

WINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16 MAY 2012 AT 7.30 PM IN WINCHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present : Parish Councillors: P O'Halloran, K Barker, A Makepeace, D Pugh and D Turner
Parish Clerk: N Morris

In Attendance: Unitary Councillors: M Byram, D Hammond and N Wright
PCSO P Hambleton
B Allcock, Northwich Guardian
Members of the public.

During the public forum, members of the public raised the following issues:-

With regard to the proposed development of Keats Field:-

- There was concern to retain the status of Green Belt.
- Building on Green Belt must be exceptional and this is not.
- There are already stables empty within 1 mile of this area.
- This area has been enjoyed and used as if it had a public right of way for many years. The land is important to the village and its occupants.
- The field is home to a diversity of wildlife.
- The area tends to be waterlogged and this development could make the situation worse.
- The properties in the area have septic tanks and this development could compromise these.

There was concern that the residents found it difficult to keep up to date with developments on contentious planning issues. (The Chairman said that the Council would investigate posting updates on the website.)

A. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Pugh proposed Cllr O'Halloran;
Seconded Cllr Turner.

There being no other nominations, Cllr O'Halloran was elected Chairman for the period of one year.

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Cllr O'Halloran proposed Cllr Barker for the post of Vice Chairman;
Seconded Cllr Turner.

There being no other nominations, Cllr Barker was elected Vice Chairman for the period of one year.

Cllr Barker proposed Cllrs Turner and Pugh as the two Footpath Officers;
Seconded Cllr Makepeace.

There being no other nominations, Cllrs Turner and Pugh will be the Footpath Officers for the period of one year.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

were received from Cllrs Moss and Casson and accepted.

3. DECLARATION OF A PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

Cllrs O'Halloran and Turner declared prejudicial interests in Item 18 due to their positions on the Allotment Society Committee.

Cllrs Barker & Pugh declared personal interests in Item 18 due to their interest in having an allotment in the future.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved that they be confirmed as a correct record:

Proposed Cllr Makepeace;

Seconded Cllr Barker.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There were no matters arising from the Minutes that demanded discussion.

6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE UNITARY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Wright gave a report which contained the following items:

- Wincham will soon be subject to a new system for rubbish collection. This process has caused some initial problems elsewhere in the Borough.
- Work on the repairs to the bridge in Hall Lane is expected to start in June.
- Traffic lights in Hall Lane should be installed shortly.
- The donation of £100 from CW and CC has been organised to help fund the Diamond Jubilee mugs to be given out at Wincham Primary School. (The Council expressed its thanks.)
- There has recently been a serious car accident in Great Budworth.

Cllrs Byram, Hammond and Wright left the meeting.

7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM PCSO HAMBLETON

PCSO Hambleton gave his report which included the following items:-

- Since the last WPC Meeting the village has suffered one burglary;
- There had been a report of anti-social behaviour taking place outside the Spar shop;
- Thirty abandoned vehicles that had previously been parked outside the Northwich Vics ground have now been moved across the road;
- Forty motorists have been caught speeding in the village and one driver had no insurance;
- It was planned to hold a further Drivers' Day to promote road safety in Wincham. PCSO Hambleton was talking to Wincham School and to the fire service to arrange this. It was intended to involve school children as much as possible in the event. A possible date was 5 July. It would require hire of Wincham Community Centre and a donation from WPC. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting of WPC.

8. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM WINCHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE REPRESENTATIVE

The Cllr concerned was not present at the Meeting. This item will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

9. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CLERK WITH REGARD TO MR DAVID HEWTT, MD OF THOR

Mr Hewitt has accepted the invitation of the Council to attend the next meeting in June 2012.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A Councillor reported that at the recent meeting of the Neighbourhood Development Group, 30th June had been discussed as the launch date. The publicity for this will be handled by the Northwich Guardian (for which the Councillors expressed their thanks). The launch date is provisional on Cheshire West and Chester Council being able to send a specialist planner on that day.

One of the tasks outstanding is to compile a list of businesses in Wincham. The existing list is several years old and out of date.

11. SUB-COMMITTEES

The Communications Sub-Committee will meet on Monday 21/5/2012 at 20.30pm in the Community Centre, Wincham.

The Personnel Sub-Committee will meet on Thursday 24/5/2012. This meeting will not be open to the public because it will discuss the employment contract of the Clerk. The meeting will be open to any Councillors wishing to attend. Councillors were given three days' notice of this meeting.

Cllr Moss having resigned from the Personnel Sub-Committee, Cllrs Makepeace and Turner agreed to join the Sub-Committee.

12. THE PARISH OFFICE

It was reported that the Community Centre were to meet on Monday 21/5/2012 and may discuss installing Wifi. WPC will await the conclusions of this meeting before considering the viability of a Parish Office further.

The costs of maintaining a Parish Office could be off-set against the cost of Dataspace currently holding Parish papers, although there would be added security costs in holding papers at the Community Centre.

13. CO-OPTION

Notices will be posted in Wincham giving the residents 14 days during which to call for a poll. This period will have elapsed by the date of the June meeting of WPC. Co-option can then go ahead, if no poll has been triggered.

At present, three residents have expressed an interest in becoming parish councillors. There are three vacancies.

14. ADVERTISEMENT IN THE SCHOOL SUMMER FAIR PROGRAMME

Resolved that the terms of the advertisement (as up-dated from last year) be accepted.

Proposed Cllr Turner;

Seconded Cllr Pugh.

15. LINNARDS LANE PLAYING FIELD

Rotas for the inspection of the playing field were distributed to the councillors.

Resolved to note and accept the recent report by ROSPA, the terms of which were similar to those of last year.

Proposed Cllr Turner;

Seconded Cllr Pugh.

16. COUNCILLOR MAINWARING'S RETIREMENT

Regret was expressed by all councillors that Cllr Mainwaring was no longer on WPC.

Resolved to mark Cllr Mainwaring's contribution to the village in an appropriate manner.

The sum of £100 was put aside for this.

Proposed Cllr Barker;
Seconded Cllr Makepeace.

17. VILLAGE COMMUNICATION

Estimates for the new village notice board had not been seen by all councillors and so this item will be considered at the next meeting.

18. THE INEOS PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY MEETING HELD ON 20th April 2012

Resolved that the Minutes be noted.

Proposed Cllr Barker;
Seconded Cllr Makepeace.

19. PLANNING

a) Decisions

None to report.

b) Refusals

None to report.

c) Applications

- i. **12/01768/FUL** – Raise roof height of half of building by 2m and single storey rear. G and B Motor Engineers Ltd, Springboard House, Chapel Street, Wincham. CW 9 6DA.
No objection.
- ii. **12/01699/FUL** – Change of use for the keeping of horses and erection of stable block with associated facilities; land adjacent and rear of Meadow Croft, Linnards Lane.

Cllrs O'Halloran and Turner left the room since they had expressed a prejudicial interest in this item.

It was Resolved to object to this application on the basis that:

- a. There are already empty stables within 1 mile of the site;
- b. The owner does not live locally and so it was unclear how this could be for their personal use;
- c. There were questions over the drainage and water pressure implications of the development;
- d. In the Parish Plan produced 2 years previously, an overwhelming majority of the residents had expressed their concern to retain the Green Belt land and rural aspect of Wincham.

Proposed Cllr Barker;
Seconded Cllr Makepeace.

Cllrs O'Halloran and Turner returned to the Meeting.

- iii. **12/01698/FUL** – Residential development of 17 affordable dwellings on land adjacent to and rear of Meadow Croft Linnards Lane, Wincham.
The Clerk has written detailing the Planning Committee's objections.

- iv. **11/01968/OUT** - Residential development of up to 1050 dwellings, including 30% affordable housing; plus up to 2500m² of associated commercial facilities. Points of access/egress on to New Warrington Road and Chapel Street.

An extension for objections was granted until 17/5/ 2012. The previous Clerk sent a detailed letter on behalf of WPC on 19/4/2012. The case may be heard at the Planning Committee Meeting on 31/5/2012, or it may yet be postponed to a later meeting.

It was reported that Thor may put in a planning application for a change of use of the former Northwich Vics stadium which might affect the proposed residential development, but it was reported that Thor are not yet in a position to submit their planning application.

It was Resolved that Cllr Barker should attend to represent WPC at the CW&C Planning Committee Meeting.

Proposed Cllr Turner;
Seconded Cllr Makepeace.

Other Planning related matters

It was reported that draft proposals for development at Barons Quay, Northwich were available to view until 25/5/2012 at www.weavervalley.org.uk

20. ACCOUNTS

a) Resolved to approve the following payments:-

- i. Wincham Community Centre – hire of Committee Room on 20/3/2012; 3/4/2012; /10/4/2012 and 18/4/2012 - £47.60.
- ii. Wincham Community Centre – hire of Committee Room on 16/3/2012 by the Parish Plan Committee (to be paid by the Village Improvement Fund) - £35.70.
- iii. Wincham Community Centre – hire of Committee Room on 23/3/2012 by the Parish Plan Committee (to be paid by the Village Improvement Fund) - £32.60.
- iv. DataSpace – storage facility for WPC papers - £98.89
- v. Clerk’s salary - £305.94.

Proposed Cllr Makepeace;

Seconded Cllr Turner.

All agreed.

b) The Current Net Balances were:-

Current Account	£200
Reserve Account	£28,067.81
Bonus Saver Account	£4694.06

These were noted.

c) Resolved to approve the Annual audit documents and Accounts;

Proposed Cllr Barker;

Seconded Cllr Turner.

(a) CORRESPONDENCE

Items of general correspondence were received and noted:-

- i. Wincham & Pickmere Old Friends Club had written to WPC, politely requesting a donation.
Resolved to send a donation of £300, in line with previous donations to the same cause.
Proposed Cllr Turner;
Seconded Cllr Pugh.
It was felt that WPC should consider what other measures could be taken for older residents of the village.
- ii. Cllr Parr had tendered her resignation from the Council, with immediate effect. This was accepted.
- iii. Mr Ian Parr of 19 Kingfisher Grove had written, asking to be considered for a post on the Parish Council. This will be considered under the co-option procedure, if no general poll is called.
- iv. Three separate letters had been received from residents in Chapel Street (Mrs R Holman, Mr L Barton and Mrs C W Dockney) complaining about the state of a plot of land, formerly 30 Chapel Street.
The Clerk will contact CW&C.
- v. ChALC had reported they are working on a template new Code of Conduct dealing with the standards of conduct expected of parish and town council members, following the new provisions of the Localism Act 2011. It is expected that the new provisions may come into force on 1/7/ 2012.
Developments will be monitored.
- vi. National Association of Local Councils had requested councils to write to their MPs to support the Early Day Motion in Parliament to give Town and Parish Councils the right of appeal against the granting of Planning Permissions.
This was noted.
- vii. Notification had been received of the Northwich and Rural Joint Town and Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 13/6/ 2012.
This was noted.

21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Resolved to remove Cllr Mainwaring and Mrs Dunabin as signatories on the bank accounts for Wincham Parish Council and to add Cllr Makepeace and Naomi Morris:
Proposed Cllr Barker;
Seconded Cllr Turner.
- b. Cllr Barker reported that he had been contacted by the BBC who were making a documentary on CW&C. He may be interviewed on the subject of the Urban Village, although he would only express his personal views, not on behalf of the Council.

- c. Cllr Pugh asked that the next Council Meeting consider the question of a toddlers' section being installed in the Linnards Lane Recreation Ground.
- d. Cllr Makepeace asked that the possibility of a gardening-support commune and a communal litter-pick across the village be considered at the next Council Meeting. She reported that Northwich Council would be prepared to provide the equipment for a litter-pick.
- e. Cllr O'Halloran is to attend a training course for Chairmen.

The meeting closed at 21.32 pm.

Members Note: The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **20 June 2012** at **7.30 pm** in the Community Centre.