

WHISSENDINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 5th January 2015, in the Village Hall , Whissendine

Present

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

In attendance

Mr Sam Asplin (Ward Councillor)
Mrs Jen Lacey Parish Clerk

Mr Farr welcomed those present at 7.23pm.

00115: Public Time

There were no members of the public present.

00215: Apologies for absence

Mrs Mould had sent apologies which were accepted.

00315: Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 8 December 2014

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

00415: Declarations of Interest:

None

00515: updates on ongoing business not covered by agenda items

a) 12514a) Installation of cycle racks

There had been no work done, but it wasn't expected that it would be carried out during the Christmas period. The Clerk would make contact with RCC and see what the plans for installation were ahead of the spring when the area would be in use again.

b) 12514b) litter bin purchase

The Clerk had been informed that the bins had been delivered to RCC and there would be notification of a date to install them. There was a new contact (Ms Parfremment-Pollard)

c) 12914c)

Leaf clearance had been carried out on Foxhill.

d) 11414a Housing Needs Survey

There had been a further note from Mr Faircliffe of RCC to ask if the PC wished to take action on housing needs. It was agreed to inform him that currently there was no land available or development planned, which made action improbable, but Councillors would welcome any advice he had to offer on affordable housing.

e) 10214b) Loodal Farm report

There had been no recent report from Mr Howat and he was to be asked to begin giving information on the results of inspections once again as householders would want reassurance that action would be taken as soon as any problem was identified.

00615 Reports from Councillors

a) Parish Councillors:

Councillors had not attended any meetings or events since the last PC meeting.

b) The Ward Councillor

Mr Asplin reminded Councillors of the meeting he had arranged with Severn-Trent later that week to inspect the roads and gullies to consider repair and drains improvement to drainage overall. Mrs Lake and Mrs Moss indicated that they could attend, and Mr Asplin confirmed that he made ST aware that Councillors wished to be there. It was expected that there would be a team that would provide access to the drains.

The Ward Councillor had also had further discussions with Mr Tomlinson (RCC Highways) about the parking problems in The Nook. He stressed that there could be no private action to dig out or clear soil from the bank opposite 21 and 23.

There would have to be a request from the Parish Council to Highways to provide parking spaces that would be given consideration in due course. It was agreed that there should be no action to take this further at present. A letter of explanation would be sent to the resident concerned.
(Mrs Arnold joined the meeting).

00715 Planning matters

a) 2014/0985/FUL: Erection of a double garage at Milbank, 14 Melton Road

Councillors discussed the size in comparison to outbuildings it was replacing and the type of materials to be used for construction. It was noted that it was close to a Grade 1 historic building (windmill), but would not impact upon it as there were other buildings with like proximity. There was no further comment or recommendations.

b) Planning updates

- Construction of a Victorian style conservatory at the Old Vicarage, Station Road, and historic building consent for the internal work to construct access Approved

00815: The Banks

a) Map design and picture for the signs

It was agreed that Mr Crook (RCC Rights of Way Officer) should be asked confer the appropriate permission to use the ordnance survey map that showed the footpaths and their connection to the adjoining villages. It was considered that this gave the walkers the most information so that they were aware of what paths were available for future rambles. The officer also to be asked if the maps could be used on the parish's website if reproduction was prevented.

Mrs Lake had brought illustrations to show the type of picture that could be put together to illustrate use of the sheep-wash. No photographs were available as it was believed last in use around 125 years ago, but it was hoped a recent photo could be used to show what remained of the brickwork. It was agreed that Mrs Raymond would be asked to provide a pen and ink line drawing.

b) Mowing for the 2015 season.

It was agreed that Cory should be asked to provide a quote for the work that would be accepted if it was close to the amount paid in 2014, as the company provided excellent service.

c) Routine maintenance

Mr Baker would be reminded of the request to clear the lesser bindweed from beneath the swings as it started to grow. Once it had been treated Cory would be asked to re-bark this area again.

00915: Highways & village maintenance

The gullies near the speed table outside the school need bringing to the attention of Severn-Trent urgently as they were completely blocked with mud. It was agreed this should be done during the inspection later that week.

There was a request for a grit bin in Mill Grove and it was agreed this should be ordered. It was to be sited on verge on the corner within the grove.

There were two potholes in Ashwell Road to be brought to the attention of RCC Highways (outside 4 and the end house on the edge of the village.)

Street lights in Sherrard Close, Harborough Close and on Stapleford Road triangle needed attention.

01015: Website update

a) website development update

Mr Tatham had sent apologies for being unable to attend the meeting to give an update in person, but the website was now almost completed and he hoped to get Councillors to view the test site shortly (end of January, beginning of February). He planned then to make an announcement in the March Grapevine and show case it at the APM in March. Councillors approved this schedule and looked forward to viewing Mr Tatham's efforts. he had noted the January edition of the Grapevine was available on his iphone in colour.

b) Use of the site for publication purposes

From April 2015 it would be a legal requirement for small parish councils to publish business information, some (minutes and agendas) for each meeting, others annually. The schedule detailing the requirements was put into circulation for councillor information. It was agreed that the website would be ideal to fulfil the Parish Council's legal obligations in this respect.

It was agreed that the Grapevine publication schedule information would be updated so that residents were aware of the availability of the published material.

01115: Preliminary planning for the Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed:

- The APM would on 18 March at the school (if the hall was available).
- The website would be introduced
- Village organisations would be invited to give information on their activities, and how public money had been used
- The police would be invited to attend
- The new Ward Councillor would give a report, and Mr Montgomery would be remembered.
- Refreshments would be provided (Mrs Lake)
- Residents would be asked via the Grapevine if there was any particular parish or RCC topic they would like to have presented by a knowledgeable speaker.

01215: Financial business

a) Financial report for January

At the end of the year the balances were: deposit £17569.92, current £5739.26, verified by statement. There were no outstanding cheques. It was noted that there were still some large one off payments to be met, as well as routine electricity and wage bills and consideration of a further contribution to the Village Hall renovation. However, it was expected that less would be spent in the year than planned for in the 2014-15 budget because money for a second speed reactor was still held in reserve, and saving had been made on anticipated costs for insurance, professional services and youth/play facilities.

b) Presentation of the approved draft budget and proposed precept

The Budget working party proposed a budget that adjusted the allowances slightly for areas of lower expense, included the agreed wage rises and anticipated further grants to village organisations. No raise in the precept was required. This was agreed unanimously and the precept request would be made.

c) Payment was agreed for the following accounts:

• Impressions	£ 283.00
• Christmas lights	£ 436.28
• Caretaker	£ 36.86

01315: Correspondence

a) information held by the Playing Fields Association

It was noted that documents sent from the PFA, which had been on file there for around 40 years, should prove useful to the Sports Club, as most concerned its foundation and official records from this era were no longer available in the club's own files.

b) There had been an email query on the probability of wind turbines in the village in the future which was referred to the action group for information.

Very little other correspondence had been received over the Christmas period for circulation.

The meeting finished at 8.35pm

09 January	Severn-Trent	Outside the school	1.30pm
26 January	Parish Council Forum	Catmose	7.00pm
09 February	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.15pm