

# **Parwich Parish Council**

## **Minutes**

A Meeting of Parwich Parish Council was held on Wednesday, 20th March 2013 at 7.30 pm in Parwich Memorial Hall.

Present: Chairman, R Bunting, C Healy, N Linnell, S Dale, M Harrison and the Clerk, Mrs S Hampson, County Councillor, Mr S Spencer, Mr E Yeomans plus three members of the public.

### **13.3.1 Apologies/Councillors' attendance register**

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from Mrs Bennett and District Councillor, Sir R Fitzherbert.

Due the presence of the public interested in the agenda item 7, Part-Night Street Lighting, re-ordering the agenda was discussed.

**Resolved:** To re-order agenda item 7 (Part Night Street Lighting) to agenda item 2.

### **13.3.2 Part-night street lighting**

Parwich is to be involved in phase two of a part-night street lighting initiative from Derbyshire County Council (DCC) which involves selected street lamps being switched off between the hours of midnight and 5.30 am each night. The scheme will make huge savings on energy costs and carbon emission tax.

The clerk had requested a large copy of the plan, illustrating the lights which may be affected by the initiative, to be sent to the Sycamore for public access during the residential consultation period ending on 2nd April 2013. A survey had also featured on Parwich Blog and DCC have sent 236 letters to Parwich households providing information on the scheme in Parwich. Responses to be forwarded directly to DCC.

A member of the public presented a detailed response to the Blog survey supported by some statistics. Results from those residents who had participated in the Blog survey, at the time of the meeting, suggest the scheme has been favourably received. Some comments seem to suggest that the scheme could have incorporated even further street lamps being switched off from midnight to 5.30 am. The results should, however, be interpreted with some caution.

County Councillor, Mr Spencer advised that street lights will not be switched off in areas of sheltered housing, accident black spots or anti-social behaviour areas.

**Resolved:** Item to be placed on future agendas.

**Resolved:** Parwich parish council sub-committee to meet to discuss the matter further to submit comments prior to the deadline for submission of comments.

### **13.3.3 Co-option of new councillor**

Mr Yeomans had previously expressed an interest in becoming a parish councillor and was present at the meeting.

**Resolved:** Mr Yeomans was co-opted as the seventh member of Parwich Parish Council.

**Resolved:** Clerk to advise Derbyshire Dales District Council of the co-option

Mr Yeomans duly completed the declaration of acceptance of office before the proper officer of the council, Mrs Hampson. Mr Yeomans was also given a copy of the members' interest form to be completed prior to the next meeting and to be subsequently sent to DDDC.

### **13.3.4 Declaration of personal/prejudicial interest of councillors**

Mr Yeomans declared an interest in item 9 on the agenda (Trees). Prior to being appointed to the council Mr Yeomans had been awarded the contract to fell the diseased horse chestnut trees at Nethergreen. The

clerk had taken advice from the Derbyshire Association of Local Council (DALC) regarding any conflict with Mr Yeomans being appointed as a councillor as he had been awarded the contract. DALC advised there was no conflict as the awarded contract preceded the co-option.

### **13.3.5 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. A comment was noted with regard to ownership of the Memorial Hall (referred to in the January minutes). It was reported that clarification of the ownership of the Memorial Hall is presently being undertaken.

**Resolved:** The Memorial Hall to be an agenda item at the April meeting.

### **13.3.6 Public speaking**

A resident requested access to the toilets and water at the pavilion for a forthcoming Bowls Club event. He further raised an issue on Parsons Croft. This area is for sports area use only and will be required for parking for the Bowls Club event. The resident provided the members with a list of items, including cars that do not appear roadworthy, trailers, caravan and rubbish, which are presently occupying space on Parsons Croft..

**Resolved:** Mrs Linnell to turn on water and ensure the toilet facilities are available to the Bowls Club.

**Resolved:** Clerk to write to the residents at West View to request removal of items from Parsons Croft.

Ms Healy raised the issue of access for the First Responders, during periods of snow, as some of the First Responders live on a steep hill. Councillor Spencer provided information on the county's priority for gritting areas. DCC's snow warden scheme was also discussed. This scheme can be used to clear pavements and footpaths. A tonne of grit will also be supplied for the purpose. Tertiary route gritting can be undertaken by farmers/persons with access to appropriate equipment, on a separate scheme, with a retainer being paid to participants.

**Resolved:** Mr Harrison to become a snow warden in Parwich.

**Resolved:** Clerk to register Mr Harrison's details with DCC personnel to arrange training.

**Resolved:** Clerk to place a notice on the Blog for additional interest in the snow warden scheme.

**Resolved:** Clerk to establish contact details for participants on tertiary gritting routes.

District Councillor, Sir R Fitzherbert had emailed the clerk, in advance of the meeting, regarding any issues with the waste collection service. No issues had been brought to the attention of the members regarding the service. However, members of the public had raised concerns regarding an increase in rats at a particular location.

**Resolved:** Clerk to advise the District Councillor regarding the waste service and to request assistance with the rodent problem as this is a DDDC issue.

Mrs Linnell had received an enquiry regarding the disappearance of an area perceived as a footpath from the side of the public house to the church.

**Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC to check records of the definitive footpaths.

Ms Healy reported that she had been to Hognaston to attend the Safer Neighbourhoods' meeting at the beginning of the week but there was no one else in attendance.

### **13.3.7 Village transport and input from the County Councillor, S Spencer**

Enquiries had been received, prior to the meeting, regarding the effect in Parwich of new contracts for public transport. Following this process, Councillor Spencer reported that there will be very few changes to public transport in Parwich. Usage is vital to maintain such services and DCC are looking for more economical ways to provide viable services. An integrated network needs to be established to avoid duplication between services, including Ashbourne Community Transport and Dial-a-bus..

Councillor Spencer also advised members of the 'Wheels to work' service in which motorbikes are loaned to young people to provide access to work.

**Resolved:** A notice to be placed on the Blog informing residents that both public transport and transport to school will remain in Parwich during the next 18 months. The notice to also highlight the 'Wheels to work' service for 16-21 year old people.

Councillor Spencer also advised members that additional resources (£824,000 from reserves) had been put in place in an attempt to address the ever increasing issue of pot holes resulting from the extreme weather conditions. Mr Harrison reported that the condition of the highway from Hill Top Farm to Two Dales now made it unsuitable for ordinary cars.

**Resolved:** Clerk to report the matter again to DCC, Highways.

Councillor Spencer was further advised of additional vehicular damage to the green and verges; he reported the use of bollards in some villages as placing stones presented issues of liability in cases of accident. A police officer would have to witness the damage taking place to enable a prosecution to take place. Members acknowledged that the damage was unsightly but there was very little that could be done. The areas in question will recover.

**Resolved:** Monitoring to be ongoing.

Councillor Spencer was also asked for advice regarding dry stone walls collapsing due to landowners' trees. Advice was given. The clerk presented Councillor Spencer with forthcoming parish council meetings dates for 2013.

**Resolved:** Verbal approach to be made initially to land owners concerned regarding their trees.

### **13.3.8 Millennium pond**

Mr Braund had met with a member of the council and options had been discussed. The chairman had visited the pond prior to the meeting. A member of the public reported that are substantial problems with the water table at this location and the area in question was far worse prior to the pond being put in place.

**Resolved:** Monitoring should take place over the next 12 months.

### **13.3.9 Trees**

The diseased chestnut trees will be felled very shortly. Ms Healy reported the outcome of the public consultation in Parwich regarding trees. The results were: 13 votes for no replacement trees, 3 votes for trees only on the Nethergreen side and 37 votes for an avenue of trees on both sides.

**Resolved:** An avenue of trees will be planted (4 on Nethergreen side and 4 on the opposite side).

Mrs Bennett reported, in advance of the meeting, that she had met with a member of Derwent Treescapes for a second professional opinion on a suitable variety of tree to be planted at this location. Mr Yeomans advised that the trees should now be planted in Autumn. The clerk had spoken to a member of Derwent Treescapes, prior to the meeting, requesting further details but this had not been received in time for the meeting.

**Resolved:** Alder trees will be planted.

**Resolved:** Clerk to contact Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) Forestry Officer to ascertain the correct procedure to obtain the trees, the optimum size and to request stakes and guards. In addition the clerk to also ask for assistance from PDNPA in planting to ensure the best chance of viability of the trees.

**Resolved:** The avenue of alder trees to be planted in the Autumn.

### **13.3.10 Consideration of items for village maintenance**

During public speaking Parsons Croft was identified as an area requiring immediate improvement. A new resident in the village had also expressed an opinion of the playground area. A local tradesman had supplied costings to attend to the area around the roundabout.

**Resolved:** Members to attend to the base of the roundabout (weather permitting) at the weekend following the meeting.

### **13.3.11 Hedge Cutting**

Two quotes had been received to cut a stretch of hedge in the village (£80 and £25). The hedge in question lies in the vicinity of the side of the cricket pitch and the road.

**Resolved:** It was agreed to accept the lowest quote for £25. Clerk to write to contractor.

### **13.3.12 Pump Hill**

The maintenance team from DCC had previously been escorted by a member of the council to Pump Hill to assess the area. The road up to Pump Hill still needs to be cleared.

**Resolved:** Clerk to approach DCC regarding the clearance of the access to Pump Hill detailing Ms Healy as the point of contact.

**Resolved:** Pump Hill to be an agenda item for the April meeting.

### **13.3.13 Annual meetings**

Dates and the format for the annual meeting of the parish and the parish council annual meeting were discussed.

**Resolved:** Both meetings to be scheduled on the same evening of 15th May 2013. This is a change to the date referred to in the January minutes.

**Resolved:** Clerk to prepare an invitation to village organisations and to forward to Mrs Linnell for distribution.

**Resolved:** Annual meeting of the parish to take place from 7.00-7.30 pm.

**Resolved:** Parish council annual meeting to follow the annual meeting of the parish.

### **13.3.14 Annual parish council planning**

Ms Healy had prepared a document to enable more pro-active annual planning to take place by the parish council. The document will continue to evolve and support events, maintenance, budget planning and the precept process.

**Resolved:** Clerk to continue to incorporate additional items into the document to aid annual planning.

### **13.3.15 Caravan bookings**

The clerk had received communication cancelling a booking for October 2013 from the Derbyshire Centre. An advance booking request for 2014 had been received from another regular caravan club.

**Resolved:** In view of the advance booking, it was agreed to keep the fees the same as 2013 for this club.

Toilet and water facilities need to be in place for this booking.

Ms Healy reported that the lady who kindly cleaned the public toilets last year is happy to continue but she sought expenses of £6 per month towards travel and washing expenses. The members were in total agreement that this was a fair sum and were very pleased that the facilities would kept in excellent condition.

**Resolved:** £6 per month to be paid to the lady who cleans the toilets (invoice to be provided). This to be in addition to reimbursement for the purchase of necessary cleaning materials (receipts to continue to be provided).

### **13.3.16 Mowing commencement date**

**Resolved:** Decision to be deferred until the April meeting.

### **13.3.17 Historic plaque maintenance**

The clerk had forwarded a further email to the restoration company with regard to the possible maintenance of the plaque in the bus shelter but a reply had not been received in time for the meeting.

**Resolved:** Clerk to make further contact with the company.

### **13.3.18 Rent reviews** (this matter was discussed as a confidential item, as publicised on the agenda)

Bagshaws had completed their visits to the two tenant farmers, had forwarded their findings and advised a course of action. The findings had been sent to the members in advance of the meeting. Rent reminders had been issued, by the clerk, to the tenant farmers for rent due very shortly.

**Resolved:** Clerk to instruct Bagshaws to proceed with securing rent increases from the tenants as outlined in their correspondence.

### **13.3.19 Items of account, general administration and clerk's salary**

Cq 1093	Parwich Memorial Hall	£10.00	Meeting hire
Cq 1094	S Hampson	£150.15	March clerk's salary
Cq 1095	S Hampson	£14.10	Reimbursement of expenses
Cq 1096	HMRC	£112.60	Final quarter's income tax
DD	British Gas	£0.15	Electricity supply

### **13.3.20 Planning and planning sub-committee**

There was nothing to report from the planning sub-committee. There were no new planning applications. An application for the erection of an agricultural building on land at Dam Lane had been granted. Changes have been implemented to the pre-planning advice at PDNPA. There will no longer be a planning duty officer.

### **13.3.21 Correspondence and communication, including electronic communication**

Included: Came and Co Insurance Spring Matters, DCC County Council elections (May 2013), Citizens Advice Bureau, DDDC assets of community value, online playgrounds, artsMATTERS, DCC - no action to enquiry regarding inconsiderate parking impacting onto access by emergency service vehicles.

### **13.3.22 Items for next agenda**

Millennium pond monitoring, rent reviews, tree surgery. Additional items to be compiled by the clerk

### **13.3.23 Date of next meeting**

The date of the next parish council meeting is 17th April 2013

The meeting was declared closed at 10.45 pm.

Mrs S Hampson, Clerk to the Parish Council  
21st March 2013

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