

# WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of **Warboys Parish Council** held on 8th October 2018 at the Parish Centre, Warboys.

## **PRESENT**

Dr S C Withams, Chairman.

Councillors Mrs J M Cole, B L Correll, R J Dykstra, D W England, Ms L A Gifford, S J Green, Mrs M H Harlock, J A Parker, Mrs S J Wilcox, G C M Willis and Mrs A R Wyatt.

## **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

County Councillor T V Rogers.

## **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors R A Payne, P S Potts and Mrs J E Tavener.

## **107/18 MINUTES**

Upon being moved by Councillor Correll and seconded by Councillor Mrs Harlock, the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

## **108/18 MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest were made by Members in respect of items appearing on the agenda.

## **109/18 MATTERS ARISING**

The Council considered the following matters arising from the meeting held on 10th September 2018:-

### **(a) Repairs to Play Equipment**

Arising from Minute No. 91/18(a), the Clerk reported that the repair works to the play equipment identified in the safety inspection report at Adams Lyons playground would be undertaken by Caloo on 11th October 2018.

### **(b) Street Naming – Development South of Farriers Way**

Further from Minute No. 98/18, the Clerk reported that he had been informed by the District Council's Address Management Officer that Bellway Homes had objected to Fysons Way, one of the names proposed by the Parish Council, for the

streets to be developed south of Farriers Way. Bellway had proposed the name Breton as an alternative.

Councillor Mrs Cole reminded the Council of the connection of Samuel Fyson as a breeder of heavy horses and his prominent role in Warboys in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. As Breton was the name of a French breed of heavy horse with no connection to the village, she considered this wholly unsuitable.

Members concurred with Councillor Mrs Cole's views and it was

### **RESOLVED**

that the Address Management Officer be informed that the Parish Council remains of the view that the street should be named Fyson's Way.

#### **(c) Magpas**

Further to Minute No. 103/18, the Clerk reported that Magpas had written to thank the Council for their generous donation of £100 towards the relocation of their headquarters to Alconbury Weald. However as their plans for the move were in their infancy, they had requested whether the Council had any objection to the donation being used towards their intention to launch a new and more advanced helicopter in Spring 2019.

No objections were raised by Members to the request by Magpas.

#### **(d) Grassed Area at The Weir**

Further to Minute No. 106/18, Members were informed by the Clerk that Red Tile Wind Farm Trust Fund Ltd had agreed to award a grant of 50% of the net cost of the work to extend the block paving at The Weir. The Clerk advised that he had also contacted Blakemore, the owners of the SPAR store, and it seemed probable that they too would make a financial contribution towards the work.

## **110/18 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

### **RESOLVED**

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 10 September 2018 be received.

## **111/18 POLICE REPORT**

The Clerk referred to the daily and weekly updates from E-Cops that he forwarded by e-mail to Members when they contained any information on criminal incidents or anti-social behaviour in Warboys. Members' attention was drawn to various incidents that had taken place in recent weeks, including vandalism of equipment at the Bellway development south of Farriers Way and a number of thefts and burglaries.

The Clerk reported that he was liaising with the Police to try to ensure that officers would be in attendance at the Remembrance Sunday service on 11th November to assist with the marshalling of the parade to the Church that morning.

## **112/18 PROPOSED COMBINED HEAT AND POWER AND WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS – WARBOYS LANDFILL SITE**

Further to Minute No. 95/18, the Clerk reported that a letter jointly signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council and Mrs E Ball on behalf of the Landfill Action Group had been sent to the Secretary of State requesting that the application for planning permission be called in as the waste water treatment plant was untested technology in this country. However a response had been received from the Secretary of State's office refusing the request and stating that the Government remained committed to giving more power to local councils.

A letter also had been sent to the County Council's Chief Executive asking her to review the Planning Committee's approval of the application on the basis that the Committee had been misdirected in reaching their decision. The Chief Executive had responded by stating that she was unable to intervene in regulatory matters but that the letter would be treated as a pre-action protocol letter in the light of a possible application for judicial review of the decision by the Parish Council. A response was anticipated.

Councillor Mrs Wilcox reported that she had been liaising with barristers specialising in planning legislation about the possibility of applying for judicial review. It had been suggested that initial advice be obtained from counsel as to the strength of the case for a successful application, the cost of which would be in the region of £1,000 - £2,000.

Mrs Ball, on behalf of the Landfill Action Group, reported that she had spoken with Shailesh Vara MP earlier in the evening and had been advised that Mr Vara had expressed his concern to the County Chief Executive over the way in which this matter had been dealt and its impact on Warboys.

Mrs Ball also reported on the latest advice received from Public Interest Consultants and the approach to be taken when the applicants applied to the Environment Agency for an environmental permit.

The Clerk reminded Members that the Council had earmarked the costs recovered from the public inquiry into the refusal of planning permission for hazardous waste at the landfill site in the event that this was required to oppose future development at the site. This amounted to £14,194. Mrs Ball reported that the Action Group also had retained funds recovered from the inquiry and that they would investigate the possibility of crowd funding to generate further money.

Both the Action Group and the Clerk were complimented by the Chairman and Councillor Willis as Chairman of the Planning Committee for their actions over the past month and it was

**RESOLVED**

- (a) that Councillor Mrs Wilcox and the Clerk authorised to seek initial advice from counsel on an application for judicial review of the County Council Planning Committee's decision; and
- (b) that the cost of the advice be met from the funds earmarked from the recovery of the hazardous waste inquiry costs.

### **113/18 BATTLE'S OVER**

Further to Minute No. 96/18, the notes of the meeting of the WWI centenary working party held on 10th September 2018 were received (copies of which had been circulated)

Councillor Mrs Wyatt reported that arrangements were in hand for the events in the village on 10th and 11th November to commemorate the centenary of the ending of the First World War and she announced that tickets were now available for the evening function on the 10th.

Members were also informed that the Scout group had offered to make poppies from plastic bottles that would be displayed around the war memorial.

### **114/18 CONDITION OF FORMER YOUTHIE AND LIBRARY PREMISES**

Members considered a report by the Clerk (copies of which had been circulated) on the condition and future use of the former Youthie and Library premises.

The report summarised the previous attempts by the Parish Council to try to acquire the Youthie building as a community hub. These had ended in 2014 when the leasehold terms offered by the County Council had been considered to be unacceptably weighted in favour of that authority. The building had been unoccupied since around 2000 when the County Council had told the Youth Action Group to vacate the building as they considered it to be in imminent danger of collapse.

The District Council had subsequently refused two applications for planning permission to demolish the building and the Parish Council had commissioned a structural survey which had concluded that the building could be repaired and retained for use by the community. An attempt by the Parish Council to have the building listed had been unsuccessful.

The Clerk reported that he had been in contact with officers of the County Council about the future of the building and the latter had commissioned another structural survey, the results of which were not yet known. The County Council were prepared to reopen negotiations for the premises to be used by the Parish Council but they had pointed out that they were legally obliged to obtain best value for the asset. The Clerk reminded Members that the same legislation applied to the Parish Council, although views clearly differed about the value of the asset.

Members acknowledged that the building could be used for a variety of purposes, including a drop-in centre, offices, meetings and a possible extension of the Library.

## **RESOLVED**

that the Clerk be authorised to re-open negotiations with the County Council regarding the possible transfer of ownership of the premises to the Parish Council.

(County Councillor Rogers arrived in the meeting during the discussion on the above minute.)

## **115/18 TIMEBANK**

Further to Minute No. 81/18, a report was submitted by the Timebank Co-ordinator on the development of the Timebank scheme in Warboys. Copies of the report had been circulated to all Members. Members were informed that 8 members had joined the Timebank since the previous report in August and a further 57 hours of exchanges had taken place.

## **116/18 MONITORING OF TRAFFIC SPEEDS**

Further to Minute 152/17, the Clerk reported on correspondence received from Community Roadwatch (UK) CIC (CRW) indicating that they were now prepared to monitor traffic speeds in Warboys using their SIDs, even though the Parish Council had been unable, on the advice of the insurers, to provide public liability cover and separately insure the equipment owned by CRW. CRW had offered to respond positively to requests by the Parish Council to install and measure traffic speeds at locations in Warboys and currently had an SID in situ in Station Road.

A second e-mail from CRW (copies of which had been circulated to Members) contained an offer to lead on the installation of a pedestrian crossing sign at the entrance to the village in Fenton Road and to meet the estimated cost of £1,500. Members were reminded that application had again been made for Local Highway Initiative funding for the installation of priority narrowing at the entrance to the village in Fenton Road. This would not be considered by the County Council until January. Under the circumstances the Clerk suggested that it would be advisable to liaise with the local Highways Supervisor on the suggested installation of a sign in advance of consideration of the LHI bid.

Mr D McCandless addressed the Council on behalf of CRW and circulated copies of the latest monitoring results from their work in Fenton Road which showed vehicle speeds of up to 100 mph entering the village in Fenton Road and 86 mph leaving the village.

The Chairman thanked CRW for their offer and support in monitoring traffic speeds in Warboys and it was

## **RESOLVED**

that the Clerk be authorised to progress the possibility of installing pedestrian crossing signs in Fenton Road funded by CRW.

## **117/18 TREE PLANTING**

Members considered an offer from a member of the public to donate trees from the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy scheme. This comprised two silver birch, two rowan and one hazel.

The Clerk reminded Members that the Ramsey Rotary Club would shortly be planting trees obtained from the Woodland Trust in School Road and Statfold Green. Attention was drawn to the difficulty in identifying locations for the planting of trees without a risk of damage by vandalism. However Councillor Green drew attention to the design of the open spaces at the Great Pastures estate off Station Road which he felt could accommodate the trees and which would be overlooked by neighbouring properties thereby reducing the risk of vandalism.

### **RESOLVED**

that the offer by a member of the public be accepted and the Clerk requested to liaise with David Wilson Homes regarding the possibility of the trees being planted at Great Pastures.

## **118/18 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING**

A report was submitted by the Clerk (copies of which had been circulated to all Members) following a request by the Christmas Lighting Group for financial assistance towards the lighting display in the village over the Christmas period. The report summarised the work undertaken by the Parish Council to support the Lighting Group, the cost of which had amounted to £899 in 2017/18 compared with a budget provision of £750. A similar sum had been included in the budget for the current year, although as some of the expenditure in 2017/18 was non-recurrent, Members were informed that this this should be sufficient to meet anticipated expenditure.

The Clerk reported that the Lighting Group had asked the Parish Council to seek a quotation from Balfour Beatty for the modification of a further four lighting columns in the High Street to enable Christmas lighting to be attached and to meet 50% of the cost. The Clerk suggested that it was unlikely that Balfour Beatty would respond in time for the columns to be adapted in time for the forthcoming switch-on in November but that, based on a previous decision to part fund the adaption of other columns, the potential cost could be in the region of £375.

Under the circumstances, it was

### **RESOLVED**

that the Clerk be authorised to approach Balfour Beatty to obtain a quotation for the work and the Lighting Group informed that the Parish Council is prepared to meet 50% of the cost of the work up to a maximum of £400.

## **119/18 REQUEST FOR LITTER BIN – FENSIDE ROAD**

The Clerk submitted a request from a local landowner for the installation of a litter bin in Fenside Road near the start of footpath 7. The landowner had advised that dog owners were tending to park in Fenside Road to walk their dogs on the footpath but were then either not picking up after them or were leaving bags of dog mess in the verge.

The Clerk advised that dog fouling was a problem on many of the footpaths near the village but that the Handymen already emptied in the region of 40 bins on Monday mornings. Nevertheless Members felt that efforts should be made to prevent the fouling of public footpaths near the village and it was

### **RESOLVED**

that the Clerk be requested to arrange for a bin to be installed by the Handymen in Fenside Road.

## **120/18 THE WEIR**

Further to Minute No. 91/18(b), Members were advised that the working party established to discuss the problem of low water levels at The Weir had met and that a number of Members of the working party also had met representatives of Aquatic Environmental Solutions on site to obtain their advice. The latter had offered a number of suggestions and had submitted a quotation for the sampling and testing of the sediment as a precursor to the potential dredging of the pond. Having regard to the cost quoted, it was

### **RESOLVED**

that the Clerk be requested to obtain a second quotation for the sampling and testing of the sediment and to proceed to accept the lower of the quotations received to enable the work to be undertaken.

## **121/18 BUS SERVICES**

Further to Minute No 187/17(i), the Clerk drew attention to a survey organised by parish councils around St Ives to assess public demand for bus services in the light of possible reductions in bus subsidies in 2019/20. A copy of the survey had been circulated to all Members. County Councillor Rogers reported that subsidies for bus services were likely to be continued by the County Council until March 2019 but that after that date, responsibility for public transport would transfer to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority when he thought it likely that town and parish councils would be asked to contribute towards the cost.

### **RESOLVED**

that the availability of the survey be publicised in Warboys to assist people in expressing their views on the demand for bus services locally.

## **122/18 ALLOTMENTS LIAISON MEETING**

As a meeting of the Allotments Committee would not be held prior to the next liaison meeting with representatives of the Allotments Association, it was

### **RESOLVED**

that Councillor Mrs Cole, Ms Gifford and Parker be appointed to represent the Council at the meetings.

## **123/18 INVITATIONS TO MEETINGS**

Members considered invitations to attend the AGM of the Connections Bus Project at Histon on 22nd October and the AGM of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Branch of CPRE at St Ives on 23rd October.

County Councillor Rogers also reported that the next liaison meeting of town and parish councils in the Ramsey neighbourhood would be held on 29th October which would coincide with the date of the forthcoming meetings of the Allotments and Leisure Areas Committees.

### **RESOLVED**

- (a) that the Council be not represented at the Connections Bus AGM;
- (b) that Councillors Mrs Harlock and Willis be authorised to attend the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough branch of the CPRE AGM: and
- (c) that, as the Council's representatives on the parish liaison group, Councillors Mrs Harlock and Mrs Wyatt be requested to decide between themselves whether to attend the next meeting.

## **124/18 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Having considered a request from East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) for the support of the Council either through funding raising efforts or a grant, it was

### **RESOLVED**

that a grant of £100 be made to EACH.

## **125/18 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk reported that the following item of correspondence had been received since the previous meeting and indicated that he would arrange for it to be circulated to Members for information:-

- (a) September 2018 edition of Clerks and Councils Direct.

## 126/18 OPEN FORUM

The Clerk reported on the matters raised at the Open Forum following the previous meeting of the Council. A member of the public had queried the availability of agenda and minutes on the Council's website but had been informed subsequently that they were accessible. Councillor Mrs Wyatt had been assured by the Chairman that the company that had supplied the wagon for the Feast Week band concert had been thanked. County Councillor Rogers had given advance notice of the next Ramsey neighbourhood town and parish councils liaison meeting. Councillor Correll had drawn attention to the amount of litter in Jubilee Park and vandalism to the picnic bench funded by Ramsey Rotary Club.

## 127/18 ACCOUNTS

It was moved by Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Mrs Harlock and

### RESOLVED

that the following accounts be approved:-

		£
M J Buddle	Salary – September 2018	933.60
W E Batterbee	Salary – September 2018	920.28
R Edwards	Salary – September 2018	235.20
R Reeves	Salary – September 2018	997.69
N Everett	Salary – September 2018	430.12
HMRC	Tax & NIC – September 2018	1,405.27
R Reeves	Reimbursement – Ink cartridges (Timebank)	47.47
M J Buddle	Reimbursement – paint	44.50
Vodafone	Mobile phone contract (Timebank)	10.15
E.ON	Electricity supply - Parish Centre (paid by direct debit)	110.00
E.ON	Gas supply – Parish Centre (paid by direct debit)	46.76
GreenCity Solutions	Computer anti-virus protection – October (paid by direct debit)	12.00
GreenCity Solutions	Computer backup online - October (paid by direct debit)	36.00

GreenCity Solutions	Computer support contract – October (paid by direct debit)	60.00
GreenCity Solutions	Broadband – October (paid by direct debit)	23.99
Allstar	Fuel (paid by direct debit)	67.16
ESPO	Miscellaneous supplies	115.49
Cambridge Water Business	Parish Centre water charge and sewerage charge w.e.f 29/06/18	108.44
Anglian Water Business Ltd. (National)	Parish Centre sewerage charge up to 28/06/18	76.02
Cambridge Water Business	Half year water rates Hallgate Allotments	202.32
Arthur Ibbett Ltd	Replacement lawn mower	209.00
Business Services at CAS Ltd.	Annual insurance premium	4,075.40
G Hansell	Half year Internal Auditor's fee	50.00
R Martin	Half year Clockwinder's honorarium	125.00
R Reeves	Petty cash	30.00
Mrs N Everett	Mileage and expenses	14.00
CGM Group (East Anglia) Ltd	Grass cutting	306.00
Information Commissioner	Renewal of data controller registration	40.00
SLCC Enterprises Ltd.	Latest edition of Local Council Administration	108.79
Huntingdonshire District Council	Printing of Battle's Over tickets	29.29
Mrs J Bennett	Reimbursement – photocopying for Battle's Over	3.80

## **128/18 BUDGETARY CONTROL**

The Council received the budgetary control statement for September 2018, 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.