

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHETSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Held at the Council Offices, Cemetery Road, Whetstone
15th November 2007

Present: — Mr. M.C.Burley in the Chair

Mr. M.R.Bounds

Mr. J.Dunkley

Mrs. J.C.Songhurst

Mr.M.E.Jackson

Clerk in attendance

Mr.P.Cox

Mr. S.R.Webb

Mrs. A.M.Tyler

Mr.T.Ball

Mr. J. Kenney (8.30pm)

No Parishioners in attendance

PARISHIONERS TIME

The chair asked if any members as parishioners had any items/issues to raise.

1. The Speed Humps at Dog & Gun Lane were causing confusion for cars turning right into Springwell lane having travelled from Cambridge road. The humps are making drivers assume they are being flashed to turn across the oncoming vehicle.
2. The old street lamps on Cambridge road still have not been removed.
3. There is glass at the end of Trinity Road where it joins Enderby Road.
4. On Smack alley, the metal fencing is once again detaching itself from its posts.

The clerk was asked to pass the above information on to the relevant authorities.

92. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Mr.D.Garratt – family illness, Mr.K.Coles – business meeting, Mr.A.Tanner - illness, Mrs.J.M.Sault – illness, Mr.T.Scrivens – business meeting, LCC Councillor Mr.D.Jennings – business meeting. **RESOLVED:** To accept apologies received.

93. CHAIRS REPORT AND REMARKS

None

94. DISCLOSURES OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

None

95. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF COUNCIL 18TH OCTOBER 2007.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meetings dated 18th October 2007 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

96. RECEIVE MINUTES

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 18th October 2007 and 1st November 2007 and the C&D Minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2007 and the Joint RL&CP and POS&C working party minutes held on 8th November 2007, and the verbal report on tonight's planning meeting be received and accepted.

97. REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

District Councillor Mr. J.Kenney reported on the scrutiny committee meeting held at the Boys Club regarding alcohol sales having been well attended. The police aired their concerns that a district wide alcohol ban could not be policed due to lack of resource. He also reported on the Forum meeting that he had attended earlier in the evening and had requested that the forum meeting days be rotated so that Parish councils were able to send a representative. The forums were planned to be held four times a year. **RESOLVED:** The verbal reports be received.

98. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

One written report have been distributed with the minutes from the Clerk who attended the SLCC Conference. **RESOLVED:** That the written report be received.

99. FINANCE – AUTHORISE PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND CONFIRM BALANCE SHEET

The Clerk presented to Council a monthly report for October 2007 showing actual monthly spend against budget and actual year to date. The clerk also presented a bank reconciliation statement as at 31stth October 2007.

RESOLVED: That the accounts paid up to the end of October 2007 are confirmed. The bank reconciliation statement dated 31st October 2007 be signed by the Chairman on behalf of Council.

100. BDC YOUTH CHAMPION – ENGAGING WITH THE YOUTH OF WHETSTONE

A letter from Mr.K.Coles has been circulated with the agenda. As Youth Champion he has been visiting parishes in the district and meeting with the youth of the villages with a view of gaining their views on issues and provision in the villages. A lot of Parish councils “ tick the box” by grant aids to organisations that offer services in the parish. We, as Whetstone have granted monies to the youth council. We need to re visit how we provide and accommodate the young people. Some councils have appointed youth councillors who attend certain meeting to cover the agenda items relating to youth and issues and provision. It was pointed out that this has been tried at Whetstone but without real success.

Mr. Coles has asked that a meeting is set up at a “comfortable with the youths “ location with himself, the chair and clerk to minute the meeting to introduce ourselves and look at the way forward, then report back to council. This could include new ways to fund direct involvement or partnerships. It was agreed that all youth groups, including the youth council should be invited and the local schools informed of the meeting.

RESOLVED: A date be set by the clerk in the new year. Mr. Coles to be asked as Youth Champion for the meeting parameters so as to match his other meetings criteria. An item be added to a future agenda to discuss the parish councils way forward with involvement in youth provision, as neither Mr.K.Coles or Mr.J.Kenney were present tonight.

101. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR FULL COUNCIL

The clerk asked that the Applications to erect memorials in Whetstone Cemetery agenda item be removed as it gives no real measure of the work of the cemetery. All information relating to the cemetery including memorials, internments, burials and memorials can be found in the office. The clerk also asked that verbal report of the evenings prior property meeting be removed as council get the minutes from the meetings, and do not get a verbal report on any applications dealt with at the property meeting, if held, on the first Thursday of the month.

RESOLVED: The erection of memorial item be removed from the agenda, but the verbal report to remain as is.

102. SPORTS PAVILION – THE WAY FORWARD

The last working party meeting spoke of a need for a definitive decision by council needing to be made before moving forward for funding purposes. The decision is do WPC wish to fund, build and provide a sports pavilion on the Warwick Road sports ground for use by the sports users, predominantly football and cricket, and possible social use by means of a bar/ lounge area. Another option may be to work in partnership with local organisations to assist and support this provision. Partnering with an organisation could give other benefits to the users of the park, such as leisure and social, but may bring a feeling of loss of ownership of a public facility.

RESOLVED: It was agreed that this item needs a full discussion and the clerk to add to the January Agenda for council’s consideration.

103. CLERKS REPORT

a) General report and Ground Staff Work Schedule. The ground staff work schedule has been distributed.

The clerk, on behalf of Sue Tomlinson, thanked council for their contribution in raising £1111.85 for the Macmillan Coffee morning. The clerk informed council that the roads works on Enderby road/ Foxhunter Island had begun this week and that the whole scheme was scheduled to take two years to complete.

The clerk asked that the wall heater in the garage / workshop that was condemned at our summer inspection be replaced with a like for like device. The cost is approx £400 plus installation of £100 maximum. It was **agreed** that the clerk action this item. An estimate for new doors for front of council had been received as £800. The clerk is enquiring as to whether this includes new door furniture.

A new insurance scheme for Parish councils was being advertised with guaranteed savings of 15% against current premium. The company being Came & Co, underwritten by Norwich Union. The clerk will give details to the Finance working party.

The clerk had invitations to the leaving party for the Reverend Harbord, who is retiring from the church due to ill health. The war memorial was finished in time for the remembrance service and it was agreed that it looked superb. The clerk asked if council wish to add anything to the wreath invoice of £16.50. Last year was rounded up to £25, a donation of £8.50. It was **agreed** that this be the case this year.

Whetstone Brook - Environmental agency work was now on going on the desilting of the Brook through the village.

b) The Parish Plan – The village appraisal was now out of date. The parish plan is the document that is suggested as the way forward with the quality council status ethos. There is guidance available from Rural Community Council as to how to involve the village and organise the process. It was **agreed** that this be looked at in the new year.

c) Code of Conduct – Cost of public notice was £37.50 and has been invoiced by BDC.

d) Annual playground report had been received and had no major cost implications or issues with any pieces of equipment we have installed. Disabled access was deemed as acceptable for all play areas. A copy had been given to Graham Hamilton for action on minor items that were highlighted. The Breedon Gravel path on Oliver Park was mentioned as getting waterlogged in winter. The clerk to inform Graham Hamilton, Ground Staff supervisor of this.

e) BDC Community Safety Road Show feedback had been distributed as promised. Two answers were absent as they were individual detail questions re improvement feedback and smoke detector requirements. A comment was made that the results seemed to reflect Glen Parva and not Whetstone. The road show had covered the three parishes of Blaby, Whetstone and Glen Parva and no issues were seen in Whetstone by those who filled in the questionnaires.

104. CORRESPONDENCE

a) To receive correspondence report: **RESOLVED:** The list be received.

b) LCC – MIS Document for Information was copied for member's information as sent by County Councillor D.Jennings regarding the Leicester Mercury item on the Whetstone tip

as a site for the proposed LCC incinerator. **RESOLVED:** The letter be received.

c) BDC Affordable Warmth Strategy information and Development Control Review letters were distributed for information. The clerk is attending the control review meeting and will report back to full council. **RESOLVED:** The letters be received.

d) St.Peter's C of E Primary School update was distributed by the clerk for information. **RESOLVED:** The letter be received.

e) BDC Landscape Character Assessment Consultation has now been extended to 11th December. The clerk has comment submission forms available. **RESOLVED:** The letter be received.

f) BDC Blaby Master plan Exhibition information and dates were passed to members. **RESOLVED:** The letter be received.

g) Leicestershire Police – Inspector Chell introduction and update letter had been distributed. The letter was discussed. **RESOLVED:** The letter be received and the clerk to write to our MP regarding disappointment in not having received a reply to Councils letters regarding support for the PCSO and alcohol ban.

h) Leicestershire Police letter re acknowledgment to the chairs letter re PCSO for Whetstone. **RESOLVED:** The letter be received.

i) BDC Carol concert leaflet was for information. **RESOLVED:** The letter be received.

j) Letter from Parishioner regarding Inadequate Police Emergency Call Handling was discussed. The clerk has copied this to the local Police officer. **RESOLVED:** The letter be received.

k) Blaby Parish Council Christmas events was for information. **RESOLVED:** The letter be received.

105. APPOINTMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER MEETINGS

Copies of agenda meeting had been distributed to members:

a) LRALC – Blaby branch meeting – Council offices Wednesday 5th December
RESOLVED: Mr. J.Kenney and Mrs. J.C.Songhurst to attend.

106. MEMORIALS

The following applications in respect of memorials in Whetstone Cemetery were received: -

GR 169	JENNIFER BARLEY	INSCRIPTION ON NEW MEMORIAL
D114	DOROTHY ROOT	INSCRIPTION ON EXISTING MEMORIAL

RESOLVED: The application be approved subject to the appropriate fees being paid.

With there being no further business, the chair closed the meeting at 8.45 p.m.