

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHETSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Held at the Council Offices, Cemetery Road, Whetstone
18th December 2014

Present: Mr. P.Cox - Chairman
Mrs. P.Kenney
Mr. R.Simmons
Mr. M.R.Bounds
Mr. S.Webb
Mrs. S.Coe (Deputy Clerk)

Mr. D.Smith
Mr. L.M.Phillimore
Mrs. A.M.Tyler
Ms. S.Tomlinson
Mr. M.E.Jackson
Mr. L.Breckon (Clerk)

No Parishioners.

113. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from: Mr. M.C.Burley – resigned, Mr. A.Tanner – BDC Event, Mr. J.Riley – other commitment, Mr. A.Greenwood – other meeting, LCC Cllr. Mr.K.Coles – other meeting, LCC Cllr. Mr. D.Jennings – other meeting.

RESOLVED: To accept apologies received.

114. CHAIRS REPORT AND REMARKS

The Chairman reported the resignation of Mr. M.C.Burley after more than 25 years of service. It was agreed that a letter be sent thanking him and that he be invited to the annual Chairman's meal which would take place next year. The Carols around the Christmas tree had been a success with more people attending than ever. The addition of the first Christmas tree lights opposite the village green had been warmly received. Thanks were given to the staff for getting the lights installed in time for Christmas.

115. DISCLOSURES OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

None.

116. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF COUNCIL DATED 20th November 2014

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting dated 20th November 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

117. TO RECEIVE MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 20th November 2014, the minutes from the Staff Working Party held on 20th November 2014 and the minutes from the Finance Working Party Meeting held on 11th December 2014 be received. That the verbal report on the Planning Committee be received.

118. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a) Public Speaking Protocol - No requests received.
- b) The meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to make representation about any item not on the agenda (old parishioners time).
 - i) The drains on Enderby Road had flooded again, This had been reported to LCC on a regular basis.
 - ii) A drain cover was missing on the High Street Car Park. The Clerk would get the Ground staff to investigate.
 - iii) The footway along the Dicken was in a poor state. This may be looked at when the Warwick Road development begins. The cycleway was the last time LCC had updated the footways in the area.
 - iv) The gate into Oliver Park toddler area had been "turned around". The Clerk would get the Ground staff to investigate.
 - v) The DWH flag pole planning approval had expired. A new one had been submitted but

was for further approvals. There were still issues with HGV vehicles using Springwell Lane.

119. VILLAGE APPRAISAL RESULTS

The Clerk had given out the summary as part of the agenda pack. Members reviewed the results. The results would be published in the Spring Duckpaddle. The points and issues raised regarding specific areas were known about, but they should be shared with the Police, LCC and BDC where relevant. Members were pleased with the response. Whether realistic comparisons could be made with the 2000 appraisal was discussed. It was accepted that the village had grown.

RESOLVED: The Clerk publish the results in the next Duckpaddle. That the points and issues raised be passed to the relevant bodies for information / action.

120. SOCIAL MEDIA

The Clerk tabled two examples of Facebook sites relating to Whetstone. The Twitter page from Glenfield Parish Council was shown also. The Clerk could link and promote one of the Facebook sites off the Parish Council Website. A discussion took place regarding potential uptake and usage, and the time involved. The Clerk asked did Council wish to have its own Facebook page? Did Council members wish to have a twitter account?

RESOLVED: That the Clerk investigate the setting up of a Twitter account and how much work would be involved.

121. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

None.

122. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Mrs. A.M.Tyler had attended the Boys Youth Club open day. The facilities on show were "impressive". Mr. M.Jackson had attended the club on a previous open day and informed Members that the state of the football pitches were a concern. He had suggested to Dave Palmer, Manager, that grants were available from the Parish Council for assistance for local groups.

RESOLVED: That the verbal reports given be received.

123. FINANCE - TO RECEIVE ACCOUNTS AND CONFIRM BALANCE SHEET

RESOLVED: That the accounts paid up to the end of November 2014 are confirmed. The bank reconciliation statement dated 30th November 2014 be signed by the Chairman on behalf of Council.

124. CLERKS REPORT

The Ground Staff Work Schedule was distributed. The Clerk showed members photos of the newly switched on Christmas lights. The fourth tree was not wired as there were insufficient lights. These could be wired after Christmas in readiness for next year, or a budget line agreed to acquire and fit in 2015 /16. It was suggested that a budget line be set up.

The Clerk had received an email regarding dogs on Warwick Road Sports Ground and Dog fouling on Franklin Way. A suggestion of a dog walking track had been made to avoid dogs being walked across the park. Members felt that this was unnecessary as the problem was to get dog owners to act responsibly. The Clerk would look at the provision of dog waste bins in the area requested.

The Clerk had received an email regarding the Wheatsheaf pub as a Community asset. This was discussed and was felt not to be an option at present for the Parish Council.

The Clerk had tabled for information a presentation from Leicestershire Police regarding the new operational Policing model.

The Clerk was thanked for his informative report.

125. CORRESPONDENCE

To receive correspondence report: RESOLVED: The list be received and noted.

a) LCC – Temporary closure of Z 56 Footpath – noted.

b) BDC – Change of address consultation x 2 – noted.

c) Parishioner correspondence regarding dog walks – noted.

d) Countesthorpe Parish Council – Permissive Footpath rights – noted.

e) Pensions Regulator – Date for Compliance of Staging date – noted - Finance Working Party to action.

f) Whetstone Baptist Church – Carols around the Christmas Tree – noted.

RESOLVED: The letters be received and actions noted.

With there being no further business, the Chairman wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and closed the meeting at 9.30 p.m.