

U WHISSENDINE PARISH COUNCIL  
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016, in the  
Village Hall, Whissendine

Present

Mr. W Farr (Chairman)  
Mr R Comber    Mr D Hatton  
Dr S Lammin    Mrs P Lake

In attendance

Mr K Thomas –                      Ward Councillor  
Mrs E Everington -                Parish Clerk

Also Present

Mrs S Barron – Member of the Public

10316 Questions or comment from members of the public

Mr Farr welcomed the Parish Councillors shortly after 7:30pm and asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

Mrs Sue Barron wished to update the Parish Councillors on the current position of 'Greendale', Pickwell Lane, Whissendine. The premises have planning permission for 16 pitches for caravans, but only 12 caravans are currently accommodated at one time. At the time planning permission was granted there was a 's106' agreement attached. The terms of this agreement are too restrictive for current circumstances and Mr and Mrs Barron will be applying to RCC's Planning Department for the agreement to be nullified.

Mrs Joanne Middleton was also present.

10416 Apologies for absence: Apologies received from Mrs L. Arnold, Mr T. Edmunds, and Mrs C. Moss.

10516 Declaration of Pecuniary interest:                      None

10616 To approve minutes of meetings:

To approve of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016 – These were approved without amendment on proposal of Mrs Lake.

10716 Ongoing business: Not scheduled elsewhere on the agenda:

The Contract to maintain the Banks has come to an end and discussion of the contract-specification will need to be included on the agenda of the November meeting.

10816 Reports from Councillors:

Village Hall Committee: Mr Comber attended the last meeting. The Committee has some funds for minor redecoration and repair but there are expenses likely to arise. New costume racks are being considered. The lower access door requires an emergency 'crash bar to be fitted' and this may cost £1000. The floor to the main room of the hall may need work as the surfaced has become roughened- it now has too much friction for line-dancing, etc. Any repair to the floor is likely to be a significant cost outside the current resources of the VHC; although no plan of works nor costing has yet been produced. The next meeting of the VHC will be 28 October 2016.

10916 Report from the Ward Councillor:

The Ward Councillor, Mr K Thomas advised the Parish Councillors that RCC are reviewing their Flood Risk Management Strategy. Mr Thomas said the strategy, which should include Whissendine, needs to be re-written. It should go to RCC's Cabinet for approval by February 2017. He pointed out that any modifications to the stream-bed or line of the stream below the Main Street bridge is likely to be

a huge task. Mr Hatton concurred and confirmed that all the land below the bridge was all privately owned, by a number of people.

The stile to the west of the Village Hall is to be replaced with a gate. RCC's Rights of Way team are managing this.

Mr Thomas confirmed he is chasing funding for the School parking remedies already discussed. There is no funding available from RCC but there are possibilities for grant-funding which is being explored. There may still need to be a Parish contribution.

Mr Thomas also confirmed that the request from a resident of Main Street, for RCC to install two steps in the raised highway verge (in between Station Road and the Church) is being progressed. The Parish Councillors supported this.

A complaint had been received by the Ward Councillor regarding the position where the bus was stopping: the bus-timetable has now been moved and the bus is now stopping farther round the corner, so the issue has been resolved.

At the last meeting the Parish Council had discussed the brightness, after dark, of the red indicators on the Ashwell Road speed-sign. Mr Thomas has subsequently also received reports about the issue. A member of RCC's Highways team is looking, with the manufacturer, at how the brightness of the lights may be reduced.

RCC is looking at providing a friction road-surface on the A606 between Langham and the Melton border. Mr Thomas is not persuaded of the efficacy of the move in reducing accidents on the road but welcomed comments from the Parish Council, by 17<sup>th</sup> October.

Spire Homes are due to respond to Mr Thomas about the environs of their houses.

The issue of weeds in the gully and on the pavements has been taken up by Mr Thomas. He has spoken to the contractor. A representative of the contractor is to walk around the village with Mr T and discuss what may be done.

A meeting is taking place on Tuesday 11th October at 19:30 at the Sports Club to discuss the defibrillator. A grant will be requested.

Council Tax will increase by 4% a year for the next 2 years, and represents 2% for Adult Care and 2% for other services. The detail can be found on the RCC website by searching for the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

Mr Thomas attended the inaugural First Responders' meeting and he believes they will want to provide 2x defibrillators for the village. He considers it likely they may approach the Parish Council for funds in the near future.

He intends to attend both the Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB) AGM on 12<sup>th</sup> October at 19:00hrs and the Whissendine Sports Club meeting the same night, start-time 19:30 hrs; all being well.

As Mr Thomas needed to leave the meeting shortly Mrs Lake took the opportunity to raise issues of which Mr Thomas should be aware. She circulated photographs of trees, both on the green and on the edge of the stream by the green, which showed some seepage/ unidentified growths on the trunks; the Clerk took an action to contact the Tree Officer at RCC. Mrs Lake also pointed out a hedge on Stapleford Road needs cutting as it was impeding the walkway. The Chairman notified Mr

Thomas that a complaint had been received by RCC and that some of the Parish Councillors were awaiting feedback on the consequent enquiries.

#### 11016 Planning Matters

New Planning matters: Planning application 2016/0906/FUL. Proposal to build a New House on Plot 2 of the former 'Three Horseshoes Public House' development, at 66 Main Street, Whissendine. The Parish Councillors had no issue with the siting of the proposed development but noted that there were two green-roofs included in the design. These flat roofs were at first floor level above the garage to the front and above a room, north of the development. Both roofs were adjacent to the eastern boundary of the development. The Clerk was requested to write formally to the planners to say that: The WPC had concerns should the green-roofs, over the garage or to the north of the property, be used for leisure purposes a problem of overlooking may ensue.

#### 11116 Planning Updates: No planning Updates

#### 11216 Update on the Grapevine

The Clerk reported, the deadline had been achieved to update the printer on the advertisements to be in the Grapevine from January 2017. Some payments have been received as requested, with other advertisers delaying until January.

#### 11316 The Banks

- It was reported some waste wood had appeared on the Cow Lane side of the Banks. The Clerk took an action to contact a PTA rep offering the use of the wood for the village Guy Fawkes bonfire, if it could be collected shortly.
- A letter had been received from a resident about the nettles along the brook. The nettles along the stream edge have since been cut back. This need arose as gazing is no longer permitted on the Banks. The new maintenance contract for 2017 onwards will be amended as necessary. The resident is to be contacted and advised that the maintenance contract will be discussed in detail at the next meeting of the Parish Council.
- Mrs Lake proposed that a safe access point to the brook within the area of The Banks could be created next year. This would allow children to 'fish' or jump the stream with minimal risk to their safety. It was agreed this would be considered as part of the discussions about ongoing maintenance, at the next meeting.
- It was reported that the fence erected around the boundary of a property adjacent to the Banks had a strand of barbed-wire at the top (approx. 4 feet from the ground). In one section this fence bounded the area where children play. The Clerk will write to the owner to request a site-meeting with a view to having the barbed wire in this short section removed or covered; to reduce any risk of injury to children playing nearby.
- It was reported that the grass sown on the ramps to the new bridge has taken and although still patchy the growth is established. It is not clear what the winter-floods may do so it is proposed to wait and initiate any repairs in Spring 2017.
- It was reported that the wood from the old sheep pen has been moved- it is possible it is this wood that is now on the Cow Lane verge; the removal of which is being arranged.
- The latch to the Cow Lane gate to The Banks is still not working. This was reported at the last meeting.

#### 11416 Highways/Village Maintenance

- Mrs P Lake reported a streetlight needs to be replaced in Harbrough Close. The Clerk will report this to the Highway Department.

- The Highway Department will be asked to check the highway boundary adjacent to Teapot Cottage on Stapleford Road. The boundary-wall has been very recently rebuilt and seems to encroach onto the footway.

#### 11516 Financial Business

There has been no update on financial business since the report for August. The newly appointed Clerk has yet to gain access to the bank accounts, but this is in hand. The lack of access has caused delay with the payment of some invoices.

This should be resolved well before the November Parish Council meeting when all access rights have been resolved with the bank.

13 invoices were presented for payment, only 2 exceeded £250. These included the final payment for installation of the bridge and formation and seeding of the ramps to the bridge in The Banks (£1883.60); and the street lighting bill from EON (£254.45).

#### 11616 Correspondence- Information from RCC - General Information

Letter from a resident regarding The Banks (see minute 11316)

#### 11716 Any Other Business

The Councillors discussed the process for distribution of the Long Clawson vouchers. The amount to be awarded will be determined at the November meeting of the parish Council. It was agreed the first advertisement for this year's claimants for the Long Clawson Gift be advertised in the November issue of the Grapevine. There will be a subsequent advertisement in the December issue.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at the Village Hall.