

# **WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of **Warboys Parish Council** held on 11th February 2019 at the Parish Centre, Warboys.

## **PRESENT**

Councillor Dr S C Withams, Chairman.

Councillors R J Dykstra, D W England, S J Green, Mrs M H Harlock, 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.

## **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs J M Cole, Ms L A Gifford, J A Parker and R A Payne.

## **189/18 MINUTES**

Upon being moved by Councillor Mrs Wilcox and seconded by Councillor Mrs Harlock, the Minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

## **190/18 MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

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

## **191/18 CO-OPTION**

Further to Minute No. 173/18, Members were informed that three persons had written to express an interest in being co-opted to the Parish Council, all of whom had certified that they met the eligibility criteria. Details of the individuals had been circulated to Members.

While welcoming the fact that three people had responded and had supplied a short resumé of themselves, Members felt that they had insufficient knowledge of the individuals to make an informed choice. Although they had all been invited to attend the meeting, only one was in attendance. The Clerk was therefore requested to invite all three to the next meeting to give a short explanation of themselves to enable a decision to be made.

## **192/18 MATTERS ARISING**

The Council considered the following matters arising from the meeting held on 14th January 2019:-

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

Further to Minute No. 170/18(b), the Clerk reported that he was trying to contact the contractor for a starting date for the work to extend the paviers at The Weir.

**(b) Tree Planting**

Further to Minute No. 170/18(c), the Clerk reported that the Ramsey Rotary Club had postponed the meeting due to be held on 10th February because of the weather. A revised date would be arranged to undertake the planting of the trees in Statfold Green and School Road.

**(c) The Weir**

Further to Minute No. 170/18(d), the Chairman reported that a scheduled meeting of the Weir working group had been cancelled due to Councillor's Mrs Cole's inability to attend through ill health. A revised meeting date was being arranged.

In the interim, the Chairman reported that Councillor Mrs Cole had drawn her attention to the importance of relocating fish in the pond in the spring to avoid the need to monitor the water oxygen levels and use the aerator in the event of another dry summer.

It was therefore

**RESOLVED**

that the Clerk be authorised to arrange for the removal of fish, after consultation with the working group.

**(d) Winter Gritting**

Further to Minute No. 170/18(f), the Clerk reported that the Handymen had undertaken the gritting of footways in the village in the recent cold weather and bags of replacement salt had been supplied by the County.

**(e) Local Highway Initiative Bids**

Arising from Minute No. 170/18(g), Members were informed that the County Council would be considering the determination of bids for funding under the Local Highway Improvement programme at a meeting to be held on 12th March. Councillor Potts reiterated the thanks of the local Bridleway Group for the support of the Parish Council in enabling them to submit a bid of their own for highway safety measures on Puddock Hill and Fenside Road.

**(f) Street Naming – Great Pastures Development**

Arising from Minute No. 170/18(h), the Clerk reported that the District Council had confirmed that the names submitted by the Parish Council of Saxon, Humbrills and Eldrida for the streets on the Great Pastures phase II development had been accepted.

**(g) The Weir – Parking**

Further to Minute No. 176/18, the Clerk reported that, after measuring the land at The Weir, it had been decided that eight bollards would need to be installed to prevent parking on the grassed area at the junction of High Street and Mill Green. The bollards had now been delivered and were awaiting installation as part of the scheme to extend paviers referred to in Minute 192/18(c) above.

**(h) Real Time Information Screens**

Further to Minute No. 178/18, the Clerk reported that he had been liaising with the County Council about the location of the bus stops where real time information (RTI) screens were to be provided with funding from the Great Pastures developments. Members were reminded that the Section 106 Agreements for both phases I and II of the development contained funding for RTI screens at two bus stops in Mill Green.

However the Clerk reported that he had now been informed by the County Council that the cost of installing an RTI screen was estimated at £27,000. The cost of installing screens at the two bus stops in Mill Green therefore had been spread across both Section 106 Agreements. The cost of RTI screens had fallen since the Agreements had been prepared, as a result of which there would be a surplus but the County Council had advised that they would need the consent of the developer if this was to be spent elsewhere.

As the money from phase II was index linked and would not be received until the first dwelling was occupied, the County Council had confirmed that they would reconsider the situation when they became aware of the precise amount of income and expenditure involved.

On the same subject, County Councillor Rogers reported that **the** Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority had delegated funding for public transport to the County Council again for a further year. Sufficient resources were available to maintain the current level of subsidy in 2019/20 while a fundamental review of bus services was undertaken. County Councillor Rogers pointed out that services operating at a loss in rural areas were in danger of having subsidies removed on completion of the review with communities having to rely on more innovative means of public transport.

**(i) Speedwatch**

Arising from Minute No. 181/18, Councillor Mrs Tavener updated Members on the monitoring being undertaken by the local Speedwatch team and the training of new volunteers.

The Clerk reported that he had yet to receive a reply from the Council's insurers with regard to the insurance cover for the speed indicator device purchased by the Council for use by the group while it was stored in their possession.

**(j) Annual Parish Meeting**

Further to Minute No. 182/18, the Clerk reported that he had invited the co-ordinator of the Ramsey Foodbank scheme to attend the next Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 17th April to give a presentation about the scheme. Members were informed that a reply had yet to be received but that if the co-ordinator was unavailable, the person involved in collections at the Parish Church in Warboys had agreed to attend the meeting to speak on the subject.

**193/18 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

District Councillor Bull referred to Minute No. 77/18(a) of the Minutes of the Planning Committee dated 14th January and reported that officers were continuing to liaise with the owner of 66 High Street about repairs to the building. In the event of no action being taken by the owner, officers were considering serving a notice requiring works be undertaken. As no progress had been made for many years, it was suggested that it was unlikely that any work would be undertaken voluntarily by the owner and District Councillor Bull undertook to continue to monitor the situation.

With regard to Minute No. 77/18(b), District Councillor Bull reported that it was anticipated that the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 would be confirmed by the Secretary of State on 15th May 2019.

**RESOLVED**

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 14th January 2019 be received.

**194/18 RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED**

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Rights of Way Committee held on 28th January 2019 be received.

**195/18 POLICE REPORT**

The Clerk referred to the daily and weekly updates from E-Cops that he forwarded by e-mail to Members.

Members were informed that storage containers and sheds at the allotments had been broken into on two occasions since the previous meeting. Councillor Dykstra reported that one tenant had had a strimmer stolen but there appeared to be nothing else missing.

The locks on the storage containers had been replaced by the Handymen on each occasion.

## **196/18 PROPOSED COMBINED HEAT AND POWER AND WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS – WARBOYS LANDFILL SITE**

Further to Minute No. 174/18, the Clerk reported that he and Councillor England had attended a meeting of the Landfill Liaison Group held on 7th February when the County Council's Development Control Officer had advised that it was likely that the permission for the proposed combined heat and power (CHP) and waste water treatment plants at the landfill site would be issued in the following week. Councillor Mrs Wilcox confirmed that she would be ready to brief counsel for an opinion as to whether an application for judicial review would be worthwhile as soon as the decision notice had been issued.

Members were apprised of the issues raised at the liaison group meeting when the concerns of local residents about noise and smells from the site and mud on the adjoining highway had been raised. On behalf of the Landfill Action Group, Mrs E Ball expressed her concern that the annual meeting had been postponed by three months from its usual date in November and that a representative of the Environment Agency had not been in attendance to respond to the matters raised.

The meeting had been informed by the Manager of Woodford Group that the odours from the site were the result of capping works and should have ceased. Following complaints of noise from the site, the company had been asked to carry out a noise monitoring exercise for a period of one week at the end of January, the results of which were not yet available. An application had been made for planning permission for an extension of time to complete the restoration of the landfill site until the end of December 2019.

Members were informed that the County Council's Development Control Officer and the District Council's Environmental Health Officer who had been present at the meeting had been challenged as to how complaints could be monitored in future. As there could be several plants operational on site, questions had been raised as to how the cumulative effect of noise could be dealt with when each of the planning permissions had separate maximum noise limits. Concerns had also been raised about the fact that future liaison meetings would remain separate for the landfill site and the CHP and waste water plants with no requirement for any liaison on the operation of the materials recycling facility on site. Fears had been expressed that it would be impossible to identify the source of any nuisance giving rise to complaints in future or for these to be raised satisfactorily at liaison meetings.

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

## **197/18 VILLAGE GATEWAY SIGNS**

Further to Minute No. 180/18, the Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated to all Members) following further investigations into the feasibility of installing village gateway signs at the highway entrances to Warboys. Information had been received from the County Council that the gateway signs installed in neighbouring villages had been the result of successful Local Highway Improvement (LHI) bids.

However if the Parish Council wished to meet the cost of installing signs, it would still be necessary to apply to the County Council for approval under the Privately Funding Improvement process as the signs would be installed on the highway. Irrespective of the process used, this would increase the cost to £4,000 to £6,000 per location. Members agreed that it would be too costly to pursue this without funding support from the County Council and it was therefore

## **RESOLVED**

that consideration of the installation of village gateway signs be deferred to the next round of applications for LHI funding.

## **198/18 CYCLE RACKS**

Further to Minute No. 178/18, the Clerk reported that the owner of Wards of Warboys had no objection to the installation of cycle racks outside the chemists in Ramsey Road. However the site suggested would require the creation of an opening in a brick wall adjoining the footway and discussions were ongoing as to the cost of the work.

The Library service had been asked to agree to the siting of cycle racks in front of the library but had referred the request to their colleagues in Facilities Management.

The Clerk reported that the County Council had agreed to transfer the funding from the Section 106 Agreements for the Great Pastures phases I and II developments to the Parish Council if the cycle racks were to be located off the highway.

Members were informed that an update would be given to a future meeting when further replies had been received.

## **199/18 REPLACEMENT TREES**

Further to Minute No. 170/18(e), the Clerk reported that he and Councillor Parker had met the County Council's Highways Supervisor and Arboriculturalist on site to identify locations for replacements for two trees felled in Mill Green in 2018. As the latter had been felled following a claim of subsidence affecting a neighbouring property, it had been decided not to plant the replacements in the same location.

Alternative sites had been identified in the open space at the junction of High Street and Forge Way and in the highway verge in Ramsey Road. As the former site was owned by the District Council, consent had been obtained to the planting in that location.

The local businessman who had agreed to purchase the trees had been thanked for his generosity and Members were informed that delivery of the trees was anticipated shortly for planting.

## **200/18 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

Members approved the schedule of meetings for the municipal year 2019/20 (copies of which had been circulated by the Clerk), subject to the Annual Parish Meeting being held on 23rd April 2020 to avoid Easter week.

## **201/18 INVITATION TO ATTEND MEETING**

Members considered an invitation from Hunts Forum to attend their AGM on 26th February at Wood Green Animal Shelter, Godmanchester. Councillor Mrs Tavener reported that she was intending to attend the meeting in another capacity and it was therefore decided that the Parish Council be not represented separately.

## **202/18 OPEN FORUM**

Members were informed that the only matter raised at the Open Forum following the previous meeting of the Council had been a question about the future management of Warboys Community Primary School which Councillor Parker had answered in his capacity as Chairman of the Governing Body.

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

## **203/18 ACCOUNTS**

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Tavener, seconded by Councillor Dykstra and

### **RESOLVED**

(a) that the following accounts be approved:-

|               |   | £        |
|---------------|---|----------|
| M J Buddle    | Salary – January 2019                           | 1,088.19 |
| W E Batterbee | Salary – January 2019                           | 1,072.09 |
| R Edwards     | Salary – January 2019                           | 285.60   |
| R Reeves      | Salary – January 2019                           | 997.69   |
| N Everett     | Salary – January 2019                           | 430.12   |
| HMRC          | Tax & NIC – January 2019                        | 1,547.09 |
| R Reeves      | Reimbursement – ink cartridges<br>(Timebank)    | 56.50    |
| R Reeves      | Correction to cartridge reimbursement – January | -5.90    |
| M J Buddle    | Reimbursement – Blowtorch                       | 23.49    |

|   |  |          |
|---|--|----------|
| Vodafone  | Mobile phone contract (Timebank)<br>(paid by direct debit)   | 10.15    |
| E.ON  | Electricity supply - Parish Centre<br>(paid by direct debit) | 110.00   |
| E.ON  | Gas supply – Parish Centre<br>(paid by direct debit)         | 230.47   |
| Green City<br>Solutions Ltd.  | IT support - October<br>(paid by direct debit)               | 149.99   |
| Green City<br>Solutions Ltd.  | IT support - November<br>(paid by direct debit)              | 143.99   |
| Green City<br>Solutions Ltd.  | IT support - December<br>(paid by direct debit)              | 95.99    |
| Allstar   | Fuel<br>(paid by direct debit)                               | 71.41    |
| A Notman  | Website provision - 2018                                     | 218.00   |
| Glasdon (UK) Ltd  | Replacement litter bin at Weir                               | 335.11   |
| Broxap Ltd  | Bollards for Weir  | 2,311.20 |
| Community<br>Heartbeat Trust  | Replacement parts for defibrillator                          | 69.60    |
| Warboys Walking<br>Group  | Grant 2018/19  | 150.00   |
| Ramsey Builders<br>Merchants Ltd  | Sand   | 13.44    |
| Post Office Ltd.  | Vehicle Exceise Duty for van                                 | 250.00   |
| Mr S Marsh  | Refund of allotment deposit                                  | 20.00    |
| (b) that payment of the following amount prior to the meeting be endorsed:- |  |          |
| Ms N Everett  | Reimbursement for craft materials for<br>Timebank workshop   | 91.30    |

## **204/18 BUDGETARY CONTROL**

The Council received the budgetary control statement for January 2019, 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.