

WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of **Warboys Parish Council** held on 9th October 2017 at the Parish Centre, Warboys.

PRESENT

Councillor Dr S C Withams, Vice Chairman in the Chair.

Councillors Mrs J M Cole, B L Correll, R J Dykstra, D W England, Mrs M H Harlock, G B Joseph, R A Payne, P S Potts, G C M Willis and Mrs A R Wyatt.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

County Councillor T V Rogers.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were for absence was received on behalf of Councillors Mrs M P Bucknell, Ms L A Gifford and Mrs J A Tavener and District Councillor P L E Bucknell.

107/17 MINUTES

Upon being moved by Councillor Mrs Wyatt and seconded by Councillor Potts, the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11th September 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

108/17 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No interests were declared by Members in respect of items appearing on the agenda.

109/17 MATTERS ARISING

The Council considered the following matters arising from the meeting held on 11th September 2017:-

(a) Timebanking

Further to Minute No. 92/17, the Chairman reported that the closing date for the receipt of applications for the vacant position of Timebank Co-ordinator was 16th October and that a number of people had asked for the job particulars to date.

(b) Purchase of Picnic Table

Further to Minute No. 93/17(b), the Clerk reported that he was still investigating the suitability of alternative gates to Jubilee Park to accommodate wheelchair or mobility scooter users.

Councillor Correll advised that he had observed an extensive amount of litter around the picnic table on several occasions since the previous meeting, notwithstanding the fact that there was a litter bin nearby.

(c) Chairman's Training

Arising from Minute No. 93/17(f), the Clerk reported that Bury, Woodhurst, Pidley-cum-Fenton and Wistow Parish Councils all had indicated that one of their Members wished to attend the training for Chairmen to be held on 27th November.

(d) Local Highway Improvement Scheme

Arising from Minute No. 96/17, the Clerk reported that Red Tile Wind Farm Trust Fund Ltd. had agreed to award a grant of 100% of the cost of a speed indicator device (SID), subject to Community Roadwatch (UK) resubmitting their application to incorporate an assessment of the amount of voluntary time spent in using the device. This would enable the equipment to be used in Warboys and the catchment area of Red Tile Trust.

With regard to the complaints about motorists driving at excessive speeds in the village, the Clerk reported that the local Neighbourhood Sergeant had forwarded another complaint from a resident in the High Street. As a result the Police would be carrying out a monitoring exercise on traffic speeds in the High Street in the near future.

RESOLVED

that the Clerk be authorised to purchase an SID in association with Community Roadwatch (UK) and the equipment subsequently loaned to the organisation, subject to the proviso that it is used in the catchment area of Red Tile Trust only.

(e) Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036

Further to Minute No. 97/17, the Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated to all Members) summarising the implications for Warboys of the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment: October 2017 which had been issued by the District Council with a closing date for responses of 3rd November. The report contained the District Council's response to the individual sites submitted by landowners and developers under the Call for Sites 2017 as part of the preparation of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036.

The report submitted by the Clerk contained the District Council's assessment of each site submitted for residential or employment designation in Warboys, together with a suggested response on the part of the Parish Council.

Following discussion on the individual sites, it was

RESOLVED

- (a) that the Parish Council concurs with the District Council's assessment in the case of the following sites:-
- 9 hectares of land south of Stirling Close with a capacity for 300 dwellings
 - 1.24 hectares of land at the junction of Heath Road with the A141 with a capacity for 24 dwellings
 - 0.76 hectares of land comprising the former Gladwins site, Church Road with a capacity for 20 dwellings
 - 27 hectares of land extending along Ramsey Road west of Jubilee Avenue to High Crutch Corner with a capacity for 500 dwellings
- (b) that the District Council be informed that the Parish Council concurs with the assessment that 1.3 hectares of land adjoining 51 Church Road should not be designated for housing development but objects to its proposed assessment as an employment site as this would affect views of the Warboys Conservation Area and heritage buildings and the site contains many mature trees that would be lost if the development took place;
- (c) that the District Council be informed that the Parish Council objects to the proposed allocation of part of 3 hectares of land south of Stirling Close being designated for housing development for 49 dwellings as this would encroach upon an area of open countryside, would create a precedent for further allocations to the south of the village and would affect views of the village from the south;
- (d) that the District Council be informed that the Parish Council concurs with the assessment that land north of the radio aerial, Church Road should not be designated for housing development but proposes that this should be allocated for employment use as the site is well screened, is close to the existing Airfield Industrial Estate and will help to reduce the outward commuting for jobs by residents of Warboys;
- (e) that the District Council be informed that the Parish Council concurs with the assessment that 3.1 hectares of land south of the access road on the Airfield Industrial Estate be designated for employment use but objects to its proposed allocation for waste recycling and recovery on the basis that there are sufficient sites already allocated for this purpose in Warboys and this would prevent a greater diversity of job opportunity in Warboys for the benefit of the local community.

(Councillor England declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of the land adjoining 51 Church Road and he left the meeting while that site was considered, taking no part in the discussion and voting thereon.)

(Councillor Willis arrived in the meeting during the course of the discussion on the above item.)

110/17 PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 11th September 2017 be received.

111/17 POLICE REPORT

The Clerk reported that the Cambridgeshire Constabulary website had not been updated with local crime statistics since July.

There were no other matters that Members wished to raise.

112/17 PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY 20

The Clerk referred to Minute No. 80/17 and reported that The Planning Inspectorate had concluded that the order made by the County Council to establish public bridleway 20 from Fenside Road to the A141 should not be confirmed.

113/17 PLAY EQUIPMENT REPAIRS

Further to Minute No. 93/17(d), the Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated to all Members) following the receipt of quotations for the repair and replacement of play equipment identified as a result of safety inspections undertaken earlier in the year.

Members were informed that the three play equipment companies that the Council had used in recent years had been invited to bid for a specification of works agreed by the Council at their meeting in July (Minute No. 54/17 refers). One of the companies had declined to quote but quotations had been received from the remaining two companies, details of which were contained in the report. However the Clerk explained that each of the companies had suggested alternative ways of complying with the specification.

Having viewed the products specified in the companies' respective catalogues, Members favoured the equipment offered by Wicksteed Playgrounds which was also the lower of the quotations submitted.

It was therefore

RESOLVED

- (a) that the Clerk be requested to liaise with Wicksteed Playgrounds to secure the provision of a metal ramp to the embankment slide at Adams Lyons Playground and a replacement basket swing from their own catalogue for Jubilee Park; and

- (b) that subject to the above, the quotation submitted by Wicksteed Playgrounds be accepted.

114/17 HONOURS BOARDS

Following the award of the honour of Honorary Freewoman to a person at the special meeting of the Council held on 14th August (Minute No. 66/17 refers), a report (copies of which had been circulated to all Members) was submitted by the Clerk on the possibility of commissioning an honours board as a public record of this and future awards. The Clerk also invited Members to consider the possibility of commissioning a second board to record the names of previous chairmen of the Council as a fitting tribute to their service to the community.

A quotation had been received from the company that had supplied the notice boards in the village in recent years. However the Clerk also reported that a Warboys resident who had built the village sign was prepared to build an honours board for the price of the materials only. A quotation had also been received from Michael Murray signs for the supply of signwriting for the heading of an honours board in gold leaf and vinyl lettering for the individual names.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED

- (a) that the Clerk be authorised to arrange for two honours boards to be commissioned for Honorary Freemen and Freewomen and for past chairmen of the Parish Council;
- (b) that the offer by a Warboys resident to construct the boards for the cost of materials only be accepted, with signwriting to be undertaken by Michael Murray Signs at an estimated cost of £1,000; and
- (c) that upon completion, the honours boards be displayed in the Library.

115/17 DISQUALIFICATION FROM COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

A report (copies of which had been circulated to all Members) was submitted by the Clerk summarising the implications of a consultation paper issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government on the possible introduction of additional criteria disqualifying a person from becoming or remaining a councillor.

In addition to the existing criteria under which a person was prohibited from standing for election or being a local authority member, the Government was proposing an extension of the disqualification criteria to include persons convicted of various sexual offences and who were subject to various anti-social behaviour orders. However the Clerk pointed out that without access to a person's criminal record, it would be impossible for a local authority to verify whether a candidate for election or an existing councillor was prohibited by the disqualification criteria.

It was therefore

RESOLVED

that the Department for Communities and Local Government be advised that the Council concurs with an extension of the disqualification criteria as proposed in the consultation paper but recommends that local authorities should be notified by the courts of offences committed by persons who are councillors and also permitted to request checks on prospective and existing councillors through the Disability Barring Service.

116/17 SHARED OWNERSHIP – DEVELOPMENT AT STATION ROAD

Further to Minute No. 93/17(c) and in the light of a statement made by a member of the public at the Open Forum following the previous meeting, the Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated to all Members) on action taken by the District Council to allocate all of the shared ownership homes at the Station Road development for rental.

The Clerk explained that the relevant Section 106 Agreement provided for 40% of the units to be affordable housing, of which at least 70% should be rented and the balance shared ownership or other intermediate housing tenure. This equated to 48 and 14 dwellings respectively. However the District Council had confirmed that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority had supplied funding to enable the social housing provider for the site to purchase the units intended for shared ownership so that they could be let as rented properties.

The Clerk and the Chairman reported that they had endeavoured to persuade the District Council to reconsider their decision but this was unlikely to occur. The latter had justified their actions on the basis that there had been a lack of interest expressed for shared ownership homes in a housing needs survey commissioned in advance of the Wiggs Farm development and because the last of the three shared ownership properties at Wiggs Farm had been difficult to sell. The District Council had relied upon an interpretation of the words in the Section 106 Agreement of ‘at least’ 70% of the affordable homes being rented to extend this to 100%.

Members expressed their dissatisfaction with the decision of the District Council and the way that this had been undertaken without notification. It was therefore

RESOLVED

that the District Council be notified of the Parish Council concerns and requested to provide an assurance that a similar situation would not be repeated in the case of other Section 106 Agreements for affordable homes in Warboys.

117/17 INVITATIONS TO EVENTS, ETC.

- (a) Cambridgeshire Parish Council Conference 2017**

RESOLVED

that the Council be represented at the Cambridgeshire Parish Council Conference 2017 on 17th November at St Ives by the Chairman or Vice Chairman and the Clerk;

(b) Rural Cambs CAB AGM

RESOLVED

that the invitation to be represented at the Citizens Advice Rural Cambs AGM on 3rd November be declined.

118/17 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Arising from a clash of dates with a regular booking of the Parish Centre, it was

RESOLVED

that the date of the Annual Parish Meeting in 2018 be changed to Wednesday 18th April.

119/17 OPEN FORUM

The Clerk reported that at the Open Forum following the previous meeting of the Council, a member of the public had reported that she had been notified by Havebury Homes that she would be unable to buy a shared ownership home at the Station Road development.

In addition, District Councillor Bucknell had advised Members of the date of the next meeting of the Landfill Liaison Group and reported that work undertaken to date on the development of land at Puddock Hill as a caravan site complied with the planning permission that had been granted.

120/17 ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED

(a) that the following accounts be approved:-

		£
M J Buddle	Salary – September 2017	936.09
W E Batterbee	Salary – September 2017	886.95
R Edwards	Salary – September 2017	252.80

R Reeves	Salary – September 2017	978.29
A A Clasper	Salary – September 2017	460.98
Post Office Ltd.	Tax & NIC – September 2017	1,390.69
R Reeves	Reimbursement – ink cartridges	29.68
R Reeves	Petty cash	30.00
M J Buddle	Reimbursement – Warboys Hardware misc.	11.97
Vodafone	Mobile phone contract (Timebank)	9.80
E.ON	Electricity supply - Parish Centre (paid by direct debit)	74.00
Amosite Ltd.	Asbestos annual survey	114.00
Business Services at CAS Ltd	Annual insurance premium	4,060.59
Cambridge Water Business	Water supply – Hallgate allotments	217.80
Cambridge Water Business	Water supply – Parish centre	79.08
Morelock Signs	Highway signs	145.36
ESPO	Cleaning supplies	151.06
ESPO	Miscellaneous supplies	100.38
R Taylor	Reimbursement of allotment deposit	10.00
E.ON	Gas supply - Parish Centre (paid by direct debit)	47.93
Allstar	Fuel (paid by direct debit)	55.50
Cranbrook Plants	Winter bedding plants	194.40
Information Commissioner	Renewal of data protection registration	35.00
GreenCity Solutions	Computer anti-virus protection – September (paid by direct debit)	12.00
GreenCity Solutions	Computer backup online - September (paid by direct debit)	36.00

GreenCity Solutions	Computer support contract – September (paid by direct debit)	60.00
GreenCity Solutions	Broadband – September (paid by direct debit)	23.99
A A Clasper	Reimbursement – Timebank supplies	30.09

- (b) that arising from the impending withdrawal by HMRC of the ability to make payments to them via the Post Office, the Clerk be authorised to arrange for payments to be made by direct debit.

(Councillor England declared a non-statutory disclosable interest in the payment to R Taylor as he was related to him. However as the payment was a formality, he remained in the room for the duration of the item.)

121/17 BUDGETARY CONTROL

The Council received the budgetary control statement for September 2017, together with the list of Parish Centre bookings for that month, copies of which had been circulated to all Members.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.

Chairman.