

WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of **Warboys Parish Council** held on 13th May 2019 at the Parish Centre, Warboys.

PRESENT

Dr S C Withams, Chairman.

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

County Councillor T V Rogers.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs J E Tavener and G C M Willis and District Councillor G J Bull.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman expressed her appreciation to the many Members of the Council who had attended the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17th April and her disappointment that so few members of the public had attended.

She also mentioned that the Pathfinders Reunion would be held on the forthcoming weekend when there would be a fly past by a Dakota aircraft in the afternoon of 19th May..

Members were informed that the Tour of Cambridgeshire would be taking place on 1st and 2nd June which would involve the closure of part of Puddock Road on the afternoon of the second day while the race took place.

With the Chairman's permission, Councillor Mrs Wyatt reported on the success of the May Day fete organised by the Community Association on 6th May which had resulted in a profit of approximately £1,300. She expressed her appreciation to those who had helped with stalls etc. and had attended. She also presented Councillor Mrs Cole with a gift from the Vikings historical group who had entertained those present.

01/19 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Upon the motion of Councillor Mrs Cole and seconded by Councillor Potts, it was

RESOLVED

that Councillor Dr S C Withams be elected Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor Dr Withams signed the declaration of acceptance of office as Chairman of the Council.

Councillor Dr Withams in the Chair.

02/19 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Upon the motion of Councillor Potts and seconded by Councillor Mrs Cole, it was

RESOLVED

that Councillor J A Parker be appointed Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor Parker signed the declaration of acceptance of office as Vice Chairman of the Council.

03/19 MINUTES

Upon being moved by Councillor Mrs Wilcox and seconded by Councillor Dykstra, the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

04/19 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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

05/19 MATTERS ARISING

The Council considered the following matters arising from its meeting held on 8th April 2019:-

(a) Grassed Area at The Weir

Further to Minute No. 226/18(a), Members were informed that it had been brought to the attention of the Weir Working Party that a member of the public had raised concerns over the potential danger of a pushchair or wheelchair falling into the pond following the extension of the paved area. Councillor Payne had offered to measure the gradient prior to a further discussion on the subject of a barrier or fence being erected at the next meeting of the Council.

(b) 66 High Street

Further to Minute No. 226/18(d), the Clerk reported that he had been informed by District Councillor Bull that the officer who had been dealing with the condition of 66 High Street would be retiring shortly. Consequently there could be a further delay in action being taken by the District Council until a successor was in post.

(c) Cycle Racks

Further to Minute No. 226/18(e), the Clerk reported that he and Councillor Payne would be meeting the owner of Wards of Warboys on the following day to discuss the possible installation of cycle racks at the chemists.

(d) Public Footpath 4

Arising from Minute No. 226/18(g), the Clerk reported that he had been informed by David Wilson Homes that they had agreed to open a footpath link between phases 1 and 2 of their development at Station Road which would be protected by heras fencing which they would monitor. Heras fencing also had been erected across the fenced area where walkers had been trespassing. The site manager had been told to repair the fence as a matter of urgency and the developers were liaising with Havebury Housing in the event that it was their tenants who had caused the damage. The company had promised to monitor the fencing and link regularly.

Councillor Mrs Cole confirmed that the work had been undertaken and further repairs carried out after the fencing had been damaged again.

(e) Honorary Freewomen

Further to Minute No. 232/18, Members were informed that Mrs P Hicks had expressed the appreciation of herself and Mrs P Collins for being awarded the honour of Honorary Freewomen of Warboys and would be attending the special meeting of the Council on 10th June to receive the award.

(f) Speed Reduction in Fenton Road

Further to Minute No. 234/18, the Clerk reported that he would contact the Highways Engineer who would be dealing with the project to install speed reduction measures in Fenton Road in order to progress the scheme.

(g) Lighting of Pedestrian Crossings

Further to Minute No. 235/18, the Clerk reported that he had persuaded the County Council that it would be unnecessary for a Privately Financing Improvement Scheme application to be submitted to improve the lighting at the pedestrian crossings in the High Street. Balfour Beatty who maintained the street lighting in Cambridgeshire under a PFI contract with the County Council had advised that they would install the lighting on a rechargeable basis. While it was possible for the lighting to be installed by the supplier, Balfour Beatty had advised

that they would still need to charge for an inspection of the work which would increase the cost.

Under the circumstances, the Clerk reported that he would be meeting a representative of Balfour Beatty on site later in the week and would report back on the outcome.

(h) Operation London Bridge

Further to Minute No. 236/18, Members were informed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk would be meeting on 21st May to discuss the Parish Council's response to the death of a senior national figure.

(i) VE Day 75

Further to Minute Nos. 242/18 and 243/18, Members were informed that the working party appointed to review the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday and VE Day 75 would be meeting on 20th May and that Mr V Lucas had offered the Manor House as a venue for an event similar to the garden party to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the ending of World War II.

06/19 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED

- (a) that Members be appointed to Committees for the ensuing municipal year as follows:-

Allotments Committee

Councillors Mrs J M Cole, R J Dykstra, Mrs C Evans, Ms L A Gifford, S J Green, Mrs M H Harlock, J A Parker, P S Potts, Mrs J E Tavener, Mrs S J Wilcox and Dr S C Withams.

Finance and General Purposes Committee

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

Leisure Areas Committee

Councillors Mrs J M Cole, R J Dykstra, Mrs C Evans, 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, Dr S C Withams and Mrs A R Wyatt.

Planning Committee

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

Rights of Way Committee

Councillors Mrs J M Cole, R J Dykstra, Mrs C Evans, Ms L A Gifford, S J Green, Mrs M H Harlock, J A Parker, P S Potts, Mrs J E Tavener, Mrs S J Wilcox, Dr S C Withams and Mrs A R Wyatt.

Employment Panel

Councillors Mrs J M Cole, D W England, P S Potts and Mrs S J Wilcox.

Appeals Panel

Councillors R A Payne, Mrs J E Tavener and Dr S C Withams.

Hearings Panel

Three Members to be appointed by the Clerk on an ad hoc basis.

Appointments Panel

Councillors Mrs J M Cole, R A Payne, Dr S C Withams and Mrs A R Wyatt.

- (b) that Mr P Bellamy and Mrs F Dykstra be co-opted to the Allotments Committee to represent the Allotments Association;
- (c) that Ms K Simpson be co-opted to the Rights of Way Committee to represent horse riders; and
- (d) that Members be appointed to working groups for the ensuing municipal year as follows:-

Parish Centre Replacement

Councillors R J Dykstra, R A Payne, Mrs J E Tavener and Dr S C Withams.

Timebank

Councillors J A Parker and Dr S C Withams, together with Mrs M P Bucknell.

VE Day 75

Councillors Mrs J M Cole, Mrs J E Tavener and Mrs A R Wyatt together with representatives of the British Legion and local churches.

The Weir

Councillors Mrs J M Cole, D W England, R A Payne and Dr S C Withams, together with Mr R Posey.

07/19 REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Following the circulation of a report with regard to representation on outside organisations, it was

RESOLVED

- (a) that appointments/nominations be made to outside bodies and roles for the ensuing municipal year as follows:-

Organisation	Representative
Warboys Community Association	Cllrs Mrs M H Harlock and Mrs J E Tavener
Warboys Old Village Board School Trust (until 2020)	Cllr J A Parker
St Ives & District Road Safety Committee	Cllr Mrs J E Tavener (dep. Cllr G C M Willis)
Warboys Day Centre Management Committee	Cllrs Mrs M H Harlock and Mrs J E Tavener
Tree Warden	Cllr J A Parker
Warboys Landfill Liaison Group	Cllrs Mrs J M Cole & D W England (dep. the Clerk)
Red Tile Wind Farm Trust Fund Ltd.	Cllrs Mrs J M Cole, R A Payne and Mrs A R Wyatt
Ramsey Area Parish Initiative	Cllrs Mrs M A Harlock & Mrs A R Wyatt
Press/Diary summaries	Cllr P S Potts

- (b) that the Clerk be requested to establish whether the Ramsey Area Parish Initiative was continuing to meet.

08/19 ATTENDANCES BY COUNCILLORS

Members noted a report by the Clerk (a copy of which had been circulated) listing attendances by Members at meetings in the previous municipal year in both actual and percentage terms during that time.

09/19 PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 8th April 2019 be received.

10/19 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Members received the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17th April 2019 (a copy of which had been circulated).

While acknowledging that the guest speakers invited to address the meeting had been interesting, Councillor England was of the opinion that this had resulted in insufficient time for the Chairman's report and issues of local concern to be raised. He suggested that it would be preferable to revert to the previous practice of only inviting one guest speaker which would reduce the length of the meeting. Members undertook to bear this in mind when discussing the arrangements for the 2020 meeting.

11/19 POLICE REPORT

The Clerk drew attention to the weekly Police updates that he forwarded to all Members which contained details of crimes reported in the Warboys and surrounding area. Mention was made of further shed break-ins and damage at the allotments over the May bank holiday weekend. As the update had contained a reference to the theft of a meat cleaver, Members asked that tenants be informed not to leave dangerous implements of this nature on their plots.

Councillor Mrs Wyatt also reported upon damage to her car while it had been parked outside her property.

12/19 PROPOSED COMBINED HEAT AND POWER AND WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS – WARBOYS LANDFILL SITE

Further to Minute No. 231/18, the Clerk reported that the County Council had still not issued the decision notice following the approval of planning permission for the proposed combined heat and power and waste water treatments plants at the Landfill Site.

Members were informed that information had become available recently that a number of the companies involved in the proposal and the similar plant at Daventry had gone into

liquidation which could have delayed the signing of the section 106 agreement as a pre-requisite for the issue of the decision notice.

13/19 HONORARY FREEMAN

Members considered a proposal by the Chairman (copies of which had been circulated) that Mr V L Lucas be made an Honorary Freeman of Warboys. She pointed out that Mr Lucas had been prominent in civic affairs and public life, being a current Deputy Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire as well as a former High Sheriff and member of Cambridgeshire County Council. Members were reminded that Mr Lucas had been instrumental in arranging for a royal visit to Warboys by HRH the Duke of Gloucester and a parade through the village by the band of the Royal Marines.

Members also mentioned the names of several other potential recipients of the honour and were reminded that nominations could be made at any time by a Member of the Council.

RESOLVED

that Mr Lucas be invited to the special meeting of the Council to be held on 10th June to be made an Honorary Freeman of Warboys..

14/19 FORMER YOUTHIE BUILDING

Further to Minute No. 151/18(g), the Clerk reported that he had been informed by the County Council that they had now carried out an internal inspection of the former Youthie building and found that the building did not appear to have deteriorated further from the previous inspection. The building surveyor had suggested that the rear wall might need to be reconstructed to make it safe again but that other than some remedial works where the toilet block joined the main building, the remaining work was mostly cosmetic.

While the County Council might be prepared to consider the freehold disposal of the building, their preferred option remained a long lease with a discounted rent for a length of time to reflect the amount spent on its renovation. Members were reminded that negotiations had been terminated previously because the County Council also wanted to impose break clauses when they could recover possession without compensation which the Parish Council had considered unreasonable.

The Chairman reminded Members that office accommodation was required to enable staffing resources to be expanded as the village grew and avoid the issue of staff working from home. The building also could be used for community purposes as a meeting space and drop in centre with the possibility of an extension of the library accommodation.

Prior to entering into negotiations with the County Council, it was acknowledged that an up-to-date condition survey would be required to establish the cost of refurbishing the building and it was therefore

RESOLVED

that the Clerk be authorised to arrange for a condition survey to be undertaken of the building.

15/19 THE WEIR

The notes of a meeting of The Weir working party held on 23rd April had been circulated to all Members.

Members were informed that the working party had expressed its disappointment that the Environment Agency appeared to have removed less than half of the fish on behalf of the Fen Fly Fishing Club, as the agreement with the Club was for them to remove as many of the fish as possible. The Agency had subsequently advised that netting and electric fishing was not guaranteed to be wholly successful and that the presence of vegetation in the pond contributed to a greatly reduced efficiency. If a further attempt to catch the fish was made, the Agency felt that there would not be any more successful unless they attempted the exercise when the water level was lower.

A specification for the dredging work was submitted which incorporated the comments of AES Europe and the Clerk confirmed that an application had been made to Red Tile Wind Farm Trust for a grant towards the cost of the work.

RESOLVED

- (a) that the notes of the working party meeting be received;
- (b) that efforts be continued to try to secure the removal of the fish in The Weir;
- (c) that the specification now submitted be approved and quotations invited for the dredging of the pond in the autumn;
- (d) that a suggestion by Councillor Mrs Cole for an interpretation board to be prepared and sited at The Weir once the work had been completed to illustrate the history of the site be approved; and
- (e) that an item be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council to consider a complaint received from a member of the public about the possible dangers posed by the recently extended paved area at The Weir.

16/19 HEATH POND AND SHEEPWASH

Further to Minute No. 237/18, a preliminary draft of a scheme to clear the Heath Pond and renovate the Sheepwash which had been prepared by Froglife was circulated to all Members.

Froglife had confirmed that they were prepared to undertake all of the project work and that they would require minimal involvement from the Council.

RESOLVED

that the draft action plan be accepted and negotiations continued with Froglife for improvements to the Heath Pond and Sheepwash.

17/19 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Clerk submitted a request for financial assistance from The Bobby Scheme towards the work of the organisation in assisting elderly and vulnerable people who had been victims of crime. Having heard a presentation by a representative of the organisation at the recent Annual Parish Meeting and informed that several residents in Warboys had been assisted over the past year, Members

RESOLVED

that a grant of £100 be made to The Bobby Scheme.

18/19 CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council declined an invitation from CPALC to join the organisation in 2019/20 at a subscription cost of £663.71 on the basis that they did not regard this as good value for money.

19/19 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) Countryside Voice

Spring 2019 edition published by CPRE

- (b) Field Work

Spring 2019 edition published by CPRE

- (c) Footprints.

Spring/Summer 2019 edition published by East Anglia's Children's Hospices.

20/19 OPEN FORUM

The Clerk reported that the only matter raised at the Open Forum following the previous meeting of the Council had been a reference to the primary school becoming an academy.

As Councillor Parker was Chairman of the Governing Body, he answered a number of questions posed by Members, explaining the reasons for the transition and advising that

the school was now named Warboys Primary Academy. He also reported that the number of children currently on the school roll was 276, compared with the school's capacity of 400.

(County Councillor Rogers arrived at this point in the proceedings and Councillor Mrs Cole left the meeting.)

21/19 ACCOUNTS

Upon being moved by Councillor Mrs Harlock and seconded by Councillor Parker, it was

RESOLVED

that the following accounts be approved:-

		£
M J Buddle	Salary – April 2019	1,090.11
W E Batterbee	Salary – April 2019	1,071.16
R Edwards	Salary – April 2019	288.80
R Reeves	Salary – April 2019	1,017.73
N Everett	Salary – April 2019	470.54
HMRC	Tax & NIC – April 2019	1,519.35
M Buddle	Reimbursement – Roundup	13.98
Vodafone	Mobile phone contract (Timebank) (paid by direct debit)	10.40
E.ON	Electricity supply - Parish Centre (paid by direct debit)	129.00
E.ON	Gas supply – Parish Centre (paid by direct debit)	157.82
Chess ICT Ltd	IT support - April (paid by direct debit)	131.99
Allstar	Fuel (paid by direct debit)	76.15
Open Spaces Society	Annual subscription	45.00
The CGM Group (East Anglia) Ltd	Grass cutting	306.00
Playsafety Ltd.	Safety Inspections of play equipment	397.80

22/19 BUDGETARY CONTROL

The Council received the budgetary control statement for April 2019, together with the list of Parish Centre bookings for that month and the bank reconciliation statement for the fourth quarter of 2018/19, copies of which had been circulated to all Members.

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

Chairman.