

WARMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting
held on Monday 10th July 2006
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 D Constant	Mr M Dixon

13 Parishioners were also in attendance.

2. APOLOGIES: Apologies were received and accepted from Mr I Cutler, Mrs L Huett, Mr G Reid and Councillor P Hardcastle.

3. ABSENTEES : None

4. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8th May 2006 Mr Dixon proposed and Mrs Hodges seconded that the minutes be signed as a true and accurate record of events. AIF

5. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT FROM THE YOUTH GROUP : No report

6. TO RECEIVE THE POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT : No report. The police to be contacted to discuss future attendance at meetings.

AW

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA. Mr Short declared an interest in Agenda item 8 f Grass cutting

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a) Quality Parish Council –

- Parish Council newsletter. This has been distributed to all households. Mr Dixon was thanked for producing the newsletter. One parishioner had contacted Mr Rowell with her view that it was a brilliant idea and offering her help in the future.
- Consideration of progress towards quality status. The Clerk had contacted NALC for clarification of various issues. Before application for quality status 4 newsletters have to be produced together with a copy of the Annual Report which has to be delivered to all households. The Parish council must therefore wait until this has been undertaken – about a year. This means that the Parish Council must take measures to ensure that at least 80% of its seats are filled at the election in May 2007. NALC also suggested the benefits of the Parish Council creating their own website. When the NALC website is up and running it can be linked into this. The Clerk to look into this. NALC will assist with the application in due course and will visit the Council to offer practical advice.

AW

b) Social Club footpath. Mr Bosworth reported that the Social Club are awaiting feedback from potential purchasers. He reiterated that it is part of the stipulation of the sale that developers will put in a footpath.

c) Rainbow footpath. This scheme is being developed by Mr Reid. Mr Rowell explained that it is an initiative whereby Mr & Mrs Reid walked all of the footpaths in Warmington and measured them in terms of footsteps. The idea is then to colour code these walks in terms of length and produce a brochure detailing them.

GR

d) Street Lights –

- Lights from Church Street to the roundabout. The quotation from ABB for three lights which would go from Church Street to half way to the roundabout is £9,030 +VAT. Opinion is divided about the necessity for these lights. Mr Constant has received representation from some older residents who consider them to be very necessary. People who use the bus tend to be of a similar opinion, but demand tends to be dwindling with the reductions in the bus service. It was agreed that the project could not be funded with Parish Council resources but that if it was to proceed grants would have to be sought. It was agreed to approach WS Atkins to see if they can assist in any way.

AW

- Lights requiring maintenance. Light 9 in Dexter Way is permanently on. The light on the dog leg footpath through from the play area to Chapel Street is damaged. These lights are in the ownership of Taylor Woodrow Developments and they will be informed. Enquiries will be made about the future ownership of these lights.

AW

- Quotation for lights in Church Street and Church Lane. At the last meeting the quotation for these lights was said to be £3969.44 + VAT. In fact this only included the upgrade of one light to a heritage light when the Parish Council had agreed to two. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Short seconded that the amended quotation of £4310.89 + VAT be accepted. AIF.

e) Highways Matters –

- Identification of areas requiring attention. Mr Rowell and Mrs Hodges attended a Highway Event at Brixworth on Saturday 8th July. They were informed that Warmington will have two inspections one in February and one in August/September. Parish Councillors are welcome to walk round with the engineers.

AW

The footpath outside 21 Dexter Way is in need of attention.

The dog leg path between the play area and Chapel Street is overgrown and needs to be cleared.

AW

- Road Safety. At the Brixworth Event Highways also offered to undertake a further Speed Survey similar to that already undertaken in Church Street and Stamford Lane. This could either be by use of a speed vehicle or a temporary flashing sign which also monitors speed. It was agreed that Broadgate Way and Buntings Lane would be good locations. Mr Short asked about the possibility of permanent flashing signs. This to be investigated.

AW

f) Landscape Management

- Grass cutting. The contractor has given notice that he does not want to continue with the contract. A draft tender has been drawn up to send out to other contractors. After discussion it was agreed that the number of cuts ought to be specified and it was agreed that this should be 7 cuts per annum for the Cemetery and Churchyard. Mr David Short agreed to cut the Leisure Field to the end of November. He will then review the situation. MB Gardens have sent an invoice for £1,000 for the work completed to date. Included in this is a £200 discount in compensation for the disputes over the quality of the work and the inconvenience of finding another contractor. However, there are still piles of grass at the cemetery, the Ancient Monument has not been cut at all and the Fun Field was left in a terrible mess. Mr Constant proposed and Mr Bosworth seconded that a payment of £750 be made. AIF.

AW

- Orchard Pocket Park Beech trees. Mr Rowell has arranged for a timber company to come and look at these trees and give advice. Should work be needed they will give a price for it.

AW

g) Rights of Way. The Clerk has telephoned Mr Bob Birkett, ROW. He has agreed to

- Have PD2 cleared as a matter of urgency
- Repair/replace all of the wooden signs that need attention

- Provide some signs encouraging people to keep their dogs on leads on PD20. It is an offence to have a dog off a lead on a right of way. He will also see whether PD20 needs to be strimmed
 - Contact a colleague, Ian Richardson, to ascertain when the village will receive the new display board to replace the one outside the Village Hall.
- h) Leisure Areas –
- Play Area – progress report and consideration of annual inspection. It was agreed to proceed with the £40 + VAT inspection with Wicksteed Leisure. AIF AW
- The Parish Council are aware that the bark needs building up. Prices for this are very high ranging from £650 - £1280. Safety matting has been costed as an alternative at £4,920. Further sources of bark will be sought. AW
- The fence panels around the play area are still in need of attention. Taylor Woodrow have been informed on more than one occasion and had agreed to send out their own carpenters. The clerk to follow this up. AW
- Fun Field – progress report. Mr Rowell reported that a very good event had been held on the field on 9th July. This was a five a side tournament in association with the Social Club. They were also various stalls. It is hoped that this will encourage future use.
- i) Bus Shelters. They have been problems with the bus shelters with graffiti being sprayed on them. The shelters have been professionally cleaned but have now turned semi opaque. The cleaners to be approached for their opinion before payment is made. AW
- j) Outstanding works. The telephone kiosk is still in need of attention. AW
- k) Cultural Community Partnerships – Summer event for 8-13 year olds. The Parish Council have agreed to pay for the hire of the village hall for this event. The Clerk has produced posters for this and Mr Dixon has placed an article in Five All Magazine. AW
- l) CPRE – Consideration of renewal of membership. Mr Short proposed and Mr Dixon seconded that membership be renewed at a cost of £26. AIF. AW

9. PLANNING – Update and to consider applications received

- a) 29 Broadgate Way – EN/06/00543/FUL – Erection of pool cover to existing pool – Mr A Tipping. Planning permission received
- b) 37 Big Green – EN/06/00571/FUL – Two storey rear extension – Dr & Mrs M Richardson. Planning permission received
- c) Long Lane Farm, Taylors Green – EN/06/01082/LBC – Lime render over modern bricks and blocks in outbuildings. Dr Deayton and Dr Thorpe. Mr Short proposed and Mrs Hodges seconded that there be no objections to this. AIF.
- d) 3 Orchard Close – EN/06/01269/FUL - Conservatory to rear of property. Mr & Mrs M Bruce. Mr Bosworth proposed and Mr Dixon seconded that there be no objections to this. AIF
- e) 42 Dexter Way – EN/06/01258/FUL – First floor extension to existing garage – Mr R J Bucher. Mr Du Croz had expressed concern that this application may be obtrusive and Mr Constant agreed with this view. Other Councillors however having visited the site disagreed with this. Mr Short proposed and Mrs Hodges seconded that there be no objections to the application. The majority were in favour of this.
- f) 21 Pierce Crescent – EN/06/01285/FUL – Single storey rear extension – Mr K Taylor. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Short seconded that there be no objections to this. AIF.
- g) Planning Register. It was agreed that this is a good, well presented document and should be retained in this format. AW

10. FINANCE

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

R Hanlon Fun Field Exp	58.08
D Rowell Phone calls	8.70
Powergen	421.56
Allianz Cornhill	1233.39
Trf to Contingency	500.00
G Yeatman Fun Field Exp	129.82
ABB Maintenance	207.15
D Rowell phone calls	7.20

- b) To receive details of balances on accounts

▪ Current Account	20302.61
▪ Deposit Account	2260.90
▪ Pocket Park Account	224.63
▪ Contingency Account	4029.25

- c) To approve payment of outstanding accounts

A Webb – Clerks Salary & Expenses	547.43
Village Hall Hire	15.00
ENC – Printing Newsletter	74.12
Beebys – Cleaning bus shelters	188.00

Mr Constant pointed out that the balance on the current account is very high and that some monies should be transferred to deposit. The Clerk to transfer monies.

AW

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

11. OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE : None other than that identified at other points of the meeting.

12. PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

- a) Alms Houses. Mr Short reported that a meeting had been held two weeks ago with a view to sourcing grants and loans for renovations. A further meeting is due to be held in the near future.
- b) Village Hall. No report
- c) Warmington Charities. Mr Bosworth reported that the next meeting is to be held in October
- d) Pocket Parks. Mr Rowell reported no problems other than the beech trees. A new bench may be required in the Big Green Pocket Park which Mr Rowell may fund himself.
- e) Allotments. All allotments are in use and in excellent order.
- f) Reports from Councillors attending outside meetings/courses. Mr Rowell and Mrs Hodges had attended the Brixworth event which was very good – see above. Mr Constant is due to attend an event at Stanwick Lakes

13. PARISHIONERS' QUESTION TIME

- a) Lighting from Church Street to the roundabout was discussed further. Mrs Helstrip pointed out that those requiring lighting were likely to be those using the buses, school children, those walking to the garage and those walking to the restaurant. Mr Cooper pointed out that technically, because the area is outside the 30 mph zone, they are not classed as “street lights”. Other forms of lighting such as photo cells and wind generators

could therefore be looked at which may be a cheaper option. Mrs Cooper pointed out that safety is another issue to consider.

Mr Austin pointed out that there are also problems with the footpath itself. There are numerous brambles sticking out and at one point the footpath stops altogether.

- b) Mr Helstrip highlighted problems with the grass cutting undertaken by NCC. The grass is allowed to grow to 18” before it has to be cut. As the grass is not collected this has caused problems this year with large quantities of grass being left.
- c) Mrs Marsden questioned the cost of Heritage lights in comparison to standard lights. On average a heritage light is £1200 and a standard light £600, but final costs depend on location and electricity supply. Mrs Marsden is very satisfied with her “soft” light near the Old Hautboy. She was reassured that there are no plans to change this.
- d) Mr Helstrip pointed out that the telephone kiosk has a broken pane of glass.
- e) Mr Atkinson queried why public monies should be spent on the beech trees in the pocket park as they do not seem to pose a danger. The residents have expressed concerns that the trees will continue to block light and that the growing roots will cause problems. As such the Parish Council has a duty to investigate these claims. At present advice is being sought and no commitment has been made.
- f) Mr Atkinson queried whether any action had been taken regarding the dropped verge on Orchard Close. It had been inspected. It will be pointed out to Highways on their visit in August/September.
- g) Mrs Cooper questioned the availability of ROW maps. Mr Reid is hoping to produce the Rainbow Footpath map.

AW

AW

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 25th September 2006

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.