

## **ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2005  
At 7.00 pm  
in the Village Hall, Warmington

### **1. ATTENDANCE**

Mr D Rowell (Chairman)	Mr M Dixon
Mr R Bosworth (Vice Chairman)	Mr D Short
Mrs M Hodges	Mr G Reid
Mr I Cutler	Mrs L Huett (from 7.30pm)
Mr D Constant	

6 Parishioners were also in attendance including Katherine Davey, Youth Club Representative

### **2. APOLOGIES : None**

### **3. ABSENTEES : None**

### **4. APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2005.** The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of events. AIF

### **5. SIGNING OF THE ACCOUNTS AND SUPPORTING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2005.** Mr Constant proposed and Mr Short seconded that these be signed as accurate records. AIF

### **6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT**

Mr Rowell reported another successful year although there are some items outstanding which are frustrating to say the least. The social club footpath, the completion of the leisure field and play area have all received assurances of progression, but to date with little action. It is hoped that this will change in the very near future.

The village has suffered badly through the winter with the activities of building contractors and efforts continue to encourage all to keep this to a minimum. Street lights continue to require attention and are likely to do so for the foreseeable future. The allotments are a shining star amongst our projects and all plots are now taken. Planting of various trees and bulbs has taken place at very little cost to the village and the failed millennium tree has been replaced thanks to the generosity of Bunny Enfield.

Problems surrounding the School play area have not been resolved and it is persistently abused by our younger citizens. It is presently the subject of in depth discussion by all parties concerned.

£10,000 with hopefully matching grants has been budgeted for improvements to the play area by the social club and the leisure field.

The footpath PD20 is being rerouted through Mr Clapham's property as proposed by

Mr Clapham.

The efforts of William Du Croz and the Five All team have been recognized through the Unsung Heroes Awards.

An initiative to reduce speeding vehicles within the village fell on stony ground, very much a backward step for the village.

Meetings with TWD suggest that the play area will be fenced in 6-8 weeks and the services provided to the portacabin on the leisure field in 4 months.

Mr Rowell concluded by suggesting that the village has a good Parish Council to continue to make progress for the future and asked that the community pulled together as a team to make Warmington a better place to live/work/play and rest in.

#### **7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2005-2006**

Mr Bosworth proposed and Mrs Hodges seconded that Mr Rowell be appointed Chairman for a further year. AIF. It was agreed that all other officers remain as in 2004/5. AIF

#### **8. POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT.**

There was no police report. On behalf of Neighbourhood Watch Mr Reid reported that leaflets had been put through the doors of the elderly with the remaining leaflets being put in the Post Office. Knowledge is of only one crime in the village. Mr Reid pointed out that he is informed automatically of any crimes.

#### **9. YOUTH GROUP REPRESENTATIVE**

Miss Davey reported ups and downs with the Youth Club. They have a lot of Members, money to spend and the services of a Youth Worker, but they lack parental support. They have a meeting on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May to attempt to rectify this problem. Mrs Hodges and Mr Dixon offered to attend. If parental help is not forthcoming it may be that the Club will have to close for the summer and reopen in September.

Mr Davey pointed out that it is always the same four parents that help and that these parents are part of a Management Committee that looks after the accounts and signs the cheques on behalf of the Group. He asked if the Parish Council could take over the operation of the account and this was agreed.

Mr Cutler asked if help could be paid for. Mr Davey pointed out that the current Youth Worker from NCC operates on a placement scheme, but he is unsure how long this will continue. Mr Davey is currently asking NCC if a paid Youth Worker could be put in.

AW

#### **10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST : None**

#### **11. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

- a) Social Club footpath. Since the last meeting Debbie Strong NCC has now moved posts and the Clerk is dealing with Mrs Janko ROW who is looking into the legal issues. Mrs Janko is to meet with Mr Grinley NCC to attempt to progress the matter. Mr Hardcastle is also working on the Council's behalf to obtain funding from ENC. He is quite optimistic that progress will be made this year. Problems with the Nene Pastures Estate and TWD have arisen largely because no legal agreements were in place between the developer and either ENC or NCC

before work commenced. Meetings with TWD suggest that adoption will take place in the next 18 months. TDS at Rusden have been appointed to oversee this process and it is clear that maintenance problems are now being addressed.

- b) Street Lights . A quotation for the lights on Pierce Crescent/Drapers Close has now been received from Eldridge Electrical. This quote ranges between 11k and 12k depending on the type of lamps chosen and does not include the connections. In comparison the quote from ABB is for £702 + VAT per lamp, i.e. £6318 including connections. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Constant seconded that the ABB quote be accepted. AIF

AW

The next area for attention will be Church Street and this will be surveyed.

At the last meeting Mr Dixon suggested extending the Church Street lighting to the roundabout. A letter has been received from Mr Du Croz suggesting that this would be very expensive and increase light pollution. He suggested that it would be better to make further attempts to divert some of the bus services through the village. Mr Dixon agreed with this point of view and it was decided to approach Stagecoach once again.

AW

- c) Highway Matters. After discussion, seven councillors voted to make another attempt to try for the Speedwatch initiative. To proceed it is necessary for 20% of the village to sign up for it. It was agreed that ACRE should be approached for advice.

AW

- d) Landscape Management. Mrs Darters would like to donate a small tree in memory of her husband. This will be either a flowering cherry or crab apple and situated on Little Green. It has been suggested that the oak tree in the Churchyard is in danger from the ivy growing on it. Advice will be sought.

AW

Mr Reid agreed to proceed with obtaining a price to infill the rose beds in the Churchyard with lavender.

GR

- e) New approach to Rural Settlement Planning – 82/05. The Clerk has contacted ENC to express the Parish Council's interest in this body and is awaiting confirmation of dates for the meetings. It is hoped that the Council will be represented at these meetings.

Mr Constant pointed out that the document suggests that Warmington has met its designations and that no further major development is planned. This is a policy that the Parish Council would support and these views should be passed on to ENC.

- f) Leisure Field and Play Area. Following the onsite meeting with Guy Cope TWD and the appointment of TDS, the services to the Leisure Field will be connected in 4 months and the Play Area will be complete in mid June. Sewerage was a problem on the Leisure Field, but this will be overcome by the provision of a pumping station.

- g) School play area Agreement. Currently the Parish Council have responsibility for children playing in the School Play Area after hours subject to certain conditions. Mr Rowell has recently been called out where these conditions are being abused. After talks with the Headmaster the grass area has been closed and only Warmington School children accompanied by parents should use the area. It seems that the agreement is no longer enforceable and should perhaps be ended. Mr Cutler pointed out that alternative venues are now available with the play area and leisure field.

Mr Rowell opened the meeting for Mr Davey, Chair of the Governors to speak. Mr Davey has also been called out to deal with situations and Mrs Padley, NCC

Councillor has become involved. Mrs Padley is hopeful of obtaining funding for improved fencing. If the hard playing area could be separated from the field with a fence this would provide an extra barrier and put a different complexion on the situation. Mr Davey urged the Parish Council to wait to see if this project comes to fruition before ending the agreement. It was agreed to temporarily suspend the agreement and carry the item forward to the next meeting.

Mrs Huett asked if the parents of the troublesome youngsters had been informed. Mr Rowell pointed out that this was not always appropriate. However the local policeman is now aware of the restrictions and will enforce them where possible. Mr Rowell reported that three children have vandalised the door on the portacabin on the Leisure Field. On this occasion it was the parents who reported it. A letter of apology has been received from the children and they are to pay for the damage.

- h) Play Area development. Mrs Huett reported that a meeting has been set up with Wicksteed Leisure on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30 to assess requirements for the play area and give prices. Roger Lovesay, Cultural Community Partnerships, has been consulted re funding and relevant organisations and contact numbers have been supplied. Some will only donate to a voluntary body and so it would seem that one should be set up for the play area. Mrs Huett has contacted Mrs Black from the Playgroup and will contact Mrs Rule. AW
- i) Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework – 88/05. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council need to be kept informed. It was felt to be a good idea to be consulted before draft policies are written and that this level of consultation should continue throughout the planning process and afterwards. LH
- j) Alzheimer’s Society – Request for donation – 110/05. After discussion it was felt that this was of no direct benefit to the people of the village and should be declined. The majority were in favour of this decision. AW
- k) Identity cards for Councillors. After discussion it was decided to pursue this idea further. AW
- l) Allotments – timing of payment of rents. It was agreed to change the annual date for payment of rents to October 1<sup>st</sup>. AIF

## 12. PLANNING

The planning permission for the portacabin on the Leisure Field expires on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2006. ENC have advised the Council to apply for a renewal in Jan/Feb 2006.

- a) 57 Dexter Way – EN/05/00504/FUL – Conservatory to rear. Planning Permission received
- b) 37 Dexter Way – EN/05/00538/FUL – Conservatory to rear. Planning Permission received
- c) 29 Chapel Street – EN/05/00830/LDE – Residential use as a single dwelling house. This application is for a Certificate of Lawful Development which legalises something that is already taken place. In this case the property had a permission as a restaurant, but has been used as a residential property for the last four years. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Bosworth seconded that there be no objections to this application. AIF. AW

### 13. ACCOUNTS

a) Community A/C (Current) : £1800.90

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Balance b/f	1457.86	Village Hall Hire	12.50
		A Webb Salary/Exp	520.43
Cemetery Fees	630.00	D Rowell Exp	6.30
VAT Refund	858.74	ABB	196.97
		NALC Subs/Auditor	285.00
		ACRE Sub	31.00
		CAB Donation	50.00
		LexisNexis - book	30.00
		Shaw & Sons - book	13.50
		Balance c/f	1800.90
	<b>2946.60</b>		<b>2946.60</b>

Accounts submitted for payment

- Anna Webb Salary and Expenses      £474.43
- Village Hall Hire                              £15.00
- Cornhill Insurance  
£728.98
- C Ellard Allotment Expenses              £56.60

b) Main BPA (Deposit) : £19,499.60

c) Cont. BPA (Contingency) : £3,485.10

d) Pocket Park A/c : £371.38

Adoption of accounts. Mr Constant proposed and Mr Short seconded that the accounts be adopted. AIF.

Clerk's Salary – Mr Constant proposed and Mr Short seconded that the Clerk's Salary be set at spinal point 20, £8.76 per hour for 6.5 hours per week, £2,960.88 pa. A new Contract of Employment was agreed and signed. AIF.

### 14. CORRESPONDENCE

Since the last meeting in March 40 items of correspondence have been circulated amongst Parish Councillors and 25 items of post have been sent by the Parish Council Age Concern have requested a volunteer to act as a link person between the elderly person requiring support and Age Concern. Mr Rowell agreed to undertake this role.

AW

### 15. OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE

A reply has not yet been received from Elton Estates re ongoing work on Nene Pastures and the transfer of the £7,500 due when the play area has been handed over to the Parish Council. The Clerk to follow this up.

AW

## 16. PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

- a) Alms Houses. Mr Short reported that a tenant has died and a property will become vacant after June. A decision will then be made whether or not to relet it. If it is relet it will be advertised.
- b) Village Hall. Mr Cutler reported that a meeting was held on 4<sup>th</sup> April. A new style liquor licence is being applied for. Mr Eden has been appointed as caretaker. A committee has been appointed to look at the redesign and costings for the kitchen. The next meeting is on 6<sup>th</sup> June.
- c) Warmington Charities. Mr Bosworth reported that the next meeting is in October
- d) Warmington School. Mrs Hodges reported that the next meeting is on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May. The Ladies School Choir won the cup at the Oundle Music Festival. A Charity Concert is to be held in July.
- e) Tree Warden/Conservation. Mr Reid expressed concerns with car batteries being dumped on Taylors Green. Mr Short suggested that these have now gone. Mr Reid reported a smell coming from the ditch on Taylors Green. The Environmental Officer will be informed. The Thistles will need pulling up on Taylors Green and volunteers will be required
- f) Road Safety. NCC have been contacted re the damaged bus shelter on the A605. It is currently the responsibility of the Parish Council. However it is ultimately the intention to upgrade all of the shelters on the X4 route and for the County Council to maintain them. The parish Council under an insurance claim would only be able to replace like with like. NCC are to offer further advice as to how best to proceed.
- g) Pocket Parks. Mr Rowell reported that an annual event will be held and that BTCV are also considering holding an event.
- h) Allotments. No problems
- i) Rights of Way. Mr Atkinson reported no problems. They are well used

AW

Mr Davey asked if he would stand as the representative for the Youth Group on the Village Hall Committee. He agreed to do this for the time being, but suggested that when the Youth Group is back on a firm footing, the young people should represent themselves.

## 17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2005

The meeting closed at 9 pm.