

WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 20th July 2023 at the Village Hall commencing at 7.30 pm

Present : Mr P Smith (Chairman), Mr B McClymont, Mr B Allen, Mr B Wright, Mr C Bentley, Mr M Kneen, Miss A George, Mr A Leary, Mrs L Cutts

Clerk : Mrs S Sillery

District Councillor : Mr P Farmer

Visitors : Mr M Brown, Mr M Harriman, Mrs L Preece from Sherwood Forest Trust, Kieron and Alex from Trent Albion

69/23 Apologies : Mrs L Dales

70/23 : Declarations of Interest : Mr P Farmer planning application and Mrs L Cutts Planning application.

71/23 : Jubilee Field – redesign discussion with Lynne Preece and Miles Harriman

Mr Smith confirmed that the Jubilee Field is a brilliant space which is under used and therefore options are being considered. He has been working with Lynn Preece of the Sherwood Forest Trust who has designed plans for additional tree planting. Mr Miles Harriman is also involved with planned work for the Coronation Bank and both the projects overlap.

The Parish Council have been approached by Trent Albion FC who are looking for a pitch. The question is, can we do additional planting and accommodate a football pitch on the Jubilee Field? Mrs Preece has come up with a plan which has been circulated to all Parish Councillors. A full-size football pitch is 45x90 metres and it does easily fit within the Jubilee Field. Mr Allen confirmed that there would need to be 8 metres from the Fleet to allow the Drainage Board to do their work. Mr Smith confirmed that the Drainage Board have agreed to planting in this area.

Mrs Preece explained her role with Sherwood Forest Trust. She confirmed that funding is available from DEFRA for orchards and low-density tree planting. The funding would pay for the trees and tree guards. It is best to plant around November to January or next winter if preferred. Mr Allen asked about the species of trees. Mrs Preece confirmed that they would be various and would be small whips. Miss George asked if it would be possible to walk between the new trees and Mrs Preece confirmed that it would. Mr Allen suggested we might need stronger supports for the trees.

Mr Harriman raised the point that the views of the village would need to be taken into account in relation to the planting and the football pitch. It is the village's facility after all. Mrs Preece suggested giving the village the options on the table at the moment with a cut-off date for responses.

Mr Kneen asked when we would get the trees. Mrs Preece suggested November with planting in December and January. She said that the planting could be a community event with the school getting involved in the planting.

Kieron and Alex of Trent Albion confirmed that the team had been running for a year. They had previously played out of Claypole; however, the pitch was very waterlogged so they couldn't continue to use it. They have been using Winthorpe and Coddington FC's pitch on a temporary basis, but they don't have room for them to stay long term.

Mr Smith pointed out that there are changing rooms at the Community Centre and sufficient parking there too. There is also parking at the Cricket Club. Trent Albion would need the Parish Council to provide goal posts and nets

which would cost approximately £1200. Mr Leary suggested alternative funding from the Football Foundation, Lottery and Sport England. He also suggested contacting the Cricket Club. Doug Lyne already mows the field although Mrs Preece felt that the grass would need to be treated for use as a football pitch.

Mr Smith felt that it would be possible to do additional planting and have a football pitch. Mr Harriman asked whether the football pitch should replace the cricket pitch. Mr Smith said that this was not an option as the Cricket Club was longstanding and a thriving Club within the village. The Parish Council will discuss the matter and Mrs Preece will rethink her plan for the area but not using the middle area. Mrs Preece said the time frame for application to DEFRA for funding was the end of September if the planting is to happen this year.

72/23 Receive and Accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 15th of June 2023 :

The Cricket Club planning application is in the name of the Parish Council. This came as a bit of a surprise to the Council. We had offered to assist and support the Cricket club but had not expected the application to be submitted in the Parish Council's name. Mr Leary and Mr Bentley will be arranging a meeting with The Cricket Club in the next few days.

There is still the ongoing issue about the surrounding trees which need branches removing. Planning permission would have to be applied for to remove the branches. Mr Leary and Mr Bentley will liaise with the Cricket Club and make the necessary application. Once permission is received, we will ask Doug Lyne to carry out the work.

There is still a problem with dog fouling on the cricket field. The Cricket Club have suggested another warning to dog walkers in Focal Point.

Minutes confirmed as accurate, proposed by Mr Bentley and seconded by Mr Kneen.

73/23 Matters Arising from the Minutes :

Warm Spaces – Mrs Conning has confirmed that Notts County Council are not willing to fund this project. Other funding is currently being applied for.

Defibrillator for Pocklington Crescent update – The proposed location for the new defibrillator has no power to warm the cabinet. In very cold temperatures, if the cabinet is not warm, there is a risk that the defibrillator will fail to work. Clearly, this is a risk. Mr Kneen and Mr Smith met with VIA to see if it would be possible to use the adjacent lamp post. Notts County Council have never done this before and it is looking highly unlikely. Mr Kneen is still chasing VIA for a decision; however, we need to decide how to proceed if they won't assist us with the power situation.

Numbering of The Spinney – ongoing

Quarry Liaison – Mr Kneen has written to Tarmac asking how to apply for funding. We should keep this in mind for improvements to the skate park or for goal posts. What do we want to do with the Skate Park? Should we reinvent the area? The village will of course be consulted. Mr Farmer has successfully applied for Tarmac funding in the past and is happy to share his application emails. He also suggested Ren as another funding source.

Safer Neighbourhood Meeting – the next meeting clashes with the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan WG. Mr Kneen will ask one of his Neighbourhood Watch team to attend. Failing this, Mr Farmer will attend.

Mrs Cutts told the meeting that the Summer Sizzler was a huge success at the school. The school is very keen to work with the Parish Council going forward.

Mr Bentley reported on the benches in the village. The Woodlands/Gainsborough Road bench is coming apart and the one at the end of Gainsborough Road has a broken slab which we could fill with concrete. The Jubilee Walk bench has a chunk missing off the end which might mean the risk of splinters to people that use it. There are 8

benches at the Community Centre. It might make sense to move one to the Woodlands/Gainsborough Road to replace the one that is coming apart.

Mr Smith has spoken to Newark Showground about the use of horns by trucks at the Truck Fest.

Mr Smith said that the Winfest went very well although the Lord Nelson received calls from local residents regarding the party next door to the pub on the same evening after Winfest had finished.

74/23 A46 Update :

Mr Leary confirmed that the Think Again Group were now meeting again on a monthly basis. The finalised Statement of Common Ground needs to have been submitted by the 20th of July 2023. A meeting with National Highways and their Contractors is planned.

75/23 Neighbourhood Plan Update

Mr Smith confirmed that the draft consultation ended on Sunday 16th July and responses have been received from Parish Residents, Newark and Sherwood DC and Cambridge University - Trinity College. The feedback from N&SDC at this stage has been found to be very useful. The responses will be discussed at a meeting on the 25th of July 7pm in The Nelson and any agreed modifications made. The Plan will then be forwarded to all statutory bodies for comment under Section 14, this consultation will then take a further 6 weeks. Mr Smith confirmed that the presentation and the Housing Needs assessment are on the website.

76/23 District/County Councillors Update

Mr Farmer confirmed that the grit bins are a Notts County Council responsibility not Newark and Sherwood. He confirmed that the Drainage Board will be out to look at the problem with the Fleet.

With regard to the plastic grass at 2 Gainsborough Road, Mr Farmer confirmed he will talk to Chris Briggs about this matter as it is not acceptable and is bad for the environment. The fact that the hawthorn hedge has been cut into and laurels put in is a concern. Mr Kneen raised the issue of the visibility splay coming out of the driveway which is insufficient and is a highways requirement. The laurels need to come out, the hawthorn replaced, and the splay put right.

Mr Farmer confirmed that Lowfield Farm at Langford had gone to appeal, and that number 45 Gainsborough Road had gone to consultation.

Mr Farmer confirmed that he would be working more with the A46 project.

Notts County Council update

Mr Smith confirmed an excellent update from Councillor Darby and that things are moving forward in this regard.

Mr Smith confirmed that he had received a phone call from Emma at The Nelson to say that a tree had come down on the other side of The Fleet and was resting on the pub building. He rang Doug Lyne, but he was unable to help so he rang the emergency hotline at Notts CC and logged the issue. Despite trying several times to make contact there has been no response as yet. The tree has come from the common land on the bank and is therefore not our responsibility. Mr Allen said he would give the Drainage Board a call and ask them to look at the situation.

77/23 Invoices for approval and other financial matters :

Current Account balance £198.46

Expenditure:

Clerk's Wages £184.00

Neighbourhood Plan flyers £204

Grass Cutting £906 (June)

New set of garage keys £18.00

Lengsthman Scheme – Patrick Holland for work done £233.58

Holding Account balance £16,277.05

£1000 top up to current account

Focal Point balance £1401.03 – (additional credits since writing this report – J Steel Langford PCC £60, Collingham and District Agriculture £20, PJ Dawson £81 and Katie Joynes Slimming World £24)

Expenditure £270 Willsons printing

Income £270 Newark Showground

Tennis Club £5366.37 – no change

Property Trust Account ££7335.88 – no change

Clerk has made application to Lloyds Bank for a current account – once this account is up and running, we can apply for a second current account and a savings account. Mr Allen is required to take in his driving licence for identification purposes to the Newark branch of Lloyds. It was agreed to continue to allow the Clerk to work on one signature for banking transactions.

Confirmation email from PKF that they have received our end of year paperwork. No other communication received.

The Festival monies have been banked in the sum of £1147. Deductions from that are £155 for the Bouncy Castle and £100 donation to Newark Community First Aid. Sue Masheder has requested that £800 be donated to the Lincs/Notts Air Ambulance and the remaining £92.00 be added to the Festival rainy day fund.

Mrs Sillery asked how long paperwork was to be kept for audit purposes. It was agreed 6 years and therefore paperwork other than the minutes from 2016 can be shredded.

78/23 Planning Application and updates (if any) :

Applications:

1) Annexe, The Cottage, 45 Gainsborough Road, Winthorpe

Proposal: 23/00715/FUL Change of use to an open use comprising holiday let (Sui Generis) or independent dwelling (C3) and external alterations. Subdivision of land associated with The Cottage, 45 Gainsborough Road, Winthorpe including retention of railings, gates and gate posts at a reduced height.

Suggested PC response: Object.

The Parish Council is concerned at how much change to the site has already been implemented. This application is retrospective, in that the subdivision of land appears to have already been made in terms of fencing off the area in front of and alongside the main house.

There is also a pair of tall pillars (2.6m) and wrought iron gates installed in front of the main house, clearly visible today from the main road above the solid 2m boundary fence, with no evidence of permission being granted for this.

It is noted that the aforementioned 2m solid boundary fence, installed without permission and the “wrong way round” (prettier side facing inwards, not outwards) has to date not been determined to be lawful, and also partially hides the more recent development activity on the site in front of the main house.

The plan submitted implies that the boundary division between the two dwellings, to the rear of the main house, is already present and agreed. This is not the case. There is no detail of what type of boundary would be installed.

The change of use request to create an independent dwelling is one step further than the current use of the converted garage as a short-term rental facility.

The plans also indicate major internal alterations to provide a second bedroom and conversion of the ground floor garage space into a living area with large floor to ceiling glass frontage.

We believe access from Gainsborough Road to the site may already be inadequate, given that this access is shared with the property next door (43A), who are also applying for their garage to be used as a separate dwelling place (22/02273/FUL), which this PC has also objected to. If both applications were approved, this would result in 4 separate dwellings sharing the same access.

All of this appears to be a rather intense development within the Conservation Area and contrary to planning guidelines.

PC understands that all of the above items will be considered in the Committee discussion on this matter.

2) The Coach House 46 Gainsborough Road Winthorpe

Proposal: 23/01195/TWCA Yew tree in front garden requires dead branches removed
Walnut tree in rear garden requires crown reduction of up to 3m to avoid damage to building.

Suggested PC response: No objection

3) Winthorpe Community Centre Woodlands Winthorpe

Proposal: 23/01060/TWCA | Oak - Raise canopy over driveway to 4m from ground level to allow passage of high sided vehicles

Suggested PC response: No objection

4) 4 Old Rectory Court Winthorpe

Proposal: 23/01059/TWCA Walnut - Reduce Canopy that is over hanging the boundary by 2.5 metres (tree situated at 50 Gainsborough Road) Cedar Deodara - Fell due to proximity to house

Suggested PC response: No objection

5) The Academy 62 Gainsborough Road Winthorpe

Proposal: 23/01058/TWCA London Plane Reduce the limb that is located on the south east side (approx 6m from ground level) back to the width of the main canopy. Crown clean this section of the canopy (30%) and crown clean the remainder of canopy (15%)

Suggested PC response: No objection

6) Fairview 22 Gainsborough Road Winthorpe

Proposal: 23/01109/S73 Application for removal of condition 05 to allow 2 windows to be inserted into the north eastern elevation attached to planning permission 23/00373/HOUSE; Two storey rear extension

Suggested PC response: No objection

It would seem that the Cricket Club have put their planning application in under the name of the Parish Council. We are happy to work with the Cricket Club but were unaware that the application was going to put in the Council's name.

79/23 Discussion on the Village Website :

Mrs Cutts has carried out some excellent work in relation to finding a new website for the village. She has come up with four potential new suppliers who offer similar products with varying prices. Mr Leary suggested we ask NALC to see if they have suggestions for providers. Mrs Cutts confirmed that as a Parish Council, we are legally obliged to fulfil certain criteria which our current website currently doesn't. She will contact NALC and report back.

80/23 Parish Maintenance and General Works :

6 out of the 8 new bins have been installed. There are 2 spare dog bins in the garage. Miss George confirmed that we have to rationalise the use of bins in the village. Mr Kneen had nothing new to report on the Lengthman scheme, however if any work is required in relation to the bins, we can ask our handyman.

81/23 Correspondence :

New Bus Timetables have been received and these will be put in the Nelson

Mr Smith gave the Clerk an invoice from Tony Cook for payment of £85.00 This relates to the painting of the three road marker posts. Mr Smith said how much better they looked.

82/23 AOB :

Mr Leary confirmed that at the Think Again meeting, he had been asked if any progress had been made in relation to the trees at the end of the village on the A1 which were taken down and had affected the sound of the road. No progress as yet.

Mr Smith suggested that at each future meeting, Parish Councillors should share what they had done the previous month in relation to Parish Council issues.

Meeting closed 9.20 pm