

# WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held via Zoom, due to Covid 19 on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September commencing 7.30**

**Present:** Mr L Cammack (Chairman), Mr M Kneen, Mr P Smith, Mr B Allen, Mr A Leary and Mr B Wright

**District/County Councillor:** None Present

**Clerk:** Mrs S Sillery

**Guest:** Mr Peter Bateson, Chairman of the Winthorpe Community Centre

**62/20 Apologies:** Mrs M Dobson, Mrs L Dales, Mr S Lord and Mr B McClymont

Prior to the start of the meeting, Mr Bateson updated the Parish Council on the current position and future of the Community Centre.

Mr Bateson spoke of his concern about the sustainability of the Community Centre. The Centre is run by volunteers and recently, a request was put in Focal Point for a new Treasurer as Mr Duncan Richardson is intending stepping down from the role after 20 years' service. Unfortunately, no one has offered to take on the role. There is also concern that as the current volunteers step down, there will be no-one to replace them.

He also raised the issue of funding. There are funds in reserve and the Community Centre also received a £10,000 grant from N.S.D.C. However, these will be used for a new boiler at some point in the future and, potentially, a new roof. In a normal year, the Community Centre breaks even and sometimes makes a slight profit. To be sustainable, the Centre needs to be used more and therefore marketed more. It seems that the majority of residents do not use the Centre.

Aside from the Treasurer and Chairman roles, there is also a Secretary and a Booking Clerk. These are all volunteer roles.

Mr Bateson suggested a model that it used by Coddington Community Centre might be the way forward. They lease the building from the Parish Council and they pay an individual a salary of between £2,000 £2,500 per annum to run the Centre and do all the aforementioned roles.

Coddington Parish Council increased their precept to cover the cost involved.

Mr Leary asked if any other models had been considered but Mr Bateson said not as the Coddington model was the only one that he is aware of.

The Chairman asked for clarification about the charitable trust status. If we were to use the same model as Coddington, the trust would need to be dissolved and any funds held would be transferred to the Parish Council and ring-fenced. In essence, the Parish Council would run the Community Centre via a paid individual.

Mr Smith said that, presumably, the profile of the Community Centre would be raised with a paid employee.

Mr Allen asked that if the Community Centre became more profitable with a paid employee, would the Parish Council be able to step away from funding it. Mr Allen also suggested the sharing of Coddington's "paid person". Would they work for both Parishes? It would seem that talking to Coddington Parish Council would be advisable to see how they feel the model works.

The salary of £2,500 is calculated at approximately £40 - £50 per week. The question remains whether this is sufficient to turn the Community Centre around. The Booking Clerks role is currently 2/3 hours per week and the finance side takes approximately 1 hour per week.

Mr Bateson has been in discussion with Councillor Dales about students undertaking a project to increase the profile of the Centre.

Mr Bateson confirmed that there was no hard timescale for a decision. The situation does however need looking at and discussing. If the decision was made to follow the Coddington system, it would not happen until at least 2022 as the precept would have to be applied for. The risk in the longer term is that current trustees/volunteers will stand down and it will be impossible to replace them, hence the need for a rethink.

The Chairman thanked Mr Bateson for bringing the situation to the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Parish Council will need to discuss the matter and it would be good if Mr Bateson could attend a face to face meeting when the Council have considered all options.

The Chairman raised the question of would we be treating the Community Centre differently to the Village Hall. However, he acknowledged that there is a problem and it does need looking at. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting with a view to inviting Mr Bateson to a meeting in November or December 2020.

Clerk to write to Councillor Dales to see if she knows of any alternative models to that of Coddington. The Clerk to share Mr Bateson original email with the Parish Council which gives further details of the proposal.

**63/20 Declarations of Interest:**

None

**64/20 To receive and accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

Rabbits update – Mr Allen confirmed that Peter Kirk was going to have a look at the site this morning with a view to starting work this month. The ground has been cleared but will probably need to be done again. The Chairman is to talk to Doug Lyne.

Cricket Club – the rotten post on the gate to the cricket field has been replaced by Doug Lyne.

Clerk to chase the cricket club rent.

Tarmac grant – no update

Smiley Faces – no update

Bonfire – The Chairman confirmed that he had informed Nick Whiles (fireworks) and Chris Perkins that this year's event has been cancelled. Mr Allen asked if we could still send a donation to Newark Community First Aid? It was agreed to send £50. Clerk to arrange cheque.

Traveller Site – no update

Speed Camera – The Chairman confirmed that he had spoken to our insurers and that only Parish Councillors were insured and that third parties were not. An extra premium would have to be paid for third parties to use the camera.

Mr Smith made the suggestion of using white gates at the entry to the village as a psychological tool to slow down traffic.

Mrs Dobson had emailed the Clerk and confirmed that vehicle monitoring tubes had been put down on Gainsborough Road and as soon as she had any results, she would let us know.

The minutes were proposed as a true and accurate record by Mr Leary and seconded by Mr Kneen.

## **65/20 Neighbourhood Plan update:**

Mr Smith reported that he, Councillor Dales and Mr Kneen had had a discussion with the Planning Team at NSDC. It was a good meeting lasting about two and a half hours. The object of the meeting was to determine the key things needed for a Neighbourhood Plan and also what help would be forthcoming from NSDC?

Ultimately, we need to decide if we are going to go ahead with the Plan. Mr Smith felt that it would benefit the village and that we should go ahead, although there will be a lot of work and commitment required. Mr Kneen felt that having a plan would be a good move for the village.

Mr Leary asked if the new planning rules would have any effect on a new plan. Mr Smith will take advice on this from Mrs Dales.

We would get financial assistance of £10,000 which would help us employ someone to develop the plan and we, as a Parish Council, would assist with local knowledge. There are plans to redevelop the Show Ground, possibly relocating the cattle market there. This may well increase traffic in the area. Things may happen that we have no control over, however, having a plan might help in such events.

Apparently, the Parish Council should receive "Sill Money" from NSDC in relation to all new builds and extensions which are carried out in the village. This should equate to 15% of the cost. We have to request the funds and Mr Smith requested this at the meeting from Matthew Norton.

The next step, if we decide to do a plan, would be a meeting of all Parish Councillors to discuss the content of an outline plan.

The Chairman put it to the Councillors and asked the meeting as to whether it wanted to proceed or not. Mr Leary said yes so long as it would be valid under the new planning rules. It was unanimously agreed to proceed and Mr Leary will sit on the existing Planning Sub Committee with Mr Smith, Mr Farmer and Mr Kneen. Mr Smith said that he was happy to chair the Neighbourhood Plan committee.

The Chairman pointed out that this is probably going to be the biggest project that the Parish Council has ever undertaken. We will formally consult the village on the proposal and this will make the Parish Council more visibly active.

What's next? Mr Smith will talk to Mrs Dales about the new planning rules. A meeting will need to be arranged, only six people will be able to attend, due to

the current Covid 19 restrictions. Mr Smith will suggest some dates in October. The attendees will be Mr Smith (Chairman), Mr Farmer, Mr Kneen, Mr Leary, Mr Allen and the Chairman. The results of the meeting will be fed back to the full Parish Council.

### **66/20 Grass Cutting 2021:**

The Chairman reported that he had approached two new grass cutting companies asking for quotes. Continental Landscapes did not respond, however AEG of Brough did. They have quoted a sum to carry out the grass cutting which appears favourable in comparison to the current grass cutting contract from Doug Lyne.

In view of the above, the Chairman has contacted Doug Lyne to ask him to requote for the 2021 season. A revised quote is expected shortly.

Mr Allen said that we should wait for Doug Lyne to quote before making a decision and Mr Smith felt that if that quote is close to that of AEG, we should remain with Doug Lyne. Mr Leary asked whether AEG would be prepared to do the extra work that we ask of Doug Lyne. The Chairman felt that he would as he works for Collingham Parish Council and seems very obliging. It was agreed to wait for Doug Lyne to submit his quote and a decision will then be reached.

### **67/20 Parish Council Insurance 2020/2021**

The insurance renewal has come through from BHIB for 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2020. The quote has not altered from last year which was viewed as a good result. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact BHIB to see if there was a reduction in the premium if we signed up for a two/three year contract. It was agreed to renew even if the reduction could not be secured.

### **68/20 District/County Councillor Updates:**

Mrs Dobson had sent an email to confirm that the road scheme for Hargon Lane will commence on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 subject to any COVID 19 restrictions. In the interim there have been some limited repairs made for safety reasons to the worst of the potholes in line with County Council policy.

Mr Allen confirmed that there is some tarmac on the grass verges on Hargon Lane which could damage grass cutting machinery. The Chairman is to let Doug Lyne know about this.

The Council were pleased about the Hargon Lane project. However, they are not so pleased with some of the other repair work in the village. The pathways near the pub and towards the church have been "repaired" but are now worse.

This is also the case for potholes on Gainsborough Road. It was agreed to refer this back to Mrs Dobson to ask her to take it up with NSDC. The Council felt aggrieved that the work was shoddy but that the village would pay for the repair indirectly which was not acceptable. The Clerk is to email Mrs Dobson.

Mrs Dales has asked David Lloyd the Leader of NSDC to attend a meeting after lockdown to talk about the Town Plan.

### **69/20 Invoices for approval and other financial matters**

Clerk confirmed the balances of the accounts

Festival	£826.22	No changes
Holding	£8,736.56	£1,500 transferred to current account
Events	£285.97	No changes
Focal Point	£1,274.91	£34.00 credit from LB Quality Seafords £242.00 paid to Willsons printers
Current Account	£396.64	Doug Lyne £1,193.39 Grass Cutting and £170 for Clerk's Wages
Tennis Club	£4,307.37	Payments of £30 from Woodman, Wright and Rippon
Property Trust Account	£7,386.05	No changes

The Clerk confirmed that the Cricket Club had not paid their rent and she will send a reminder.

Focal Point – the £750 Parish Council support payment to Focal Point is now due. The Clerk is to arrange.

Mr Richardson had emailed to confirm that in the next few weeks he will be writing to existing advertisers to encourage them to place their adverts for the next 12 months.

In addition to the advert income, Focal Point receive the £750.00 grant from the Parish Council, £60.00 from Holme Bank Land Trust and £120.00 from the Parochial Church Council. In previous years, village organisations such as the WI, Garden Club and the Community Centre, who all use the magazine to announce their programs, made contributions but this ceased some time ago. The bank balance at the end of the year with the £750.00 grant from the Parish Council should be in the region of £1,000.00.

Mr Richardson felt that it was not appropriate to increase advertising costs and neither did he think that we can ask village organisations for funding as none of them are active at present. It may be that we need to look to entice new advertisers and to this end he will be putting a note in the October edition.

The Parish Council supported Mr Richardson's views. Mr Leary volunteered to assist with Focal Point but as yet had not been involved but is still happy to do so.

### **70/20 Planning Applications/Updates**

Work on the Village Hall has been approved

20/00921/TPO 11 The Spinney – works granted to cedar tree protected by TPO

20/01373/TPO 27 Gainsborough Road – works granted to Beech Tree, crown reduction, Scots Pine, removal, Scots Pine crown thin and lateral reduction of no more than 0.5m and Scots Pine crown thin and lateral reduction of 2 from limb overhanging neighbouring property

20/01375/TWCA White Wickets, 4 Speight Close – permission not required

20/01441/HOUSE 20 Pocklington Crescent – Two storey side extension, removal of existing flat roof over garage and replace with new hipped roof and new front porch. No objection

Overfield Park – Mr Smith reported that there is nothing to make comment on the Planning Portal. He will keep any eye on this situation.

Starbucks (Friendly Farmer site)– Slight amendment enabling larger delivery lorries – approval already given.

The Cottage, 45 Gainsborough Road – 2 fir trees to be felled – no objection to this as much in need.

Western Power – new substation at the rear of the Friendly Farmer, this relates to the Starbuck application – no objection

New Link – More information has been forthcoming thanks to Mr Allen. It would seem that there are to be six huge units despite the planning application only showing one. This is worrying from a traffic perspective. No planning has been put in yet other than for the initial one. This development will be as big as Mastercare with a small proportion falling in our Parish. We are advised that Coddington Parish Council are also concerned as most of the site falls in their Parish.

In relation to the future road planning around the A46/A17, the Clerk wrote to the Planning Department at NSDC, they passed my request for information on to David Pick of Notts County Council. Mr Pick said as follows:-

*As you know Highways England are responsible for the trunk road network including the A1 and A46.*

*The Government will take forward the upgrading of the A46 Newark bypass as part of the Second Roads Investment Strategy (RIS2) period between 2020 and 2025. It is not however expected that construction will commence until the end of the RIS2 period. The proposed scheme includes the proposed improvement of the A46 / A17 junction. I understand that HE are still considering potential scheme options before they undertake a public consultation.*

*If Winthorpe and Langford Parish Council want further details then they will need to contact HE's A46 project manager Karen Green, who can be contacted at [karen.green@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:karen.green@highwaysengland.co.uk)*

The Parish Council asked the Clerk to contact Karen Green to see what further details she could give.

### **71/20 Correspondence**

The Clerk has received an email from Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance informing us of their latest fundraising which has been changed due to Covid 19.

Highways England have written to confirm that essential maintenance work will take place on the A46 between the Winthorpe Roundabout and the A1/A46 interchange on the northbound and southbound carriageways. This will commence on 30<sup>th</sup> October and is scheduled for completion by the beginning of December. Clerk to forward email to the Chairman to put on the website.

Email from Administrative Services at NSDC informing us of the Newark and Sherwood Parish Conference (virtual) which will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020 from 5-7pm

Email from Charlotte Marriott of Nottingham Hospitals Charity informing us of the Robin Run, a virtual event taking place on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Email from the Planning Dept informing us that there is to be a Public Consultation on the Draft Residential Cycle and Car Parking Standards & Design Guide. This is an eight week period of consultation commencing 17<sup>th</sup> September – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020.



The Clerk had received a letter from Robert Jenrick MP, addressed to the Chairman of the Parish Council. In the letter he offered his thanks for all the hard work in relation to the coronavirus. As he has been prevented from making many visits within his constituency, he offered to attend a virtual meeting to offer assistance if required. The Clerk is to write and confirm dates of our meeting and formally invite Mr Jenrick.

### **72/20 Any Other Business:**

Mr Smith mentioned that last Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> September, there was a lot of shooting on the Holme side of the village. Not sure what was happening, however there have been a lack of pigeons ever since. Mr Allen said it was quite likely that there had been a pigeon shoot which is quite legal.

Mr Allen raised the question of the gate which has appeared opposite the school at High Leys. He said it is very inappropriate and should be removed as the access is very poor. Clerk to email Mrs Dales about this matter.

Mr Wright informed the meeting that he was not very happy at the way that Newark and Sherwood DC had dealt with the Traveller Site at the end of the village. He felt that the time it was taking to resolve the matter was far too long. Unfortunately, this is outside the control of the Parish Council. However it is hoped that there will be a decision shortly.

Meeting Closed at 9.00 pm

#### **Actions:**

Clerk to invite Robert Jenrick to a future PC meeting

Clerk to contact Highways England about the A46/A17 traffic improvements

Clerk to pay Focal Point contribution

Clerk to chase Cricket Club for annual rent

Clerk to contact Councillor Dobson over poor road repairs

Clerk to renew Parish Council insurance

Clerk to ask Councillor Dales for Community Centre/Parish Council examples

Chairman to chase Doug Lyne over grass cutting quote

Mr Smith to arrange Neighbourhood Plan meeting