

WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held remotely, due to the Covid 19 restrictions, on Wednesday 16th December 2020 commencing at 7.30 pm

Present : Mr L Cammack (Chairman), Mr S Lord, Mr P Farmer, Mr M Kneen, Mr P Smith, Mr B Allen, Mr A Leary

District/County Councillor: Mrs L Dales

Clerk: Mrs S Sillery

Guests: Sarah and Chris and Louise and Colin

94/20 Apologies: Mr B Wright and Mr B McClymont, Councillor Dobson

95/20 Declarations of Interest: None

Prior to the commencement of the Parish Council meeting, the Chairman invited the guests to speak about the plans for the A46 Newark Bypass.

The guests and some member of the Parish Council had joined a Zoom call with Highway England in relation to the plans for the A46.

Two options have been put forward by Highways England (HE) that would have an impact on Winthorpe village, particularly at the bottom end of the village and along Hargon Lane.

It was the guest's view that the communication from HE has been poor. Sarah has spoken to Karen Green, Project Manager for HE, and pointed out that in a village with an aging population, many residents have no ability to join Zoom or Teams calls, thereby alienating them from the information that they need. Little time has been given for residents to consider their response and the suggestion is either option one or two, when in fact you can opt for neither or ask for an alternative to be considered. This is not made clear and the worry is that people will opt for an option when they don't have to.

Sarah suggested a core group of people be set up to organise the campaign against the proposals. Linda Dales felt that the group should be kept to a small number (e.g. 6) for the benefit of communication and organisational purposes. She suggested that a leaflet campaign was launched giving residents bullet point information that has been lacking from HE.

It was also suggested in using the Lord Nelson as a focal point to distribute information particularly as the Post Office is now sited there. Sarah and Phil Farmer agreed to go down to talk to residents when they use the Post Office facility to see how much they know about the proposals.

Sarah said that they wanted to use people's expertise in the action group. Louise has a marketing background, Sarah herself is a writer and Chris is a Civil Engineer who will understand the technical aspects of the proposals.

Messrs Smith, Farmer, Kneen and Leary pledged their support. Mr Leary has had a call with Highways England but did not feel any the wiser following the conversation.

It was agreed that the new A46 Newark bypass is a positive move and one that would benefit the area but alternative proposal should be considered.

Councillor Dales felt that we needed to have a co-ordinated campaign and issues should be raised such as the timing of the consultation period (i.e. in the midst of a pandemic and over the festive period). Councillor Dales is talking to other villages such as Coddington, South Scarle, Norton Disney and Collingham and asking for their support. She confirmed that Councillor Roger Blamey and Councillor David Lloyd are prepared to talk to us about the scheme.

Mr Farmer felt that we needed to be objective and not emotive. Chris confirmed that they have clearly chosen the corridor but if it was to be challenged, a viable alternative using local knowledge was needed.

Louise felt that there was a sense of urgency. Other areas will be affected such as the Show Ground and the Winthorpe Road Estate. Councillor Dales is trying to speak to her colleagues that represent the Winthorpe Road Estate. Mr Kneen felt that a leaflet to the residents of Winthorpe was vital and should happen within the next 48 hours.

The Chairman said that the group would have the support of the Parish Council with regards to the poor consultation process and it would approach HE directly in that regard. Individual Parish Council Members who want to be involved on a personal level should do so. The Parish Council will assist where it can, but action group must remain independent of the Parish Council.

96/20 To receive and accept the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 19th November 2020

Finger Post – Mr Farmer is to contact Oliver Scott (NSDC Conservation Officer) and ask for some help.

Gym Equipment – Mrs Dobson is still chasing Tarmac about funding.

Replacement tree on the village green– It was agreed that a decent size tree (4-5 foot) was required. Mr Farmer will look into the price of these.

Mr Smith confirmed that he had not received a response from VIA regarding the road/path repairs. He will chase it up.

Daffodils –Both the Parish Council and the Charity for Thomas Brewer are prepared to give £400. Councillor Dales has a plan for the balance.

Minutes confirmed as a true copy by Mr Lord and seconded by Mr Allen.

97/20 Coddington and Winthorpe Cricket Club

The Chairman had written to Mr Paul Matthews (Chairman of WCCC) and informed him that the Parish Council are happy with the terms contained within the 2006 version of the lease and will not look to make any changes. There will be an inflation rate rise in the rent, in April 2021, as allowed for within the terms of the lease. The Parish Council is against fencing off the cricket field as this goes outside the terms of the lease.

98/20 Village Scrap Book

The Chairman informed the meeting that Pat Finn has stepped down from running the Scrap Book after many years of doing the role. The Chairman thanked Pat for his many years of excellent work in keeping the Scrap Books up to date. The Chairman has arranged storage of the books in a locked room at the Community Centre. The Parish Council are happy to retain the records but it would be great if someone could be found to continue Pat's good work. A request will be put in Focal Point asking for someone to come forward.

99/20 Speed Monitoring

Response from Andrei Cruddington at NSDC to the Speed Monitoring

For the traffic flow criteria, we take the highest directional peak hour traffic flow, for an average weekday, between the hours of 0800-0900, 1600-1700 & 1700-1800. The flows should be over 250 vehicles, in one direction, for at least one of those specified hours, to meet criteria. I have increased the volumes by 20% to allow for the reduction in traffic volumes during this week of the pandemic. As you can see, neither direction meets the traffic flow criteria.

Sites that meet both the speed and flow criteria are considered first priority to be included within a meet speed criteria, but not flow criteria can then be considered for an interactive speed sign, effectively placing them on a reserve list. Gainsborough Road falls into this category for the northeast bound direction (outbound from the village), as it meets the speed criteria, but not the flow criteria.

The 2021/22 highway programme will be submitted to members for appropriate approvals next year (exact date to be confirmed, but usually around April), we can then confirm whether or not this 'reserve' site has been included within the 2021/22 programme once it has members approval.

Mr Kneen felt that a 20 mph speed limit should be made mandatory throughout the village. The Chairman will write to Mr Cruddington and ask for Winthopre to be put on the "reserve" list for a speed indicator sign.

100/20 Neighbourhood Plan Update

Mr Smith confirmed that we now have a designated plan confirming the village boundary and also a final version of the Conservation area. Mr Kneen is to put together a "comms" statement which will go into Focal Point. It was agreed to use the Lord Nelson to get information to residents. We also have a designated support from N.S.D.C. called Adrian Allenbury.

Mr Kneen had a chat with Farnsfield Parish Council as they had already developed a Neighbourhood Plan and asked them if they thought it was worth creating a new plan, which took three years. They said that it was although it was an onerous task. The advice they gave was to keep it relevant and ensure that the identity and the character of the village is retained.

101/20 District/County Councillor Updates

Councillor Dales

The footpath near the pub is still caving in. Councillor Dales is talking to the Internal Drainage Board. Mr Allen said that there was a new grid being put in near the Mint Leaf.

Councillor Dales asked if we had heard back from Mr Wes Smith about the removal of the tree which is on his fence. The Clerk confirmed we had not had a reply and she was asked to write again.

102/20 Invoices for Approval and other Financial Matters

When looking at the Precept application for the next financial year, it became clear that both Winthorpe and Langford Parochial Church Council's had not received their grant funding for 2019 and 2020. The Clerk has now made the two payments, Winthorpe's by faster payment and Langford's via a cheque.

Mr Leary asked if anything had been received from the External Auditor. The Clerk confirmed that nothing had been received other than an email asking for information which had already been provided.

The Clerk confirmed that she had put in a request for a VAT refund of £962.81

Balances

Focal Point £2,231.91

£242 paid to Willsons for the December printing

Mr Richardson has sent out the invoices for renewal for Focal Point. The Clerk is keeping him informed as the payments come in

Property Trust £7,305.05

Festival Account £826.25

Events Account £235.97

Holding Account £10,021.31

Tennis Club £4,307.37

Current Account £466.67

Payments made are the Clerks Wages, Winthorpe and Langford PCC £300.00 each and the Chairman £25.96 for printer ink

103/20 Planning Applications/Updates

Applications

20/02418/ADV - Erection of 4 x non-illuminated signs at the Long Hollow Way Roundabout. – No issues with this.

APP/B3030/D/20/3259084 – 75 Gainsborough Road – An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State following NSDC turning down the application.

20/02279/FULM – 2 Gainsborough Road – Change of use of land for the siting of 5 holiday lodges, erection of timber decking structures, formulation of new internal access tracks and creation of new vehicular access from Gainsborough Road

Mr Allen asked if there was a need for such a facility within the village as there were already Air B&B's in the village.

Mr Leary felt that the site was too close to the school and that the access was in a dangerous position on the bend.

Mrs Dales stated that it was outside the village envelope and in open countryside.

It was unanimously agreed to object to the application siting its location and traffic concerns being the reasons for the objection. Mr Smith will write to the Planning Department.

A46 BYPASS – see previous notes. The Parish Council agreed to support the action group on the basis that not enough time has been given for the consultation process and that other options should be considered. The Parish Council gave support in relation to printing of “fliers”, etc.

The Parish Council will approach Highways England directly with its concerns.

Mr Kneen felt that residents needed to know that there was an alternative to the two proposed options. Residents must not feel that they must opt for option one or option two.

104/20 Correspondence/AOB

Mr Allen asked if there was any update on the Travellers situation adjacent to the A1. Councillor Dales reported that there was nothing to date

Rabbits – Mr Kirk has checked the area, the holes are still there but there appears to be nothing in them. The Chairman is to contact the Community Centre Chairman and asked him to arrange for the holes to be filled in to prevent rabbits returning. It was agreed that the whole area needed tidying up.

The Clerk had received a Footpath Diversion Order for Winthorpe Footpath 3. Clerk to send details to the Chairman.

Mr Kneen had been asked by Susie Conning at the Lord Nelson if they could have an additional dog bin adjacent to the pub. As we have a spare dog bin, the Chairman asked Mr Lord to assist in its erection after consulting with the pub for a suitable location.

Mr Smith confirmed that the Christmas tree had been sited outside the Lord Nelson on their land. It was thought that this was best for security. It was proposed that the Parish Council might want to have a tree next year and this should be discussed nearer the time.

Meeting closed 9.25 pm

Actions:

- The Chairman to contact the Community Centre regarding Rabbits
- Mr Lord to erect a new dog bin near the Lord Nelson
- The Chairman is to coordinate a response to Highways England
- Mr Smith to write to NSDC regarding the proposed development at 2 Gainsborough Road.
- Clerk to write to Wes Smith regarding the fallen tree
- Mr Kneen is to put in a “comms “statement regarding the Neighbourhood Plan.
- The Chairman is to write to NSDC regarding a speed indicator sign for the village.
- Mr Farmer to look into purchasing a tree for the village green.
- The Chairman is to put an article in Focal Point asking for someone to take over the running of the village scrap book