

GREAT WITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. Lenwade House Hotel on Thursday 23rd October 2008

Present : Roy Church, Pauline Brown, Tania Spelacy, Mark Pead, and Kevin Francis. Ron Cornell in the chair.

Clerk: Peter Dilloway, James Joyce (County Councillor) and 4 members of the public, Rev. Selwyn Tillett, Chris Cate, Dot Cushing, Norman Wright.

(863). Apologies: Simon Woodbridge (District Councillor).

(864). War Memorial (Brought forward to allow ST to depart early).

- (i). Selwyn explained that currently, plans are being drawn for conversion of the church to a 3 bedroom dwelling. Given the current economic climate, he felt it was likely that a sale would take some time.
- (ii). Selwyn had put forward 4 options for the War Memorial to the landowner of St. Faiths site :
 - (a) The Memorial is removed from the site as soon as possible. From the sale proceeds, the landowner would contribute a maximum of £3000 towards the cost of relocation to a new site.
 - (b) As above but wait until a sale is a completed and funds are available from the landowner.
 - (c) The memorial stays put and a reversionary deed allows the memorial to remain until such time as it might be removed, whereupon the triangle of land on which it stands would revert to the present owner.
 - (d) The plot would be sold in its entirety with a covenant for the memorial to remain. Any future question as to its removal or ownership of the triangle to be settled between parish council and new owner.
- (iii). The Landowner prefers option 1 but the architect recommends option 3 or 4.
- (iv). Chris Cate suggested that a further option might be to erect an entirely new memorial at the new hall.
- (v). It was resolved to accept option 1 on the basis that a sale is some way off and removal can take place just before any sale is completed. The memorial is in a poor state and the memorial stone can be refurbished and stored and built into a new memorial at the new hall site.
- (vi). Selwyn advised the meeting that the Armistice Day service will be held at St. Mary's this year. He hoped that a member of the parish Council would be available to read the names of the Parish war dead. Pending his acceptance, Stephen Williams was nominated to do so.

(865). Minutes of the meetings held 27th July, 25th September and 14th October were agreed to be a true record. Proposed Roy Church seconded Kevin Francis and duly signed by the Chairman.

(866). Matters Arising: None

(867). Correspondence:

- (i). Most correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- (ii). Letter from Keith Simpson (response to Roy Church) regarding the Government White Paper on pharmacy dispensing. The proposals include the removal of dispensing from some GP's surgeries to move dispensing to pharmacies to increase patient choice. With the limited number of rural pharmacies, the impact to local communities is far greater than in urban areas. It would see parishioners travelling to Taverham, Reepham or Dereham for prescriptions, which clearly is impractical for the elderly or infirm. The proposals are:
 - (a) Option 1: No change in existing policies.
 - (b) Option 2: Retain controlled localities and allow PCTs to determine dispensing rights based on pharmaceutical needs assessments.
 - (c) Option 3: Retain controlled localities and replace existing 'patient-to-pharmacy' distance criterion with 'practice-to-pharmacy' distance criterion and allow dispensing practices to dispense to full list.
 - (d) Option 4: As option 3, but ensure that there is a second pharmacy in close proximity. The Department wishes to consider further views on these options before deciding on a preferred way forward, if any.

Members resolved to support the status quo to retain a dispensary at our surgery. The Clerk will make representation to the consultation supporting option 1.

- (iii). Email from BDC requesting confirmation that the parish understands and accepts that the lighting scheme for the low cost housing development is chargeable to the parish rates as are the existing lamps around the village. Members acknowledged that this was understood and accepted.
- (iv). Letter from Mr. Gowing in respect of rumoured changes to public access to the Fuel Allotment Charity lakes. Roy Church and Peter Dilloway outlined the proposal to councillors. The Chairman said that the Parish Council had no jurisdiction over the decisions made by the trustees and that in any event no such decision had yet been made. The Charity is inviting public comment via an article in the next issue of the Wensum Diary. The Clerk was asked to acknowledge the letter and outline the Council's position.
- (v). Letter from BDC giving notice that a report on Clay Hall Farm will be put to their planning committee on November 5th recommending enforcement action.

(868). Memorial Hall/Low cost housing scheme.

- (i). Chris Cate has taken over chairmanship of the Hall trustees from Sue Sayer, following her resignation due to family commitments.

- (ii). Norman Wright is to be co-opted as Trustee and Treasurer.
- (iii). BDC has issued a scoping report on the residual land at Hall Walk outlining 3 options:
 - (a) Transfer remaining BDC land (2.4ha) to the village hall committee for play and open space provision. This would be the easiest option.
 - (b) Transfer part of the remaining BDC land to the village hall committee for a new village hall, play and some open space provision (approx 1.4 ha) with the remaining land for the development of 20 new homes (approx 1 hectare). Broadland District Council could submit a planning application for this new development in the near future. This would enable some funding to be generated for the new village hall and play space provision.
 - (c) Transfer part of the remaining BDC land to the village hall committee for a new village hall, play and some open space provision (approx 1.4ha) with the remaining land being used for the development of 20 new homes (approx 1ha). This land could be allocated through the Local Development Framework for future development. This option is unlikely to deliver funds for a new village hall in the short term.
- (iv). BDC would like to meet with Trustees and Parish Council to discuss these options. It was resolved that Roy Church and Kevin Francis would attend. General opinion is that option b) above serves the parish's best interest.
- (v). The Trustees are holding a public meeting to complete their passage in becoming a registered charity, to obtain support and commence fundraising on 20th November at the School. Christmas cards depicting Lenwade Mill will be available for purchase on the night.
- (vi). The old village hall has been broken into again and the culprits identified. The Council offered a vote of thanks to Dee Cushing for securing the building again.
- (vii). The Parish has been asked to consider a street name for the new development. It was suggested that the opportunity be given to Mr. Bernard Matthews to name the street, who perhaps consider a modest donation towards a new village hall in return.

(869). Planning Matters:

- (i). Clay Hall Farm.
 - (a) BDC Planning Committee meets at 6.45pm on 5th November to discuss enforcement action.
 - (b) NCC Planning Committee meets November 14th and may discuss Clay Hall Farm. This will confirmed around 7th November.
 - (c) With the absence of Mike Haslam that day, members resolved to accept John Martin's offer to act as spokesman for the above meeting.
 - (d) James Joyce said that NCC was moving slowly on enforcement and that further information was required to enable them to proceed. He hoped to clarify matters within a few days.
 - (e) GWPC has requested Rule 6 status for the appeal proceedings. This status will enable the Council, in addition to the normal right of stating their case, to also question Banhams or their advisors at the hearing, should the need arise.
 - (f) For the purpose of clarity it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Roy Church, that GWPC nominate individuals to give representation on its behalf under Rule 6 at the forthcoming Appeal Inquiry. Subject to addition or deletion, those individuals shall include: Mike Haslam, who will lead our case, Roy Church and John Martin. Two further nominees are being sought. It was resolved that those named plus two additional persons shall represent the council at the Appeal Inquiry.
 - (g) Roy Church reiterated his view that the Council should seek confirmation from other parishes in similar situations, that the odour problems arise not just from the rendering process but the totality of site operation from raw material to finished product.
- (ii). Application 20081338 – 7/9 Norwich Road (Wheelstop Café). Alterations to shopfront. Members found no objection to the proposals as submitted.

(870). Payments/Financial Matters:

- (i). Financial report: Current assets £10,199.33. Full report appended.
- (ii). War memorial/ litter clearance May - July. R Cornell. Cheque no. 100536 £100.00
- (iii). Clerk's Salary £249.06 & expenses £193.61 to date. P. Dilloway. Cheque no. 100537 £442.67
- (iv). M. Haslam Associates Ltd – Planning consultancy fees Mar-Oct 08. Cheque no. 100538 £721.10
All payments proposed by Roy Church seconded by Mark Pead and approved by unanimous consent.

(871). Any Other Business: None

(872). Date and Time of next meeting: Council 22nd January 2009 at 7.30pm to be held at, Lenwade House Hotel.

Meeting closed 9.00pm

AGENDA
GWPC – 22nd January 2009
7.30pm at Great Withingham School

- (873). Apologies
- (874). Minutes of meeting 23/10/08
- (875). Matters Arising
- (876). Correspondence:
- (i). All correspondence has been circulated
 - (ii). Request for donation – McMillan Cancer Support
- (877). Memorial Hall/Low cost housing scheme
- (878). War Memorial
- (879). Computer data security.
- (880). Parish Plan
- (881). Planning Matters:
- (i). 12 The Street – Conversion of outhouse to bathroom & other internal alterations. No Objections.
 - (ii). Rendering plant - Clay Hall Farm.
- (882). Payments/Financial Matters)
- (i). Precept 2009/10
 - (ii). R. Cornell litter/WM payment. The hourly rate has remained at £5/hr for 5 years. It is proposed to increase this to £5.75 (min wage payment)
 - (iii). Litter clearance/war Memorial maintenance payment R. Cornell £92.98 (or if agreed increase effective £104.23.
 - (iv). Set Clerk's Salary. The award for 2008/9 has recently been agreed by NALC giving a backdated increase of 2.45%. The clerk's back pay amounts to £24.44 for the year. New Salary £9.579 per hour for 104 hours p.a. (£1020.66) paid quarterly (£255.17).
 - (v). Payment of Clerk's salary (£273.48) & expenses
 - (vi). Village hall 'keep out' signs (purchased by R. Church £15.00
 - (vii). Contribution to GWFAC computer. The GWPC computer has passed the point of reliability. To take advantage of software donation a new computer has been purchased by GWFAC at a cost of £484. It is proposed that as the charity bore half the cost of the council's PC, the PC should reciprocate.
- (883). Any other Business
- (884). Date & time of next meeting: Provisionally Thursday 26th March 2009 at **Gt. Withingham School**