

GREAT WITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at 7.45 p.m. at The Memorial Hall, Great Witchingham on Thursday 23rd June 2005

Present: Pauline Brown, Stephen Williams, Roy Church, John Willmore and in the Chair Ron Cornell.

Clerk: Peter Dilloway. James Joyce (County Councillor), Douglas Chinnery and Shaun Harvey (GWVA School) and 10 members of the public

(668). Apologies. Bridget Wright. (Kevin Francis to arrive late)

(669). Representation from GWVA School. The Chairman invited Doug Chinnery to give the school's view on replacing the village hall.

The school are concerned by the possibility that a replacement hall adjacent to Hall Walk could be provided under the draft proposals for a housing scheme. At a meeting of all interested parties last year the provision of a new dual function hall on the existing site had been discussed. There are however a number of factors which govern the success or failure of such a project. He was worried that without any hall at the existing site, it may jeopardise the future existence of the school. He explained that the source for education funding would likely be prepared to bear the cost of much of the proposed replacement drawn up some years ago. Roy Church explained that the housing development was by no means set in stone and that the gains under section 106 could possibly be used towards replacing the existing hall.

At present the Parish Council has simply given Broadland District Council notification that that it is prepared to consider any scheme put forward. Council assumes that prior to any full planning application a number of options for any scheme will arise for discussion and Council will consider all suitable options of hall replacement or funding. Council is mindful to ward off over development simply to solve the District Council's housing problems or just to fund a hall. The original Housing Survey showed a need for 8 dwellings, which clearly represented too few for sensible development, presently 32 dwellings have been indicated.

All parties are mindful of the pros & cons for a hall on either site, particularly in respect of parking and noise versus convenience.

Concern was expressed from the public that the existing hall was erected as a memorial to those who gave their lives during the First World War. All parties realise the significance of this and any replacement would hold the same memorial status as the original.

Whilst discussing housing development the Chairman reported that a property developer, who had approached the District Council with a view to erecting 1700 dwellings plus some infrastructure on the Clay Hall Farm site, had contacted the Parish Council. Having made some enquiries it would appear that informal discussions took place with District Council members, but not at planning level for anything other than development for use as a rendering plant and no planning applications have been made. Council understands that the site may recently have been sold.

(670). Minutes of the meeting held 28/4/05 & 12/5/05 were agreed to be a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

(671). Matters Arising: None

(672). Pedestrian Crossing.

- (i). It was reported that following commissioning, the crossing allowed a time of 4 seconds for pedestrians to cross. NCC had been notified but no rectification had taken place. The Clerk will remind NCC.
- (ii). Members of the public advised that speeding motorists had nearly had an accident at the crossing and there were still a number of vehicles exceeding the speed limit when the road was clear. The Clerk will report this.
- (iii). There were several requests for a speed camera from the public. The Clerk will open discussion with the appropriate authorities. Council appreciates that the criteria for siting such a device within the village cannot be met under current government guidelines.

(673). Correspondence:

- (i). Some Correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- (ii). Letter from HM Court Service advising that Bridge PH marquee is not licensed for the sale of alcohol.
- (iii). Letter from Broadland DC advising investigation of above license. (The Clerk had spoken with the Landlord, Mr. Forder, who was investigating the situation to ensure he is compliant with the terms of his licence).
- (iv). Farewell letter from Brenda Ravencroft outgoing County Councillor. The Clerk was asked to respond with Council's thanks and good wishes for her years of service to the community.
- (v). Letter from Local Community Sentence Project inviting community groups to a presentation on Community sentencing. The information will be put in the Wensum Diary to attract interest.

(674). Planning Applications:

- (i). Planning Application 20050663 – vehicle access 58 FR. Permission granted

(675). Payments/Financial Matters:

- (i). Litter/War Memorial. R. Cornell. Cheque No. 100456 £69.99
 - (ii). P. Dilloway Clerk's expenses to 24/2/05 Chq No.100457 £59.70
 - (iii). A & J Canham Grounds Maintenance May 2005 Chq No.100458. £47.00
- All payments approved by unanimous consent.

(676). Any Other Business:

- (i). Following a burst water main on Fakenham Road, it was felt that the road surface repair was substandard but may be only temporary. The Clerk will investigate.
- (ii). Northern Distributor Route. Stephen Williams advised that he had nothing to report but would attend a meeting next week after which he would report further. He added that the view unfolding was that a route further west than Taverham but not as far out as Weston-Longville was sought.
- (iii). War Memorial: The cost of repair is estimated at around £500 and a grant may possibly be obtained. SW will investigate further.
- (iv). Stephen Williams said that his company was prepared to provide a wireless Broadband connection within the village provided a site for installation can be found. SW will put a note in the Wensum Diary
- (v). John Willmore said that there are still motorbikes using Marriott's Way. The Clerk will report this to NCC Project Officer.
- (vi). The Culvert, which was recently repaired at 5 ways junction, Nowhere Lane, still allows flooding. The Clerk will report this.
- (vii). Ron Cornell advised that the hedge at Gothic House was overgrown into the roadway and that the householder continues to pile grass cuttings and garden waste on the council verge. The Clerk will request that NCC now use their extended powers to remedy this. The garden waste can be considered as fly tipping.
- (viii). Ron Cornell said that he had visited the Swannington website and had been impressed. He felt that a site would benefit the village. Stephen Williams will investigate the possibilities of setup and maintenance.
- (ix). It was asked what Council could do about the present dilapidated state of Bridge Farm House which has lain empty for a good many years. The view of members was that little could be done. The site failed to get permission for development some years ago and the owner has not proceeded further.
- (x). The origins of the naming of Porter's Lane and Station Road were queried. Members of the public thought that Porter's Lane was originally called Station Road and that both had been named without consultation. The Clerk will investigate.
- (xi). During the work to install the pedestrian crossing, County Council had used Hall Walk as a storage site for their equipment without frontagers' permission. One resident asked for an assurance that if or when the housing development took place the same would not happen. Council will notify BHA that use of Hall Walk is subject to prior permission when appropriate.

(xii). The Chairman introduced James Joyce, newly elected County Councillor for the parish. Mr Joyce promised to do whatever he could to support the parish.

(677). Date and time of next meeting: 27th October 2005 at 7.45 pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm

AGENDA GWPC – 27th October 2005 at 7.45 p.m.

- (678). Apologies
- (679). Minutes of meeting 23/6/05
- (680). Matters Arising
- (681). Village Hall
- (682). Correspondence:
- (683). Planning Applications:
 - (i). Upvc porch 94 Fakenham Road
 - (ii). Clay Hall Farm (update on situation)
- (684). Payments/Financial Matters)
 - (i). Memorial/ litter clearance
 - (ii). Clerk' Salary (2nd ½ year) & expenses to date
 - (iii). Ground Maintenance payments
 - (iv). 2006/7 precept
- (685). Any other Business
- (686). Date & time of next meeting 26th Jan 2006 at 7.45pm