# **Minutes of Wymondham & Edmondthorpe Parish Council Meeting**

Held at Wymondham Village Hall Monday 6th August 2018

Present:

Councillors: Christian Semmens as Chair, Howard Gresham, Pat Peters, Matthew Williams, Kevin Spiers

Clerk: Terry Brown

Members of the public: 8 parishioners

Public Time:

A parishioner queried the proposed location of the notice board, at present proposed to be on the Village Green in front of the existing site. She suggested that a suitable alternative would be by the old telephone box further down Main Street and that the redundant box either be removed or put to some constructive use.

It was suggested that this might not be best in terms of potential footfall. A discussion of the siting of the new board was carried into agenda item 105/1

There was discussion concerning continuing problems with parking at the allotments. The interested parties suggested that the best way forward lay with allotment representatives, concerned residents and a Councillor to meet in order to devise a sensible solution that could be presented to Buckminster Estates. This was carried over to agenda item 105/3

A parishioner raised a concern about the closure of local roads with the proposed 2019 CiCLE Classic race and the speeds that would be attained by competitors in the race. Christian Semmens advised that the closure process would most likely be a rolling one and only be temporary whilst that part of the Village was being used. This discussion was carried over to agenda item 105/4.

There was considerable discussion on the current status of the St Peter's School with parishioners expressing disquiet at the intransigence of DLAT (Diocese of Leicester Academy Trust) to engage with community representatives and School Governors to discuss the current and future prospects for the School.

It was felt that the School Governors had presented to DLAT a valid plan and budget to support the three classes that are necessary to ensure the School's future but that DLAT had been in response determined to proceed with a 2-class strategy. If this 2-class option was pursued parishioners could not see the School remaining open beyond July 2019.

Parishioners commented that this seemed to be a deliberate exercise by DLAT to remove small schools from its portfolio of 14 schools, probably as a cost cutting exercise.

It was suggested that the Parish Council would make an application to Melton Borough Council to nominate the School as a Community Asset as a means for interested parties in the village to negotiate with alternative organisations to assume responsibility for the School and away from DLAT.

All Councillors fully supported the views expressed and accepted that prompt action was required. The response by the Parish Council was carried over to agenda item 110/3

## 101 To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Christian Semmens Snr Borough Councillor Malise Graham

## 102 District and County Councillor Time

None

#### 103 Members Declarations of Interests

None

### 104 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of Council held 2nd July 2018

The minutes were approved & signed.

### 105 Matters arising from previous meetings

### /1 to discuss progress with a new Wymondham notice board.

Councillors reported having received no comments on the proposed siting of the new notice board as communicated through a letter drop and the Journal.

However further soundings were thought necessary in order to establish the precise location and orientation of the new board and the Clerk is to contact village groups to seek their advice.

The Clerk presented an outline specification of the new board and was instructed to get firm quotes for the next meeting.

Cllr Williams queried the need for the board at all in view of Social Media. Other Councillors disagreed with this view.

**Action Clerk** 

### /2 to discuss progress on possible LED lights conversion

The Clerk reported on recent attempts to make progress to get a firm quote for conversion costs from Leicestershire Highways.

The Council remains committed to the potential of such a conversion and instructed the Clerk to pursue discussions with Leicestershire Highways and Western Power.

Also, the Clerk was asked to include notice of this item in the next Parish Council insertion to the September Journal.

**Action Clerk** 

### /3 to discuss the Buckminster Estates meeting 19/7/18 re allotment issues

Cllrs Williams and Peters reported on their recent meeting with Buckminster Estates about the continuing parking issues. They noted that it had been suggested that the solution lay in some re-designation of parking space to meet the requirements of residents and allotment holders. They further suggested that Buckminster Estates did not see the problem as a one of high priority.

Therefore, Councillors expressed support for the proposal raised in Public Discussion for the three village interested parties to meet informally to devise a sensible plan for the Parish Council to take back to Buckminster Estates. It was hoped for this meeting to take place as soon as possible and to report back to the next Parish Council meeting in September. Cllr Christian Semmens offered to be the Parish Council representative.

Action Cllr Christian Semmens

#### /4 to discuss progress on Parish Council involvement in 2019 CiCLE Classic race

The Council confirmed their support for the event but that full details were required before they could take further action.

They also noted the concerns raised in the Public Discussion. The Clerk is to contact the race organiser for further details.

Action Clerk

### /5 to discuss progress on West Well Gate landscaping

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had received permission from Nottingham Community Housing Association to review and then replant the border areas.

Cllrs Peters and Gresham are to use local expertise to survey the area and report back at the September meeting with a replanting scheme and estimate of costs

Action Cllrs Peters & Gresham

### 106 To receive Councillor reports

Cllr Pat Peters reminded the meeting of the missing sign on Main Street and the Clerk commented that it action by MBC had been confirmed.

# 107 To receive & consider reports from representatives on outside bodies & meeting

## /1 to discuss LCC Highways latest proposals re LCC site visit 24.7.18

Cllr Kevin Spiers reported on this very constructive and recent site meeting between representatives from Leicestershire Highways and Cllr Matthew Williams and himself, the outcome of which was a firm proposal to alter the speed limit areas to the approaches to the village (see Appendix 1), changes to HGV signing and the installation of a new VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign) with faces to both directions in the centre of Wymondham village.

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the LCC proposal and estimated cost of the new signage.

Action Clerk

Cllrs Spiers and Semmens are to investigate a suitable VAS solution and report back to the next meeting.

Action Cllrs Spiers & Semmens

The meeting asked the Clerk to publicise these developments in the September Journal.

Action Clerk

## 108 Planning

## /1 to comment on the Appeal Decision re Church Lane

The meeting reviewed the Appeal Decision at length and questioned both the Inspector's refusal to consider the second planning application made for the site and the validity of the treatment of several aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan.

In view of their concerns they considered what further action could be taken e.g. a Judicial Review. The Clerk commented on the potential cost implications of such an action.

The meeting **RESOLVED** to write to MBC asking for them to consider a Judicial Review with copies of the letter to be sent to as many other interested parties as could be sought to alert them of the implications of this situation.

Action Clerk

## 109 Correspondence

Emails: noted

## 110 Matters for Discussion

#### /1 to discuss and approve GDPR policies

The Clerk reviewed the need of the policies in the light of recent legislation.

The policies were approved and are to be published to the Parish Council website.

**Action Clerk** 

## /2 to consider a 7<sup>th</sup> Parish Councillor

This item was deferred to the next meeting

### /3 to discuss recent issues at St Peters School

The Parish Council fully supported the concern expressed in the Public Discussion. The School must remain a vital component in the Village social fabric and life.

The Council **RESOLVED** to nominate the School as a Community Asset to Melton Borough Council.

Further the Clerk was instructed to seek meetings between the Parish Council and DLAT and the Bishop of Leicester to carry forward the concerns raised.

**Action Clerk** 

# /4 to discuss the recent Play Equipment Inspection report

Cllr Pat Peters reported on the progress being made to respond to the recent Inspection Report's findings. Two items of equipment were the main areas of concern, namely the bridge and the swings.

The Clerk advised that weekly inspection might be required in addition to an Annual Inspection.

### 111 Finance

The submitted schedule of payments was approved.

Bank balances at 15/7/18 were confirmed as:

Current account £16530.11 Deposit Account £25034.13

**112 Date of next meeting:** Monday 3rd September 2018 at 7:30pm at Wymondham Village Hall

The meeting ended at 10:05pm

