

WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 21st September 2017 in the Village Hall commencing 7.30 pm.

Present : Mr L Cammack (Chairman), Mr A Leary, Mr S Lord, Mr D Aldridge, Mr P Farmer, Mr M Kneen and Mr D Allen

Apologies : Mr B Wright and Mr B McClymont

District/County Councillor – Mrs M Dobson

Clerk : Mrs S Sillery

47/17 – Declarations of Interest – None

48/17 – Receive and Accept the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 20th July 2017 – Proposed by Mr Kneen and seconded by Mr Farmer.

49/17 – Matters Arising

Youth Club update - The Chairman confirmed that the Youth Club had folded as there was no interest from anyone in the village to take it over. A meeting was held to decide what to do with the funds that are currently held by the Club. The Youth Club Committee, namely Gary and Jan Thompson, want to retain the funds in case the Club should ever restart within the next 6 to 9 months.

It is the Council's view that the funds will need to come back in some format for the benefit of the village, possibly for the MUGA, and not just in the Parish Council account. The Chairman said that he was still waiting for the minutes of the meeting and had given the Youth Club Committee until Christmas to see if anyone comes forward to restart the Club. Councillor Dobson was of the opinion that we should give them until the spring to see if any new families come into the village. Mrs Dobson also commented that some of the Youth Club funds were provided by the County Council but she was happy for these to be used for the benefit of the village. Mr Kneen commented that if the Club has officially folded then there is no-one in an official capacity to run it. The Chairman confirmed that they still have the account open and at the moment, the committee remain and are liable for the funds.

In relation to the rent held by the Community Centre, this has yet to be refunded as they are still storing equipment on behalf of the Youth Club and therefore a charge is still being incurred. Mr Farmer said that the question of the equipment needs to be sorted out, i.e. sold or donated but this is down to the Youth Club Committee to arrange and Gary Thompson knows that it needs to be done. The Community Centre should encourage the Youth Club to remove the equipment and Mr Farmer will mention this to Mrs Frances Kelly and the Chairman will also mention it to Mrs Cammack in her capacity as Secretary of the Community Centre.

Mr Farmer also confirmed that Tiger Tots had now folded as there are no children in the village using the service.

Burial Plot update – Planning has been granted and will last three years. The Council will need to put a path down and we need to agree with N.S.D.C. on the type of path to be installed. The Chairman will contact a couple of contractors in to give us some ideas/quotes. Councillor Dobson suggested talking to Oliver Scott about what we can use on a green burial ground.

The matter of using the field at the Community Centre for the Dog Show at next year's village festival was discussed. This was unanimously agreed, as a one off, so long as the area is cleaned up afterwards.

50/17 – MUGA/School Funding

A discussion took place about the future of the tennis courts. The Tennis Club is likely to fold as Colin Smith wants to step down as Chairman and there is a lack of members. The suggestion was that the Parish Council take over the running of the Tennis Club and uses one of the courts for the MUGA. The Community Centre is apparently in favour of retaining one court and using the other for the MUGA.

Bob Allen said that the tennis courts had been a long term fixture in the village but it would seem that only Andy Leary had paid subs this year. There is a concern that a tennis coach is using the courts illegally and not paying for the hire of them but charging for coaching. Clearly the courts are not being used properly and the bookings need to be more organised. The question was raised that could the bookings be done in conjunction with the Village Hall bookings?

If the Parish Council did use one of the tennis courts for the MUGA, it would make the cost of the MUGA considerably cheaper by approximately £20k. A vote was taken and the majority were in favour of keeping both tennis courts. Mr Aldridge suggested contacting Newark Tennis Club to see if they might have an interest in the courts but the Chairman said that this was most unlikely as that club has almost folded. Mr Leary confirmed that he is happy to get involved in the Tennis Club and will talk to Colin Smith about it.

51/17 – Village Bonfire/Festival

The Parish Council has agreed the distribution of festival monies so the Clerk is to send out relevant cheques.

Winthorpe Community Centre for hire - £70

Newark Community First Aid - £40

Stroke/Aphasia Group - £25

Beaumont House - £450

Winthorpe Village Church - £150

With regards to the bonfire, this has traditionally been run by the Parish Council for the benefit of the Youth Club. As the Youth Club is no longer active, the question asked by the Chairman was do the Council continue to run the bonfire and take the proceeds but allowing the school PTA to run additional things such as stalls, food stalls etc.?

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council run the bonfire, insure and underwrite it. The Chairman and Mr Farmer have got a meeting with the school on the 4th October to sort things out as it seems that there is some clarification required on who is running the bonfire and if the school want to take it on, they have to take on the risk as well.

The Chairman posed the question to the Council that are they happy to underwrite the bonfire with all funds coming back to the Parish Council and we can rethink our contributions to the various organisations. This was proposed by The Chairman, seconded by Mr Kneen and was agreed by all.

The question of giving the school a donation of £2,000 for equipment was raised. This had been previously discussed. The matter proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kneen and was agreed by all. In relation to the school equipment, the Council will need an invoice addressed to the Parish Council to enable us to claim the VAT back.

52/17 – Invoices

Invoices for payment – Doug Lyne £564 (July) and £918 (August)

Grant Thornton - £120.00

BHIB – Insurance premium £242.24

The Chairman confirmed that as we have reclaimed the VAT for the defibrillator box we need to give the balance back to the Charity of Thomas Brewer. The Clerk to arrange for the payment of £340.94.

53/17 – Planning

An application was made by Newark Air Museum to erect a modular building to provide café facilities, kitchen, storage and washroom facilities plus an area of hardstanding for aircraft displays. Messrs Aldridge and McClymont have read through this and are happy with the proposal. A vote was taken and all were in favour. The Clerk is to confirm to N.S.D.C.

Planning decision – Mr Simon Hardwick, Pennywise House, Gainsborough Road – planning permitted for replacement conservatory

Planning decision – Winthorpe Parish Council – planning permitted for burial site off Hargon Lane

Planning decision – Mr and Mrs David Edwards – planning permitted for shed at Owls Wood, Gainsborough Road

54/17 – Correspondence

The Chairman confirmed that Aviva have passed our insurance cover to a company called BHIB who are offering the exact same cover for the same price as last year. The renewal premium is £242.24. The Council were in unanimous agreement with this. The Clerk is to pay by faster payment.

Newark and Sherwood Homes have given notification that they want to develop the site where the garages are sited at the rear Gainsborough Road adjacent to the Community Centre field. This is where we currently rent a garage.

Planning will be submitted and the Council will have to wait for developments. Councillor Dobson suggested we “fight” to keep the “ginnell” open which goes through to Gainsborough Road. As there is only likely to be room for one property, Councillor Dobson said she would fight to keep the garages.

Email received requesting information about the Lancaster Squadron – Councillor Dobson will sort this out with David Moore.

Letter received from Robert Jenrick MP for Newark in relation to concerns about the potential closure of the custody suite at Newark Police Station. Clearly this is a concern to Mr Jenrick as all individuals, when arrested, would be taken to either Nottingham or Mansfield and this would take officers away from Newark during the transportation period.

There was a view that it might discourage Officers from making arrests in the first place due to the length of journey involved. Mr Jenrick has asked the Parish Council to write to Paddy Tipping if they feel strongly about this matter. The Clerk was asked to write accordingly.

A copy of a letter sent from Collingham Parish Council to the Collingham Medical Centre in relation to the lack of a Patient Participation Group in Collingham was discussed. The letter is to keep us informed that Collingham Parish Council have been advised that the Medical Centre should initiate the formation of the group and that many patients have expressed an interest and the PC would like the views of the practice. This clearly affects Winthorpe and Langford and some residents use the Collingham practice.

55/17 – Any Other Business

Councillor Dobson updated the Council on the situation regarding the proposed shed on the allotment. Andy Hardy is making an application for a grant and the deadline for this is the 17th October. He is also talking to Glenn Cobb (allotment holder) about this matter. The total cost could be £1,000 and Councillor Dobson will offer assistance and she asked that the Parish Council do so also. It was agreed that in principal that the Council would assist. Councillor Dobson will talk to David Barthorpe of the Allotment Association on this matter.

Des Allen confirmed that they had been a straw stack set fire twice in the last few days. The stack has been removed.

Mr Farmer spoke of an issue that had been raised at the Community Centre meeting about hedging being overgrown near the school. This is Bob Allen's hedge and he is aware of the matter but he has difficulty gaining access to the hedge unless it is "coned off". Bob Allen is to let Phil Farmer know when he wants it "coning off".

The embankment adjacent to the River Fleet is very overgrown the Community Centre had started clearing it but they have "run out of steam" and the Probation Service is not currently involved. The land is owned by the Parish Council and it really needs a proper path. Bob Allen has a contact at the Probation Service to see if they are willing to re-stone the path and the Parish Council will provide the materials.

The Head Teacher at the school had made a suggestion that children that attend the school get a free pass to the Bonfire as not many children from the school seem to attend the event. There is currently an advanced family ticket price in place at £12 for two adults and 2 children. This will be discussed at the meeting with the school on the 4th October.

Mr Farmer and his wife are holding a Halloween Party to raise funds for a children's charity which specialises in counselling. They are going to run a disco and wondered if the Parish Council had any equipment and if not would they purchase some. It was suggested that he speak to Sam Thompson who runs a disco and the Parish Council would pay for the disco.

School Parking – letter to be sent out by the Chairman.

Meeting closed 9:00 pm.

Actions from meeting

Chairman to contact NSDC on burial plot path

Andy Leary to meet Colin Smith re Tennis Club

Chairman to meet School PTA re bonfire event

Clerk to write to Robert Jenrick MP re Newark Police Station

Councillor Dobson to provide update on shed discussions with D. Barthorpe

Bob Allen to discuss Community Centre embankment with Probation Service

Chairman to send out School Parking Letter