

GREAT WITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of a meeting at 7.30 p.m.at Gt. Witchingham School
on Thursday 28th July 2011

Present: Sally Acloque, Ron Cornell, Mark Pead, Jane Wisbey and Kevin Francis.

Clerk: Peter Dilloway, Phil Courtier (BDC Head development Management & Conservation), James Joyce (County Councillor) and 7 members of the public.

(1049).Apologies: Chris Cate, Stephen Williams and Simon Woodbridge (District Councillor).

(1050).Election of Chairman (A letter of resignation was received from KF apologising for the need to stand down due to pressure of work). One nomination for current Vice-Chairman, Ron Cornell, to be Chairman had been received (Proposed KF seconded MP). No other nominations were forthcoming. Elected unanimously.

- (i). As this leaves the Vice-Chairmanship vacant nominations were sought. RC proposed Mark Pead, seconded SA. Elected unanimously.

(1051).Signing of Statutory declarations by co-opted Councillors, & issue of Register of Interest forms for completion. Jane Wisbey signed her declaration. The other two Councillors will sign as soon as practical. RI forms circulated.

(1052).Planning Matters: For expediency this item precedes the remaining agenda.

- (i). Clay Hall Farm – Status of permissions not covered under revocation dated 15/10/10 (883361 & 861327) .
 - (a) The Chairman asked PC to give a résumé of where the two permissions stand, whether extant, abandoned or otherwise. He was disappointed that they remained on file given that the parish consented to permission to retain the unauthorised building on the express condition that “Any grant of planning permission must be accompanied by revocation without compensation of all extant planning permissions related to rendering”.
 - (b) PC said that in his opinion he did not believe that they were extant and that a Certificate of Lawful Use would be required to make use of them. Such certificate would be extremely difficult to obtain against the background of the covenant & Sec. 106 agreements. He believed that the measures in place do indeed negate the possibility of rendering at CHF at any time in the future. He could not justify the cost of implementing revocation orders.
 - (c) The fear expressed by both Councillors and members of the public is that, if extant, the permissions allow B7 group E use at the site. Whilst the planning history and the negating measures in place are fresh in everyone’s mind, they may not hold much credibility toward obtaining further permissions on either the old or new buildings. However, with the passage of time they may come back to haunt us.
 - (d) Attention was turned to whether the permissions may be abandoned. PC said that this was possible but that abandonment cannot be determined by the Planning Authority and is a matter for the judiciary.
 - (e) It was suggested that if the cost was all that prevented revocation why could not funding be accepted from elsewhere. PC suggested that he was not aware of a mechanism that would allow this. Councillors and public were not impressed by this. PC remained intransigent that BDC had done all that was required to negate the perceived threat of rendering. He said the two permissions related solely to the old building and rendering was permitted in only one part of that building. The permissions were also personal to the applicant.
 - (f) After some 50 minutes of lively discussion the Chairman wound up the matter and said that the Parish was unhappy that the matter remained in limbo without the benefit of any clear statement in writing. The Clerk was instructed to write to BDC offering a final opportunity for closure before taking the matter to the Secretary of State for Communities. He thanked PC for attending.
- (ii). Saddlebow Incinerator. The Parish has received a consultation on the incinerator. The Chairman said that he was personally opposed to the scheme but that his view should not cloud the view of this Council. He said that there was clearly a need for an alternative to landfill but in his

personal opinion the Saddlebow Incinerator was not the solution. The situation appears unique in Local Government history. In order to obtain PFI funding from Central Government, NCC must prove majority consensus of public approval. Thus far 96% of the local electorate has opposed the scheme and in order to negate that disapproval the whole county is being polled by parish.

Members took the view that NCC have acted deplorably by ignoring local opinion and attempting to overturn it with the broader view. The issue of whether we as a parish support the incinerator per se is of secondary importance to the issue of mis-use of democracy to achieve an end which at best has uncertain financial repercussions. After discussion, Councillors voted unanimously to object to the proposal.

- (iii). 20110983 Amberley Lodge – rear extension. (JW declared a personal interest and abstained). Having viewed the proposal Council found no objection to the scheme as submitted.
- (iv). Appeal APP/K2610/A/11/2156693/NWF – Wind turbines – Weston Airfield. RC & MP declared an interest as contractor & employee of the applicant). After discussion resolved to object to the appeal as per original objection.

(1053). Minutes of the meeting held 26th May 2011 were agreed to be a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

(1054). Matters Arising.

- (i). The Porch at St. Faiths has been taped off with hazard tape.

(1055). Correspondence:

- (i). Most correspondence has been circulated and that remaining was of only general information for circulation.

(1056). Memorial Hall.

- (i). In the absence of Chris Cate, Jacky Pett gave a progress report. The current view is that the second phase of development will consist of 26 houses. It is estimated that the FMV dwellings will provide £500K funding for the hall and the estimated cost of the hall is £600-£700K. Current funds amount to £52K leaving of a shortfall of £50-£150K. JP is currently working on the detail to arrive at accurate costs. Revised plans are awaited for a public consultation in September at the Bridge public house. It is hoped to be able to attract a number of matched funding grants against the various aspects of the amenity.
- (ii). There was concern expressed at the level of shortfall and the village's ability to raise such a sum from events.
- (iii). David Sayer has kindly offered the use of Blackwater Farm FOC for fundraising events.

(1057). Post Office closure. The Clerk reported that there are commercial discussions taking place at this time.

(1058). Parish Noticeboard. After discussion, it was resolved that if there is a requirement to remove the existing notice board, a practical site would be on Fakenham Road near Hall Walk as the board can be sited well away from the highway. The Clerk will obtain the necessary permission from NCC if the need arises.

(1059). Payments/Financial Matters:

- (i). Litter clearance payment to date (£51.75) - R. Cornell Cheque No. 100596 £51.75.
- (ii). Clerk's Salary £387.70 & Expenses £57.64 to date Cheque No. 100597 £445.34.
- (iii). School Hire for meetings (5) held during 2011 Cheque No. 100598 £100.00
- (iv). Dog bin emptying – Common Lane. 1/411-31/3/12 Cheque No. 100599 £147.16
all payments agreed by unanimous consent.

(1060). Transcription of 1811 Inclosure Act. Pam Thomson and Roy Church have completed 7 of the 11 pages. MP, has completed his page. Roy Church will transcribe the one which KF intended to do. Only Jacky Pett's copy remains. PD will proof read the transcriptions.

(1061). Any Other Business:

- (i). The Corner of Porters Lane has a good deal of rubbish which requires professional clearance. The Clerk will report this.
- (ii). The site adjacent to the Bridge PH (PP20080533) is still something of an eyesore. The Clerk had reported the matter and will ask for an update.
- (iii). Demolition of the old village hall is scheduled to take place during the school holidays.
- (iv). The Bowls club have requested a donation to assist in replacing their clubhouse. Members discussed this and asked KF to establish what finance the club had and the anticipated cost.
- (v). David Beaumont asked for the Council assistance in obtaining answers to questions posed in an email to the District Council to he has not received a response. The Clerk will try to obtain a response.
- (vi). David Sayer advised the Council that the huge amount of spoil removed during building work at Clay Hall Farm was still there. The Planning application to regularise the temporary tipping of soil had never been determined. The Clerk will write to NCC and establish how the matter is to be dealt with.
- (vii). Parish accounts. The Clerk had highlighted the recent theft of funds amounting to £60K by a Norfolk Clerk. He felt that it was important for Councillors to be in the habit of being aware of what funds the Council holds. The best way to safeguard that position is by way of internal audit by a Councillor at least once per year. To that end JW offered to carry out an audit each September.

(1062). Date & time of next meeting: at The School at 7.30pm Thursday 27th October 2011.

Meeting Closed 9.30 pm

AGENDA
GWPC Meeting – 27th October 2011
7.30pm at Gt. Witchingham School.

(1063).Apologies

(1064).Minutes of meeting 28/7/11

(1065).Matters Arising

(1066).Correspondence:

- (i). Most correspondence has been circulated

(1067).Memorial Hall (if there is any business to discuss)

(1068).Post Office closure

(1069).Parish Noticeboard

(1070).Payments/Financial Matters)

- (i). Precept 2012/13
- (ii). Purchase of new parish printer - £207.05 inc VAT
- (iii). Donation towards above from GWFAC £85.00
- (iv). Litter clearance payment to date (£74.78) - R. Cornell
- (v). Clerk's Salary £387.70 & Expenses to date (£102.14)
- (vi). Audit fees 2010/11 – Mazars £60.00

(1071).Planning Matters: None at the time the agenda was set

(1072).Transcription of 1811 Enclosure act – Progress report.

(1073).Any other Business

(1074).Date & time of next meeting: 7.30pm Thursday 26th January 2012