

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WYMONDHAM & EDMONDTHORPE
PARISH COUNCIL**

Held at Wymondham Village Hall, Church Lane, Wymondham,
Tuesday 7th July 2015 at 7.30pm

Present :-

Cllr. Christian Semmens (CSJ)
Cllr. Chris Semmens (CSS)
Cllr. Pat Peters (PP)
Cllr. Howard Gresham (HG)
Cllr. Amy Roberton (AR)

MBC Cllr Malise Graham

Mrs. Sharon Coe (Clerk)

3 members of the public

29. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from MB Cllr Byron Rhodes - another meeting.

RESOLVED :- to accept apologies received.

30. DISCLOSURES OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Cllrs AR and HG disclosed an interest in planning application 15/00474/TCA

31. PUBLIC PROTOCOL.

The Chairman brought forward this item to allow a parishioner to make representation to the Council regarding the Bowery application.

b) The meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to make representations about any item not on the agenda (parishioners time).

The parishioner wished to place on record her thanks regarding the Parish Council comments in respect of the Bowery application this had been instrumental at the Planning Committee at MBC which the parishioner had attended. The application had been refused at this meeting. The Parishioner also raised concerns regarding the removal of the "norfolk gates" this was considered as a heritage asset for the village. The Clerk informed the meeting that she had already spoken to enforcement at MBC regarding this, and the officer concerned would be keeping her informed of all progress. Questions were asked regarding the processes regarding the planning applications and the Clerk would ask some questions of MBC regarding this and report back to Council at the next meeting. The Parishioner thanked members for listening. The meeting then resumed...

32. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meetings dated 2nd and 9th June 2015 with minor amendments were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

33. TO CONSIDER THE CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS.

Mr. Matthew Williams was present and expressed a wish to join the Council.

RESOLVED: That Mr Matthew Williams be co-opted as member of Wymondham and Edmondthorpe Parish Council. He was welcomed by the Clerk and members and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office and joined the meeting.

34. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMITTEE

The Clerk explained that it was now a statutory requirement of Council to receive the minutes of the newly formed Committee. Council would still be able to ask questions if required. A question was raised regarding the SHLAA numbers which was clarified by Cllr Williams.

RESOLVED : To receive the minutes of the Committee

35. **TO CONSIDER THE REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE, STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS.**

The Clerk presented the revised documents that had been previously circulated to Council for consideration.

RESOLVED :- That the revised documents were approved.

36. **REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

MB Cllr Malise Graham informed members that he was the Chairman of Melton Community Safety and that he had been working on an issue from a blind parishioner that reported that the Pelican Crossings in Melton had ceased to beep which was obviously extremely dangerous. The issue of crime in rural areas was unfortunately on the increase and the need to raise awareness. He had also enjoyed a visit to the Sports Village on the Burton Road in Melton.

RESOLVED : That the report be received.

37. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND MEETINGS**

a) **Police Report** :- No report had been received. MB Cllr Malise Graham would email the Clerk a new contact to see if a Member of the Police could visit a meeting in the future.

b) **Sedley Trust** :- PP reported that the trustee vacancy had been filled and some grants had been approved by the Trust.

c) **St Peters Primary** :- PP reported that a permanent contract had been offered to the executive head which had been accepted and would mean that she would spend 2 1/2 days at both of her schools. There was also the possibility of some new children joining the school in the September intake.

d) **Rights of way / Footpaths**:- CSJ reported that the waddlings had been cleared out and was looking good.

e) **War Memorials** :- No problems, the flowers had been planted and were looking good despite the hot weather conditions.

f) **Health and Safety / Maintenance.** :- CS informed members that he had order the new battery for the Wymondham Defibrillator which had been received. He would do a further check at Edmondthorpe to ensure the battery was still in good working order (these do have a shelf life for four years). The Allotments Notice Board locks had rusted and these would be replaced, he would also liase with HG to facilitate some new perspex.

The County Council (LCC) had mowed the Village Green, the job was poor and the grass cuttings had been left making an important visual aspect of the Village looking very unkempt. Some Parishioners had felt so aggrieved that they had joined up to rake up the cuttings in an attempt to save the grass below. CSJ informed the meeting that there was some ragwort and this was dangerous to animals. The Clerk was asked to send a letter informing LCC of this issue for action to be taken.

The large sycamore tree at 2, Church Lane was discussed as a Parishioner had written in regarding the nuisance that the tree caused. Members also discussed the issues regarding the span of the tree and the falling detritus caused by birds and branches which were causing a slippery pavement which could be a Health and Safety issue. The Clerk to report this to Highways as the tree was in a private owned garden.

g) **Village Hall**:- No report.

h) **Wymondham and Edmondthorpe Civic Society** :- No report.

i) **Allotments**:- The Clerk confirmed that she had received a holding response from Buckminster Estates, they had confirmed that the property owners in question do have access to their property alongside the fence-line of the allotments. Buckminster had requested that the allotment holders park sensibly, however it was still felt that the allotment holders were still being denied access and the Clerk would take this up again on their behalf as photographic evidence had been sent to Buckminster from the Parish Council regarding this.

j) **LRALC** :- The Clerk informed members she had expressed an expression of interest on Councils behalf towards some Neighbourhood Planning Events that may be scheduled later in the year. This was believed to be a cost of around £450 and would allow the attendance of 5 delegates. No details were known at this time and would be finalised when interest was known.

k) Neighbourhood Plan :-

The minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan committee had already been accepted at agenda item 34 but Cllr Williams gave a verbal update to all members regarding the position at this time

A constructive dialogue between the NPG and the Melton Planning Dept (MPD) had taken place at a recent meeting, it was recognized by both parties that it was important that the NP keep pace as far as possible with the Melton Local Plan consultations. The Melton Local Plan, which will provide the overarching context to our NP, is in process of being drafted with a formal consultation process to start from September and MPD are keen that we dovetail with their local plan. This will be debated by Councillors on 22nd July. The NP Committee now needs to start the process in earnest if we are to keep pace with that of the Local Plan. This in turn requires the appointment of consultants and communications /preparations for the crucial arrangement of stakeholder and community consultations in July and August. Therefore the NPG Committee are asking the Parish Council to agree to make £2,000 available to fund activity over July and August. This would be spent against quotes agreed by the NPG Committee. An estimate of around four weeks is envisaged for our new grant application to be processed and the committee believe it will be beneficial to have consultant input into the grant application given the stipulation that any grant monies be spent within six months. So new grant monies will probably not be available to us before mid-August. Obviously the goal will be to minimize the costs funded in this way. £2,000 represents a top-end estimate of likely funding needs based on past quotes from consultants and stationery and design costs incurred by other NPGs. The forecasts are that £10,000 - £12,00 will be spent. £8,000 will be funded by grant money. The balance the committee aims to make up by savings against projected costs; fund raising; local sponsorship; and support from the Parish Council.

Cllr Williams was thanked for his report and members asked questions about implications and whether the Parish Council could fund this request. The Clerk explained that if Council wished to support this request we could utilize either the Community Reserve Fund, or apply S137 monies.

RESOLVED :- That the Parish Council unanimously support the interim funding up to a maximum £2,000 by using S137 monies. That all of the above reports are received and any actions carried out within.

38. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a) Public Speaking Protocol - The Clerk had received 1 request with regard to the Bowery planning application and this is covered earlier in these minutes.
- b) The meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to make representations about any item not on the agenda (parishioners time).

PP asked for an update regarding the diamond jubilee plaques. The Clerk had not been able to progress this due to time constraints.

PP asked if there had been any resolve with the issue of the state of the road on Butt lane. The Clerk was still awaiting photographic evidence.

RESOLVED : The Clerk will progress the Diamond Jubilee plaques.

39. TO CONSIDER ANY APPLICATIONS FOR CONSENT TO DEVELOP

14/00889/FUL - Mr V Fletcher - appeal to the Secretary of State.

The Clerk advised members she had brought this to the table to advise members that an appeal had been lodged.

RESOLVED :- Council have no further comments.

15/00474/TCA - Mr Pochin - The Gables, 1, Main Street, Edmondthorpe.

Cherry Plum - to be reduced by 2 Metres

RESOLVED :- Council have no objections.

40. **TO RECEIVE DECISIONS FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY**

15/00348/FULHH - Mr G Green 9 Sycamore Lane Wymondham

APPROVED

41. **Finance**

a) That the accounts be approved and financial reports up to and including the month ending May 2015 are confirmed and the chairman to sign the reconciliation/balance statement.

RESOLVED :- To receive the accounts and financial reports up to 31st May and the Chairman to sign the reconciliation/balance statement on behalf of Council.

42. **TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported the following:-

Documentation from National Westminster bank the preferred provider but confirmed that it would be wise to delay the changes until the VAT reclaim cheque had been received as the TSB account details had been submitted to H M Revenue and Customs.

The Clerk informed members that following a communication from LCC the Horse triangle signs were only able to be located in one particular area in Edmondthorpe due to other signage. Members felt that this would not help so this is not to be progressed.

A letter had been received from Buckminster Estates regarding Allotment parking and access. They thanked the Clerk for the photographic evidence and asked that the Parish Council bear with them whilst they were trying to sort out the issue. They had made a request that the allotment holders parked sensibly in the Village and walked to the allotments. This was not the issue and the Clerk to write again regarding the inconsiderate way that the house owners were taking over the parking meant for the allotments.

A question had been raised about grass-cutting in the village, the Clerk informed members that she had contacted LCC and it was acceptable to cut in-between mows but LCC must be told of the arrangements to avoid the Parish being missed when the contractors visited.

The wonky sign at footpath E30 had again been reported for action to Richard Bye at LCC, the lamp numbers for the missing casing had also been forwarded for attention.

The Clerk reported that a piece had been sent for inclusion in the Wymondham and Edmondthorpe Journal and this would form an ongoing commitment to reach the whole village that maybe didn't have internet access.

The timescale for implementation of the transparency code for smaller authorities had been reached and the Clerk informed Council that the Parish Website was fully compliant with the new regulations.

The recent vacancy for the house on West Well gate had been publicised on both the Parish Website and also on the Notice Boards. There was no parishioner that had come forward and the closing date had now been reached.

The Clerk had managed to find an invoice from 2013 regarding payment of the ROSPA check on the playground equipment, she had contacted MBC to confirm when and if a further check had been done and who had the invoice. When the information is received the Clerk will bring it back to Council. PP will also ask the school to check their records for completeness.

The Clerk reported that the accounts software package had been updated and had been successfully implemented to the Parish Computer.

The Clerk was still awaiting photographic evidence of the ruts in Butt Lane, when this is received this will be sent to LCC for action.

The Clerk was thanked for her full and informative report.

RESOLVED To accept the Clerks Report and any actions carried out.

43. **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS.**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 25th August.

The meeting ended at 10.10pm.