

WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of **Warboys Parish Council** held on 14th January 2019 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, 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.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor S J Green and District Councillor G J Bull.

168/18 MINUTES

Upon being moved by Councillor Payne and seconded by Councillor Willis, the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

169/18 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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

170/18 MATTERS ARISING

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

(a) Mr Vic Steward

Arising from Minute No. 146/18, Members were informed that Mr Vic Steward's daughter had extended the appreciation of her family for the letter from the Parish Council expressing condolences for the loss of her late father.

(b) Grassed Area at The Weir

Further to Minute No. 151/18(b), the Clerk reported that the contractor would be starting work later in the month on the work to extend the paviers at The Weir. In

the interim, the seats had been removed by the Handymen for cleaning and repainting/staining.

(c) Tree Planting

Further to Minute No. 151/18(c), the Clerk reported that representatives of Ramsey Rotary Club had asked for a meeting on site to discuss the location of the trees which they had obtained for planting in Statfold Green and School Road. Members were informed that the meeting would take place on 10th February.

(d) The Weir

Further to Minute No. 151/18(e), the Clerk reported that the results of the sediment sampling had been received from AES Europe and the company had asked contractors for an indicative price for dredging The Weir. Under the circumstances, Members were informed that a meeting of the working party would be held shortly.

Councillor Mrs Cole advised that she had reached the conclusion that there were too many fish in the pond, despite some having been sold in the previous year. She reminded Members of the early mornings that she had spent at The Weir during the previous summer's prolonged period of dry hot weather in order to activate the aerator and help oxygenate the water. She explained that she may not be able to do this for much longer and she suggested the sale of many more of the fish which would reduce the need for oxygenation at times of low water levels and hot temperatures in future summers.

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

(e) Replacement Trees

Further to Minute No. 151/18(h), the Clerk reported that Councillor England had confirmed that a local businessman was prepared to offer two trees to replace the those felled by the County Council in the verge at Mill Green. The County Council had requested a meeting on site involving their tree officer to discuss the location and species of replacement tree and the Clerk reported that this would be held on 17th January.

Councillor England indicated that he would endeavour to attend the meeting, with Councillor Parker deputising for him if he was unavailable.

(f) Winter Gritting

Further to Minute No. 157/18, Members were informed that the County Council had managed to supply grit in bags for use by the Handymen to treat footways in the village in icy weather conditions. As the spreader used in previous years was no longer working, the County Council had also supplied a replacement.

(g) Local Highway Initiative Bids

Arising from Minute No. 159/18, Councillor Potts passed on the appreciation of the local bridleway group for the offer of additional financial support from the Parish Council to fund the local contribution for a Local Highway Initiative bid for speed reduction measures and warning signs in Fenton Road and Puddock Hill because of their use by horse riders.

(h) Street Naming – Great Pastures Development

Arising from Minute No. 161/18, the Clerk reported that the District Council had sought and received confirmation from him that the names submitted by the Parish Council of Saxon, Humbrills and Eldrida for the streets on the Great Pastures phase II development remained the preferred choice. These would now be submitted to David Wilson Homes for consideration.

171/18 PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

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

172/18 POLICE REPORT

The Clerk referred to the daily and weekly updates from E-Cops that he forwarded by e-mail to Members. No crimes had been recorded in the St Ives sector over the Christmas and New Year period, although a number of incidents had occurred in Warboys subsequently.

173/18 VACANCY

Further to Minute No. 149/18, the Clerk reported that there had been insufficient names submitted to the District Council to request an election to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council arising from the resignation of former Councillor B L Correll. As a result the Council could co-opt a person to fill the vacancy. Expressions of interest therefore had been invited with a closing date of the end of January with a view to a decision on co-option being taken at the next meeting.

174/18 PROPOSED COMBINED HEAT AND POWER AND WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS – WARBOYS LANDFILL SITE

Further to Minute No. 155/18, Members were informed that the Chairman and Clerk had both spoken on behalf of the Parish Council at the meeting of the County Council's Planning Committee held on 13th December to object to the application for planning permission for combined heat and power and waste water treatment plants at the Warboys landfill site.

The Planning Committee had addressed two matters referred back to them by officers who had accepted that they had been insufficiently dealt with at an earlier meeting in September when planning permission had been granted. These related to the proximity of the Fenside caravan park and the potential effect of the plume from the plants on local atmospheric conditions. Objectors had been limited to those two matters only in addressing the Committee. Notwithstanding the representations made by objectors at the meeting, the application had been approved.

The decision notice had yet to be issued but Councillor Mrs Wilcox advised that she would be briefing counsel on its release to assess the potential viability of submitting an application for judicial review. The Clerk reminded Members that, if an application for judicial review was successful, this would not reverse the County Council's decision and would simply result in the Committee reconsidering the application.

On behalf of the Landfill Action Group, Mrs E Ball and Professor B Lake addressed the meeting, advising Members that they had met Shailesh Vara MP and reiterated the difficulty for members of the public to effectively challenge consultants' reports commissioned by applicants and relied upon by statutory consultees and the planning authority. Arising from a suggestion that the County Council might be proposing improvements to Fenside Road, the Clerk was asked to establish the extent of the work proposed.

On a related matter, it was reported that a meeting of the Landfill Liaison Forum would be held on 7th February, the agenda for which had been despatched. Arising from concerns expressed about the extent of the mud on Puddock Road at the entrance to the landfill site, Councillors Mrs Cole and England as the Parish Council's representatives on the Forum were asked to raise this matter at the meeting. A neighbour living in close proximity to the site also drew attention to complaints that she had raised about excessive noise from the operations on site which were being investigated by the Environment Agency.

The Clerk reported that a meeting of the Restoration and Aftercare Steering Group had been held recently. Although no one from the Parish Council or the local community was represented on the steering group, the notes of meetings were supplied to the Council and the Clerk indicated that he would circulate copies to Members and the Landfill Action Group. Members were advised that the steering group had been informed that a further application for planning permission would need to be made to extend the period for the restoration of the landfill site.

175/18 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

Further to Minute No. 118/18, the Clerk reported that a quotation had been received from Balfour Beatty in the sum of £989.38 plus VAT for the adaptation of three lighting columns in the High Street for Christmas lighting attachments. The Christmas Lighting Group previously had asked if the Parish Council would fund 50% of the cost in response to which the Council had agreed that £400 would be made available based on an expectation that the quotation would be in the region of £800.

The Clerk reported that the Lighting Group had been apprised of the quotation and had indicated that they would fund the balance of the cost in addition to the Council's

contribution of £400. Under the circumstances and after consultation with the Chairman, the Clerk reported that he had placed an order with Balfour Beatty for the work to be undertaken.

RESOLVED

that the report be received and the actions of the Clerk endorsed.

176/18 THE WEIR – PARKING

Further to Minute No. 151/18(b), a report was submitted by the Clerk on the possible installation of bollards at the Weir to prevent the parking of vehicles on the grass at the junction of High Street and Mill Green.

Examples of the type of bollards that could be obtained had been circulated for Members' attention but the Clerk pointed out that because of the need to access the area to install and remove the Christmas tree annually, it would be necessary to install removable bollards which were more expensive. As community infrastructure levy income could be used for open space purposes, Members were of the opinion that this was an acceptable use of the income received from development in the village.

It was therefore

RESOLVED

- (a) that the Clerk be authorised to arrange for the installation of up to 6 bollards of the Manchester cast iron design supplied by Broxap, after consultation with Councillor Payne on the exact number and location;
- (b) that funding for the bollards be taken from the community infrastructure levy receipts held by the Council; and
- (c) that after installation of the bollards, the Handymen be requested to paint a gold ring around the bollard collars to match the adjoining Victorian lamp column.

177/18 PARKING IN CHURCH ROAD

Councillor Dykstra drew attention to the problems arising from the parking of vehicles in the short length of Church Road between the junctions with High Street and Ramsey Road. He explained that the road was often congested with vehicles from the vehicle repair and hire garage adjacent to 1 Church Road which had no off-road parking. As a result customers of the chemists in Ramsey Road sometimes parked on the chevrons adjacent to the Clock Tower when there was insufficient parking outside the chemists itself.

As the introduction of limited waiting outside the chemists appeared to have overcome the problem of cars being parked there throughout the day, Councillor Dykstra suggested a similar arrangement in Church Road with spaces for three vehicles limited to waiting of

no longer than 30 minutes. The Clerk suggested that if the Council were minded to accept Councillor Dykstra's suggestion, it would be advisable to undertake a review of parking issues throughout the village as the cost of a traffic regulation order would have to be met by the Parish Council and a composite order could cover a number of locations.

In the ensuing discussion, several Members suggested that limited waiting would result in the displacement of vehicles elsewhere in High Street which was already congested by parked vehicles. It was also suggested that this could have an adverse impact on the occupants of Nos 2 and 4 High Street where there was no off-street parking. Doubts were expressed about the likelihood of any limited waiting restriction being enforced, although County Councillor Rogers suggested that the Police had authorised Earith Parish Council to place advisory notices on offending vehicles in that village and to report the details to them for subsequent action.

Under the circumstances, it was

RESOLVED

that no further action be taken at the present time.

178/18 GREAT PASTURES DEVELOPMENT – SECTION 106 REQUIREMENTS

(Councillor Mrs Cole declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in the following matter as she owned land affected by the subject matter. She left the meeting when the footpath improvements were being discussed.)

Further to Minute No. 156/18, the Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated to all Members) with regard to the implementation of the Section 106 provisions of the planning permissions for the Great Pastures phases I and II developments off Station Road.

Members were informed that the agreement for phase I required the developer to pay the following amounts to the County Council:-

- £571 for the provision of cycle stands in Warboys
- £20,542 for two real time bus information (RTI) screens in Mill Green
- £9,843 to link public footpaths 3 and 4.

Phase II provided for payments of the following amounts to the County Council:-

- A sum based on the housing mix towards library and lifelong learning in Warboys
- A sum based on the housing mix towards the expansion of Warboys Community Primary School
- £36,000 for two RTI screens in Mill Green
- £750 for cycle stands in Warboys, the location to be agreed between the County and Parish Councils
- £10,000 to improve footpath 4 between the site and Flaxen Walk.

The Clerk advised that he had calculated the figures for library and school improvements based on the housing mix in the planning application as £10,438 and £794,240 respectively.

Members were informed that the County Council's Asset Information Definitive Map Officer had confirmed that he was discussing the footpath link with the developers and would be dealing with the owner of the land between the development and Flaxen Walk with regard to the improvement of footpath 4 where it crossed the land. The Clerk referred to the following item on the agenda with regard to the library in Warboys and Councillor Parker in his position as Chairman of the Governing Body of the primary school expressed his appreciation at being apprised of the situation.

The Clerk pointed out that both section 106 agreements referred to two RTI screens being installed in Mill Green. As there were only two bus stops in Mill Green, Members were invited to consider both the possible location of the other RTI screens and the cycle stands in advance of approaching the County Council to ensure that the funding was expended in Warboys.

The Clerk also reported that the agreements contained provisions relating to the future ownership and maintenance of the open spaces which he was investigating. A further report would be submitted in due course.

RESOLVED

- (a) that the provisions made in the agreements for infrastructure improvements be noted;
- (b) that the County Council be advised that the preferred locations for the RTI screens were the two bus stops in Mill Green, the stop in Ramsey Road near the junction with Humberdale Way and the stop on the south side of Statfold Green; and
- (c) that the County Council be advised that the preferred locations for the installation of the cycle stands are adjacent to the library and chemists.

179/18 LIBRARY SERVICE

The Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated to all Members) on developments within the library service in Cambridgeshire following his attendance at an SLCC meeting at which a presentation had been given by the County Council's Head of Library Services.

Members were reminded that there had been several reviews of the service in recent years as a result of the financial constraints facing the authority and that these had led to concerns about the future of the library in Warboys. However the County Council were now actively expanding the service with a number of new libraries opening and local libraries being used as community hubs for a range of activities. An open access pilot that enabled library users to access libraries at any time using their library card had been successful and there were plans for this to be extended. The library service was working with town and parish councils to discuss joint ventures.

Members also were aware of the discussions that were ongoing with the County Council about the possible acquisition and refurbishment of the adjoining 'Youthie' building that could potentially lead to an expansion of the space available as a community hub (Minute No. 151(g) refers).

Under the circumstances, the Clerk indicated that he would try to arrange a meeting with representatives of the library service to discuss potential improvements at Warboys and would report back to a future meeting.

180/18 VILLAGE GATEWAY SIGNS

Arising from Minute No. 9/18 of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, the Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated to all Members) on the possible installation of village gateway signs in Warboys. Examples of the types of signs and costs were contained in the report.

The Clerk explained out that the signs could help in terms of speed reduction and engendering a sense of local community. Costs would vary on the type and location of the signs, the costs of installation and the possible phasing of their installation. The Clerk suggested that it was unlikely that these could be funded within the definition of infrastructure for the purposes of the use of community infrastructure receipts and would have to be met from other balances as no specific provision had been made in the budget for 2019/20.

Members expressed an interest in pursuing this further, as a result of which the Clerk indicated that he would liaise with the County Council as the highway authority and would report back.

181/18 TRAFFIC SPEEDS IN STATION ROAD

Further to Minute No. 158/18, a summary was submitted (copies of which had been circulated to all Members) containing the result of the further monitoring of traffic speeds in Station Road by Community Roadwatch UK.

On a related matter, Councillor Mrs Tavener suggested that the terms of the agreement that she had signed with the Parish Council prior to the purchase of a speed indicator device (SID) for use by the local Speedwatch team of which she was the co-ordinator was causing problems. The agreement required the return of the SID after use and Councillor Mrs Tavener maintained that this was hampering the efforts of the local Speedwatch volunteers who were monitoring traffic on a frequent basis. The Clerk explained that as the equipment was owned and insured by the Council, he wished to ensure that the Council remained aware of its use and location.

It was suggested by Councillor England that the insurance of the equipment might be invalidated if it was retained elsewhere and the Clerk was requested to investigate the situation with the Council's insurers and report back.

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

182/18 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Further to Minute No. 160/18, the Clerk reported on the outcome of enquiries for guest speakers at the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 17th April. The Cambridgeshire Police Shrievally Trust had confirmed that they were willing to attend to give a presentation on The Bobby Scheme but had asked for a contribution of £40 towards the charity for doing so. No answer had been received from Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service to an invitation for them also to attend to speak about help in the homes of vulnerable people.

The Chairman and Councillor Ms Gifford mentioned the food bank collections that were taking place in the village and suggested that it would be helpful if a presentation could be given on the arrangements and the number of people benefitting in Warboys.

RESOLVED

that the request for a donation by the Shrievally Trust be approved and an invitation extended for a presentation to be made on the food bank in Warboys at the Annual Parish Meeting instead of the Fire and Rescue Service.

183/18 MAINTENANCE OF THE WAR MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Clerk reported that he had met the owners of the land on which the War Memorial was situated in response to concerns that they had expressed about the extent of the Battle's Over commemoration at the memorial and the lack of notification. The Clerk indicated that he had apologised to the owners that there had been insufficient consultation and given an assurance that a similar situation would not recur.

184/18 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Clerk reported on an approach received from a housing group based in Bourne offering to work with the Council in providing affordable homes in Warboys through rural exception sites. As a scheme recently had been completed at Wiggs Close to provide affordable homes with occupancy limited to people with a Warboys connection and a substantial number of other affordable homes would be provided as part of the housing developments taking place in the village, it was

RESOLVED

that no further action be taken.

185/18 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:-

Clerks and Councils Direct - January 2019 edition

186/18 OPEN FORUM

Members were informed that the only matter raised at the Open Forum following the previous meeting of the Council had been a report that the County Council might be planning to replace the windows at the library.

187/18 ACCOUNTS

It was moved by Councillor Potts, seconded by Councillor Payne and

RESOLVED

that the following accounts be approved:-

		£
M J Buddle	Salary – December 2018	977.94
W E Batterbee	Salary – December 2018	963.51
R Edwards	Salary – December 2018	187.20
R Reeves	Salary – December 2018	997.29
N Everett	Salary – December 2018	430.12
HMRC	Tax & NIC – December 2018	1,430.56
R Reeves	Mileage claim	45.90
R Reeves	Reimbursement – photo frame	6.00
R Reeves	Reimbursement – ink cartridges	29.50
Mrs N Everett	Mileage and reimbursement for refreshments	24.36
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)	220.59
Green City Solutions Ltd.	IT support (paid by direct debit)	143.99
Allstar	Fuel (paid by direct debit)	72.44
Cambridgeshire	Annual subscription	57.00

ACRE		
Connections Bus Project	11 visits autumn term	2,999.70
Merlin Lighting (Installations) Ltd.	Christmas lighting installation	520.80
Ivan Barrett	Miscellaneous supplies	113.65
T Patel	Defibrillator agreement	25.00
ESPO	Miscellaneous supplies	220.67

188/18 BUDGETARY CONTROL

The Council received the budgetary control statement for December 2018, together with the list of Parish Centre bookings for that month and the bank reconciliation statement for the third quarter of the year, copies of which had been circulated to all Members.

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

Chairman.