

WARMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting
held on Monday 19th March 2007
At 7.30pm
In the Village Hall, Warmington

1. ATTENDANCE

Mr D Rowell (Chairman)	Mr G Reid
Mr R Bosworth (Vice Chairman)	Mr D Short
Dr C Jones	Mr I Cutler
Mr M Dixon	

3 Parishioners were also in attendance.

2. APOLOGIES : Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs M Hodges, Councillor P Hardcastle, Rachel Stroud and Sarah Madden

3. ABSENTEES : Mr D Constant

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

5. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15th JANUARY 2007 AND THE INTERIM MEETING HELD ON 15th FEBRUARY 2007
Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Reid seconded that the minutes be signed as a true and accurate record of events. AIF

6. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT FROM THE YOUTH GROUP . Mr Rowell read out a letter received from Rachel Stroud and Sarah Madden. A decision has been made to suspend the Youth Group for the foreseeable future. Attendance levels have dropped and, despite raising subs to £1, it has not been possible to cover the cost of the hire of the Village Hall which has now risen to £12 for 2 hours. Offers of parent help have also been extremely poor. Miss Stroud and Miss Madden will be away at university next year and there is presently no one to take over the running of the Group. Mr Dixon proposed holding an open meeting to gain support. It was agreed that this be left to Mr Rowell, Mr Dixon and the Clerk to consider. A letter of thanks for all of their hard work to be sent to Miss Stroud and Miss Madden.

7. TO RECEIVE THE POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT. Crime statistics have been received showing 2 crimes for Warmington for February bringing the total for the year to date to 27.

8. TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007. Mr Rowell presented the Chairman's Report for the year – (attached). Mr Cutler extended a vote of thanks to the Chairman

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a) Quality Parish Council

- Consideration of progress towards quality status. The web site has now been updated with Councillor profiles although problems are still being experienced with adding Agendas. The next edition of the Newsletter has just been published

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- b) Social Club footpath
- Consideration of grants received from ENC and Elton Estates. The grant from ENC for this now to be declined. Elton Estates have very kindly agreed that their grant of £1,000 now be put towards the provision of the mural on the underpass. Mr Bosworth reported that there are still problems with the potential development of the Social Club car park with electricity cables for Nene Pastures lying across the car park.
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- c) Street Lights
- Lights requiring maintenance. Mr Bosworth reported that lamp no. 17 at the junction of Stamford Lane and Peterborough Road is not working. Mr Dixon questioned the spread of light given by Lamp 33 on the corner of Broadgate Way and Orchard Close. This is largely due to the need for it to be lower on a pole which is shared.
 - Update re switching off lights in very dark hours. A letter had been received from ABB re this. The cost per lamp would be somewhere between £70 - £100. Dr Jones raised her concerns re the safety of such a project. It was agreed that the cost was prohibitive at present.
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- d) Highways Matters
- Update re site meetings with Margaret Andrews and Councillor Padley. Mr Rowell reported that the meeting with Margaret Andrews had not been very successful. The original survey was compiled in September and now the information received was that some items should be referred to Community Engineering. This has been done and the remainder of the items re submitted to Atkins. The meeting with Councillor Padley and Andrew Leighton NCC was much more successful. The problems with the footpath and road crossing at the ford on Church Street were viewed and a scheme will be put forward to improve the footpath and install better signage. The congestion problems at Acremead were viewed and a meeting is to be set up with Spire Homes to discuss the possibility of off street parking. The road markings by the Red Lion were viewed and Mr Leighton agreed to look into rectifying this. The problems with the builders at Big Green were viewed and Mrs Padley and Mr Leighton were to look at ways of revoking the licence.
 - Highway matters requiring attention. There is a pot hole by the bus shelter on Orchard Close.
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- e) Landscape Management
- Update re the adoption of Nene Pastures. Despite attempts to contact TWD even by recorded delivery, to date no response has been received. Mr McGrath, the Clerk of Works at NCC has met onsite with TWD and all the areas requiring attention prior to adoption have been marked in white. To date none of these areas have been addressed and the white markings are washing away.
 - Mr Rowell suggested clearing the area behind the shed at the Cemetery and using it to store the dustbins. Mr Rowell to investigate further. Mr Dixon agreed to have a word with the dustmen to see if they will empty the bins on a regular basis.
- DR
MD
- f) Rights of Way
- Update re the Rainbow Health walks. A grant from Rockingham Forest Trust has been applied for and the result should be known by 2nd April. NCC will then be approached to fund the difference and print the leaflet.
 - Outstanding ROW issues around the village. Mr Atkinson reported that he has spoken to Mr Birkett ROW and the contractors are currently in the village undertaking various work. This includes signposts, renewing the bridge near Long Lane Farm, replacing the stile with a kissing gate on the other side of the lock etc.
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- g) Leisure Areas
- Fun Field – Update and details of progress in meeting NCC grant application requirements. Mr Dixon reported that the Fun Field Committee are currently waiting for a report from a cricket trainer as to the best type of material to use for the facility. An order will then be placed accordingly. The Grant Contract with NCC has been signed by all
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parties and the Parish Council are awaiting receipt of the monies. Mr Atkinson and Mr Costello have attended a Child Protection course.

h) Bus Shelters

- Update re provision of new and upgraded bus shelters. New shelters have now been installed on Orchard Close and Chapel Street. The shelter is yet to be installed on the A605 and the other shelter reglazed.
- Provision of bus shelter on Church Street. Mr Moules has very kindly provided two drawings for the consideration of the Parish Council. These were discussed. Shelter 2 has a completely open front and as such is probably better security wise. Mr Dixon proposed and Dr Jones seconded that shelter 2 be accepted. No other Councillors were in favour of this. Mr Reid proposed and Mr Short seconded that shelter 1 be accepted for aesthetic reasons, the shelter seeming to fit in well with the surroundings of Church Street. With 2 in favour this was carried.

i) Update re Parish Council election. Information re the role of a Councillor has been put up on the Noticeboard and in the Village Hall. The Clerk also has some booklets which will be sent to any potential candidates.

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j) Date of Annual Parish Meeting – 21st May 2007

k) Consideration of renewal of NALC Membership @ £177.00. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Short seconded that this be accepted. AIF

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l) Consideration of appointment of Internal Auditor @ £152. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Short seconded that this be accepted. AIF

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m) Consideration of Standing Orders

- Consideration of insertion of clause restricting the position of Chairman to a period of 3 years. Mr Short proposed and Mr Reid seconded that this clause be inserted. AIF
- Consideration of insertion of clause with an obligation for Councillors to attend training courses. Mr Reid proposed and Mr Cutler seconded that this clause be inserted. AIF

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n) Adoption of Health and Safety and Equal Opportunities Policies. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Reid seconded that both these policies be adopted. AIF.

o) Consideration of Allotment rents and the way in which they are collected. Mr Ellard is currently constructing an additional storage area at the side of the shed. Elton Estates are currently undertaking a review of their agreements and it has come to light that the Parish Council did not sign an Allotment Agreement. The original Agreement signed by John Hoyes, Elton Estates was in dispute and despite changes verbally the Parish Council were never supplied with a new Agreement. Consequently rent has never been charged. The Parish Council now owe Elton Estates £50 for 5 years rent and a new Agreement is to be drawn up. There will also be a rent review.

The Clerk had provided Councillors with two scenarios re the reduction in Allotment rents. Scenario one would be to reduce rents to £25 per full plot and £12.50 per half plot and scenario two to £34 and £17. Mr Cutler proposed and Mr Bosworth seconded that scenario two be adopted as this would allow initial costs to be recovered in a shorter time ie by 2009/2010. AIF. It was agreed that it would not be a problem to add on the fees for membership of the Horticultural Society, but it was felt that this should only be done if the Allotment Holders were in agreement.

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p) Update re the provision of a mural on the underpass. Mr Ellard is very kindly assisting with this project. A grant of £1,000 has been applied for to ENC. Elton Estates have also pledged the £1,000 (see above)

q) Consideration of a village Unsung Heroes Award. This has been mentioned in the recent newsletter and nominations requested. Some Councillors expressed reservations about the scheme but it was agreed to wait to see what response there is.

r) Cultural Community Partnership Event for 8 – 13 year olds – Monday 2nd April and Wednesday 11th April 10am – 12 pm. The Parish Council is sponsoring this event once again.

- s) Litter Pick – 24th March 9.30 am Village Hall. This is being organised by Mrs Hodges. Problems with litter by the roundabout on the A605 have been highlighted in the recent response to the ENC Litter Survey.

10. PLANNING – Update and to consider applications received

- a) 16 Church Street – EN/06/02405/FUL – Porch to front elevation – Mr S Solt. Planning permission received.
- b) 26 Stamford Lane – EN/06/02490/FUL – Replacement of existing garage with two-storey side extension to incorporate double garage and associated works – Mr A Murphy. Planning permission received
- c) 59 Church Street – EN/06/02561/FUL & EN/06/02563/LBC – Extension to existing dwellinghouse, recover existing roof and insertion of four new rooflights to rear facing roof slope – Mr F Montecalvo. Planning permission refused.
- d) 37A Chapel Street – EN/06/02544/FUL – Single storey side extension and first floor rear extension – Mr J Clinton. Planning permission refused.

11. FINANCE

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

Powergen	402.23
D Rowell Phone calls	15.30
NAYG – Affiliation fee	30.00
S Harbour rose garden	120.00
G Yeatman – Fun Field expenses	242.43
Z Lyford – Church gate	333.51
D Rowell Phone calls	25.80
Village Hall hire	10.00
Powergen – Fun Field	46.01
Leesons Lawnmowers – service	187.38
NCC Child Protect Course deposit	120.00

- b) To receive details of balances on accounts

- Current Account
7,900.76
- Deposit Account
18,376.28
- Pocket Park Account
174.63
- Contingency Account
4,048.42

- c) To approve payment of outstanding accounts

A Webb – Clerks Salary & Expenses	568.72
Village Hall Hire	15.00
D Rowell – Phone calls	21.00
Garrick Outdoors – bus shelters	5,513.10

Mr Short proposed and Mr Bosworth seconded that items a – c above be approved. AIF.
Mr Short queried the situation with the repair of the Church wall. This was damaged by Dairy

Crest who have provided the Parish Council with details of their insurers. A quotation is being obtained. A faculty to undertake the repair then has to be applied for from The Diocesan Church Council

12. OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE : None

13. PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

- a) Alms Houses. Mr Short had nothing to report.
- b) Village Hall. Mr Cutler reported that a meeting was held on 5th February when it was agreed to increase the hire charge by £1 an hour from April 1st. There had been no increase for 3 years and fundraising activities were subsidising running costs. Dispensation for the Youth Club was discussed, but it was decided that this would set a precedent for other groups.
- c) Warmington Charities. A meeting is to be held next month. Mr Bosworth reminded the Parish Council that with the death of Mr Hinton they can nominate one of their number to sit on the committee.
- d) Pocket Parks. Mr Rowell reported no real problems other than a wild animal which is chewing the trees. The issues with the beech trees have not been resolved and the boundaries have not been ascertained. At the meeting last week Mr Leighton, NCC agreed to look into this.
- e) Allotments. Mr Short reported that there had been problems with people leaving things on the roadway, but Mr Ellard has sorted this out.
- f) Reports from Councillors attending outside meetings/courses. Mrs Hodges attended the Community Safety meeting where she met PC DeGauza and PCSO Sam Longhurst. They are keen to liaise with the community and will be visiting the School.

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14. PARISHIONERS' QUESTION TIME

- a) Mr Atkinson reported that there is a sign at the entrance to Dexter Way which needs to be removed.
- b) Mr Atkinson asked if there had been any results from the Pocket Park survey undertaken by NCC. Mr Rowell stated that the Parish Council would be keen to take over ownership of the Orchard Pocket Park, but that no further news on this has been received from NCC

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15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 9th May 2007

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Chairman's Report for 2006 – 2007

This was the year in which the Parish Council would start proceedings to become a Quality Parish Council, a very lengthy process which will not be completed until the end of 2007

A rainbow footpath scheme was proposed by Graham Reid assisted by his wife to produce a brochure showing measured footpaths which would enable those villagers participating to identify the paths best suited to their needs. This has not yet been completed but is well on its way. It was also found we could have a further brochure at no cost to the village, printed showing features of the village

for visitors. Again this is to be pursued should we not get the Rainbow project approved by NCC. The footpath across the social club footpath had been agreed with all parties concerned only to be halted by the Social Club stating the land was to be sold and therefore they would have to stop the project and this is where we are today. Fortunately we were able to lay gravel on the footpath at its muddiest point to enable pedestrians to walk clean and safely. Many parishioners have expressed their gratitude for this simple measure, hopefully we shall see a more substantial feature in the not too distant future.

Landscape management caused quite a headache in that our new grass cutting contractor didn't measure up to our requirements, Fortunately his replacement has proved to be excellent. The village has seen more planting of verges etc which improves the entrance to the village tremendously. Hopefully this will continue.

Leisure areas continue to improve, the small play park by the social club has proved very popular and the Fun field Committee is now potentially looking to have a bigger field courtesy of Sir William Proby. We have as a future project an ambition to paint a mural on the walls of the underpass to the mill. This is a project which has been greeted with much enthusiasm and will be funded in part by Sir William Proby and NCC. The Fun Field Committee has secured funding from NCC for cricket practice nets. Further funds are being sought for equipment such as bats and padding. Our bus shelters have been upgraded and a generous donation by Mr P Moules and Mr and Mrs Hawkins will see a stone built bus shelter in Church Street.

This year will see the completion of updating the village street lamps, a process I hope will not be required again for many years.

The Parish Council has introduced its own newsletter which is published quarterly. It is well received in the village hopefully bringing to parishioners the aspirations and work done by the Parish Council on their behalf.

Sadly some members of the village do not contribute to the well being of the community and try to disrupt our way of life and indeed impose extra costs to the village. They are very much in a minority however and are being contained.

Fortunately there are many parishioners who contribute to the village well being and I feel Warmington will always go forward

This year we lost Louise Huett as a Parish Councillor, the Huett family having decided to emigrate to New Zealand and in her place we have Catherine Jones who has proved to be a most welcome addition.

Public transport seems to be a constant issue these days and one which the Parish Council has pursued on behalf of the travelling public. A recent meeting with our County Councillor Mrs P Padley may result in a much improved pedestrian crossing in Church St for the benefit of all, improvements to the road leading into Acremead are to be reviewed as well as improvements to Big Green and other areas.

The adoption of Nene Pastures will hopefully be in place within the next twelve months enabling the Parish Council to serve the needs of these residents much better in the future.

Some of the major problems for the village is the abuse of our verges, paths and speeding traffic. These are all items which villagers can correct themselves

hopefully with encouragement from the Parish Council and responsible bodies from within the village. This may yet be achieved.

This will be our last Parish Council Meeting hopefully before the elections for a new Parish Council in May and my last one as your chairman. I would therefore express my thanks to all Parish Councillors who have served Warmington during my Chairmanship for the support and assistance I have received. I also thank our clerk Anna for her tremendous assistance and without whom none of it would be possible, indeed I can assure the incoming Parish Council and Chairman they will be wisely guided by a very efficient and hard working clerk.

Warmington is a good place to live with a caring community. I sincerely hope we can promote this feeling of well being further in the future, there is still much to be done to promote our community.

Thank you.
Derek Rowell
Chairman
Warmington Parish Council.