

## **WHISSENDINE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 2nd June 2014, in the  
Village Hall, Whissendine

### **Present:**

Mr W Farr (Chairman)	
Mrs Arnold	Mr R Comber
Mr D Clements	Mr T Edmunds
Mr D Hatton	Mrs P Lake
Mrs C Moss	Mrs A Mould

In attendance: Mr Brian Montgomery (Ward Councillor)  
Mrs Jen Lacey (Parish Clerk)

### **6014: Public Time**

At 7.15pm Mr Farr welcomed Parish Councillors. There were no members of the public present.

### **6114: Apologies for absence**

All were present, but Mrs Mould had sent apologies for lateness and joined the meeting at 7.55pm

**6214: Declarations of pecuniary or other interest:** None

### **6314: Minutes of the AGM of the Parish Council Meeting of 12th May 2014**

These were approved on the proposal of Mr Clements without correction or amendment.

### **6414: updates on ongoing business not covered by agenda items**

#### **a)4514: Co-option of 3 additional Parish Councillors**

The Clerk reported that Democratic Services at RCC had acknowledged receipt of the paperwork for the co-opted councillors and declarations of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2014-15.

#### **b)4814d): Website**

Ms Reynolds had acknowledged the Clerk's request for training, but had a visitor from abroad for a month so no date or time had been set. The request had been repeated recently without response.

#### **c) 5114a) Village shop waste bin**

Mr Lowe of Cory had been unable to source an appropriate bin and recommended contact with Ms Hallam at RCC. She was unavailable until 6.6.14. A request would be made as soon as she returned.

#### **d) 5414a) insurance policy**

The Clerk reported contact with Came & Co and that the cheque to cover the first year of the three year fixed term had been paid. However, agreement had been slower than anticipated because of an initial misunderstanding and no policy documents had been received to date. There was email confirmation of the acceptance of the application.

### **6514: Reports from Councillors**

#### **a) Whissendine Village Hall Committee**

Mr Comber had attended as Mrs Moss was on holiday. He described the continued plans for improvements that included internal doors to make a porch area which would allow waiting and renovation of the basement area to allow better use to be made of it.

If an exterior porch for a bin area was constructed to the front of the basement it was probable that the village notice board would have to be moved. Councillors believed it would not look as if moved around to the White Lion side of the hall as it would be out of view. There was discussion on making it smaller and fixing it to the other side of the area on the retaining wall, but neither solution was ideal. It was agreed there would have to be further discussion on this at the next meeting. The Village Hall Committee wanted the board moved, but retained, and was open to suggestions.

There was some dissatisfaction expressed with the website link and the suggestion passed that Rutnet be used to support the site in future.

The Youth Club cupboard had been cleared and the keys passed to the next user.

#### b) Ward Councillor's report

Mr Montgomery reported that he was receiving numerous complaints about an infestation of flies at present from Hall Close, Foxhill and Hortons Lane. Consultation with RCC Environmental Health Department had confirmed that the disinfection procedures at Loodal Farm egg production units were again giving cause for concern as they had not controlled the maggot breeding in spite of best practice being reported from inspection. Councillors who lived in that area of the village confirmed that the problem was particularly severe this year and questioned why more was not done in advance of problems occurring. It was thought it would be useful to have Mr Howat (RCC EHO) at the next Parish Council meeting to respond to councillor and resident questions.

It was resolved that the Clerk should issue an invitation.

23rd June was a fly the flag day in support of the armed services. The vicar would have to be asked if one could be flown from the church tower as the Parish Council did not own a flag.

A problem concerning the use of barbed wire in fields adjoining gardens in Harborough Close had been resolved.

### **6614: Planning Matters**

#### a) Consultation from Melton Borough Council on wind turbines proposed for Crown Hill, Dalby Road.

It was acknowledged that the turbines proposed were tall and would be visible from certain high ground within the parish boundaries. However, the impact would be aesthetic rather than within the remit of planning concerns. It was not thought they would be heard or that their movement would directly affect Whissendine residents. Therefore it was resolved that no comment would be sent, and it would be for parishes very much nearer to make any necessary objections.

#### b) Advance notification of an application for Whissendine Cottage, Main Street

Mr Edmond of Marroms Shakespeares had requested time to present plans for development at Whissendine Cottage in the centre of the village. It was known that the property had quite a considerable amount of land, but it was not definite whether the development would be for new build housing or conversion/extension of outbuildings. It was agreed that Mr Edmond should be invited to present in order to learn what the plans were at the earliest opportunity.

#### c) Planning updates:

2014/0298/FUL: construction of a house and garage on land to the east of 27 The Nook

Permission had been refused as much of the building would lie outside the village envelope. Councillors were surprised that this had not been made clear from the earliest consultation between RCC Planning Dept and the developers.

### **6714: The Banks**

#### a) Report on the project to upgrade the entrances

Mr Farr had not been given a start date by Farm & Garden, and would check with Mr Baker to see if one was scheduled. RCC had agreed provision of a three hoop bicycle rack and checked on colour. There would be site visit arranged shortly with the Clerk to check space and fixing.

b) Routine maintenance

There was none within the site itself, but it was pointed out that the verge to the front of the Cow lane entrance was considerably overgrown and needed cutting back to provide better access for pedestrians. It was resolved that the Clerk should contact RCC.

It was noted that the sign stating the closing time remained in place.

c) RCC Planning Dept comment

Information had been passed from Mr Hodgett that a resident involved in the planning dispute had felt there was insufficient consultation on the entrance upgrade. There had also been individual contact with Councillors. It was resolved that a letter should be sent giving the information that Parish Council policy on a public amenity that belonged to the community had to be within the public forum for discussion, and it was impractical to have selective private consultation, though any member of the public was welcome to express views at a Parish Council meeting.

**6814: Highways Matters**

a) Meeting with Mr Tomlinson

Three councillors and the Clerk had walked the village with Mr Tomlinson and discussed drainage and road surface issues in particular, especially on both sides of the bridge in Main Street, The Nook, Cow Lane and Melton Road. The following points were made:

- The water flowing from near the Fox Hill junction down Main Street was most probably from a spring and would be channelled into a purpose made gully - work scheduled for June.
- There would be some remedial work to the road surface in The Nook by infilling, particularly around raised iron works, but it was not thought necessary to completely resurface it
- Minor repairs would also be made in Cow Lane to prevent the stream edge deteriorating further, but nothing could be recommended to assist pedestrians
- Junctions would be inspected regularly and surface repairs made if necessary
- There was no plan for any major resurfacing anywhere, and much of the deterioration of the road surface (particularly outside the school and this stretch of Main Street to the brook) was due to leak from the sewers which were blocked by roots. These were the responsibility of Severn Trent and RCC could only request that the problem should be addressed.
- Mr Tomlinson planned to walk downstream of the bridge when the whether was better to give his assessment on if the brook needed to be cleared to prevent flooding in the village centre.

b) Signage in Cow Lane

Signs to indicate pedestrians in the roadway had been discussed with Mr Tomlinson who had reported that Highways had no objection to them being positioned in the lane. It was intended that existing posts should be used to prevent having to put in additional ones. The Clerk to liaise with Paul Slater of Highways for installation.

c) Rutland County Council Parking review

Parking in Main Street during school hours was discussed. It was agreed that a one way system would not help, and any yellow lines would only move the congestion elsewhere, though it was doubtful that RCC would allow them anyway, as there could be no enforcement. A single yellow line was discussed for Bishops Corner. A 4-5 vote against determined that it would not be requested.

d) Maintenance

- The street light outside 5 Harborough Close needed repair
- A bin suitable for dog waste was requested for the Harborough Close stile
- A pot hole needed repair in Ashwell Road near the village boundary

It was agreed that Mr Smith should be asked to stain the post and repaint the wrought ironwork of the village sign. The face could be given further cleaning, but it had been washed down. the quote for this work was £35.

Quotes also to be obtained from Mr Smith and Mr Edmunds for clearing around the brook opposite the Village Green, and repainting the railings along the bank and bridge.

## **6914: Financial business**

### **a) Financial Report for May 2014**

There was a balance of £11791.47 in the current account with £212 still to clear. The VAT reclaim for £1289.89 had been made, but payment was not yet received. The information had to be sent to the external auditor (Grant Thornton) by 17.6.14.

### **b) Payment was agreed for the following accounts:**

• Impressions)	£ 248.00
• Village Hall room hire	£ 168.25
• Caretaker (April & May)	£ 67.68
• Clerk (Office expenses)	£ 14.96

The amount for the Village Hall had to be queried as the final Youth Club session for April, and two in May invoiced (total £38), had not been used as the Youth Club had ceased to function.

There was £700 to pay in from Grapevine advertising received

### **c) Grant towards maintenance of the churchyard and new burial ground.**

Financial information to support a request for a grant of £900 to St Andrews PCC for Churchyard maintenance had been circulated. This was approved.

### **d) Donations to organisations that support the community**

A budget of £750 had been agreed for the donations in 2014. £600 was allocated as set out below with £150 held in reserve to support any other community activity during the course of the year.

The donation schedule for 2014 to be:

• Leics & Derby Air Ambulance	£150
• EMICS	£150
• Whissendine Good Neighbour Scheme	£100
• LOROS	£100
• Citizens Advice Bureau	£50
• Whissendine Neighbourhood Watch	£50

## **7014: Correspondence**

### **a) Fields In Trust AGM** to be circulated

### **b) WW1 Commemoration at Kendrew Barracks.**

This would be circulated and Councillors could take and distribute information to people or places where it would be useful. It would be a matter of personal choice to visit and/or participate.

Other information and advertising and advertising to be circulated.

## **7114: Summer Meeting Schedule**

The next meeting to be on Monday, July 14th and the following one on Monday September 1st. The Planning Committee to be summoned if plans have to be considered, and the full Council if any emergency should arise. The Clerk was delegated to deal with routine matters and keep Councillors informed by email.

The meeting finished at 9.15pm

14th July	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.15pm
1st September	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.15pm