

# **WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of **Warboys Parish Council** held on 10th December 2018 at the Parish Centre, Warboys.

## **PRESENT**

Dr S C Withams, Chairman.

Councillors Mrs J M Cole, R J Dykstra, D W England, Ms L A Gifford, S J Green, Mrs M H Harlock, J A Parker, R A Payne, P S Potts, Mrs J E Tavener, Mrs S J Wilcox, G C M Willis and Mrs A R Wyatt.

## **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

County Councillor T V Rogers.  
District Councillor G J Bull.

## **146/18 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman informed Members that Mr P L E Bucknell who had decided not to stand again for re-election to Huntingdonshire District Council in May 2018 would be granted the honour of becoming an Honorary Alderman of the Council at a meeting to be held later in the month. Mr Bucknell had represented the District Ward that included Warboys for many years.

Arising from the death in the past month of Mr Vic Steward, the Chairman advised that a letter of condolence would be sent on behalf of the Parish Council to his family in recognition of his many years as a local businessman in the village and involvement in village activities.

## **147/18 MINUTES**

Upon being moved by Councillor Mrs Wilcox and seconded by Councillor Ms Gifford, the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

## **148/18 MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

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

## **149/18 RESIGNATION**

The Clerk reported that Mr B L Correll had resigned from the Council.

The vacancy had been advertised and if the requisite number of 10 electors asked for there to be an election, nominations would be invited. In the event of insufficient people asking for an election, the Clerk reported that he would invite expressions of interest in co-option to the Council which would be reported to the meeting to be held in February.

### **150/18 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Arising from the resignation of Mr Correll who had been appointed Vice Chairman of the Council at the annual meeting in May, both Councillors Mrs M H Harlock and J A Parker were moved and seconded as Vice Chairman. After a vote had been taken, it was

#### **RESOLVED**

- (a) that Councillor Parker be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council and to all committees of the Council by virtue of the provisions of Standing Order 45;
- (b) that Councillors Mrs Cole and Mrs Wyatt be appointed to the Appointments Panel;
- (c) that Councillor Parker be appointed to the Timebank working party and as Tree Warden; and
- (d) that Councillor Parker be authorised as a cheque signatory on behalf of the Council.

### **151/18 MATTERS ARISING**

The Council considered the following matters arising from the meeting held on 12th November 2018:-

#### **(a) Proposed Development West of Ramsey Road**

Arising from Minute No. 131/18, Councillors Mrs Tavener and Payne referred to the proposal to obtain access to the proposed development west of Ramsey Road via Longlands Close. As the latter had not been adopted as a public highway by the County Council after the estate had been completed, they suggested that it would be inappropriate for the Parish Council to support the proposed new development by means of access through an unadopted road.

The Clerk explained that this was not a material planning matter but the development might offer the residents of Longlands Close an opportunity to reach agreement with the developer for the road to be brought up to an adoptable standard. In the event of the absence of a section 38 agreement between the developer of Longlands Close and the highways authority and the presence of a bond, the only other way for the house owners to secure the making up of the road would be through a private street works scheme which they would have to finance personally.

**(b) Grassed Area at The Weir**

Further to Minute No. 132/18(c), the Clerk reported that he had been advised that the additional cost of the longer wearing paviers for the extension of the hard surfacing at The Weir would be £375.

Members also were informed that the contribution of £200 towards the cost of the work by Blakemore, the owners of the SPAR, had now been received.

Councillor Payne reported that customers from The Spar were now tending to park on the remaining grassed area at The Weir which would cause a further deterioration in the appearance of the area.

**RESOLVED**

- (a) that the additional cost of the paviers chosen be accepted; and
- (b) that the Clerk be requested to investigate the feasibility and cost of installing bollards to prevent parking on the grass at The Weir.

**(c) Tree Planting**

Further to Minute No. 132/18(d), the Clerk reported that there had been no further communication from the member of the public who had suggested the planting of trees under the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy scheme and it appeared unlikely that this would now be progressed.

Members were informed that Ramsey Rotary Club had received the trees for planting at Statfold Green and School Road but their Members were now busy with their charity Santa Sleigh around the villages prior to Christmas and would be unlikely to plant the trees until January. The Club had advised that the saplings were quite small but the District Council had delivered a load of mulch to help the trees become established.

**(d) Christmas Lighting**

Further to Minute No. 132/18(f), Councillor Mrs Wyatt advised Members that she had been visited by the owners of a local business who had expressed their disappointment that they had not been asked to supply scaffolding for use at the Christmas Lights Switch-on ceremony in November. It was also suggested that an offer to provide a Christmas tree for the village in previous years had been rejected.

As the arrangements for the Christmas lighting in the village were made by the Christmas Lighting Group, the Chairman asked that Councillor Mrs Wyatt's comments be brought to the attention of the Group.

**(e) The Weir**

Further to Minute No. 132/18(g), Members were informed that AES Europe had taken samples of silt from The Weir for testing and that a further meeting of the

working party would be held once the results had been received. Councillor Mrs Cole had been in attendance when the sampling had been undertaken.

**(f) Battle's Over**

Further to Minute No. 138/18, the Clerk read a letter from a local resident thanking the volunteers who had arranged the events over the weekend of 10th and 11th November in the village.

Members' attention was drawn to a certificate received from the organiser of the national chain of events and beacons in grateful recognition of the participation of Warboys. The Clerk indicated that he would arrange for the certificate to be framed and displayed.

Councillor Green reported that he had spoken with a lighting consultant about the type of lighting that could be installed in the shelter near the Jubilee Clock Tower to illuminate the commemorative mural. Enquiries were continuing and Councillor Green advised that he would report back when he had further information.

(District Councillor Bull left the meeting at this point in the proceedings.)

**(g) Condition of Youthie and Library Premises**

Arising from Minute No. 139/18, the Clerk reported that he had been advised by the County Council that there was a backlog of condition survey work which had meant that a survey had yet to be undertaken of the former Youthie and Library premises. No further progress had therefore been made with regard to the possibility of the premises being transferred to the Parish Council.

**(h) Replacement Trees**

Further to Minute No. 141/18, the Clerk reported that he had been informed by the County Council that they had been unable to obtain trees from the Woodlands Trust for planting in Mill Green as replacements for those felled in the previous year. It was reported that officers were investigating the possibility of other suppliers but the Clerk pointed out that unless progress was made soon, it would be too late for trees to be planted before the spring.

Councillors England and Mrs Tavener reported that they might be able to obtain reasonably sized trees free of charge but if not, Members had no objection to trees being purchased by the Parish Council if planting could take place over the winter.

The Clerk also confirmed that two tree guards were available to protect the trees once they had been planted.

**RESOLVED**

- (a) that in the event of the County Council being unable to supply trees for planting before the onset of spring, the Clerk be authorised to liaise with

that authority and Councillor Parker as Tree Warden with regard to the suitability of tree species for planting in Mill Green; and

- (b) that the Clerk be authorised to obtain two saplings for planting in Mill Green, either via the suggestions made by Councillors England and Mrs Tavener or funded by the Parish Council up to a maximum cost of £100.

(County Councillor Rogers arrived in the meeting at this point in the proceedings.)

## **152/18 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

### **RESOLVED**

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 5th November 2018 be received.

## **153/18 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

### **RESOLVED**

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 12th November 2018 be received.

## **154/18 POLICE REPORT**

The Clerk referred to the daily and weekly updates from E-Cops that he forwarded by e-mail to Members. Attention was drawn to the growing number and nature of crimes in Warboys in recent weeks.

It was also reported that a fire had been started deliberately in the Parish Centre car park at 1.10 a.m. on the morning of 26th November which had involved an explosion possibly from an aerosol can. Neighbours had alerted the Police and Fire Brigade. A fire appliance had arrived several minutes later with the firefighters extinguishing the fire and checking the Parish Centre itself. Some minor damage had occurred to the car park surface.

## **155/18 PROPOSED COMBINED HEAT AND POWER AND WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS – WARBOYS LANDFILL SITE**

Further to Minute No. 137/18, the Clerk reported that he had registered both the Chairman and himself to speak at the County Council's Planning Committee meeting on 13th December when two aspects of the above application would be referred back to the Committee for consideration. These related to the proximity of Fenside Caravan Park to the site of the application and the impact of emissions from the proposed development on atmospheric conditions locally.

As time for speaking at the meeting was limited, the Clerk reported that he had also written to all members of the Planning Committee individually drawing their attention to certain aspects of the National Planning Policy Framework, the National Planning Policy for Waste and case law which suggested that it was wrong for a waste planning authority to not have regard to the impact of development on the environment and to leave this to the Environment Agency and the environmental permit. The documents also suggested that the planning authority should have regard to the cumulative effects of development and not deal with an application in isolation.

Mrs E Ball on behalf of the Landfill Action Group advised that she thought that 8 to 10 members of the public had registered to speak at the meeting. Representatives of the Group had hoped to arrange a meeting with Shailesh Vara MP but this had been cancelled following the latter's resignation as a Government Minister and the current discussions on the Brexit issue in Parliament. Mrs Ball also informed Members that an environmental permit now had been issued by the Environment Agency for a similar development in Daventry.

County Councillor Rogers reported that the Parish Council and objectors had his full support in opposing the application and the Clerk reported that he and Councillor Mrs Wilcox were meeting shortly to discuss the submission of an application for judicial review if the application was approved and the decision issued.

#### **156/18 PROPOSED DIVERSION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO. 4**

Members were informed that the County Council had invited comments on an application by David Wilson Homes to divert public footpath no. 4 where this crossed the Great Pastures phase II development off Station Road. The Clerk pointed out that the diversion was of minor significance and was necessary to enable the footpath to follow the proposed estate roads.

However the Clerk also reported that he had been investigating the provisions of the section 106 agreement for both phases of the development which required the linking of footpaths 3 and 4 and improvements to footpath 4 where it crossed land in private ownership south of the development leading to Flaxen Walk. The agreement for phase I made provision for a scheme for the footpath link to be agreed with the County Council before development commenced and for money to be deposited with the County Council for the work plus real time bus screens and cycle stands in Warboys before the first dwelling had been occupied. Similar provisions were contained in the agreement for phase II.

Members were informed that no progress appeared to have been made with regard to the implementation of the phase I agreement by the County Council and David Wilson Homes had confirmed that they were awaiting the receipt of an invoice to pay the contributions required.

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to highways officers to try to progress this and County Councillor Rogers offered to pursue this if supplied with the necessary information.

## **157/18 WINTER GRITTING**

The Clerk reminded Members that the Parish Council's Handymen had been registered with the County Council for a number of years to grit certain footways in the village in icy conditions. Bagged grit had been supplied by the County Council previously but when asked for a further supply for the forthcoming winter, officers had advised that they were no longer able to supply bagged salt but could provide a quantity in loose form if sufficient supplies were available. However the Clerk pointed out that if not used quickly, loose grit soon hardened and was unsuitable for use in the hand propelled gritter which was used by the Handymen.

If the Parish Council wished to continue with the gritting of footways in appropriate weather conditions, the Clerk pointed out that it would be necessary to purchase a supply of bagged grit. The amount required would depend on the severity of the winter and the number of times that the Handymen gritted the footways.

Under the circumstances, it was

### **RESOLVED**

that the Clerk be authorised to purchase a quantity of bagged grit up to a value of £150.

## **158/18 TRAFFIC SPEEDS IN STATION ROAD**

The Clerk drew attention to information provided by Community Roadwatch following the monitoring of traffic speeds in Station Road using a speed indicator device (SID). The 85<sup>th</sup>ile for inbound vehicles had been 37.4 mph and 38.9 mph for outbound vehicles with 35% and 45% above the ACPO speed of 34 mph respectively. A slight reduction had been recorded when the SID had been in use.

## **159/18 LOCAL HIGHWAY INITIATIVE BIDS**

Further to Minute No. 116/18, the Clerk reported that earlier that day he had attended a meeting of the County Council's panel established to hear presentations in support of bids for funding from the Local Highways Initiative programme. The Parish Council's bid for priority narrowing in Fenton Road to reduce traffic speeds would be scored by Members and a decision announced later in the financial year.

Further to Minute No. 57/18, the Clerk also reported that the highways engineer who had costed the bid by the bridleway group of horseriders in Warboys for safety improvements in Fenside Road and Puddock Hill had assessed this as £7,041 which would require a minimum local contribution of £705. Members were reminded that the Parish Council had agreed to fund the local contribution which initially had been thought to be in the region of £500.

### **RESOLVED**

that the bridleway group be informed that the Parish Council will fund the increased local contribution of £705 if the bid is successful.

### **160/18 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Members considered the format of the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 17th April 2019. In deciding to retain the same meeting format as previous years, Members accepted suggestions by Councillor Mrs Wyatt that guests be invited to speak about the Cambridgeshire Bobby Scheme which helped vulnerable people who were victims of crime and from Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service with regard to their programme of Safe and Well Visits to people at home. Under the circumstances, the Clerk was requested to establish whether speakers from those organisations could attend the meeting.

### **161/18 STREET NAMING – MAHADDIE WAY**

The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by the son of Group Captain Mahaddie after whom one of the streets on the Great Pastures estate off Station Road had been named. Mr Mahaddie had been delighted that his father's name as one of the station commanders of the wartime RAF Warboys had been commemorated locally and had conveyed the information to the rest of his family. They had expressed an interest in visiting Warboys once the estate had been completed and the Clerk indicated that he would notify Members if a date could be agreed.

### **162/18 CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**

Having considered an invitation from CAPALC for the Council to join the organisation at in 2019/20 at a cost of £588.43, Members were of the opinion that this did not represent value for money and it was

### **RESOLVED**

that the invitation be declined.

### **163/18 BUDGET 2019/20**

Members considered the recommendations of the Finance and General Purposes Committee (Minute No. 152/18 above refers) with regard to the determination of the budget and Council Tax precept for 2019/20. A proposed budget had been circulated to all Members based upon the decisions of the Committee.

The Clerk updated Members on information received subsequent to the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. The increase in price for the Connections Bus Project visits to Warboys in 2019/20 had been set at 1.5% as opposed to the anticipated increase of 1%. The Council's decision to fund the local contribution to the bridleway group's LHI bid of £500 had been inadvertently omitted from the budget submitted to the

Finance and General Committee but had been included in the budget submitted to the Council. This would need further updating to reflect the Council's decision to increase the contribution earlier in the meeting.

The notification of the salary award for local government employees had been received since the despatch of the agenda but had accorded with the predictions submitted to the Finance and General Purposes Committee. The budget also would need to be increased to meet the higher than anticipated cost of work to cut back the trees in Adams Lyons park.

The Clerk reported that he had also received notification of the level of Council Tax Base for Warboys in 2019/20. This had been set at 1,470 which was slightly lower than the predicted figure of 1,485 that had been the assumption used in preparing the budget submitted. Revised examples of the effect of the actual Council Tax Base on the amount of money that would be generated by various levels of Council Tax precept were drawn to Members' attention. Under the circumstances, Members were of the opinion that the Council Tax level should remain unchanged at £78.43 for a Band D property which would generate income of £115,292.

## **RESOLVED**

- (a) the budget submitted be approved as amended by the updates provided above;
- (b) that funding for the Timebank scheme be included in the budget with effect from April 2019 and the contract of the Timebank Co-ordinator extended as a permanent member of staff;
- (c) that funding be included in the budget to meet the cost of obtaining a Christmas tree for display in the village in the event of the Christmas Lighting Group being unable to obtain sponsorship from local businesses; and
- (d) that the precept be set at £115,292 which would require a Band D Council Tax level of £78.43.

## **164/18 CORRESPONDENCE**

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

- (a) Bulletin

November 2018 edition published by the War Memorials Trust.

- (b) Field Work

Winter 2018 edition published by CPRE

(c) Countryside Voice

Winter 2018 edition published by CPRE

### **165/18 OPEN FORUM**

Members were informed that there had been no matters raised at the Open Forum following the previous meeting of the Council.

### **166/18 ACCOUNTS**

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

### **RESOLVED**

that the following accounts be approved:-

		£
M J Buddle	Salary – November 2018	1,098.98
W E Batterbee	Salary – November 2018	1,101.06
R Edwards	Salary – November 2018	256.00
R Reeves	Salary – November 2018	997.69
N Everett	Salary – November 2018	430.12
HMRC	Tax & NIC – November 2018	1,556.79
Vodafone	Mobile phone contract (Timebank) (paid by direct debit)	10.15
E.ON	Electricity supply - Parish Centre (paid by direct debit)	110.00
E.ON	Gas supply – Parish Centre (paid by direct debit)	49.49
Allstar	Fuel (paid by direct debit)	114.02
R Reeves	Petty cash	30.00
SLCC	Annual subscription for Clerk	175.00
Royal British Legion	Proceeds from Battle's Over reception	575.30
Guardian 24	Lone working arrangements	158.76

Edge IT Systems Ltd	Planning software annual fee	170.40
BKC Roofing	Repairs to Clock Tower shelter and Parish Centre roofs	264.00
Ramsey Builders Merchants Ltd	Timber	12.64
Xerox UK Ltd	Photocopying charges	55.04

### **167/18 BUDGETARY CONTROL**

The Council received the budgetary control statement for November 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.