

Parwich Parish Council

Minutes

A Meeting of Parwich Parish Council was held on Tuesday, 18th December 2012 at 7.30 pm in Parwich Memorial Hall.

Present: Chairman, R Bunting, C Healy, J Bennett, N Linnell, M Harrison and the Clerk, Mrs S Hampson plus two members of the public.

12.12.1 Apologies/Councillors' attendance register

Members present completed the attendance register.

12.12.2 Declaration of personal/prejudicial interest of councillors

There was no need by any member present to declare any interest.

12.12.3 Minutes and items from the previous minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting had been electronically forwarded to all members in advance of the meeting and had been placed on the Blog.

Resolved: The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record of proceedings and signed in the meeting.

With reference to the previous minutes, displaying a hard copy version of the minutes was further discussed. Due to the limited size of the noticeboard, an alternative method of viewing the minutes in a public place was considered for those without electronic means.

Resolved: Clerk to contact DALC for advice on one of the suggested outlets. Confirmation to be given at the next meeting.

12.12.4 Public speaking

The members of the public had an interest in item 12.12.5 Trees, millennium pond and flooding and therefore, made contributions to the next agenda item. No further comments were made during public speaking.

A resolution was passed at this point by members under 'Confidence and admission of strangers'.

Resolved: Under confidence and admission of strangers [Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Local Government Act 1972, ss 100 and 102] it was desirable to treat the discussion of the following types of business on the agenda as confidential:

- a) engagement, terms of service, of contractors
- b) terms of tenders, and proposals and counter-proposals in negotiations for contracts

Resolved: Quotes to fell trees, quotes to clear the millennium pond and the mowing contract to be considered confidentially as item 10 on the agenda.

12.12.5 Trees, Millennium Pond and Flooding

The members of the public present made contributions to this agenda item.

Members of the parish council had received some alternative views, subsequent to the November meeting, regarding the trees at Nethergreen, including replanting. Not all residents are comfortable commenting on the Blog. A discussion took place on how to receive preferences, including notices on village noticeboards;

utilising a website (not the Blog) and/or a drop off box for the receipt of preferences from limited given choices; a mail drop which has cost implications.

Resolved: Email and drop off box to be utilised.

Resolved: Mr Harrison to register an appropriate email address and advise members and the clerk accordingly.

Resolved: Three planting preferences only, for a consultation period of 4 weeks, to be open for consideration by parishioners who are prepared to include their name (to ensure valid responses).

Resolved: Choice of preferences to be:

1. No replacement trees at Nethergreen
2. An avenue of trees at Nethergreen and the opposite side of the road
3. Trees only on the Nethergreen side.

A further discussion took place on the impact of moisture levels at the Nethergreen area if trees are not replanted at this location. Some residents consider the area to be quite wet despite considerable uptake of water by the existing mature trees; therefore, without replanting, the impact on the water balance could be considerably affected in this region. In addition, the final chestnut tree may also become diseased and require felling further impacting on the water balance at Nethergreen.

The professional opinion of the Peak District National Park Forestry Officer has already been sought; however, seeking further professional advice from an alternative source regarding appropriate trees at this location was considered.

Resolved: Clerk to contact Derwent Treescapes for a second professional opinion as soon as possible.

Resolved: Based on the outcome of both professional opinions on suitable species, the parish council can then make an informed choice on suitable trees, in appropriate numbers, should the opinion to replant be received.

Resolved: Clerk to contact Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) regarding weighting of public opinion from those directly affected versus those not.

Flooding and Millennium pond

Some members of the parish council had visited the Millennium Pond. A resident provided information regarding the pond and the condition of her land.

Following receipt of the initial quote to clear the pond a further quote was obtained from Derbyshire County Council (DCC). This was considerably less expensive than the initial quote.

Resolved: Clerk to instruct DCC to proceed with the clearance of the pond and to request this action to take place before the end of January 2013.

Resolved: Expression of thanks given to Mrs Bennett for meeting contractors on site regarding tree surgery, pond clearance and flooding.

Resolved: Planting to be considered in the pond in the future

Resolved: Item to remain on future agendas

12.12.6 Items of account and general administration

Cq 1086	Parwich Memorial Hall	Hire	£10.00
Cq 1087	S Hampson	Reimbursement of expenses	£7.70
Cq 1088	R Bunting	Reimbursement for playground matting	£139.00

The new bank mandate had been completed and confirmation received from the bank manager of it being activated.

12.12.7 Consideration of budget items for future precept setting

Members would like to consider longer term budget proposals to incorporate identified projects in the village in the near future. Members considered other known items for the 2013-14 precept. Clerk provided figures of anticipated year end reserves and advised members that a reimbursable expenditure claim had successfully been met by Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC) in the sum of £1501 against mowing costs.

Resolved: Members to forward any additional items to clerk during Christmas recess

Resolved: Clerk to forward budget forecast to members in advance of January meeting.

Resolved: Precept for 2013/14 to be set in January 2013

12.12.8 Planning and planning sub-committee

No proposals had been considered by the planning sub-committee. Plans had been granted at Low Moor Farm. Plans had also been granted for the wind turbines but official communication not yet received.

12.12.9 Correspondence and communication.

Mrs Bennett had attended a Café Cluster meeting organised by DALC. She reported that the Chief Officer from DALC would offer councillor training for up to 20 people at Parwich for £120. This fee could be shared by inviting other local councils to attend.

In response to communication from the parish council a mobile police speeding van attended Parwich at the beginning of December. The outcome of this visit has not yet been communicated to the council. Further requests for the mobile van would be better addressed through the Safe Neighbourhood Committee. PCSO Wakefield will visit the primary school. The next Safer Neighbourhood meeting will be held at Hognaston Village Hall on 18 March at 7.30 pm.

There was no update from Bagshaws regarding the tenants' rent review as Bagshaws are to pursue the matter after the Christmas holidays.

Correspondence not covered by agenda items included: DALC circulars electronically forwarded to members and DDDC's artsMATTERS

12.12.10 Tender process for Parson's Croft and tree surgery quotes

This agenda item was discussed as a confidential item and the members of the public left the meeting.

The clerk had requested tenders for 2013 and 2014 from three suitable contractors. The clerk had only received one response from Mr Lownds. The quote was for £48 per cut for 2013 and £55 per cut for 2014.

Resolved: The clerk to advise Mr Lownds that his tender was successful and therefore, Mr Lownds will have the contract for mowing the cricket field until 2014 based on acceptance of the terms and conditions of a contract.

Quotes from three suitably trained tree surgeons had been received to fell the diseased chestnut trees at Nethergreen.

Mr E Yeomans	to fell two chestnut trees and remove all wood from the site	£400
Mr N Tomlinson	to fell two chestnut trees and remove all wood from the site	£750
Arbormasters Ltd	to fell two chestnut trees and leave at ground level	£520 + VAT

Resolved: Clerk to contact Mr Yeomans to award the tree surgery contract.

12.12.11 Grass verges

Ms Healy, on behalf of a resident, brought the issue of damage caused recently to the village green by a vehicle driving over the green. It was thought this action was inconsiderate however, it may be a 'one-off' incident. Parking on other verges in the village was also discussed.

Resolved: Clerk to write to the resident to thank him for bringing the matter to the attention of the parish council.

Resolved: Members to monitor parking on the verges.

12.12.12 Items for the next agenda

Precept 2013-14, Millennium Pond and Flooding, Trees, Safer Neighbourhood

Resolved: Additional items to be compiled by clerk in consultation with members

The meeting was declared closed at 10.25 pm with the exchange of seasonal greetings.

Mrs S Hampson
Clerk to the Parish Council
18.12.12

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