

**Minutes of the Aldwinckle Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015 in the Village Hall.**

**Present:**

Bob Blakeman                      Chairman  
Bernard Lowe  
John Lawrence  
Brian Penney  
David Strode-Willis  
Tim Hankins (Part meeting)

Richard Reed – Clerk

ENC Cllr. Geoff Shacklock (Part meeting)

There were no residents in attendance.

ENC Cllr. Shacklock introduced himself, informing Members that he sat on the Scrutiny Committee and the Planning Management Committee (Ex Development Control).

The Chairman raised the concerns over issues with the school's expansion, in particular the potential problems with traffic and parking. Cllr. Shacklock said that there was a possibility of widening the bus catchment area.

He informed the Parish Council that he had an empowerment fund of £1000 for his constituency.

**15/079 Public Open Time**

There were no members of the public in attendance and no matters had been raised.

**15/080 Apologies**

Apologies had received from Cllr. Watts; Cllr. Hankins who would be late arriving and County Councillor Wendy Brackenbury.

**15/081 Declarations of Interest**

Pecuniary: None

Other interests: None

Requests for Dispensations: None

**15/082 Minutes of the meeting held on 30.06.15**

It was proposed by Cllr. Lawrence and seconded by Cllr. David Strode Willis that the minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015, and having previously been circulated, be accepted and signed as a true record of that meeting.

**15/083 Matters arising.**

- (i) Cllr. Strode-Willis reported on his enquiries into the Right to Buy Policy and its possible effect on the housing association properties in Cross Lane and the accompanying s.106 agreement. Cllr. Shacklock offered to see what ENC's view was on the policy.
- (ii) The overgrowth in Lowick Lane/Main Street had been dealt with by the owners of Solomons Barn. A further problem had been identified on the bend in Lowick Road before the Main Street junction. (Cllr. Hankins agreed to cut this back).
- (iii) The Chairman spoke of the proposed action at the school in respect of the temporary classrooms, etc.

**15/084 Reports from Other Bodies**

- (i) Village Hall – Cllr. Lowe spoke of forthcoming events. An application had been made to the Big Lottery Fund for additional heating, new curtains and additional chairs.

*7:55pm Cllr. Hankins arrived.*

- (ii) There had been no report from the Police.
- (iii) The Chairman said that a street party was proposed on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2016 to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Lesley Blakeman and Bev Hankins are getting an organising committee together.

### **15/085 Pocket Park – Consideration of Lease Renewal**

The Chairman had carried out a survey of the village in respect of the above. There had been 32 responses of which 98% were aware of the Pocket Park. 65% said they had used the park in the last five years. 23% felt the park was very important, 37% felt that it was important and 40% did not believe it was important.

*8:00pm Cllr. Shacklock left the meeting.*

Members were concerned about the Council's liability for any trees that might fall and cause damage/injury and the Chairman reported that he had asked Smiths Gore to undertake a survey of the trees within the park in addition to the roadside trees that had been checked. The Council agreed to delay a decision regarding the lease until this had been done and an assurance had been given that the trees were safe.

It was felt that a volunteer group could be organised to deal with the tidying up the park once the lease had been renewed.

### **15/086 Highways**

It was noted that a road closure of Lowick Lane had been arranged for 22.10.15 to enable Anglian Water to repair the mains leak.

Cllr. Penney had checked the depth of the potholes in Lowick Lane and they were shallower than Northamptonshire Highways' intervention level.

The elevated walkway to Thorpe had been repaired.

### **15/087 Street Light Upgrades**

Lamp failures were discussed. If these were old units then they should be replaced. Once repairs had been carried out then further consideration is to be given to upgrading other parts of the system.

### **15/088 To Finalise Meeting dates**

To avoid prior commitments of the new Clerk, the October 2015 and January 2016 meetings need rescheduling. The new dates for these are;

13<sup>th</sup> October 2015

11<sup>th</sup> January 2016

### **15/089 To Consider Correspondence Received**

Items of correspondence received following the last meeting were considered by the Members.

The Clerk was asked to book the annual playground inspection with Wicksteed. **Action: Clerk**

There had been correspondence from the Village Hall Committee raising issues that were associated with the location of the defibrillator. The Chairman had replied informing them that no decision had yet been made regarding location. The opinions of East Midlands Ambulance Service, The British Heart Foundation and the experience of other villages would all need to be considered before choosing the best site.

### **15/090 Planning**

- a) No planning applications had been received since the last meeting.
- b) It was noted that the application for the school had been approved as well as the carport for the Rectory.
- c) Other planning matters: in respect of the House of Lords Select Committee on National Policy for the Built Environment: Call for Written Evidence, the Chairman felt that a number of aspects could be commented upon and would prepare a draft letter for Members to consider. **Action: BB**

### **15/091 Finance**

- (i) The Clerk presented the monthly statement of accounts. There had been no receipts since the last meeting.
- (ii) The following invoices were approved for payment, proposed by Cllr. Lawrence and seconded by Cllr. Strobe-Willis:
  - Anglian Water £19.01 cheque No. 100603
  - E.ON Street light energy £140.56 Cheque No. 100604
  - Savills Pocket Park lease £29.97 Cheque No. 100605
  - ENC Election paperwork £66.42 Cheque No. 100606
  - Francis Hale mowing, etc. £430.00 Cheque No. 100607

- (iii) The Annual Audit report had been received and it was noted that there were no issues arising. The Chairman proposed that the report be approved and this was seconded by Cllr. Penny.
- (iv) It was agreed to add the Chairman, Cllr. Hankins and the Clerk as signatories for the bank account, the others being Cllrs. Penney; Lawrence and Watts. The Mandate form is to be circulated for completion by all and then returned to the Clerk. **Action: All**
- (v) Other Financial Business: Cheques to the value of £807.06 had been received as contributions towards the purchase of a defibrillator and these are to be paid into the account by the Clerk. **Action: Clerk**  
The Chairman is applying to the British Heart Foundation for a grant towards this item. **Action: BB**

**15/092 Items Requiring Urgent Attention, For Information or For the Next Agenda**

Next agenda: Transparency Code Regulations; Defibrillator.

Playground lease: Cllr. Lawrence to consider. **Action: JL**

It was considered that there was currently no particular problem with litter and the litter pick would be deferred to the spring.

It had been noted that the benches in the park had bowed and it was agreed to take this up with the supplier. Details are to be passed to the Chairman. **Action: BB/Clerk**

**15/093 Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015 commencing at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further urgent business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:10pm.