

## GREAT WITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. Gt. Witchingham School on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010

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

Clerk: Peter Dilloway, James Joyce (County Councillor) and 4 members of the public:

- (931). Apologies: None.
- (932). Minutes of the meeting held 28<sup>th</sup> October 2009 were agreed to be a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.
- (933). Matters Arising.
- (i). Monthly Crime Reports. The Chairman had recently attended a Police Authority meeting and had again asked for more detail to be disclosed, such as whether the crimes occur during day or night time. The matter is being considered by the Police
- (934). Correspondence:
- (i). All correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- (935). Co-option of Parish Councillor. One resident has expressed an interest and discussions will take place. If agreeable, they will be invited to attend and co-opted at the next meeting.
- (936). Parish Tree Warden. Joanne Yates has offered to fill the post which is presently vacant. RCh proposed that Mrs. Yates be confirmed as Parish Tree Warden (seconded KF) Members unanimously resolved to confirm Mrs Yates' appointment.
- (937). Memorial Hall
- (i). Chris Cate advised that a Special General Meeting of the Village Hall Charity is to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> February to vote on whether the old hall site should be offered for sale on the open market. Hitherto NCC have made 2 offers on behalf of GW Primary School. The true value is felt to be £55K as a minimum. The general view of the Council and hall trustees is that it is appropriate for the school to have the site, which will allow for expansion and safeguard the future of the school. With that said, it should not be at the expense of the ability to provide a new hall. Clearly the school will need to make an offer closer to the true market value if it is serious about procuring the site.
  - (ii). It was suggested that in marketing the site, prices reflecting the 'as is' state and vacant with the hall demolished should be offered.
  - (iii). The Clerk was asked to clarify the availability of and the parameters for spending the funds raised by the low cost housing scheme, thought to be circa £10K.
  - (iv). The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the scheme has been mothballed due to the economic climate.
  - (v). The Memorials Trust have the hall listed as a war memorial though the listing does not affect the ability to replace it.
- (938). War Memorial.
- (i). RCh has still to meet with Reverend Tillet on 15<sup>th</sup> February to discuss possible options for a new location.
  - (ii). There is no further progress with the sale of the Church.
- (939). Repairs to Bus Shelter. Quotations will be sought for repairs to the roof which is leaking and repairs undertaken if appropriate.
- (940). Vote of thanks for Allan & Sharon Patrick of Great Witchingham Post Office. This was felt to be premature as the sale of the Post Office is not yet sealed.
- (941). Retrieval of 1811 Enclosure Award. The original document was in the possession of George Stimpson at the time of his death and has been mistakenly included in the effects of his estate. The document should be held at St. Mary's Church as prescribed within the document. Resolved that as rightful guardian, Rev. Tillet should be asked to retrieve the award.
- (942). Safer Neighbourhood funding. £15K is available for a number of parishes to share. Resolved to put forward a case for an actual speed indicator to supplement the existing speed signs. Alternatively smart water marking equipment for public use could be sought.
- (943). Street Lighting energy saving proposal by NCC. The scheme does not, and is unlikely to in the future, extend to this parish.

- (944). Contribution towards memorial bench for Albert Bedford. The Council cannot legally give funding towards this bench.
- (945). Co-option of Trustee for GWFAC. Bridget Wright, a former Trustee, has expressed an interest in serving again and will be invited to the forthcoming Trustees meeting.
- (946). Removal of telephone Kiosk. The Clerk has reminded BT to remove the kiosk in a strongly worded letter. The phone has not worked, nor been made available for use for more than two years. Presently it serves only as a magnet for anti-social behaviour.
- (947). Replacement of computer monitor. In December the monitor used by the Clerk stopped working and an urgent replacement was required. Members resolved at the time to allow replacement to a budget of £150+VAT.
- (948). Payments/Financial Matters:
- (i). Litter clearance/war Memorial maintenance payment Chq No. 100565 £69.00 - R. Cornell
  - (ii). Payment of Clerk's salary £258.47+ £5.09 back pay & £190.94 expenses to date. Chq No. 100566 £449.41
  - (iii). Purchase of Replacement computer monitor. Chq no. 100567 £153.80.
  - (iv). All payments proposed by Mark Pead seconded by R. Church and approved by unanimous consent.
- (949). Planning Matters:
- (i). Clay Hall Farm. A draft Section 106 agreement which has been circulated. Generally it was deemed acceptable apart from para 9.4 which used the wording *...in the event of a Revocation Order being made...* All present were uncomfortable with this as there was some implication that revocation was optional. The 106 is not itself the instrument of revocation and therefore the wording may not represent an issue. After some discussion on the matter, the Clerk was instructed to seek clarification of the wording and the situation as a whole. David Sayer reported that all the copper piping in the farmhouse on the site had been stolen recently which did not bode well for the future of light industrial units on the site.
  - (ii). Lenwade House Hotel. Amendment to Licensing application received. No comments made.
  - (iii). Amberley Lodge. A statement by the County solicitor is awaited. The case is to be heard February 10<sup>th</sup>.
- (950). Any Other Business:
- (951). Date and Time of next meeting: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at Great Witchingham School following on from **the Annual Parish meeting** at 7.30pm.

**AGENDA**  
**GWPC Meeting – 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010 following on from**  
**The Annual Parish Meeting at**  
**7.30pm at Great Withingham School**

- (952). Apologies
- (953). Minutes of meeting 28/1/10
- (954). Matters Arising
- (955). Correspondence:
  - (i). All correspondence has been circulated
- (956). Co-option of Parish Councillor.
- (957). Amberley Lodge Premises Licence Appeal
- (958). Memorial Hall
- (959). War Memorial
- (960). Repairs to bus shelter roof
- (961). Vote of thanks to Allan/Sharon Patrick
- (962). Retrieval of 1811 Allotment award
  - (i). Ownership and fencing of surveyors pit
- (963). Inter-parish co-operation on NCC.
- (964). Repair/Removal of telephone Kiosk
- (965). Payments/Financial Matters)
  - (i). Litter clearance/war Memorial maintenance payment to date (£60) - R. Cornell
  - (ii). Payment of Clerk's expenses to date (£18.65)
  - (iii). Planning Consultancy fund
  - (iv). NALC subscription renewal £120.86
- (966). Planning Matters:
  - (i). 20100407 Walcis Farm - Change of use to B1 Office space & alterations to barn (resubmission of 20090057 which was refused).
- (967). Any other Business
- (968). Date & time of next meeting: **Annual Council meeting 27<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 7.30pm at Great Withingham School.**

