



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15 JANUARY 2020
at 7.30 PM AT WINCHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Present:

Parish Councillors: *I Parr, K Barker, D May, C Powell, A Webster, and G Olive*

Unitary Councillors *L Gibbon*

Parish Clerk N Morris

No concerns were expressed during the public forum.

1. Apologies for absence

*Apologies had been received from Cllrs D Kelly, N Morgan
and from Unitary Councillors N Wright and P Marshall and PCSO Wiggins*

Resolved to accept the apologies

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr May

2. Request for Dispensation

- i. Members who had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any items on the agenda (*other than the Precept*) were invited to an application for dispensation under section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 to enable members to participate in discussions and voting.

No applications were made, except:

*Cllr Barker declared an interest in Item 10 because he is an employee of Weaver Vale Housing
Cllrs Barker and Webster both declared an interest in Item 19 as Governors of Wincham Community
Primary School*

- ii. Requests for dispensation were invited, noting that in January 2013 the Parish Council resolved the following:

“The Council grant a general dispensation under s33 the Local Government Finance Act 1992.to speak and vote to all Members serving on Wincham Parish Council who

- a. have a Disclosable pecuniary interest in any business of the parish council where that business relates to the functions of the parish council in respect of setting a budget and a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and who

- b. have applied for such a dispensation in writing

The period of the dispensation to be for Members' remaining period of office.”

All current Parish Councillors were covered by this resolution.

Written requests for dispensation under this resolution were received from all Parish Councillors present at the meeting.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 20 November 2019 and Minutes of the Finance Sub-Committee on Wednesday 8 January 2020

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of 20 November 2019 be accepted as a true and complete of the meeting.

Proposed Cllr May

Seconded Cllr Parr

Resolved that the Minutes of the Finance Sub-Committee Meeting of 8 January 2020 be accepted as a true and complete record.

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Parr

- 4. No matters arising from the previous meeting were reported, except to note under previous items regarding recycling and tackling Climate Change that Transition Northwich had asked for a resolution on the environment be considered at the February Meeting of the Parish Council.**

Resolved that an item debating the issue of Climate Change and the efforts of Transition Northwich be included on the agenda for the February Meeting.

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Parr

5. The Unitary Councillor present delivered a report

- i. Transition Northwich had been in consultation with CWaC.
- ii. The Marbury Councillors have asked that the Members' Budgets be increased to the previous total of £10,000, but with £5,000 being used to promote local schemes to tackle the Climate Emergency.
- iii. CWaC is addressing homelessness
- iv. The Ward Walk is next Thursday. Parish Councillors are not invited, but suggestions of issues have been requested. Issues mentioned were:
 - a) It was noted that the traffic lights at the Black Greyhound junction do not change for cyclists and also there is no facility for pedestrians to cross.
 - b) Signage
 - c) Verges and grass growing in pavements
 - d) Overgrown hedges
 - e) Undeveloped sites where Planning Permission has been granted, but the sites remain derelict
 - f) Fly tipping
 - g) The opening hours of the Northwich Waste Facility
 - h) The lack of a map showing Wincham's litter and dog refuse bins.

- 6. The CWaC Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan consultation http://inside.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/get_involved/consultations was noted, although the area does not include Wincham**

7. PLANNING

a) APPLICATIONS

- i. Site Address: **35 Church Street Wincham Northwich CW9 6EP**

Proposal: **Demolition of existing and erection of one dwelling and detached garage**

Reference Number: **19/04107/FUL**

Case Officer:

<http://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

Comments by:

16 January 2020

Resolved that:

1. This is greenbelt.
2. Any replacement building should be no larger than to fit the footprint of the existing building and yet what is proposed are two buildings, the smaller of which would appear to exceed the footprint of the existing building in its own right. The floor space of the original building is given as 80 square metres, but no size is stated for either of the new buildings and so on the plans provided, it is not possible exactly to compare like with like, but it is still clear that what is proposed does not fall within the provision for replacement buildings on greenbelt to be of the same size and on the same footprint as the existing building.
3. On the basis of the above, this application cannot be given permission under current Cheshire West and Chester planning policy.
4. Wincham Parish Council objects to the application.

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr May

- ii. Site Address: **Land At Chapel Street Wincham Northwich**

Proposal: **Erection of one dwelling and detached garage**
Reference Number: **19/04229/FUL**
Case Officer:
<http://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/>.
Comments by:
16 January

Resolved that:

1. *This land is on the site of a disused railway line on the way to the salt works.*
2. *In the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan Pt II, it states that the Council will always safeguard disused railway lines.*
3. *With increasing emphasis on the creation of safe cycle routes, this would in future be an effective cycle route alongside the busy highway.*
4. *On the basis of the above, it would appear this application cannot be given permission under current Cheshire West and Chester planning policy.*

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr May

iii. Site Address: Cranmore Earles Lane Wincham Northwich Cheshire CW9 6EA

Proposal: **Demolition of an existing dwelling and construction of a new dwelling.**
Reference Number: **19/04270/FUL**
Case Officer:
<http://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/>.
Comments by:
16 January 2020

Resolved that:

1. *This land is greenbelt.*
2. *Any replacement building on greenbelt may be no larger than to fit the footprint of the existing building. This does not appear to the case. The application is for a new building exceeding the original footprint.*
3. *On the basis of the above, this application cannot be given permission under current Cheshire West and Chester planning policy.*
4. *In addition, this application is missing a Design and Access Statement. This makes it impossible to assess how far the proposed new building would exceed the original footprint.*
5. *Wincham Parish Council objects to the application.*

Proposed Cllr Olive

Seconded Cllr May

iv. Site Address: Bank Farm Green Lane Wincham Northwich Cheshire CW9 6DQ

Proposal: **Removal of existing lean to and addition of a wooden chalet building for use as farm shop**
Reference Number: **19/04274/FUL**
Case Officer:
Comments by: **16th January 2020**

Resolved that the Parish Council supports this application; it encourages local business and diversification in the countryside.

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr May

v. Site Address: 28 Church Street Wincham Northwich CW9 6EP

Proposal: **Two storey side and single storey rear extension**
Reference Number: **19/04381/FUL**
Case Officer:
<http://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/>.
Comments by: **16 January 2020**

No comment

- vi. Site Address: **5 New Cheshire Business Park Wincham Lane Wincham Northwich CW9 6GG**

Proposal: **Internal refurbishment for use as ancillary offices, addition of 3 new windows and new loading bay to match existing.**

Reference Number: **19/04366/FUL**

Case Officer:

<http://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

Comments by: **16 January 2020**

No comment

- vii. Site Address: **Cedars Chapel Street Wincham Northwich Cheshire CW9 6DA**

Proposal: **Front single storey extension**

Reference Number: **19/04557/FUL**

Case Officer:

Ward: Marbury

<http://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

If you have any

Comments by:

29 January 2020

No comment

B.APPROVALS were noted

19/03406/FUL

Proposal: Addition of first floor to existing bungalow, single side storey extension and erection of detached garage.

Location: 41 Church Street Wincham Northwich CW9 6EP

Approval

8. PCSO Wiggins was not present and no report had been received.

9. No reports were received on developments regarding local incinerator projects and sites and the clerk was asked to take this off future agendas.

10. A suggestion from a resident that the Pickmere Lane grassed area be converted into a car park to provide additional parking was noted and discussed.

This is Weaver Vale Housing land and the resident should be encouraged to approach Weaver Vale.

11. Sub-Committees and Working Parties

- i. **It was noted that the Finance Sub met on 8 January 2020:**

- a) *The proposal of the Finance Sub-Committee was considered to set the Precept for 2020/21 at £30,400.00 (this year, there will be no Council Tax Reduction Scheme Grant (£309 for 2019/20)). A precept of £30,400.00 was chosen after due consideration of the recommendations of ChALC to budget for an increase in costs of 4% and bearing in mind obligations of the Parish Council to keep the playing fields safe and the wish of the residents of the village that the playing fields be upgraded and improved.*

A Precept of £30,400 would result in 4% increase to £39.48 for the year for a Band D property.

It was noted that the Finance Committee had examined the Budget line by line and considered several different figures for the Precept. It was co-incidence that the final decision was to have an increase of 4%.

Resolved that the precept for 2020/21 be set at £30,400.00

Proposed Cllr May

Seconded Cllr Webster

- b) **It was noted that the Finance Sub-Committee resolved to request that the Parish Council confirm that £4691.16 (already committed towards creation of a fitness track) be duly authorised to constitute a third party contribution supporting the grant bid to FCC.**

Resolved that the Parish Council confirm that £4691.16 (already committed towards creation of a fitness track) be duly authorised to constitute a third party contribution supporting the grant bid to FCC.

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr May

- c) It was noted the Finance Sub-Committee recommends that the bank signatories for the Parish Council be amended to include: Kenton Barker, Ian Parr and Caroline Powell and that Cllrs Makepeace and Casson be removed as signatories.**

Resolved that the bank signatories for the Parish Council be amended to include: Kenton Barker, Ian Parr and Caroline Powell and that Cllrs Makepeace and Casson be removed as signatories

Proposed Cllr Webster

Seconded Cllr May

- d) It was noted the Finance Sub-Committee also recommends that the Parish Council consider amending its governing instruments to include the following additional safeguards:
That the Parish Council monthly accounts be checked and initialled by a Councillor who is not a bank signatory and preferably not a recipient of funds from the accounts for that month.**

Resolved that the Parish Council consider amending its governing instruments to include the following additional safeguards:

That the Parish Council monthly accounts be checked and initialled by a Councillor who is not a bank signatory and preferably not a recipient of funds from the accounts for that month.

Proposed Cllr Webster

Seconded Cllr Olive

- ii. The Grounds Maintenance Working Party is meeting shortly and will report to the next Meeting.**
- i. No updates were received from other Working Parties.**

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

- i. Four quotations were considered for a comprehensive survey of all the trees owned by the Parish Council or which overhang the parks:*
 - *Alan James £300*
 - *Redwood Trees £600-800*
 - *Bartlett Trees £300 for 60 trees*
 - *Cheshire Woodlands £770*

Resolved that Alan James be asked to do the survey because he is as cheap as any of the quotations and he is a local business and has helped the Parish Council in the past

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Webster

- ii. The daffodil bulbs have been given to Marbury Park and they have promised to plant them near the layby beside the Flashes, which is within Wincham boundaries.*
- iii. The clerk was requested that the verges alongside Wincham School fence are not mowed at all until June 2020 to give space and time for the daffodils to bloom and effectively to die back.*
- iv. Mersey Forest have kindly agreed to assist with the street trees to be planted in Wincham*
- v. Weaver Vale have planted some attractive trees on their land on Linnards Lane.*

13. The revised rota for inspections was noted:

20/1/2020

20/2/2020

Cllr Olive

Cllr Powell

20/3/2020

Cllr May

20/4/2020

Cllr Barker

20/5/2020

Cllr Webster

17/6/2020

Cllr Kelly

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

14. Members considered Christmas events in Wincham

The events had been very successful. Over 100 people attended the carol concert. The Members thanked Cllr May and she asked that letters of thanks be sent to the Webster family and the Wall family.

It was noted that events had not been attended by sufficient Councillors. It was agreed that events must be planned differently in the future. It is not fair for the burden to be so unfairly shared.

15. It was noted that no request was made for an election to fill the seat of Cllr Birbeck, meaning that the Parish Council may now co-opt to fill the vacancy (an application from Mal Caudwell was tabled at the meeting).

Resolved that Mal Caudwell be co-opted onto Wincham Parish Council

Proposed Cllr Olive

Seconded Cllr Barker

16. It was noted with sadness that Cllrs Makepeace and Casson had tendered their resignation from the Parish Council; their commitment and contribution over many years was noted with thanks. The clerk was authorised to begin the process to fill the vacancies.

17. Meetings with Marston PC were continuing, working towards creating a Neighbourhood Plan. At present, the Business Survey is being circulated.

18. Consideration was given to:

- i. **Putting forward a representative to sit on the Wincham Community Centre Committee.**

It was decided to leave the issue open for any Councillor to volunteer to join the WCCC.

- ii. **Authorising the Parish Council Chairman to sign the WCC annual rental agreements.**

Resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the Wincham Community Centre annual agreements relating to hire of the Committee Room for Parish Council meetings and also hire of the smaller room used for PCSO business

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Powell

19. Complaints from a resident regarding banners attached to the school fence were noted and discussed.

It was felt inconsistent to impose a 20mph zone for safety reasons around the school and then to post banners on the fence which could distract drivers. Previously, banners were only posted at the time of the Summer Fayre, but now advertising space is being sold.

The clerk was asked to investigate who owns the School fence and whether the banners need planning permission.

20. The new timetable for training from ChALC was noted and requests for training from Members were invited. A request by the clerk to attend training on 29 January on the Internal Audit process and detail at a cost of £75 was discussed.

Resolved that the clerk be authorised to attend training on 29 January 2020 on the Internal Audit process

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr May

21. Discussion of dates for potential events for the Parish Council for 2020 was postponed to the next meeting.

22. It was agreed that Annie Makepeace should receive the donated Bridgewater Hall tickets in thanks for all the voluntary work she has done for the village..

23. Wording for a banner to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day 8-10 May 2020 was discussed as well as any further proposals to celebrate the VE Day anniversary.

Cllr May volunteered to design the VE Day Banner.

The clerk was asked to include the question of whether the Parish Council should buy a VE Day mug for every child at Wincham School on the next agenda.

24. A report was received on the War Memorial and Memorial Garden and it was noted that ChALC have confirmed the Parish Council would have the power to construct a Memorial Wall.

The Friends group are due to meet shortly and their decisions will be reported to the next Parish Council meeting.

25. Progress on displaying the Jet Commemorative Stone was discussed and noted.

The articles and reports to be displayed will soon be printed.

26. Consideration was given to a resident's suggestion that the Rose Queen Fete (last held jointly with Marston in 1991) be re-introduced.

Views varied on this suggestion, but it was agreed that re-instating the tradition would take considerable work. The Parish Council does not have an appropriate summer event and so it was suggested that the resident approach Wincham School to see if the crowning of a Rose Queen could be part of the School Summer Fayre.

27. Setting up a Working Party to comply with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018 meaning that all public sector existing websites or apps must comply with the 2018 regulations ensuring maximum accessibility by 23 September 2020 was discussed.

Cllr Webster had discovered 106 breaches of the regulations on the first page of the village website

Resolved to create a Working Party to include Cllrs Webster, Parr, Olive and possibly Morgan

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Olive

28. Reports were invited on any issues on the streets of Wincham meriting the attention of CWaC, but this item had been covered earlier in the Meeting.

29. The Chairman's Allowance of £100 for the present and coming financial years was discussed.

Resolved to confirm the Chairman's Allowance at £100 each financial year

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Powell

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

31. Reports were invited on Village Communication, including:

i. The newsletter is in the process of being prepared:

ii. No changes or additions for the village website were reported except including Cllr Olive on the Parish Council page.

iii. The village Facebook page and other social media were reported as quiet:

iv. Arts and performance around the Wincham area –Wincham will not be involved in events timed for Spring 2020.

32. Accounts:

i. The following payments were considered

1. Northwich Town Council maintenance of the Playing Fields:
Invoice 3999 31/12/2019

£110.25

VAT

£22.05

£132.30

2. Wincham Community Primary School – photocopying for Remembrance Sunday £6.40
Church Street
Wincham
CW9 6EP

3. Naomi Morris:

- | | | | |
|------|--|---------|---------|
| i. | Clerk's salary for December 2019: £11.22 x 35 hours per month | £392.70 | |
| ii. | Clerk's salary for January 2020: £11.22 x 35 hours per month | £392.70 | |
| iii. | Reimbursement for cash given to Cllr Parr as part of the Chair's Allowance | £50.00 | |
| iv. | Reimbursement for refreshments for Carol Concert | £44.03 | £879.43 |

Resolved to settle the above-listed accounts

Proposed: Cllr Barker

Seconded: Cllr Powell

ii. **Current Net Balances were noted**

To note Current Net Balances

Current Account as at 3.1.2020

£200.00

Business Reserve Account 1. as at 3.1.2020

£37,583.71

Business Reserve Account 2. as at 3.1.2020

£12,035.49

33. Correspondence

- 1. Emails relating to street lighting**
- 2. Emails relating to three grey boxes on lamp posts.**
- 3. Emails with British Transport Police relating to a suicide victim.**
- 4. Emails with the PCSO Wiggins relating to policing and also parking matters within Wincham.**
- 5. Emails relating to the bus shelter in Church Street.**
- 6. Emails relating to maintenance issues in the playing fields.**
- 7. Emails and telephone calls relating to preparations for Christmas.**
- 8. Emails relating to donated daffodils.**
- 9. Emails relating to a potential new Councillor.**
- 10. Emails relating to the annual tree survey.**
- 11. Emails relating to the preparation and submission of a grant application.**
- 12. Emails relating to an over-flowing dog bin.**

34. Any Other Business.

There was no other business.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.53pm

*Naomi Morris
1/2/2020*