



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2019 at 7.30 PM AT WINCHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Present:**

**Parish Councillors:** *I Parr, D May, C Powell, N Morgan, A Webster, D Kelly and R Casson*  
**Unitary Councillors** *N Wright,*  
**Parish Clerk N Morris**

No concerns were expressed during the public forum.

**1. Apologies for absence**

*Apologies had been received from Cllrs K Barker, A Makepeace and from Unitary Councillors Gibbon and Marshall and PCSO Wiggins*

*Resolved to accept the apologies  
Proposed Cllr May  
Seconded Cllr Webster*

**2. Declarations of any**

- (a) disclosable pecuniary interests or**
- (b) other disclosable interests**

**As are required under Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.**

*No declarations were made.*

**3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 16 October 2019**

*Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of 16 October 2019 be accepted as a true and complete of the meeting.*

*Proposed Cllr May  
Seconded Cllr Powell*

**4. No matters arising from the previous meeting were reported.**

**5. The Unitary Councillor present delivered a report**

- i. There were no developments on the Planning position for the site of the former Black Greyhound;*
- ii. Cheshire West and Chester Council is in purdah, awaiting the election.*

**6. Support for the planned Fitness Track from Members' Annual Budgets was discussed.**

*Cllr May described the project. Cllr Wright had not seen the application for funding. The clerk promised to re-send the application that evening.*

**7. It was noted that CWaC had advised three new lampposts along the path in the Linnards Lane Playing Field would cost the Parish Council £4000 and CWaC would not allow fewer than three lampposts because of official British Standards for lighting was noted and discussed.**

*The clerk was asked to investigate private contractors and also to seek advice from ChALC.*

## **8. A licensing application for 2-20 July 2020 for the Cheshire Showground was discussed.**

*The latest application (the third) had been rejected, but it was likely that the applicants would try again. The noise and disruption would be considerable from the proposed two week event.*

*Resolved to oppose any similar re-application by writing to Cheshire East and also sending support to Pickmere PC in their opposition*

*Proposed Cllr Kelly  
Seconded Cllr Powell*

## **9. The revised zones surrounding Thor were noted.**

## **10. Reports of issues on the streets of Wincham were invited.**

- i. *It was noted that no follow-up had been received from the police regarding the speed limits in Wincham, although the bushes around speed signs have largely been cut back*
- ii. *Parking on the "bird" estate is unacceptable before and after school. Cars park too close to junctions and also children in wheelchairs sometimes cannot pass. The clerk will notify PCSO Wiggins.*

## **11. PCSO Wiggins sent the following report:**

Reported theft of fuel from motor vehicles at retail premises in Wincham

Report of criminal damage to caravan – possible cause from an air rifle

Report of vehicle being a target of criminal damage – again caused by an air rifle.

There have been a number of complaints made regarding criminal damage- cause air rifle within the Northwich area.

I will place something on social media – if this has not been done so already on my return.

Emails have been actioned in my absence and any issues raised have been sent to PCSO Woodall for action/reassurance.

## **12. PLANNING**

*It was noted that there were no planning applications in Wincham sent for perusal since the last meeting.*

## **13. Sub-Committees and Working Parties**

- i. **It was agreed that the Finance Committee meeting to discuss the Precept for 2020/21 would be held at 7.30pm on 8 January 2020 with Cllrs Parr, Barker, Powell, Casson and Webster.**

**It was also agreed that a Personnel Committee meeting would take place in January 2020.**

- ii. **An update was received from the Grounds Maintenance Working Party including financial plans and possible grants towards the planned Fitness Track, including the FCC Communities Foundation Operational Area Trust (deadline 11 December). Drawings and costings will be required. The path will be flat and permeable. Other grants (such as Manchester Airport) also require work. The Working Party also discussed planting and surveying trees.**

*Resolved to authorise submission by either or both Kenton Barker and Naomi Morris of a grant application by Wincham Parish Council to the FCC Communities Foundation Operational Area Trust in respect of the planned Fitness Track*

*Proposed Cllr May  
Seconded Cllr Casson*

*Resolved to authorise a contribution of £4,691.16 by Wincham Parish Council for the planned Fitness Track to support the Parish Council's application to the FCC Communities Foundation*

*Proposed Cllr May  
Seconded Cllr Casson*

iii. No updates were received from other Working Parties.

**14. Tree planting and horticultural matters within Wincham were discussed and the quotations for a survey of trees were considered.**

*Two questions had to be addressed:*

- i. *Would there be an unacceptable conflict of interest if the same expert conducted the survey and then undertook the remedial work?*

*Members felt that so long as the two processes were treated as separate operations, there was no reason why the same tree surgeon could not quote for both the survey and the remedial work, knowing that each stage would be separately awarded.*

- ii. *Should the Parish Council commission a comprehensive survey of all trees affecting Parish Council land or only a survey of trees presently requiring remedial action?*

*Members wanted a comprehensive survey as a baseline for future.*

*The clerk was asked to consult ChALC and Cheshire West and Chester Council for advice.*

**15. It was noted that the 500 donated daffodils have arrived and where, when and how to plant them was discussed.**

*The daffodils will be planted either on Wincham Lane on the wide green verge or else partly on the grass by Shores Green Lane and partly by Green Lane.*

*The clerk will be informed of the final decision and sent a plan or plans to send to Highways for consent.*

**16. Whether to apply for Green Flag status for Linnards Lane Playing Field for 2020 was discussed. This would cost £329+VAT and would require submission of a full Management Plan and other paperwork prior to the judges making a site visit.**

*The Parish Council will not pursue Green Flag status this year.*

**17. The rota for inspections was noted:**

16/10/2019	Cllr Parr
20/11/2019	Cllr Makepeace
20/12/2019	Cllr Morgan
20/1/2020	Cllr Casson
20/2/2020	Cllr Powell
20/3/2020	Cllr May
20/4/2020	Cllr Barker

Inspections sheets are required for each individual week. Inspection sheets may be scanned and sent to the clerk at [winchampc@talktalk.net](mailto:winchampc@talktalk.net) or sent by post to 22 Churchfields Bowdon WA14 3PJ.

**18. The new inspections' rota up to October 2020 was noted and it was considered whether to expand the inspection sheets to include matters trees and bushes around the playing fields.**

*It was agreed that the park checklists would be expanded to include directions to observe and record any issues with trees or bushes. It was noted that the Councillors conducting the inspections would not be experts, just volunteers.*

**19. Meetings with Marston PC were continuing, working towards creating a Neighbourhood Plan.**

**20. Allowing SID to use the Parish Council noticeboard outside the school entrance on Linnards Lane was discussed.**

*Wincham Parish Council no longer uses the noticeboard outside Wincham School. The noticeboard is owned by the School, but Wincham Parish Council has use of it.*

*Resolved to allow the organisers of SID to take over use and maintenance of the noticeboard on Linnards Lane outside Wincham School*

**21. It was noted that seating is planned to be added to the bus shelter on Church Street.**

**22. It was noted that there is currently one vacancy on the Parish Council and two applications to fill this vacancy through co-option were assessed and compared.**

*It was noted that Gary Olive had first expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council, last year, when there was no vacancy. It was also noted that there will be another vacancy on the Parish Council, after Christmas.*

*A vote was taken and a majority felt that the current vacancy should be offered to Gary Olive, but in the hope that Mal Caudwell might apply for the forthcoming new vacancy.*

*Resolved to co-opt Mr Gary Olive as a Parish Councillor.*

*Proposed Cllr Webster*

*Seconded Cllr Morgan*

**23. The news that Cllr Ged Birbeck has given notice of his retirement from the Council was noted and Members expressed their appreciation for what he has done for Wincham. Members discussed approval of the procedure advertising for a replacement Councillor.**

*Resolved to continue with the process of advertising the new vacancy on the Parish Council*

*Proposed Cllr May*

*Seconded Cllr Casson*

**24. A request for a £300 donation request from the Wincham and Pickmere Old Friends was discussed.**

*Resolved to make a donation of £300 to the Wincham and Pickmere Old Friends*

*Proposed Cllr Casson*

*Seconded Cllr Kelly*

**25. Members noted that flowers, with a message of appreciation for her many years of support, have been sent on behalf of the Parish Council to Mrs Sue Statham.**

**26. Members noted that two tickets to a concert in the Bridgewater Hall on 9 March 2020 have been donated to the Parish Council from Manchester Airport.**

*The tickets will be mentioned in the Wincham Word and members of the public will be invited to apply.*

**27. The Parish Council considered whether to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day 8-10 May 2020.**

*Wincham Parish Council will erect a VE Day banner and decorate the War Memorial.*

**28. Members considered:**

**i. Remembrance Sunday events in Wincham;**

*The event went very well and it was good to include the children.*

**ii. It was noted with thanks the photocopying by Wincham School without charge;**

**iii. The War Memorial and suggestions that a Memorial Wall be erected in the Memorial Garden;**

*A wall or fence could be erected behind the War Memorial to be used for private plaques remembering the deceased. These would not be war dead, but would be in keeping with it being a "Memorial Garden". The Friends group have some funds from a grant from the Co-Op and would cover the cost, or much of it. They might themselves put up a plaque in the centre thanking all those involved in raising money for the War Memorial.*

*The clerk was asked to consult ChALC about the legal ramifications.*

**29. An update was received on the display of the Jet Commemorative Stone**

*A resident with a number of photographs of the jet engine project has come forward. The photographs will be examined and some copied for the exhibition.*

**30. It was noted that Wincham Community Centre no longer discounts use of facilities for community events.**

*The clerk was asked to put on the next agenda putting one of the Councillors forward to sit on the Management Committee of the Community Centre.*

**31. A report was received on the Unsung Heroes Event on 19 October.**

*This was a hugely successful event. A bout of sickness across the village unfortunately depleted numbers on the day, but those that came had a very good time and a lunchtime format seemed popular.*

*Cllr May was thanked by the meeting for all her tireless work for the Unsung Heroes Event.*

**32. Events for Christmas 2019 were discussed.**

*30 November the Chapel Street Christmas tree will be lit at 6.30pm: posters and fliers have been distributed advertising the event.*

*1 December Lantern Parade across to the Linnards Lane Christmas tree and the tree will then be lit at 4pm. Volunteers were needed for this, but it was confirmed that responsibility for the event lies with Wincham School and it is covered by their insurance.*

*7 December 2.30-5.30pm Carol Concert. This is a Parish Council event. The clerk was asked to speak to Roberts and the Spar about donations for refreshments. Volunteers are needed.*

*14 December Sleigh Run by Father Christmas. This is a lovely event, but it is not the responsibility of the Parish Council. Volunteers are needed.*

**33. The requirements of the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018 were noted meaning that all public sector existing websites or apps must comply with the 2018 regulations ensuring maximum accessibility by 23 September 2020**

*The clerk was asked to consult Mike at Global River for his advice.*

**34. No reports of events attended by Councillors or the clerk in an official capacity were reported.**

**35. Reports were invited on Village Communication, including:**

- i. **The newsletter: the latest edition has been distributed**
- ii. **No changes or additions for the village website were reported**
- iii. **The village Facebook page and other social media were reported as prospering:**
- iv. **Arts and performance around the Wincham area – the next edition of the CRTA proposals has been issued, but it is currently uncertain whether Wincham will be involved in Spring 2020.**

**36. Accounts:**

**i. The following payments were considered**

- |  |         |         |
|--|---------|---------|
| 1. Northwich Town Council maintenance of the Playing Fields: |         |         |
| i. Invoice 3843 31/10/2019                                   | £245.00 |         |
| VAT  | £49.00  |         |
|  |         | £294.00 |
| 2. Simon Roberts: printing the Wincham Word invoice 19-239   |         | £565.00 |
| 3. Wincham Community Centre hire for the Unsung Heroes event |         | £49.50  |

