

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting
held on Monday 21st November 2005
At 7.30 pm
in the Village Hall, Warmington

1. ATTENDANCE

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

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

2. APOLOGIES : Apologies were received from Councillor P Hardcastle, PC C Wearing and Bob Davey

3. ABSENTEES : None

4. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19th SEPTEMBER 2005 AND OF THE INTERIM MEETING HELD ON 27th OCTOBER 2005. Mr Constant proposed and Mrs Hodges seconded that the minutes be signed as a true and accurate record of events. AIF

5. TO RECEIVE THE POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT. There was no report from either organisation. Mr Reid reported that there had been a forced entry on School Lane

6. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT FROM THE YOUTH GROUP. Miss Davey reported that the group are doing well. The Registration evening saw a number of new members as well as a number of new parent helpers. The group held a very successful Halloween Party. Tony Daniels, NCC Youth Worker visits nearly every week to help with the management of the group. There are now between 15 and 20 members. Miss Davey is in the Upper 6th at School, but has successors in the current secretary and treasurer who are in the lower 6th. Miss Davey suggested that the group is good for those who are undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh Awards and this is one way to attract more officers.

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA : None

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a) Social Club footpath- to receive an update on the application for funding. £5,833.40 has been received from ENC by way of a grant. It is hoped that a further £1,000 will be received from Elton Estates. It was agreed to proceed with the project and place the necessary orders. AIF.

AW

b) Play area – to receive a progress report on funding. £5,000 has been received from Awards for All. Mrs Huett proposed and Mrs Hodges seconded that the necessary order be placed. AIF. Mr Rowell reported that the sign has now been put up and the play area is complete. He asked Councillors to keep an eye on the area where possible remembering that it is only for those up to 9 years of age. Mrs Huett reported that there is some barbed

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- wire between the area and the Social Club car park which needs to be removed. Mr Cutler reported that the litter bin has now been removed and a replacement is required together with a dog bin as agreed at the last meeting. AW
- c) Street Lights – lights requiring maintenance. Mr Short reported that lamp no 10 is out on Big Green AW
- d) Highways Matters - identification of areas requiring attention. The road at the top of Big Green has been looked at by Highways. Highways have been asked to remove the white lines on the old A605 and a survey of all the paths and roads in the village has been requested. Mr Short reported that there is a pot hole by the ford on Church Street. He also reported that there are still advertisements on the roundabout advertising events from the summer. Mr Constant reported general problems with advertisements on telegraph poles and stressed the need to remove them as soon as the event is over. AW
- e) Landscape Management
- Grass cutting. The three year grass cutting contract comes to an end early next year. It was agreed to list all grass cutting requirements and put them out to tender once again. The play area and two adjacent areas will need to be added and the Leisure Field will require more cuts. AW
 - Open Land. All Councillors were in possession of a copy of the recent map from ENC. Mr Rowell and Mr Dixon had attended a meeting with the Senior Planning Officer and Planning Policy Officer at ENC. They defined aspirational sites as those that have been put forward for possible development by land owners and agents. They have to be displayed for transparency, but carry no weight in planning law. Where an aspirational site covers important open land it is extremely unlikely that it would be developed. Mr Dixon questioned whether under the Freedom of Information Act it is possible to ascertain from ENC those who have put such sites forward for possible development. ENC to be approached. AW
 - Autumn tree and bulb planting. Mr Reid reported that 250 bluebells have been planted on Long Lane, 2,500 daffodils and 250 crocus have been planted on the Peterborough Road, 7 holly trees have been planted around the village together with an oak tree and a beech tree and 15 lavender in the Churchyard. Thanks will be passed to Mr Austin for his contribution of the holly and oak trees. A further 25 trees are due to be received from BTCV. It was suggested that tree planting ought to be put on hold for a couple of years. AW
 - Hawthorn tree in Chapel Street. A parishioner had reported this as being in need of trimming back as it is close to the electricity wires. This is a job carried out by the Electricity Board.
 - Rights of Way. Mr Rowell reported that Mr Reid and his wife have “stepped” the paths in Warmington and measured them with a pedometer. They have produced a map showing this information “The Rainbow Scheme”. It was hoped that ROW would modify one footpath at the end of the old A605 to enable the walk to be through tree planting rather than at the side of the road. ROW have investigated this but it would be too costly. The timber bridge required would itself cost in the region of £10,000. Further the land is owned by Elton Estates. Mr Rowell agreed to mention this to Sir William Proby at a meeting to be held next week. DR
 - Churchyard. Mr Constant thanked the Parish Council for the work on the gate which is very good and the removal of the ivy from the wall on Church Lane. The ivy is still to be removed from the wall on Church Street. The Church path also needs to be pressure jetted. Beebys to be approached. AW
 - Cemetery. Mr Constant reported that the dog bin here is well used and needs emptying on a more regular basis. ENC to be informed. AW
- d) Leisure Field – progress report. Mr Short reported that the electricity supply from the box to the portacabin is still to be connected. Four quotations were received for this and one AW

accepted at the last meeting. The contractor now feels that he has underpriced the job, but has agreed to do it. It was agreed that a letter be sent asking him to undertake the job within 14 days or another contractor will be used.

Mr Rowell opened the meeting to receive a report from Mr Cross. A Development Plan has been produced and distributed to all Councillors detailing plans for the Leisure Field. Three phases have been identified – 1) Improvement . This phase is going well. The electricity supply needs to be connected. It is hoped to install mini goals and benches. 2) Planning for major facility improvement. This phase will involve sourcing multi sports surfaces, grant applications and fundraising. Elton estates need to be approached to see whether they would permit the building of an all weather sports facility. Further they could be asked to either extend the period of the tenancy or donate the field to the village. Mr Rowell agreed to raise these issues with Sir William Proby. 3) Putting the plan into action.

DR

Mr Yeatman was thanked for producing such a detailed document which will be an extremely valuable tool in grant applications. It was agreed that the draft would be shown to Sir William Proby. The final document is to be available January/February 2006.

DR

Mr Dixon suggested that King's Cliffe may be able to offer useful advice and guidance on funding issues having successfully acquired funds.

Mr Constant proposed and Mr Dixon seconded that the £5,000 allocated by the Parish Council to the Leisure Field be paid to the Leisure Field Committee as soon as they have a bank account in place to progress the project. AIF. It was agreed that the Parish Council continue to pay for the cutting of the Leisure Field.

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- e) Speedwatch Initiative – progress report and discussion as to viability of proceeding. In knocking on doors for support for the Initiative various Councillors had encountered negative responses. These ranged from the feeling that monitoring speeding was the job of the Police to the view that to whistleblow on villagers did not make for a harmonious community. After discussion it was agreed to abandon the initiative. AIF
- f) Village Design Statement – Update as to status under new planning framework. Feedback has been received from the MP suggesting that under the new planning framework the VDS needs to be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document. ENC have been approached for guidance on this and the Parish Council are awaiting a reply.
- g) Bus Shelter on A605 Post 310/05 – discussion as to how to proceed with repair/replacement. The bus shelter belongs to the Parish Council. Repair has not been undertaken to date as the bus shelters were to be upgraded along the X4 route. Funding for this however has run out. There may be more funding in 2006, but even then the Parish Council would be expected to pay 50% of the cost. It was agreed to proceed with making a claim on the Insurance Policy for a replacement. AIF.
- h) Ancient Monument Post 257/05– cutting of area around. The Parish Council are in receipt of a letter from Mr & Mrs Brashaw asking that the area around the Ancient Monument is cleared. Advice has been sought from Northamptonshire Heritage, but to date no further information has been received. It was agreed to send a copy of the Brashaw's letter to Northamptonshire Heritage for advice and then discuss the matter further. The Heritage Department are also still in possession of the dovecote sign for replacement and need to be pressed for this work to be undertaken. Mr Short pointed out that the footpath leading to the Dovecote requires attention. The Heritage Department to be made aware.
- i) Victim Support Post 279/05 - Consideration of Support. Mr Reid proposed and Mr Short seconded that £50 be donated to Victim Support. The majority were in favour.
- j) Alzheimer's Society Post 304/05 – Consideration of support. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Constant seconded that no donation be made as not enough villagers would benefit. AIF

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9. PLANNING – Update and to consider applications received

Mr Rowell and Mr Dixon expressed various concerns at their meeting with planning officers

from ENC. The Senior Planning Officer has been in post for 3 years and expects to be in post for a further 3 years thus offering continuity. At present the East Northamptonshire District Local Plan is still in force. Numbers for housing identified in this plan have been achieved and thus no new developments will be approved at present. This is likely to change in 2007. The Parish Council will receive a draft copy of the new plan in January and it is important that good feedback is given to ENC.

- a) Highland Boarding Kennels- EN/05/01427/VAR – Variation of Condition 2 of 89/00451 to increase the number of kennels from 12 to 18 and conversion of 6 Cat houses to a further 6 Kennels. Objections on the grounds of noise pollution and no provision for additional traffic to the site. Planning permission received. ENC are currently investigating the complaints of the Parish Council as to the way this application was handled.
- b) 22 School Lane – EN/05/01410/FUL – Single storey rear extension. Planning permission received
- c) 21 Dexter Way – EN/05/01731/FUL – Conservatory. Planning permission received
- d) 6 Short Close - – EN/05/01736/FUL – Conservatory. Planning permission received
- e) Bluebell Lakes – EN/05/00935/FUL – Extension to fishermans lodge to include display area, sales and café. Mr Constant proposed and Mrs Hodges seconded that there be no objections to this application. AIF

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10. FINANCE

- a) To approve payment of accounts paid under Standing Order 14.2

ABB	207.15
Flower Farms seeds	24.03
J Harrington Insurance	115.00
D Rowell Phone calls/Portacabin keys	46.40
Village Hall Hire	12.50
J short Grass cutting	827.20
SLCC CILCA Registration	70.00
D Rowell mileage	65.35
- b) To receive details of balances on accounts

▪ Current Account	2345.85
▪ Deposit Account	17896.35
▪ Pocket Park Account	262.80
▪ Contingency Account	3506.70
- c) To approve payment of outstanding accounts

A Webb – Clerks Salary & Expenses	555.53
Village Hall Hire	12.50
D Rowell Phone calls	9.60

Mr Short proposed and Mr Bosworth seconded that items a – c above be approved. AIF.

d) Consideration of Precept for 2006/7. Councillors were in receipt of budgets and supporting paperwork for which the Clerk was thanked. Mr Constant commented that the figures were in accordance with the policy laid down by the Parish Council. He stresses the importance of separating revenue expenditure from capital expenditure. Mr Rowell pointed out that improvements to street lights will continue to be a future capital expense. The rise in energy prices will increase revenue expenditure. Further it is yet unknown who will become responsible for the lighting on Nene Pastures. Mr Constant proposed and Mr Dixon seconded that a precept of £17,500 be applied for. AIF

AW

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Since the last meeting in September 89 items of correspondence have been circulated

amongst Parish Councillors and 81 items of post have been sent by the Parish Council

12. OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE : Those items identified earlier in the meeting.

13. PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

- a) Alms Houses. Mr Short reported that a meeting is due to be held.
- b) Village Hall. Mr Cutler reported that the AGM was held on November 14th . Officers and Committee were all re-elected en bloc. The finances are in a satisfactory state. Mr Dixon drew attention to the letter from Phil Hope MP suggesting that lottery money may be available for village halls. The current Village Hall could do with enlarging. It is no longer large enough for the Senior Citizens' Party for example. There was talk of dismantling the stage but this did not find favour with the Village Hall Committee. Mr Cutler agreed to pass the information re funding on to the Village Hall Committee and suggest that other organisations be consulted for any future planning. IC
- c) Warmington Charities. Mr Bosworth reported that money had been allocated for the Senior Citizens' Party and a donation made to Oundle After Care. A donation is normally made towards bus tokens but the situation regarding these is unclear at present. Mr Rowell to make enquiries. DR
- d) Warmington School. Unfortunately Mrs Huett was not considered a suitable candidate by the School Governors as her children are educated elsewhere.
- e) Tree Warden/Conservation. Mr Reid reported that he had Mrs Hodges had attended a very enjoyable meeting with CPRE where wind farms and dual carriageways for local roads were discussed in considerable detail.
- f) Road Safety. Mr Rowell reported no problems.
- g) Pocket Parks. Mr Rowell had nothing to report
- h) Allotments. Mr short had nothing to report

14. PARISHIONERS' QUESTION TIME

- a) Mr Cooper suggested that the lavender in the Churchyard made a nice change and asked if there would be any more. Mr Reid suggested that the idea is to fill the gaps.
- b) Mr Cooper reported that the Poppy collection around the village raised £1,007. Work is to take place to refurbish the war memorial to remove the soil and replace with chippings and to make good some of the names on the Memorial. The Parish Council are to be approached for a small contribution. Mr Rowell pointed out that The Parish Council is responsible for the War Memorial and that any such request would be looked upon favourably.
- c) Mr Brashaw raised the issue of light pollution emanating from Warmington Barns. His feeling is that the lights should be tilted downwards rather than pointing outwards. This has been investigated in the past and the reply from the landowner, Elton Estates was that the tenants would actually like more lighting. It was suggested that a certain amount of lighting was required for insurance purposes. Mr Rowell agreed to raise the issue once again with Sir William Proby. Mr Brashaw agreed to provide Mr Rowell will a document detailing lighting guidelines. DR

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 16th January 2006

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm

