Replacement of winding unit for striking with new brackets	2248.25	293.25

c) Banking

Mr Thomas reported that he had investigated the possibility of finding a bank with better interest, but that as a result, and especially in the current financial climate, he did not recommend that the Parish Council should make any change.

4. OPEN SPACES AND VILLAGE GREEN

- New street furniture progress : the Clerk reported that the work had been held up because of the very bad weather, but that CPM were planning to carry out the work in Whilton in the last two weeks of March.
- Tree report: Cutting Edge's work has also been postponed due to the weather, and the report has not yet been received. It was agreed that when it is received, the Clerk and Chairman should liaise over authorising the pruning, as this will need to be done soon.

5. GRASS CUTTING

After consideration, it was agreed to stand by the decision not to purchase a new mower. Mr Roy Haynes is hoping to keep the old one going this year, and if he is unable to continue after that, the Council will review its position, as most grass contractors would use their own mowers.

6. VILLAGE CLOCK

It was reported that the village clock has now been mended and is striking again.

7. PLANNING

- Notification had been received that planning permission has been granted for DA/2008/1218: Conservatory at Lodge Cottage, Whilton Locks.
- The planning appeal for the agricultural type building at Felines has been upheld. The Clerk was asked to obtain a copy of the DDC's statement for the appeal, and a copy of the Inspectorate's decision, to be provided for each Parish Councillor as soon as possible.
- Rose Cottage update: the Clerk reported that she had spoken to the DDC Empty Homes Officer, who is attempting a correspondence with Mrs Clark of Winwick, but has had no response. He requested any further information available. It was suggested that the Clerk approach Mr Pope on this issue.
- WNDC: Update on Appeal: Mr Lewis and the District and County Councillors reported that the appeal was running behind time, and that Daventry Villages Together had not yet spoken.

8. ANNUAL LITTER PICK

It was agreed to organize a litter pick. The Clerk was requested to arrange publicity for this and the borrowing of equipment from the DDC if possible for Saturday 28th March or 4th April.

9. ROADS AND TRANSPORT

- Concerns re road drainage: the Chairman reported that the Anglian Water problem with a cracked pipe at the railway bridge had been dealt with, and the ditch was now empty. May Gurney are aware of the other two problems nearby: a blocked pipe and a leak outside the carpet warehouse.
- Salt provision: after a discussion about salt provision in the recent very harsh weather, it was confirmed that salt had been ordered again for the salt bins.
- NCC information re road closure Norton to Whilton 9 March has been posted on the boards.
- The DDC has notified its adoption of Public Health Act 1925 Sections 17 – 19 re street naming and numbering.
- Progress with traffic survey: Mr Lewis reported that due to problems of vandalism and theft this has been held up, but the survey should be happening soon.

- The Highways Agency newsletter January 2009 has been received
- It was agreed to hold the Parish Walk on Saturday 18th April. Councillors will meet at 10 a.m. at the bottom triangle in the village.
- Notice has been received of overnight resurfacing of M1 Junctions 16 to 17 on Monday to Friday nights beginning 16 March. The Clerk was asked to write requesting that the new surface be a quiet one
- The NCC has now adopted the far end of Manor Lane.

10. VILLAGE COMPETITIONS

After some discussion it was agreed to enter the Village of the Year competition. Mr Lye will assist the Clerk with the entry form.

The criteria for East Midlands in Bloom have changed this year. Mr Hanslip offered to discuss this with the Gardeners Association. If a decision is made to enter, the Parish Council agreed to pay the entry fee.

11. LIAISON WITH DDC

District Councillor Wendy Amos reported that the drop in interest rates will have a huge impact on District Council services.

The following information has been received and is available from the Clerk:

- DDC Consultation on Choice Based Lettings for response by 20 March
- Daventry and District Disability Access Forum

The following will be circulated:

- DDC and South Northants Safer Stronger Partnerships Objectives for 2008-2011

12. LIAISON WITH NCC

County Councillor Steve Osborne reported that there will be no cuts in County Council services this year. He expects extra money to be available for potholes. He reminded the meeting that there will be a County Council election in June.

The following information has been received and is available from the Clerk:

- Northants Minerals and Waste Development Framework:
- Locations for Waste Development DPD Proposed Submission
- Locations for Minerals Development DPD Proposed Submission.
- Invitation to Local Councils Spring Conference at Rushden, 18 March
- At the request of Councillors the NCC February meeting agenda and reports will be circulated.

13. NORTHANTS CALC AND ACRE

Update Jan – Feb 2009 has been received and it was agreed that in future the Clerk should email copies of this to Councillors with an e-mail address.

A request for nominees for a Royal Garden Party had been received.

14. POLICE LIAISON

No Councillors offered to attend the Police Community Meeting at Long Buckby on 10th March.

15. INFORMATION RECEIVED

The following will be circulated:

- Information on insurance from: Rural Parish Insurance Scheme (Zurich)
- Highfields Joinery : advertisement for village signs, etc
- Wicksteed Playscapes catalogue
- *Clerks and Councils Direct* January 2009 and March 2009
- *Town and Parish Standard* Feb 2009

Details of advice centre dates for Tim Boswell MP have been posted on the board.

16. ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, 27TH APRIL

As PCSO Lorraine Humphress is unable to attend, she is asking PC Anna Moulson to come in her place.

It was agreed to increase the number of those invited to give reports to this meeting. The Clerk was requested to invite representatives of all clubs, associations and organisations in the parish.

17. MATTERS TO RAISE ON THE NEXT AGENDA

It was requested that the Clerk pursue the matter of the registration of the Green and to report to the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.