

WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 18th May 2017 in the Village Hall commencing 7.30 p.m.

Present : Mr L Cammack (Chairman), Mr A Leary, Mr P Farmer, Mr B Wright, Mr B McClymont, Mr S Lord and Mr D Aldridge

Apologies: Mr R Allen

Visitor: Mrs Frances Kelly (Chair of Winthorpe Community Centre)

District/County Councillor: Mrs M Dobson

Clerk: Mrs S Sillery

The Chairman introduced Mrs Frances Kelly, Chair of Winthorpe Community Centre.

Mrs Kelly addressed the Council and discussed the current financial position of the Community Centre.

The Community Centre was built in 2000 with lottery money and other funding for use by the Winthorpe community. She informed the Council that the building has design flaws and is now 17 years old and showing signs of general wear. The centre is used most evenings for local activities and, therefore, it is not available for outside events which have the potential to bring in greater revenue. Clearly, the centre was built for use by the community but this does handicap the ability to raise rental income.

There has been a noticeable drop in the Centre being hired to such an extent that the income now is less than it was in 2010/2011. The cost of electricity and gas has risen and changes in legislation have meant that more tests have to be done on the building to comply with current safety legislation. Furthermore, the floor had to be replaced at a cost of £2,500, the gas cooker was condemned at a cost of £600 and the Fire Alarm system recently cost £200 following a service.

All of these costs come out of the reserve account which the Community Centre holds to comply with the Charity Commission. The problem is that the reserve never gets added to, just depleted.

Mrs Kelly asked if the Parish Council would consider taking over the cost of grass cutting the Community Centre playing field as it is used by everyone. She also stated that the garage would no longer be required as the football club no longer use it and she asked if the Parish Council would take over the rent from Newark and Sherwood Homes.

Mrs Kelly confirmed that the next large expense was likely to be the guttering. She asked that rather than asking the Parish Council for an annual allowance, could they come to the Council in the future and ask for a contribution towards the cost of any large expenditure.

Mr McClymont suggested that the Community Centre approach the Charity of Thomas Brewer for funding as they have money to distribute.

Mr Leary agreed that the grass cutting costs and taking over the garage were very sensible.

Councillor Dobson suggested to Mrs Kelly that she write to her as she has a fund and may be able to assist with a contribution.

Mr Lord asked if the Community Centre were actively advertising outside of the village.

He said that the Line Dancers who use the facility had offered to increase their fees but had been told it was not necessary.

The Chairman confirmed that there were two proposals to consider. He proposed the taking over the grass cutting which Mr Farmer seconded and also proposed a contribution towards additional funding as and when large expenditure was experienced. This was seconded by Mr McClymont. No objections were raised to either proposal.

Mrs Kelly confirmed that the Community Centre were very much in favour of the MUGA as it may help with lettings and she thanked the Parish Council for the work on the Community Centre bank.

29/17 – Declarations of Interest

None

30/17 – Receive and Accept the Minutes of the Meeting dated 20th April 2017

Proposed by Mr Wright and seconded by Mr Leary

31/17 – Matters Arising

Councillor Dobson confirmed that she had found funds for the school to cover the shortfall for the boundary fencing. Mr Lord said that he had spoken to the SENCO representative at his school and confirmed that the fence was a safeguarding matter and the cost should be covered by the County Council.

MUGA update – Unfortunately, the May deadline was missed to get the Wren funding. However, there is another deadline for August which Mr Farmer and the Chairman are working to.

Defibrillator Training – this is booked for the 25th May 2017 in the Community Centre. The Chairman encouraged everyone to attend.

The Chairman raised the issue of the conifers that Mrs Crosby has planted opposite the entrance to the allotments. Councillor Dobson will have a look at them and if they are planted in the verge, they will have to be removed.

Councillor Dobson has spoken to Mr Barthorpe about the container for the allotments. The small container that they want is currently not in stock. The container will be well hidden by

growing plants and will be much more secure than a shed option. She is of the opinion that it will not need planning permission due to its size.

Paul Matthew has unfortunately been in hospital so there is no update on the Cricket Club.

Mr Leary had asked in the last meeting about who to write to in relation to the traffic congestion. Councillor Dobson confirmed that she is constantly applying pressure on behalf of all the villages under her control. She said that she will let us know when she needs individuals to write to support her.

Councillor Dobson asked the Chairman to arrange an Agenda for the meeting of all the Parishes on the A1133 and from that meeting to collate a letter to John Hayes to put the pressure on.

The Chairman confirmed that the rental of the garage near the Community Centre has been taken on by the Parish Council. The Council currently use it for festival and bonfire equipment. Councillor Dobson warned the Council that Newark and Sherwood Homes are looking for council owned land to build additional housing and the land where the garages are located could be used.

Skate Board Park – The Chairman has been approached by someone willing to take it away. The basketball hoop and seating will remain.

Councillor Dobson confirmed that the paths on the Woodlands were being relaid on the 17th June 2017. The road is booked in to be resurfaced but there is no date as yet.

Mr Leary updated the meeting on Steve Jackson's bench. He suggested re-siting it next to the stream where the plank of wood acting as a bench is already located. There would need to be a proper platform put down and there is work needed to landscape the bank. Everyone was in favour of this proposal.

Village Bonfire – The Chairman and Mr Leary have had a meeting with the Head Teacher of Winthorpe School about the school getting more involved in the bonfire. He was very keen on the idea and will talk to his staff and PTA. It was suggested to try and make the bonfire more attractive with more stalls etc.

The school are happy to support the MUGA application other than in a financial way.

Mr Farmer asked if the Parish Council had considered purchasing items which could be used at village events in order to raise funds such as a marquee.

It was suggested that the Community Centre and the school have not made the most of fundraising and need to be more proactive.

In relation to Fiona Jones asking for financial help for the school, it was decided not to assist with the cost of the boundary fencing. However, if they have a specific project and they come to the Council with costings, we would look at some form of contribution.

Summer Festival – The Chairman has a meeting arranged with Sue Masheder planned for the 1st June 2017 but everything is moving along nicely.

Burial Site – The Chairman brought up the matter of the burial plot on Hargon Lane. New Planning Permission is to be obtained as the original application has lapsed. The Chairman suggested that the plot is not in the best position as it backs on to properties on Pocklington Crescent.

He suggested an alternative and that is to use the existing cemetery and reuse the old plots as this is allowable when the graves are of a certain age. The Council were not keen on this idea and it was decided to opt for the new Planning Permission and put a path down the plot. It was agreed to make the application although it was likely that there would be opposition from residents.

The Clerk is to contact Doug Lyne to ensure that all future invoices for the cutting of the playing field come to the Parish Council.

32/17 – Any Other Business

Update of the Youth Club – The Chairman confirmed that no-one had come forward to take over the running of the Club therefore there would be another meeting in early June to discuss its future. Discussions will need to consider the funds that are currently held by the Youth Club and where these best sit in the future.

Mr Aldridge suggested that the funds from last year's bonfire, which would normally be given to the Youth Club, be given to the Community Centre. Mr Farmer suggested giving it to them towards the cost of the guttering which is likely to be the next large expense. This was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr Farmer.

The Chairman suggested buying a "Nottinghamshire Flag" to fly in the village at times when we don't have specific flags flying days. This was put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Audit Safety Checks – Langford checks are still outstanding and Mr Wright will arrange for these to be done.

Mr McClymont said the village sign needs replacing as the wood is crumbling.

The Chairman declared his attendance at Newark and Notts Show as a guest of the Showground. Councillor Dobson was also in attendance.

Mr Aldridge suggested that the Council should look at any planning applications separately to the main meeting. As soon as any applications come through, the Clerk is to send them to Mr Aldridge and Mr McClymont for them to consider and forward on to other members of the Council accordingly.

Mr Aldridge suggested that the Finance subcommittee should look at the cost of grass cutting. The Chairman said that Doug Lyne is left to get on with grass cutting as he knows what and when it is needed within the village. We had looked at going out to tender in the past but bearing in mind how other parishes had fared with other contractors, we decided to keep with Doug Lyne.

Meeting closed at 8.35 pm

To Do List

- The Chairman to arrange an agenda for the A1133 meeting
- The Chairman to put in Focal Point the relaying of the pavements on the Woodlands on the 17th June.
- The Chairman to apply for Planning Permission for the Burial Site

- The Clerk is to request that future invoicing for the Playing Field is to be sent to the Parish Council
- The Chairman is to purchase the Nottinghamshire Flag
- Mr Wright is to carry out Langford safety audits
- The Clerk is to forward any planning applications to Mr Aldridge and Mr McClymont on receipt.