

WINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2013 AT 7.30 PM IN WINCHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present:

Parish Councillors: P O'Halloran, K Barker, I Parr, A Makepeace, D Turner, D Pugh, R Casson and L Moss.

Ward Councillors: N Wright, M Byram

Parish Clerk: N Morris

PCSO: P Hambleton

Emma Rigby of the press

Members of the public.

During the public forum, the unanimous view expressed was that HS2 route was unfortunate. It was accepted that it would be difficult to fight, but the residents present expressed the view that they wished WPC to work on their behalf.

The residents asked:

- That WPC continued to work with other councils to oppose the plans;
- That a Working Group of the Parish Council work with members of the public on this issue;
- That all interested parties watch the village website to keep abreast with developments;
- That residents who were prepared to become more involved may join with the Parish Council

1. Apologies for absence

Resolved to accept apologies from Councillors D Cooke and B Cooke, Smith and Ward Councillor Hammond.

Proposed: Cllr Casson

Seconded: Cllr Turner

2. Declarations of any

(a) disclosable pecuniary interests or

(b) other disclosable interests

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

- Cllr O'Halloran declared a disclosable interest in Item 19 12/01698/FUL – (Residential development of 17 affordable dwellings on land adjacent and rear of Meadow Croft, Linnards Lane, Wincham.)
- Cllr Barker declared a disclosable interest in the question of car parking on Linnards Lane due to his connection to Weavervale Housing Trust.

3. Request for Dispensation

- The Clerk invited any members who had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any items on the agenda to provide her with an application for dispensation under section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 to enable members to participate in discussions and voting.

No applications were received

4. To welcome representatives of the local Foodbank.

A representative of the Foodbank in Cheshire explained its functions and operation. Entirely run by volunteers, the Foodbank depends on donations of non-perishable, in date food. Over 11 tonnes of food have been donated since September 2012. Wincham Primary School here donated their harvest festival food to the Foodbank in 2012.

This is crisis food. The Foodbank works with referral agencies such as CAB and Social Services. They issue a client with a red voucher. The clients then have 3 days to come to one of the three distribution centres. No one should be further than walking distance from a centre. Someone at the centre chats to the applicant over a cup of tea. Everyone is a volunteer. The voucher gives the applicant 3 days of food. It is usually inappropriate for applicants to have more than 3 vouchers. In the week before the Council Meeting, the Foodbank had fed 25 people.

The Councillors expressed their support for the Foodbank. The representative of the Foodbank agreed to write an article for Wincham Word to publicise the Foodbank.

The Parish Council will put a link to the Foodbank on the Wincham website.

5. Minutes of previous to the meeting

Resolved that the Minutes for the meeting held on 20 February 2013 be confirmed as a correct record:

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Turner

6. Consideration of the future of the land off Linnards Lane.

(This item was brought forward by the Chairman to item 6.)

It was reported that Mr Gubay was believed to be prepared to gift the field to the village. The Clerk stated that she had written to Mr Gubay, but had not received a reply.

Cllrs Barker, O'Halloran and 3 members of the public made arrangements to meet at the field on Monday, 25 February at 7.30pm to measure the dimensions of the field and discuss possibilities for its future use for the community.

Concern was expressed over the damage on the sign going into Wincham. The Clerk was asked to write to the Highways Department of CW&C.

7. Consideration of the proposed route of the HS2 railway track and any response from Wincham Parish Council.

Resolved:

- i. That the Parish Council opposes the proposed HS2 route but believes that negotiation over landscaping and improving the facilities and transportation links for the village etc is the way forward;*
- ii. to continue liaising with other parishes;*
- iii. to create a dedicated area on the Wincham website;*
- iv. to create a new Working Party to co-ordinate the response of the village to HS2. The Working Place to be Cllrs Turner, Moss, Casson and Parr;*
- v. The Working Party will attend the HS2 Meeting at Lostock Church Hall on 4 March and report back to WPC.*

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Turner

8. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting.

The Clerk reported:

- i. Pickmere Lake*

The Parish Council could take legal action but ChALC advises against this because it would be expensive and the Council would not be able to recoup the cost.

A councillor agreed to look at the site to obtain an estimate for the repairs necessary.

- ii. Badges for Councillors
ChALC have promised to give advice on this.
- iii. Chapel Street
The CW&C officer has been absent from his desk through illness. Despite e mails from Wincham, no progress has been made this month. It is understood that the CW&C officer is due to return to his desk in the next two weeks. The Clerk will continue to press for action to be taken.
- iv. Recycling for Schools
No reply from CW&C has been received. Several other parish clerks have now also written requesting action.
- v. Training for inspections on the playing fields
Northwich Town Council is considering our request for informal training for our councillors.
- vi. Parking on Linnards Lane
Weavervale Housing Trust is to remove individual disabled spaces and to erect signage to the effect that parking is for Weavervale residents. Persistent use of the car parking by non-residents may be reported to Weavervale.

9. The following reports were received from the Unitary Councillors:

- i. The application for new seating for Wincham will be discussed tomorrow.
 - ii. There is a chance that Wincham could have a defibrillator. It would require an electricity supply. The Clerk was asked to submit an application form promptly.
- The Unitary Councillors left the meeting.*

10. To receive a report from PCSO Hambleton.

- i. Crime
 - There has been damage to a wall in Church Mews, between 8pm and 11pm, by unknown means. There were no witnesses.
 - A vehicle has clearly driven over the grass verge on Wincham Avenue overnight. There is damage to the grass. There were no witnesses or CCTV footage.
 - A burglary took place on the Industrial Estate, to the value of £10k.
 - A vehicle was stopped at Witton Albion. There was a strong smell of cannabis in the vehicle and 3 young males on board. The driver was advised not to use the vehicle and was arrested a short time later for driving whilst unfit through drink or drugs.
- ii. Anti-Social Behaviour
 - Linnards Lane Car Park, Weavervale Housing are to remove the numbers from the disabled signs and residents have been requested to provide details of any vehicles that are regularly using the car park and are not visiting WVHT properties.
 - A report was received of a male going door to door selling car cleaning products. The male became abusive when a resident refused to purchase any items from him. The area was searched for the male, although he was not found. Other residents reported that the male had been polite and pleasant, and they had purchased items from him.
- iii. Speeding
 - Reports have been received of speeding vehicles on Linnards Lane and Green Lane, with the increased traffic due to road closures. Checks have been carried out and 1 vehicle was noted as exceeding the speed limit.
- iv. Other
 - Sportative Projects start this month. Young people from Wincham are part of the group involved. Three events have been held so far, including boxing, indoor climbing and karate and the 10 young people who have attended the sessions have enjoyed themselves.
 - Pizza Night was held Friday 15th February under 12's 5.30 to 7.30 and over 12's 7.30 to 9.30. 34 young people attended the two sessions. Activities included table football, pool, driving simulator, table tennis air hockey, Xbox and Wii games. Everybody

enjoyed the evening. 16 young people have expressed an interest in future climbing sessions.

- Three CWAC councillors have promised £500 each to fund climbing sessions throughout the year. Sessions are to be arranged for the school holidays and weekends.

The Clerk was asked to put an item on the agenda for the next meeting to consider paying for additional pizza nights.

The PCSO will be away until 4 April.

11. An update was given on the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Work was still being done to decide the next step to take.

12. An update was given from WCC representative.

The WCC representative was not present and so the item was deferred to the next meeting.

13. Sub-Committees

- i. No sub-committee meetings were planned before the next Council Meeting.
- ii. The Christmas Tree Working Party reported that their deliberations were continuing.
- iii. The Linnards Lane Playing Field Working Party investigating the viability of a toddler area reported that their considerations were continuing and progress is being made.

14. Consideration of a request from St John the Evangelist Church, Lostock Gralam for financial assistance form maintenance work urgently needed on the path and wall in the graveyard. (In March 2012, WPC agreed to fund grass-cutting at Lostock Gralam Church for the 2012-13 financial year up to a maximum of £250.)

Resolved give £250 to the church to use as it deems fit.

Proposed Cllr Pugh

Seconded Cllr Turner

15. The requirements for the next audit of the Parish Council were noted.

16. Consideration of the draft Asset Register for Wincham Parish Council.

Resolved to accept and approve the Asset Register.

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Turner

17. Linnards Lane Playing Field:

- i. New inspection sheets for the playing fields were circulated and the Clerk received completed inspection sheets of the playing fields for the last month.
- ii. Consideration was given as to how to effect the repairs recommended by Northwich Town Council in their inspection reports.

Resolved to obtain a local quotation for the necessary work, including a hole that has developed in the fence into Birch Grove.

Proposed Cllr Turner

Seconded Cllr Pugh

- iii. Consideration was given as to where to set the Queen Elizabeth II plaque. The Parish Council is entitled to a free plaque. The plaque is made from coated aluminium and is 400mm in diameter. It can either be set flat into the ground (using concrete) or fixed to a wall, and the Parish Council must specify which method it is intended to use since the supplied fixings will differ.

Resolved that the Parish Council will request a plaque that can be attached to a post or wall.

Proposed Cllr Turner
Seconded Cllr Barker

18. Village Communication:

- i. It was reported that work is continuing on the new village notice board;
- ii. The spring edition of the newsletter has been delivered to homes and businesses around the village.
Concern was expressed over the Christmas Lights Competition. The Clerk was asked to put this as an item on the agenda for the next meeting.
- iii. Two additional links to external organisations for the village website were reported: the Cheshire Foodbank and Cheshire Rural Arts. The Clerk was also asked to create a new area on the website to keep villagers up to date on HS2.
- iv. An update was given on the Rural Arts Network. During the Easter weekend the Community Centre will be hosting *Handbag, The Musical*. Wincham needs funding for stage lighting. An aspiration was expressed to create a theatre group. The question of an additional storage hut was raised. This will be discussed at the next Council Meeting.

19. Planning:

- a. No permissions granted since the January meeting.
- b. No permissions refused since the January meeting
- c. Consideration of the Council's responses to the current applications:
 - i. 13/00390/AGR Manor Farm erection of storage building

Resolved : no objection.

Proposed Cllr Turner

Seconded Cllr Pugh

- ii. 13/00504/S73 Land Rear of Victoria House Wickham Lane variation of conditions to allow to be implemented in phases.

Resolved : no objection

Proposed Cllr Pugh

Seconded Cllr Barker

- iii. Variation of footpath

Resolved : no objection.

The Clerk was asked to write to Tarmac (copy to CW&C) requesting that the fence be taken away because it does not need to be there and rubbish collects there. Without the fence the footpath would be less enclosed and safer.

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Turner

20. Accounts:

- i. *Resolved : to authorise the payments below:*

Proposed Cllr Turner

Seconded Cllr Casson

1. Northwich Town Council invoice dated 1.1.2013	£84.60
2. Wincham Community Centre	£33.60
3. Allan James hedging around Playing Field	£590.00
4. Cllr Barker reimbursement for 123-reg website fee	£43.06
5. Cllr O'Halloran for 500 photocopies for insert in newsletter	£7.00
6. Payment already approved for PCSO's pizza night	£60.00
7. Simon Roberts printer for 1000 copies of winter newsletter	£412.00
8. Clerk's salary for February 2013	£305.94
9. Clerk's payment for winter newsletter	£100.00

- ii. *Resolved : to note Current Net Balances.*

Proposed Cllr Turner
Seconded Cllr Pugh

Business Reserve Account as at 1.2.13:	£10,351.09
Current Account as at 31.10.12	£200.00
Bonus Saver Account as at 4.1.12	£5,781.53

21. Correspondence

Resolved : to note the following correspondence:

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Turner

- i. EU Review of Less Favoured Areas – Consultation
- ii. Draft Police Community Support Officer Partner Service Level Agreement

22. Any Other Business.

- i. It was commented that the Pizza Night for young people had been a successful evening.
- ii. It was requested that litter picking be put on the next agenda.
- iii. It was requested that the School Summer Fair be discussed at the next meeting.

Members Note: The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **20 March 2013 at 7.30 pm** in the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.34 pm.

Naomi Morris
Parish Clerk