

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting  
held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 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

12 Parishioners were also in attendance including Katherine Davey, Youth Club Representative, Bob Davey, Village Hall Representative for the Youth, Tony Daniels, NCC Youth Worker and PC C. Wearing.

**2. APOLOGIES :** Apologies were received and accepted from Mr G Reid

**3. ABSENTEES :** None

### **4. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>th</sup> JULY 2005 AND OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2005.**

The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of events. AIF

### **5. TO RECEIVE THE POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT.**

PC Wearing offered his apologies for his absences from meetings over the last few months. He reported both good and bad news. Statistics of 18 months ago showed a 44% crime detection rate. Over the past 12 months there have been 23 crimes in the Warmington Parish and only 2 have been detected ie 8.7%. Of these crimes, 1 was burglary dwelling, 4 other burglary, 6 thefts from vehicles, 2 theft of vehicles, 2 criminal damage, 3 thefts, 1 act of violence and 4 other crimes. The good news is that from April to date there have only been 9 crimes as opposed to 10 for the same period last year.

Discussion ensued about the system in general. PC Wearing agreed that it is not as good as previously. The system is set up with a team based at Oundle who respond to crime 24/7. PC Wearing is now based at Thrapston where community issues and longer term problems are dealt with. The result of this tends to be that Warmington does not get the police presence that it had in the past. PC Wearing suggested that a new scheme is being introduced next year which may be better. Mr Rowell suggested that dissatisfaction with the present system should continue to be expressed to the police and through the Community Safety Partnership. Mr Short asked if PC Wearing would keep an eye out for youngsters causing a problem playing cricket in Buntings Lane.

### **6. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT FROM THE YOUTH GROUP including Village Hall Representative for the Youth**

Mr Daniels, NCC Youth Worker, conveyed his support for the Youth Group. He suggested that they require continued support from the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council. He had attended a Village Hall Committee meeting with Mr Davey and argued for a reduction in hire fees for the Youth Group. Unfortunately this was not approved. Mr Daniels is keen to see the Group develop in partnership with the community. Three more posts are to be developed at NCC and hopefully this will result in more support for the group. Mr Daniels is

keen, however, that the group should be allowed to develop their own skills.

Miss Davey reported that the Group will open this Thursday. They still have a great need for parental support. Parents now have to attend to register their child and it is hoped that this may encourage parents to give more support.

Mr Davey suggested that the support being received from NCC is being developed. He attended the Village Hall Committee meeting and, like Mr Daniels, argued the case for a reduction in hire fees for the Youth Club. Mr Davey understood that this could cause problems with other groups requesting a similar reduction. Mr Davey suggested that if numbers drop funding for the Youth Club could be a problem. They have a grant of £800 but this is ring fenced for equipment. The Group are currently drawing up a business plan and are to be congratulated for their efforts.

## 7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Mr Cutler declared a personal interest in Planning item h) 21 Dexter Way - Conservatory

## 8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a) Social Club footpath- to receive an update on the application for funding. Mr Rowell and Mr Bosworth have met with Mr Hall, ROW who has approved the scheme. ROW will complete the legal agreements. The Clerk has submitted the grant application and this has been acknowledged. A letter will be sent to Elton Estates reminding them of their pledge of £1,000.

AW

b) Play area – to discuss equipment sourced. Three companies had been asked to quote, Wicksteed Leisure, SMP and Lapsett. A spreadsheet was circulated to all Councillors showing comparative prices together with pictures of the equipment. After discussion Mrs Huett proposed and Mr Constant seconded that Lapsett quotation A be accepted. The acceptance of this to be dependant on receiving grant funding. The Clerk to apply to Awards For All. AIF.

AW

It was agreed that a committee be set up for the future running and upgrading of the Play Area. An open meeting to be held.

AW

c) Street Lights – lights requiring maintenance. The street lighting project is now complete on Pierce Crescent/Drapers Close. The next areas to be upgraded are Church Street and Buntings Lane. Mr Rowell suggested that these be looked at January/February next year.

d) Highway Matters – annual parish questionnaire (post 223/05). This has been completed to send off.

AW

- identification of areas requiring attention. Mr Dixon reported that the road in Big Green is breaking up. He is to report this. Mrs Huett reported that the sign for Acremead requires attention. ENC to be informed. Mr Constant reported that the boundary boards need to be removed from Broadgate Way. BT/Electricity Board? To be informed.

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e) Landscape Management

▪ Cutting of the Laurel hedge in the Cemetery. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Cutler seconded that the quotation from Mr J Short for £360 be accepted. AIF.

AW

▪ Grass cutting for the play area. The Parish Council are awaiting a price for this from Mr J Short. It was agreed that now the work on the play area is nearing completion, Elton Estates should be approached for the endowment of £7,500

AW

▪ Open Land. After discussion it was agreed that a small group put together information received from ENC with the aspirations of the Parish Council detailed in the Landscape Management Report and accompanying map.

PC

▪ Autumn tree and bulb planting. A sum of money has been agreed for bulb planting. Mr Rowell suggested applying to BTCV for trees, mainly to replace those which have died around the village.

AW

▪ Rights of Way. Mr Reid has suggested the creation of a map detailing all of the footpaths around the village in terms of pedometer measurements. Having walked all

of the existing footpaths around the village he suggests the creation of another footpath negating the need to walk along the side of the bypass. This footpath would be created in the trees at the side of the bypass giving access from the Red Lion to Church Street. ROW to be approached.

- Church – Mr Constant reported that the church wardens are responsible for regular audits for health and safety and disabled access. As a matter of some urgency a hand rail is now required from the gate to the South door and visibility strips along the path to the porch. The Parish Council gave their approval for this work to take place. The gate also needs repairing. The Odd Job Man to be approached.
- f) Leisure Field – progress report. At a meeting of the Leisure Field Committee the provision of a hard multi purpose sports area was suggested. The Committee are looking into this.
- g) Speedwatch Initiative. To achieve the necessary 20% commitment, either 20 further households are required to sign up or 56 individual electors. Mr Rowell to analyse pledges already received. Parish Councillors to be provided with forms with which to obtain the necessary further commitment.
- h) Village Design Statement. P Hope MP has been approached re the status of the VDS and he has taken the matter up with ENC. The Parish Council are awaiting a further reply
- i) Identity cards for Councillors. The Clerk to supply these.
- j) Adoption of Risk Assessment Policy – (draft attached). Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Short seconded that this be adopted. AIF. Mr Constant pointed out that the Parish Council should be mindful that this and the documents on which it relies need to be continually updated and maintained.
- k) Improving Your Patch award – result. The Parish Council received a certificate which has been laminated and will be displayed in the Village Hall. Unfortunately no one was able to attend the presentation.
- l) Senior Citizens’ Party – consideration of request for funding (Post 229/05). Mr Rowell invited Mrs Lacey and Mrs Palmer to comment on this. The group involved have provided food for the Party cooked in private kitchens for numerous years. They now feel that with the risks involved they require adequate insurance. The cost of this for the one event is £115. The group receive funding for the event from Warmington Charities, but would like to ask the Parish Council to cover the insurance on an annual basis. Mr Cutler expressed his opinion that the event should be self financing and not reliant upon the Parish Council. Mr Rowell, however, felt that the Parish Council had committed a lot of money to the young and should also commit money where appropriate to all elements of the village and in this case to the senior citizens. Mr Constant pointed out that a lot of voluntary effort goes into the event and the organisers should be thanked for their contributions. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Short seconded that the Parish Council pay the insurance premium on an annual basis. The majority were in favour. The group to supply the Clerk with the necessary payment details
- m) Parish Council Representative on School Governing Body. Mr Davey asked that the thanks of the governors to Mrs Hodges be recorded. She has been a true friend to the school over the years and given whole hearted commitment.. The governors would like the connection with the Parish Council to continue and would like to appoint a Parish Councillor as one of their community governors. This would involve attending 6 full governors meetings a year and 6 sub committee meetings. It would also involve periodically visiting the school to observe and comment. All Parish Councillors to be approached and Mr Davey to be informed of the outcome.
- n) September 2006 meeting date – consideration of request to change. It was agreed that on this occasion the Parish Council would move their meeting date to Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September. The WI to be informed.
- o) Note of increase in electricity prices and impact on future budgets. This will be taken into consideration when the precept is debated in November.

AW

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DR

AW

AW

AW

AW

AW

- p) Sustainable Communities Bill - consideration of support (Post 228/05). After discussion it was agreed that the aspirations of this were sound and that the Parish Council should support it. AW
- q) Consultation on East Northamptonshire Cultural Strategy (Post 222/05). After discussion it was agreed that all of the statements made are desirable if they can be achieved. It was felt that the Parish Council had not had the opportunity to comment on the earlier Strategy. AW

**9. PLANNING** – Update and to consider applications received

- a) The Old Rectory 1 Hautboy Lane – EN/05/00775/LBC – Replacement of door in garden wall, raising height of wall to accommodate proposed door and replacement of cement capping with barnack stone. Refusal of permission
- b) Highlands Boarding Kennels – EN/05/00629/FUL – six unit cattery. Planning permission received.
- c) 47 Dexter Way – EN/05/01252/FUL – Conservatory (Retrospective). Planning permission received
- d) 59 Dexter Way- EN/05/01312/FUL – Single storey side and rear extension. Planning permission received
- e) Broadgate Way OP3067 TL0890– EN/05/01246/PNA - Agricultural Shed. No objections but comments made re screen of trees and rubbish.
- f) 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. Mr Rowell had contacted ENC re this permission as it seems that local opinion has been totally ignored. It was given on the advice on the Environmental Officer who apparently approached the neighbours who had no objections. Mr Rowell has not yet been able to speak to the Environmental Officer, but will continue to try to do so. Dependant on this conversation the Parish Council will write to ENC and/or set up a meeting with the Environmental Officer and the District Councillor. DR
- g) 22 School Lane – EN/05/01410/FUL – Single storey rear extension. Planning permission received
- h) 21 Dexter Way – EN/05/01731/FUL – Conservatory. Mr Short proposed and Mr Constant seconded that there be no objections. AIF
- i) Roadway in Little Green. This roadway was to have been reinstated after the completion of building work. The owners of the properties to be approached AW
- j) 6 Short Close – EN/05/01736/FUL – Conservatory. Mr Bosworth proposed and Mr Short seconded that there be no objections. AIF

**10. FINANCE**

- a) To approve payment of accounts paid under Standing Order 14.2
- |                              |         |
|------------------------------|---------|
| D Rowell – phone calls       | 15.40   |
| D Rowell – taps for cemetery | 11.94   |
| Village Hall Hire            | 50.00   |
| J Short – Grass Cutting      | 692.07  |
| Powergen                     | 402.23  |
| ABB                          | 7423.65 |
| D Rowell – phone calls       | 14.40   |
| ENC – Dog Bin                | 109.60  |
| Parkers – Litter pickers     | 105.00  |
| Anglian Water – Allotments   | 47.73   |

b) To receive details of balances on accounts

- Current Account  
2298.15
- Deposit Account  
15067.73
- Pocket Park Account  
296.80
- Contingency Account  
3495.96

c) To approve payment of outstanding accounts

A Webb – Clerks Salary & Expenses	537.22
Village Hall Hire	12.50
Wicksteed Leisure Inspection	47.00

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

## 11. CORRESPONDENCE

Since the last meeting in July 70 items of correspondence have been circulated amongst Parish Councillors and 36 items of post have been sent by the Parish Council

## 12. OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE

- Mr J Short – quote for the play area
- Mr Griffin Odd Job Man – rubbish bin in play area and ivy on Church wall
- Mr & Mrs Smith – removal of rose bushes in cemetery

## 13. PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

- a) Alms Houses. Mr Short reported that an inspection is to take place next Monday. There is currently 1 vacancy. Mr Rowell pointed out that under the terms of the Charity the Parish Council has the right to nominate 2 people for the Trust. He suggested that the Parish Council review this annually.
- b) Village Hall. Mr Cutler reported that a meeting was held on 5<sup>th</sup> September. Unfortunately, although the committee were sympathetic, the assistance requested by the Youth Club had to be declined, the concern being that it could set a precedent. It was suggested that they draw up a business plan for the future. The Hall has been decorated and improvements to the kitchen are due to take place. The Constitution is to be rewritten and advice sought from ACRE. The Autumn Fayre is to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> October and the AGM on 14<sup>th</sup> November
- c) Warmington Charities. Mr Bosworth reported that a meeting is to be held in October
- d) Warmington School. Nothing to report
- e) Tree Warden/Conservation. Nothing to report
- f) Road Safety. Mr Rowell had nothing to report other than continued problems with speeding
- g) Pocket Parks. Mr Rowell reported no problems.
- h) Allotments. Mr Short had nothing to report

## 14. PARISHIONERS' QUESTION TIME

- Mr Cooper expressed concern with the construction of the fence around the play area. He feels that a number of the rails move suggesting that there is a gap where they join. This could result in water getting in and causing the screws to rust etc. This will be reported to TDS

AW

## 15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2005

The meeting closed at 10 pm.