

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHETSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Held at the Council Offices, Cemetery Road, Whetstone

27th July 2017

Present: - Mr. R. Simmons– Chairman
Mr. M.R. Bounds
Mrs. A. M. Tyler
Mr. M.E. Jackson
Mr. M. Bradford
Mr. L. Breckon (Clerk)

Mr. P. Cox
Mrs. P. Kenney
Mr. D. Smith
Mr. S. Duffin
Mrs. N. Howden
Mrs. S. Coe – (Deputy Clerk)

No Parishioners in attendance.

43. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from: – Mr. J. Riley other meeting, Mr. A. Tanner – Family commitment, Ms. S. Tomlinson – holiday, Mr. L. M. Phillimore – other meeting, Mrs. N. Kalsi – holiday, LCC Cllr Mr. D. Jennings – other meeting, LCC Cllr. Mr. T. Richardson – other meeting.

RESOLVED: To accept apologies received.

44. CHAIRS REPORT AND REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed Members. He commented how well the hanging baskets were looking and asked the Clerk to pass on his thanks to the Ground staff.

45. DISCLOSURES OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Mr. M.E. Jackson and Mr. D. Smith declared personal interests as Members of the Whetstone Allotment Association. The Chairman and Mrs. P. Kenney declared personal interests as Members of the Baptist Church.

46. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF COUNCIL DATED 22ND JUNE 2017

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meetings dated 22nd June 2017 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

47. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF COMMITTEE AND WORKING PARTY MEETINGS

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 22ND June 2017, the Finance and Staff Working parties held on 13th July 2017 be received.

RESOLVED: A verbal report from the Chairman of Finance Working Party and a verbal report on tonight's planning meeting be received from the Chairman of Planning Committee.

48. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a) Public Speaking Protocol - No requests had been 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) An update was given on the recent sporting successes enjoyed by St Peters C of E School. This was welcomed.

ii) The old Station House was in a poor state. Also The Sidings was in a poor state.

iii) Parking on pavements was still an issue and was still being reported by the office. The latest Duckpaddle had covered this issue.

iv) Zebra crossings were discussed. Could S106 funding be used? The Clerk responded regarding the use of s106 monies that were allocated to the Parish for Public Open space enhancement and impact mitigation of the development.

v) The Dicken / Warwick Road was becoming busy with the developments now being built.

49. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

The following reports were received: BDC Cllr. Mr. M. Jackson reported the following: He was annoyed at the outage of the Whetstone Tip following the fire that had occurred in the Commercial waste building. It was the everyday user now being affected. He had written a strongly worded email to the County Council and had liaised with LCC Cllr. Mr D.Jennings.

RESOLVED: That the verbal report given be received.

50. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Mr. D. Smith gave a report from the LRALC annual event held at County Hall. The event had been well attended by over 200 people. Presentations on what Parish Councils could do to assist in the County workload had been discussed. Volunteers were being looked for in many areas to assist with information sharing and workloads. The Strategic Growth Plan had been discussed as to what the needs are of the County, City and Rutland up to 2050. The library success had been highlighted as how the community had taken on and in many cases, now provided a better service than before. Other ways of Parish Councils raising revenue were also looked at and how neighbouring Parishes could work together.

RESOLVED: That the verbal report given be received.

51. FINANCE

a) TO RECEIVE ACCOUNTS AND CONFIRM BALANCE SHEET

RESOLVED: That the accounts paid up to the end of June 2017 was confirmed. The bank reconciliation statement was signed by the Chairman on behalf of Council.

b) TO RECEIVE THE EXTERNAL AUDIT BUNDLE AS SUBMITTED TO GRANT THORNTON

RESOLVED: That the External Audit Bundle 2016/17 be noted.

52. PLANNING MATTERS

Two applications are classed as major applications and are brought to members for consultation.

a) 17/0732/FUL – Erection of 22 dwellings served by new access from Grove Road / Off Blaby Bypass

RESOLVED: **Council Object** to the scheme proposed. Council agree with the comments from Blaby Parish Council. Main concerns over and above the issues raised by BPC are a) access and egress onto a busy and fast island exit b) Loss of Green Wedge as required to maintain separation between Blaby and Whetstone.

It was also felt that the development as a sustainable settlement would be served by access to Whetstone for certain aspects e.g. nearness of shops with the new Co-op at Cambridge Road / Warwick Road, which then creates an issue not addressed which is the safe crossing of the by pass from the Blaby side to the Whetstone Side.

b) 17/0807/VAR – Variation of Condition 2 to planning application 13/0869/PX – Whetstone Baptist Church, Land off Dg and Gun Lane, Whetstone

RESOLVED: **Council have no observations** regarding the changes proposed. Council are keen to ensure that all car park areas are completed before any part of the buildings are used to ensure no on street parking. This was as per the original application and concerns raised for traffic using Dog and Gun Lane.

53. TO REVIEW AND APPROVE CHANGES TO RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CHARGES TO WHETSTONE CEMETERY ACTING AS BURIAL AUTHORITY

The Clerk overviewed the documents included in the agenda pack. Local and National practice had been reviewed.

RESOLVED: That the Rules and Regulations for the Burial Authority be amended as shown and that the revised fees be applicable from 1st September 2017.

54. CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk reported the following: The Clerk had received the notice off BDC regarding acquisition of Car Park by the Parish Council. An update on the cars on High Street and in and around the village and on High Street carpark was given. The Clerk was getting quotes to install a height barrier on the car park to prevent the van issues occurring. It would prevent illegal access.

The Clerk reported that all Staff had been Fire marshall trained. One Groundsman was to be trained on aerial platform operation for future need. The final contracts were “eagerly” awaited for the Shelduck POS and bund.

The issue of ashes being scattered in the closed churchyard was raised. This was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk inform the Church of its decision.

The Christmas event was raised and Council needed to decide if the event was going ahead and also where. It would be on the agenda for the September POS WP meeting on 7th September.

The Defibrillators were both now live and active. The video would be linked to web site and the Clerk would inform members of this when it was available.

The Clerk ensured the new Members had copies of the Code of Conduct and that they had completed their Members interest form.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for his informative report.

55. CORRESPONDENCE

To receive correspondence report: RESOLVED: The list be received and noted. All correspondence has been copied to Members.

a) WAA – July meeting minutes – received and noted.

RESOLVED: That the correspondence be received and actions noted.

With there being no further business, the Chairman thanked Members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.40 p.m.