

WINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16 JANUARY 2013 AT 7.30 PM IN WINCHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present:

Parish Councillors: P O'Halloran, K Barker,
D Pugh, R Casson, D Cooke and B Cooke.

Ward Councillors: M Byram

Parish Clerk: N Morris.

Emma Rigby of the press

Members of the public.

During the public forum, a member of the public thanked members of the Parish Council and the Ward Councillor present for their help over a recent planning hearing.

1. Apologies for absence

Resolved to accept apologies from Councillors Smith, Turner, Makepeace and Parr and Ward Councillors N Wright and D Hammond

*Proposed: Cllr Barker
Seconded: Cllr Pugh*

2. Declarations of any

**(a) disclosable pecuniary interests or
(b) other disclosable interests
As are required Under Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.**

- i. Cllr O'Halloran declared a disclosable interest in Item 20 12/01698/FUL – (Residential development of 17 affordable dwellings on land adjacent and rear of Meadow Croft, Linnards Lane, Wincham.)
- ii. Cllr Barker declared a disclosable interest in the question of car parking on Linnards Lane due to his connection to Weavervale Housing Trust.
- iii. Cllrs Cooke and Cooke declared an interest in any items relating to Northwich Town Council.

3. Request for Dispensation

- i. The Clerk invited any members who had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any items on the agenda (*other than the Precept*) 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

- ii. Resolved to pass the following motion that:

“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.”

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Pugh

- iii. The Clerk received applications for dispensation for discussing and voting on the Precept from all the Councillors present.

4. A cup and certificate was awarded to the winner of the Wincham Parish Council Christmas Decorations Competition.

The prizes had been donated by Cllrs D & B Cooke and awarded by Miss West Cheshire.

The winners were:

First prize Gary Brown of Church Street

Second prize Sue Barlow of 18 Pheasant Drive, Wincham

Third prize: Peter Heath of Moss Oaks, Pickmere Lane, Wincham.

Cups and certificates were to be given in person to the second and third prize winners by Cllrs B and D Cooke.

5. Minutes of previous to the meeting

Resolved that the Minutes for the meeting held on 21 November 2012 be confirmed as a correct record:

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Pugh

6. Matters arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting

- i. The Clerk reported there had been no progress on solving the problem of the unsatisfactory walkway around Pickmere Lake. The Clerk was requested to investigate how much it would cost to do the necessary repairs.
- ii. The councillors considered the request from Cllr Linda Moss for an extension of the statutory period of 6 months absence from all parish council meetings.

It was noted that Cllr Moss had been absent from council business for 8 months. It was also noted with sympathy that the present meeting was during a period of extremely inclement weather. It was suggested that the Clerk and one of the councillors meet with Cllr Moss to explore her intentions for the future.

Resolved to accept the request from Cllr Moss and to extend the period of her permitted absence from WPC for until the next meeting.

*Proposed Cllr B Cooke
Seconded Cllr Casson*

7. The following reports were received from the Unitary Councillor.

- i. The planning hearing (he felt) could have gone either way. The officer was very fair.
- ii. The Precepts for local councils should not be a problem for this year, but they may be cut by ten percent next year.
- iii. The legal issues surrounding building an incinerator are very complicated. There is fundraising going on to cover the legal fees because otherwise the legal costs could go against the councillors.

8. A report was received from PCSO Hambleton covering the following points:

- i. Crime
 - A suspect has been charged with the suspected arson at the Spar shop.
 - There has been damage to a vehicle on The Willows. Currently there are no avenues of enquiry.
 - There was an attempted robbery of a 12 year old walking along the footpath between Earles Lane and Pickmere caravan site. No suspects have been identified.
 - A cat. Converter was stolen from a van on the New Cheshire Business Park.
 - A burglary occurred on Pear Tree Drive during the day.
 - There have been several cable thefts from Select Hire.
- ii. Anti – Social Behaviour
 - There has been a problem over parking in the car park on Linnards Lane. Ownership of the car park was transferred to Weavervale Housing Trust over a year ago. Weavervale are reviewing their car parking as part of their environmental improvement policy. (The Clerk will write to Weavervale Housing Trust.)
 - There have been reports of inappropriate driving taking place at the car park at Witton Albion and along Wincham Avenue. A number of motorists have been stopped and patrols have been increased.
- iii. Speeding

No checks have been made due to faults in the equipment and the inclement weather. These checks will resume shortly.
- iv. Community Involvement

A number of sporting and recreational projects are being supported by the PCSO, helping young people across the area, including from Wincham. Three events will take place before the next Wincham Parish Council Meeting.

The Unitary Councillor left the meeting.

9. Sub-Committees

- i. Resolved to accept and approve the Minutes to the Finance Sub-Committee Meeting held on 7 January 2013.

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Pugh

- ii. Resolved to accept and approve the proposals of the Finance Sub-Committee to set the Precept for 2013/1014 at £24,500. This would allow for an increase of three and a half percentage for most variable items of the budget and is in line with the recommendations of ChALC. The increase would mean an extra 30p on the Council Tax for a Band D property.

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr B Cooke

- iii. There were no dates for sub-committees to be held before the next Council Meeting.

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

A councillor reported that the Neighbourhood Development Plan Committee were discussing what to do next. There is a great deal in common with the Parish Plan.

11. An update was given from WCC representative.

The WCC Member was not present, but had sent in a report. A new website is being set up and WPC will put in a link from its website.

12. Resolved that there was no need to consider the siting of any additional hall to be built for Wincham Community Primary School.

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Pugh

13. Linnards Lane Playing Field:

- i. A report was received from the Linnards Lane Playing Field working group investigating the viability of a toddler area. Progress is being made.
- ii. The Clerk invited receipt of the completed inspection sheets of the playing fields for the last month for the inspections conducted by councillors.
- iii. *Resolved that the current arrangement with Northwich Town Council should be reviewed and that other providers should be investigated.*

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Pugh.

It was agreed that a working group would be needed. The first stage was to a list of the hours spent over the previous year, month by month. The Clerk will compile this. Then 3 or 4 contractors will be invited to tender for the work

- iv. *Resolved to approve and execute the Deed of Dedication of the Linnards Lane Playing Field under the Queen Elizabeth II Fields in Trust Scheme.*

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Casson

The Deed was executed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman, on behalf of the Parish Council and witnessed by the Clerk.

14. Village Communication:

- i. The councillor working towards the installation of the new village notice board was not present.

- ii. An update was given on the newsletter that the Clerk had most of the articles and would start work on typesetting in the next couple of weeks with the intention that the copy would be sent to the printer by the beginning of February so that the edition could be distributed during February. This timescale would depend on the printers and, most importantly, on the volunteer distributors throughout the village.
- iii. No changes or additions reported for the village website, except to put a link on to the new Wincham Community Centre website (if this is now operative).
It was suggested that in future notices for meetings should state that the full agenda will be on the village website.
- iv. The councillor responsible for the Rural Arts Network within the village was not present.

15. The Cheshire West and Chester Council's Employment Land Study Update and Joint Call for Sites

Resolved that WPC should respond to the Cheshire West and Chester Council's Employment Land Study Update and Joint Call for Sites by pointing out that there is already ample land already available for employment sites. Wincham has an employment park which is partially empty. Wincham has empty residential properties and additional residential development is already approved. There is no need for further development.

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr Pugh

16. Consideration of the possibility of a Christmas tree to be erected by WPC for next Christmas.

Resolved to set up a working party to explore erecting a Christmas tree in Linnards Lane Playing Field, near the shop. Requirements will include security for the tree, power for the lights. The Working Party will consist of Councillors Pugh, Turner and B and D Cooke.

Proposed Cllr B Cooke

Seconded Cllr D Cooke

17. Planning:

a. Permissions granted since the November meeting :

- i. **2012.12/04032/FUL** – First floor rear and single rear extension of 99 Pickmere Lane, Wincham.

Permission granted, subject to certain alterations being made within 6 months. This was a retrospective application and the alterations are required the work already completed.

- ii. **12/03059/REM** – Land at the former Homestead, Linnards Lane.
Permission granted on condition that the plans 8910/03/P2 01/P1 02/P2 03/P3 05/P1

b. No permissions refused since the November meeting

c. Consideration of the Council's responses to the current applications:

- i. **12/05323/FUL**- G And B Motor Engineers Ltd Springboard House Chapel Street Wincham **PROPOSAL:** Single storey rear extension to create MOT bay and installation of roller shutters.
No objection
- ii. **12/05535/FUL** – Two storey rear extension creating link to detached garage Sun View, Earles Lane, Wincham CW9 6EA.
No objection
- iii. **12/01698/FUL** - Residential development of 17 affordable dwellings on land adjacent and rear of Meadow Croft, Linnards Lane, Wincham.
The Hearing was held 8th January at Wyvern House Winsford. No final decision has yet been published.6-8 weeks before decision expected.
- iv. *Resolved that WPC should write to object to the application for the new incinerator on the grounds that the Parish Council has not had time to assimilate all the information since the information has not been available in Northwich Library and the residents have not had an opportunity to read the information. A longer time scale would be necessary for the application to be considered properly.*
Proposed Cllr Barker
Seconded Cllr Casson.
- v. **12/05654/S73** - *Resolved that WPC should write objecting to the new operating hours for the business. The business has been breaching its planning permissions. Ask why there has been no enforcement action taken.*
Proposed Cllr Barker
Seconded Cllr Pugh

18.Accounts:

- i. *Resolved that the following payments be authorised:*

| | | |
|---|--------|---------|
| 1. Northwich Town Council invoice dated 1.10.2012 – Contract work on Chapel Lane & Linnards Lane Playing Fields:- | | £225.60 |
| 2. Wincham Community Centre | | £89.60 |
| 3. Clerk's salary | | |
| December 2012 | 305.94 | |
| January 2013 | 305.94 | £611.88 |

Proposed Cllr Casson
Seconded Cllr Pugh

ii. Resolved to approve the interim statement of accounts (Appendix E).
BALANCES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2012

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Reserve Account as at 31.10.12: | £10,387.94 |
| Bonus Saver Account as at 31.10.12 | £5,751.04 |
| Current Account as at 31.10.12 | £200.00 |
| Total funds held: | £16,330.98 (not including £349.80 of presented cheques from October payments) |

| | £ BUDGET 2012-13 | £ EXPENDITURE (Sept-December) ANTICIPATED FURTHER | £ VAT | NOTES |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Total Precept (Fixed Income) | £24,000.00 | | | |
| Carry Forward | £11,914.31 | | | Includes £4.6k reserves and Parish Plan Implementation Grant |
| | | | | |
| Training | 700.00 | 90.00 | | Total spend £90.00 +£610.00 unspent |
| Donations | 1000.00 | 1002.00 (300.00) (+100.00) 110.00 | | Total spend £1,112.00 Receipt \$100 jubilee mugs -£12.00 overspent |
| All Park Expenses | 12,000.00 | 4,730.13 (1198.50) 869.50 | 531.40 (239.70) 173.90 | Total spend £5,599.63 +£6,400.37 unspent None included for benches or toddler equipment or repair to existing play equipment. |
| Clerk's Salary | 3,800.00 | 2,447.52 (611.88) 1,223.76 | | Total spend £3,671.28 +£118.72 unspent |
| General Admin Costs | | | | Total spend £1658.71 |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| | 3,500.00 | 1,538.46 (483.04) 120.25 | 158.16 (40.80) | +£1841.29 unspent |
| PCSO (Fixed Cost) | 5,900.00 | 5,900.00 (5,900.00) | | Total spend £5,900.00 |
| Village Improvement Fund | 5,014.31 | 375.00 (+503.26)* ?1,000.00 matched funding? | | Payment £30.10 advertising craft fair. Receipts: film £365.80 : craft fair £167.56 |
| Communications | 3,000.00 | 1,329.00 (779.00) 529.00 | | Total spend £1,858.00 Note this is for 3 copies a year. Anticipated 4 copies (429+100)x4=£2116 for newsletter. |
| Contingency Fund | 1,000.00 | | | Total spend £0 |
| Totals | £35,914.31 | £20,661.36 | £863.46 | Total spend £21,524.82 Plus play equipment payts? |

*The receipts from the Cinema Night and Craft Fair less payment for advertisement.

i. PRECEPT 12/13: £24,000.00

Proposed Cllr B Cooke

Seconded Cllr Pugh

ii. Resolved to note the Current Net Balances

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Reserve Account as at 31.10.12: | £10,387.94 |
| Bonus Saver Account as at 31.10.12 | £5,751.04 |
| Current Account as at 31.10.12 | £200.00 |

Proposed Cllr B Cooke

Seconded Cllr Pugh

19. Correspondence

The following items were received and accepted:

- 1. Training Programme For Clerks and Councillors 2013 ChALC.*
- 2. E mail received from Brenda thanking the Council for the concert tickets.*

20. Any Other Business.

- i. It was asked where there should be badges for councillors? The Clerk will investigate this.
- ii. It was asked whether it would be helpful to have photographs of councillors in the *Wincham Word*.
- iii. There are no recycling facilities available for paper at the Wincham Primary School. The company that provided the recycling bin in the playground is removing it because it is not making money. The Clerk was asked to write.
- iv. The charity organisers of the local foodbank will be coming to speak to the Council at the next meeting.
- v. There have been considerable problems recently over water pressure within the village. This is the continuation of a long-standing problem, but one that is denied by United Utilities. Villagers experiencing problems are invited to contact the WPC Chairman. .

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

The meeting closed at 9.32pm.

*Naomi Morris
Parish Clerk
22.1.2013*