

## **Parwich Parish Council**

### **Minutes**

A meeting of Parwich Parish Council was held on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at 7.30 pm in Parwich Memorial Hall.

Present: C Healy, N Linnell, M Harrison and Acting Clerk, Mrs S Hampson and two members of the public

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

Apologies from J Bennett, R Bunting and B Walker. The attendance register was completed by those members present.

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

There was no need, by any councillor present, to make an entry in the register.

#### **11.12.3 Minutes of the previous meeting and items from the minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been electronically forwarded to members of the parish council. These were signed in the meeting by the Chairman, Ms Healy. Mrs Linnell confirmed that clearance of the jubilee pond is not necessary at present. The parish council was represented at the Remembrance Day service.

#### **11.12.4 Public speaking**

One of the members of the public present represented the Carnival and Recreation Committee (please see item 11.12.6). The other member of the public had no items to bring before the council.

#### **11.12.5 Planning applications**

An application by Aquiva had been received.

**Resolved:** that the application be dealt with by the planning sub-committee as not all council members were present at the meeting.

#### **11.12.6 Carnival and Recreation Committee and Queen's Diamond Jubilee**

It was reported that preparations for the jubilee and not really begun although it had been discussed at the last Carnival and Recreation Committee meeting and the committee felt the lead should come from the parish council. The formation of a jubilee committee in January 2012 and involvement of different groups in Parwich was discussed. Younger generations must be involved, including the school.

**Resolved:** As many parish council members as possible to become involved. Mr Harrison declared he would be happy to be involved.

**Resolved:** A joint notice to be placed on the 'Blog' to invite people to be involved in the organisation/arrangements for the jubilee.

**Resolved:** 3<sup>rd</sup> January proposed as the initial meeting date to be jointly chaired by Ms Healy and Mr Laycock.

From experience, the acting clerk advised that bookings for catering, entertainment etc should be considered promptly as these are already being booked up by other parties. She further advised that risk assessments should be put in place and that Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC) had advised that only arts and entertainment aspects of the jubilee would be considered in precept considerations. Mugs for children were discussed along with collaborating with other neighbouring parishes. The acting clerk advised that to enable the VAT element of the purchase of mugs to be reclaimed the invoice must be addressed to Parwich Parish Council. An alternative suggestion was that blank mugs decorated by children could be considered as this could qualify as an arts project.

#### 11.12.7 **Parish Council representation on charities committee**

It was reported that 5 members of the parish council should be on the charities committee which meets twice a year. Mr Walker and Mrs Linnell are existing members.

**Resolved:** Additional representation to include Ms Healy and Mr Harrison. Other councillors not present at the meeting will need to consider the matter.

#### 11.12.8 **Playground roundabout**

The craftsman concerned regarding the repair to the roundabout had still not resubmitted his quote.

**Resolved:** Mr Harrison to inspect the roundabout.

#### 11.12.9 **Tree pruning/felling**

The tenant had advised the acting clerk that she would not be renewing her tenancy and therefore, not forwarding the peppercorn rent. The tenant had written a letter advising that trees on the area previously rented were a problem and may need felling. It was reported that the land at Pump Hill was previously allotments but access to this land may be an issue.

**Resolved:** Mrs Linnell to speak to the Peak District National Park Authority's (PDNPA) forestry officer, Mr Goodwin, regarding the problem trees and to arrange a site visit to ascertain the extent of the problem.

#### 11.12.10 **Parsons Croft**

Email received from Parsons Croft Management Committee. The committee stated they would also like to see the grass mown around the pavilion and the area at the bottom of the field. The pavilion is to be coated before the end of the year using Ronseal total wood preserver. The committee is in agreement with the parish council that the sum quoted for pressure washing the tennis courts is too expensive and will be further investigated. The condition of the tennis courts was reported to be less slippery than the previous 2-3 months. Unfortunately, the members of the council felt the resources at this location are not being fully utilised.

#### 11.12.11 **Mowing contract**

The mowing contract was discussed in view of the additional quote received from the mowing contractor to incorporate mowing the cricket field. The cost of mowing in the parish is a significant expense. The acting clerk had approached DDDC in an attempt to increase the reimbursable expenditure from them towards increased costs. DDDC declined to increase their contribution.

**Resolved:** Acting clerk to seek further advice from the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC).

#### 11.12.12 **Audit Commission**

The external audit had been completed and invoice received.

#### 11.12.13 **Severn Trent Water Authority (STWA) claim**

STWA had written to the clerk in response to Mrs Linnell's letter regarding the very large water bill connected to a leak. In addition to STWA not being prepared to reduce the bill they appeared not to have answered the questions asked by Mrs Linnell. The members considered the volume of water lost in the period of time stated to be unrealistic.

**Resolved:** Mrs Linnell to pursue the matter further based on the most recent response from STWA.

#### 11.12.14 **Memorial seat**

The seat is now in place. A letter of thanks had been received and was read to the members present at the meeting. It advised that the seat should not need preservation as it will naturally develop a suitable surface that should last for a considerable period of time.

#### 11.12.15 **Rent reviews and caravan bookings**

Mr Bunting had advised Ms Healy that he had made some enquiries regarding rents. Some of the land has restrictions due to being an area of scientific interest which could impact on its rentable value.

**Resolved:** The agricultural rents should be reviewed regularly and at a minimum of 3 year intervals.

Sheffield DA had written requesting that consideration be given to not increasing the nightly charge to £6. The matter of water usage by the caravan club was discussed as this has to be taken in to consideration in the hire costs. Notts DA had confirmed that a booking had been made for the wakes' weekend but did not confirm the price.

**Resolved:** As a gesture of goodwill, it was agreed to advise Sheffield DA that the hire per night would be £5 in 2012 but that a 50 pence per night increase would be applied each subsequent year thereafter. Water meter readings could be taken by the council before and after the visit to estimate water usage by the club.

#### 11.12.16 **Items of account**

Cq 1028	Parwich Memorial Hall	May and July hire charges
Cq 1029	DALC	Training fees
Cq 1030	Playsafety Ltd	Play ground inspection
Cq 1031	Audit Commission	External audit fee
Cq 1032	S Hampson	Acting clerk services
Cq 1033	Parwich Memorial Hall	Hire charges

#### 11.12.17 **Preparation for precept setting**

Clerk had electronically forwarded a preliminary accounts' spreadsheet and budget for 2012/13. The increased mowing contract will have a significant impact on the precept for the next financial year. The asset register had not been updated since 2010.

**Resolved:** In view of full council not being present it was agreed to defer the precept setting until January 2012 when all members will be obliged to attend. Asset register to be emailed to members to comment and update.

#### 11.12.18 **The clerk and bookings clerk**

The implications of not starting payroll during the present financial year was discussed as this would involve the previous clerk. DALC's advice regarding the matter was provided by the acting clerk.

**Resolved:** That the acting clerk remains until the end of the financial year. The appointment of a permanent clerk to be deferred until April 2012. In view of the enhanced hourly rate of the acting clerk it was decided not to have a full council meeting in February, however, the February date may be used by the planning sub-committee if necessary.

#### 11.12.19 **Highways issues**

Acting clerk had received an email regarding the condition of Monsdale Lane.

**Resolved:** Clerk to contact Derbyshire County Council (DCC), Highways department to advise them of the condition of the lane.

#### 11.12.20 **Correspondence and communication**

This included: The playing field newsletter, MP publicity, artsMATTERS from DDDC, Came and Co insurance Autumn newsletter, DALC circulars, DDDC holiday refuse collections (one day late).

Additional correspondence included a letter from the PDNPA regarding signing. PDNPA reported confusion over a village public footpath from near the football field. PDNPA sought permission from the

council to erect a sign adjacent to the football field fencing pointing down towards a resident's house. The resident had been approached by PDNPA.

**Resolved:** The parish council agreed to give permission to PDNPA to erect a suitable direction sign.

A letter had been received from a resident at Nethergreen regarding the issue of flood maintenance. Mrs Linnell advised the members of the measures that had been previously put in place.

**Resolved:** Acting clerk to contact DDDC and DCC to assess the village for flood prevention/defence. Item to feature regularly on agendas over the winter.

#### 11.12.21 **Items for next agenda**

Regular items plus: The precept, village flood defences, Queen's Diamond Jubilee

The meeting was declared closed at 9.50 pm

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S Hampson  
Acting Clerk  
December 2011