

# WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September in the Village Hall commencing 7.30 pm**

**Present** – Mr L Cammack (Chairman), Mr D Aldridge, Mr A Leary, Mr R McClymont, Mr B Allen, Mr M Kneen

**Guest** – Mrs S Crosby

**County/District Councillor** – Mrs M Dobson

**Clerk** – Mrs S Sillery

**52/16 – Apologies - Mr G Thompson, Mr P Farmer and Mr B Wright**

Before the main meeting commenced, the Chairman asked Mrs Crosby for her reason for attending the meeting. She said she wanted to stay for the entire meeting and the Chairman asked her for any issues she wished to raise before the main meeting commenced.

Mrs Crosby referred to the minutes of the May Parish Council Meeting in which it was suggested that the Council had asked her to let them have a list of the issues she was having in relation to the allotments. Mrs Crosby said that this was in fact incorrect as she had already prepared a list and given it to Mr David Barthorpe (Allotment Committee) and she does not intend to do another. The Chairman informed Mrs Crosby that the Parish Council had not seen this list and therefore were not aware of the contents. He asked that a copy be sent via the Clerk.

Mrs Crosby said that she had received an email from Mr David Barthorpe saying that two members of the Parish Council should attend the Allotment Meetings and she didn't believe that this was happening. The Chairman is to liaise with the two Parish Councillors who are on the Allotment Committee.

Mrs Crosby said that due to the Parish Council's decision to put the allotments where they are, four houses are affected and one of the residents has allegedly moved as a result of the allotments. Another resident had had some pots stolen from her garden and nothing had been done about it. Mrs Crosby said that this substantiated her concerns about the allotments.

The Chairman informed Mrs Crosby that none of the above had been communicated to the Parish Council and unless this was done, the Council were unable to comment on the issues.

### **53/16 – Declarations of Interest**

None

### **54/16 – To Receive and Accept the Minutes of the last meeting 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016**

Proposed by Mr A. Leary and seconded Mr M. Kneen

### **55/16 Matters Arising**

Councillor Dobson confirmed that the Woodlands is on the top of the list in relation to resurfacing and will be done in 2017. The Local Authority cannot afford to do both the footpaths and the road and bearing in mind the bad state of the footpaths; it has been decided to do the footpaths first.

In respect of the sign requested for The Spinney at the fork in the road, it will not be possible to do this unless the houses are numbered. The houses can retain their house names but they must also be numbered. The numbering of the houses would be a good idea anyway as it assists the Post Office and more importantly the Emergency Services should the need arise. The Chairman will put a piece in Focal Point.

The Chairman confirmed that he had written to Mr and Mrs Zylinski, residents of the former Post Office, with the information that they had requested at our last meeting.

Signs for the Pop Up Post Office – item ongoing with Mr Thompson

Village Benches – Mr McClymont has been to Smiths Wood Yard and they supply benches which are made by the Probation Service so he will look into this further. He has looked on Amazon but is hesitant to buy online when the quality cannot be seen before purchase. Councillor Dobson suggested that he contact John Nelson (Men in Sheds) as they may well be able to oblige. Mr Aldridge requested that hard wood be used for any benches.

Santander – Mr Allen was going into the bank the next day to sort out the identification issue regarding the Property Trust Accounts.

Community Centre Bank Quote – The Chairman has received a quote for resurfacing the bank and a new hand rail for £2,700.00, which both he and Frances Kelly considered too high. They are awaiting a second quote. Mr Allen suggested David Hewitt of Sutton-on-Trent and he will pass on the contact details to the Chairman.

Midlands Rural Housing – Clerk confirmed that she had written to confirm our decision to proceed at the present time.

Grass Cutting – The Clerk confirmed that the grass cutting costs for year ending March 2016 were up by just over £2,000.00. Further investigation in to this to ensure that these figures are correct and whether other works, undertaken by Doug Lyne, are included.

Enterprise Inns – The Chairman, having found out that the land at the side of the Lord Nelson was not Parish Council land, had reported this back to Enterprise Inns.

Parish Council Owned Land – The Chairman confirmed that following consultation with Tallents Solicitors, not all land owned by the Parish Council is registered with the Lands Registry. It was considered prudent to do this and the Chairman has instructed Tallents to

register the land. The Parish Council were in agreement with this. Tallents fees for this service are £234.00.

Five Year Housing Plan – N.S.D.C. has written to the Parish Council on the importance of the 5 year housing land supply in making planning decisions. Winthorpe has been identified where limited development could take place but this is dependent on services within the village such as a shop, school and Post Office. Unrestricted development is not considered to be an option for such reasons as there is only one entrance in and out of the village.

Councillor Dobson did raise the issue of the school and how important it is to retain all rural schools. We have 94 pupils at the present time which is quite a good number however we must increase it and thereby need more families in the village and we must do what we can to encourage this. Limited building in the village may encourage new families in or people within the village to downsize and then property becomes available for purchase by families.

Dog Bin Usage – The Chairman is to put an article in Focal Point

Bottle Banks – The Bottle Banks in the pub car park are full and people are leaving bags of bottles at the side despite being told not to. The Clerk to find out about getting them emptied.

Grant Thornton Audit

We have received the finding of Grant Thornton following their audit. Generally it was a good audit with only minor points raised as follows:

- They reported that we had some issues with dates. The Reporting Officer, namely the Clerk, must certify and date the accounts before the Parish Council considers, approves and signs them.
- Box 9 –Trust Funds – We did not tick the Yes Box to say that we act as a Trustee for a Trust Fund, although this was covered in the notes, this was not deemed to be correct.
- We did not publish our Notice indicating the period for the exercise of public rights for the correct period of time which should be 30 days, thereby potentially denying a member of the public their right to object or question the external auditor.

The Notice of Conclusion of Audit requires to be published. Clerk to supply to Chairman.

## **56/16 – Invoices for Approval**

£120.00 fee to Grant Thornton for Audit

£234.00 to Tallents for land registration – already paid cheque number 101130

£684.00 to Doug Lyne for July bill – to be paid by faster payment

£805.20 to Doug Lyne for August bill – to be paid by faster payment – this does include the removal of dead tree at £210.00 and clearance of overhanging branches and hedge from Jubilee Walk at £180.00

Renewal of Insurance – Aon – £237.82

The Clerk confirmed the balances held on the accounts which had been distributed prior to meeting:

Current Account as at 8.9.16 - £2,095.69 – VAT refund of £1,242.60

Events Account as at 8.9.16 - £73.58

Holding Account as at 8.9.16 - £10,531.22

Festival Account as at .9.16 -£608.83

Property Trust Account as at 31.7.16 - £7,420.56 – Community Centre rent of £25 received.

Closed Back Book Account – Nil Balance

The Clerk confirmed that she had not moved any funds from the holding account since receiving the Precept in April but may have to now bearing in mind the invoices to pay. The VAT refund had helped with this situation.

The Summer Festival raised £750.45 – monies to be paid out as follows:

Newark Community First Aid - £40.00

Firecracker Cheerleaders - £30.00

U3A Ukelele Bank - £30.00

Stroke/Aphasia Group - £25.00

Community Centre Hire - £70.00

Total £195.00

The Remainder of the funds, £555.45, to be split as follows:

- £200 to the Defibrillator Fund
- £355.45 to Beaumont House.

The Clerk to pay funds into bank and raise cheques

Mr Allen felt that, once again, the amount given to Newark Community First Aid was poor. Councillor Dobson confirmed that they were the only true voluntary organisation there. It was proposed by The Chairman that we keep things unchanged, and seconded by Mr McClymont. The Chairman agreed to raise our concerns with the Festival organiser, Sue Mascheder.

### **57/16 – Standing Orders**

The Standing Orders and Code of Conduct have been re-written by Mr Leary. As there were two copies in circulation, and the last update was 2012, it had been agreed to pull everything together and to reflect up to date practices i.e. use of sub committees.

It was agreed to adopt the changes. The Chairman proposed them and Mr Kneen second and the Council unanimously agreed.

### **58/16 – Charity of Thomas Brewer**

The charity was set up in 1616 to look after the poor and needy of Winthorpe. The terms and conditions of the original charity were very restricted so Peter Foden and David Barthorpe applied to the Charity Commission to amend them. The funds are for the benefit of the residents of Holme, Langford and Winthorpe and applications from worthy causes should be made to the Trustees. Holme has its own trust so Langford and Winthorpe should be the main beneficiaries.

Mrs M Stewart and Mr P Foden are currently trustees that have been elected by the Parish Council. Following the changes to the terms of the Charity of Thomas Brewer, an AGM was held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016. The Chairman, Neil Moran, David Barthorpe and Tish Applewhite have become Annual Trustees. Mrs Stewart and Peter Foden have remained as elected trustees by the Parish Council. The main source of income comes from rental of a field that the Charity owns but the Charity does hold substantial funds for future use.

### **59/16 – Planning Applications**

Planning Committee – 6.9.16 – nothing relevant

Confirmation that Mr and Mrs Blyth of Low Wood, Gainsborough Road have been given permitted listed building consent.

Confirmation that DSG have been given full planning permission for the Portakabin at Long Hollow Way

### **60/16 – Correspondence**

Insurance renewal from Aon for £237.82, an increase of £8.65 on last year. All agreed to renew – Clerk to send payment.

Speed Awareness – the training session did not go ahead due to lack of volunteers. Mr Farmer is to talk to Chris Allen (Collingham Parish Council) and try to rearrange.

MUGA – Mr Farmer, in his absence, had left details of funding for the MUGA via Axo Leisure Ltd. We apparently have to provide just 10% of the £28,500 cost. This was well received and there are other quotes to come hopefully by the next meeting. It was suggested looking to the Charity of Thomas Brewer to possibly fund 50/50 with the Parish Council.

Mr Leary raised concerns about the play park opposite the Community Centre. We are due an inspection on the site shortly and The Chairman will talk to Mrs Kelly as this is the responsibility of the Community Centre.

Annual Parish Conference – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016 – Clerk to attend to take notes together with Mr Aldridge.

Fly Grazing – Email from N.S.D.C. about the problem of horses grazing on public land.

Email from David Coote about excessive noise from fireworks. The Clerk is to check with N.S.D.C. about the general policy for fireworks and how the law stands. The Clerk is also to check that the Show Ground have the Clerk as contact for events which might cause noise.

The Chairman sits on the Cricket Club Committee and will talk to Paul Matthews about the problem.

A poster was received from Mr Robert Jenrick MP to display on the Parish Notice Boards. There was a view that this was too political and should not be displayed.

Email from Annie Purdy about the slippery area on Pocklington Crescent due to overhanging trees. Clerk has asked Doug Lyne to look at this.

### **61/16 – Any Other Business**

Mr Leary has once again been approached by Mrs Norma Breedon about trees on the Burial Ground. All these trees have been passed fit. There is a Laurel bush on Hargon Lane which is concerning her also so it was agreed to ask Doug Lyne to prune this.

Councillor Dobson confirmed that Sustrans are planning a footpath/bridleway from Lincoln to Newark along the Trent Vale riverbank. There will be a meeting in Collingham for all villages involved in November where a presentation will take place.

Mr Kneen confirmed that £100.00 was raised at the Duck Race and the funds were given by the Lord Nelson to the Youth Club.

Mr Allen commented that motor bikes were being raced on the Go-Kart track which is not allowed – Councillor Dobson to look in to this.

Mr McClymont confirmed that he had cut the hedge so that the village sign can now be seen as you enter the village.

Mr McClymont is concerned that the steel ramp at the Skate Park is loose and may be unsafe. An inspection is pending.

Close of Meeting 9pm

#### **Actions:**

- Signs for the Spinney – Comment in Focal Point – The Chairman
- Pop up Post Office sign and Village Sign – Mr Thompson
- Village Benches – Mr McClymont
- Go Kart motor bikes – Councillor Dobson
- Fireworks on Cricket Field – Discuss with Cricket Club Chairman - The Chairman
- Condition of Community Centre Play Park – Chairman to discuss with Mrs Kelly
- MUGA update – Mr Farmer
- Audit report – Clerk to supply to Chairman
- Dog Bin usage – Chairman to comment in Focal Point
- Bottle bank – Clerk to chase up who empties this and when.
- Grass cutting comparisons for 15/16 and 16/17 – The Clerk
- Parish Council attendance at Allotment meetings – The Chairman
- Discuss use of Festival funds with Organisers – The Chairman