

# **Parwich Parish Council**

## **Minutes**

A Meeting of Parwich Parish Council was held on Wednesday, 21st November 2012 at 7.30 pm in Parwich Memorial Hall.

Present: Chairman, R Bunting, J Bennett, N Linnell, S Dale, M Harrison and the Clerk, Mrs S Hampson plus three members of the public and Peak District National Park (PDNPA) Tree Officer, Mr D Goodwin.

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

Apologies were received in advance from Ms C Healy and District Councillor, Sir R Fitzherbert. Members present completed the attendance register.

The chairman had communicated in advance of the meeting that he had been delayed in traffic.

**Resolved:** Mrs Bennett to chair the meeting until the arrival of Mr Bunting.

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

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

### **12.11.3 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.

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

No interest has been expressed in the vacancy.

### **12.11.5 Public Speaking**

### **12.11.6 Trees, Millennium Pond and Flooding**

**Resolved:** The members of the public in attendance had a particular interest in item 6 of the agenda (trees, pond, flooding). It was therefore, agreed to discuss these matters with members of the public.

The PDNPA Tree Officer, Mr Goodwin, had kindly agreed to attend the meeting to provide his professional opinion regarding appropriate trees which could be planted at Nethergreen to replace the diseased chestnut trees. These were reported to have been planted in 1953 (possibly connected to the Queen's Coronation). Small leafed lime trees had been offered as a suggestion but this had not been well received by some of the residents from Nethergreen properties.

Mr Goodwin suggested that this location provided an ideal opportunity to plant a species native to the Peak District, ie appropriate to Parwich which would have the capability of growing into a large tree on maturity. This would not be in the lifetime of many Parwich residents as the trees he could supply to plant would only be 1.5m-2m in height. He considered this an important location for planting trees, particularly as many large, mature trees are threatened by disease such as ash die back and by removal for satellite television signals; installation of solar panels; insurance company requests. He suggested that some people may like the privacy that trees can provide.

Members of the public presented photographs illustrating the dampness of this area; however, Mr Goodwin's opinion was that trees planted at the location would not be adversely affected by any water lingering here. The members of the public expressed further concern regarding the impact of mature trees on views from

their property, views of the village, tree root damage, blocked drains and on light. Also, the members of the public did not support the suggestion of planting trees on the opposite side of the road on the edge of the football pitch, although it was reported that trees had previously been present for some time at this location. Alternatives to lime trees suggested by Mr Goodwin included sycamore (strong, tough tree withstanding wet soil and almost anything but not a native species) and beech. Mrs Bennett had kindly undertaken some research and further suggested alder and birch. Mr Goodwin thought alder would be appropriate but would not make a sizable tree; however, he thought birch inappropriate as these are associated with urban landscapes. The clerk suggested having a variety of trees at this location. Mr Goodwin thought this a good observation and a common sense approach.

Residents suggested that a list of interested parties in the wood from felled trees had been minuted by a previous chairman of the parish council. The clerk read out a minute from 2010 regarding trees at Nethergreen but there was no reference in the minutes to such a list. The resident present did not want to be involved in the felling of the diseased chestnut trees this time. Mr Goodwin confirmed that the diseased tree wood does not have to be burned on site.

It was stated by members of the parish council that the council had no strong opinions at this stage on the matter regarding the species, number, whether to delay replanting or in fact whether to replant at all. Mr Goodwin was thanked for his attendance and helpful advice and he left the meeting.

**Resolved:** Views of the whole village to be sought when the parish council has decided how obtaining such views can best be achieved.

**Resolved:** Decision regarding the number, species or whether to replant trees at Nethergreen to be taken at a future parish council meeting.

### **Flooding and Millennium pond**

A discussion took place regarding the 'dam' which had been raised in the pond. A member of the public reported that this has resulted in water backfilling into her ditch creating stagnant water. A spring at this vicinity also needs an access route. The level of the drain outlet and dam wall was also discussed. Photographs had been forwarded to members in advance of the meeting illustrating the situation. Mrs Bennett advised that Derbyshire County Council (DCC) and Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC) may consider this issue within the overall flooding prevention scheme in Parwich; however, decisions and actions may take several months. There has been considerable growth of grass at the perimeter of the pond during the last 12 months. Clearance of the pond will make it easier to identify issues at this location.

**Resolved:** Members of the parish council to visit the location.

**Resolved:** Resident concerned to be kept informed.

The parish council had sought tenders from four people to clear the millennium pond and to take debris away. Two had declined, one had not responded and the fourth had sent a quote however, this was more than anticipated.

**Resolved:** Clerk to contact the fourth person to request a complete break down of the quote as it was anticipated that taking the debris to a tip was very expensive.

**Resolved:** Mr Dale to contact a former parish councillor who may be able to take the debris which would reduce costs.

**Resolved:** Mr Bunting to approach a fifth local person for a further quote.

Mr Braund from DDDC had also forwarded a list of organisations which may be of assistance with the pond (including an organisation called Derby and Derbyshire). Mr McEvoy from DDDC could do some work at the cost of £25 per hour (two men plus vehicle)

**Resolved:** Clerk to approach the organisations forwarded by Mr Braund.

Mrs Bennett had liaised with personnel from DCC and DDDC. A walk round all the water courses had taken place since the last meeting but there had been no commitment made; it will be necessary to look at the whole village picture. Residents who attended the village meeting were in agreement with this. Drains have previously received attention. It was reported that the road from the village to Ballidon had been flooded.

**Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC

A resident had made contact with Mr Dale in advance of the meeting to report an issue at the bank on the church side which needs attention. Representatives from the church had cleared their area in May 2012. This is not the responsibility of the parish council; it is the responsibility of the riparian owners.

It was also reported that a section of the stream bank is showing signs of slipping in an area where volunteers had cleared an enormous blockage during the stream clearance in May 2012. Debris has accumulated at this location again near the bridge.

**Resolved:** Clerk to contact the riparian owners.

#### **12.11.7 Update from District Councillor**

The District Councillor had forwarded apologies in advance of the meeting.

#### **12.11.8 PCSO and Safer Neighbourhood**

The PCSO was not in attendance but had reported that the MPS van (mobile van checking speed) would be requested. She had also agreed to meet with members of the PTA at the Primary School. Mrs Bennett reported that the next Safer Neighbourhood meeting was scheduled for 5th December at Carsington. A resident may be willing to operate a speed gun as part of the volunteer scheme.

**Resolved:** Mrs Bennett to attend the Safer Neighbourhood meeting and will advise PCSO Wakefield.

#### **12.11.9 Playground equipment and football pitch**

Mr Bunting now has matting for the base of the roundabout. Goal posts have now been taken down at the football pitch. Mrs Linnell reported that she had gone through the risk assessment with the volunteer. Signed copy not yet returned.

**Resolved:** Mrs Linnell to return metal football posts to tennis court area.

#### **12.11.10 Rental income from parish council land**

Bagshaws had forwarded correspondence regarding their fees to pursue the achievement of market value rents from the parish council land. These were discussed.

**Resolved:** The members agreed that the council had a duty to obtain market value rents, therefore, the agreement was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

**Resolved:** Clerk to request Bagshaws to advise the parish council when a value of £500 has been reached; the works carried out with a breakdown of costs; work still to complete and the timescale left to complete.

#### **12.11.11 Bank mandate**

Only one member remained to complete the mandate. The clerk is still not receiving bank statements which has made tasks associated with the accounts problematic. The clerk had reported that the bank manager had been very apologetic and could not explain the lack of statements. The manager had promised to forward transactions documents in the interim and had ordered duplicated bank statements, free of charge, for all of 2012.

<b>12.11.12</b>	<b>Items of account</b>		
Cq 1079	T Moorcroft	4 mowing cuts	£984
Cq 1080	Parwich Memorial	Hire	£10
Cq 1081	R P Lownds	4 mowing cuts	£180
Cq 1082	S Hampson	Monthly salary (Nov)	£149.95
Cq 1083	S Hampson	Reimbursement of expenses	£14.28
Cq 1084	S Hampson	Monthly salary (Dec)	£150.15
Cq 1085	HMRC	Income tax quarter 3	£112.40

#### **12.11.13 Consideration of budget items for precept setting for future meeting**

Accounts spreadsheet to date had been electronically forward to members in advance of the meeting. Some reference was made during the meeting. The hedge at the cricket pitch will require trimming.

**Resolved:** Item to be considered at next meeting.

#### **12.11.14 Highway issues**

PCSO had advised the clerk that a visit would be made to the owners of Hill Top Farm regarding fouling of the highway by cattle. DCC had also reported that a letter would be sent regarding the same issue. It was further reported that this location is in need of resurfacing as far as the Pikehall approach. Potholes at this location may be an issue to some motorists. A further pothole near White Meadow was reported.

**Resolved:** Clerk to advise DCC of the above matters.

Mrs Linnell and Mr Bunting were thanked for their considerable efforts in clearing ivy and overgrowth of weeds at Pump Hill.

**Resolved:** Long term plans for Pump Hill need to be addressed. Ideas from the village may need to be sought. Item to feature on future agendas.

DCC had reported no issue at the Mount, referred to in previous minutes.

**Resolved:** The Mount area to be placed on an agenda in the Spring.

#### **12.11.15 Consideration of tender process for Parsons Croft**

**Resolved:** Tenders to be sought for fortnightly cuts from 1st April-31st October, with discretion to be used during October.

#### **12.11.16 STWA meter**

STWA had replied to the clerk's letter. STWA will inspect the meter free of charge.

**Resolved:** Mrs Linnell to turn off water supply and check the leak. Mrs Linnell to advise clerk regarding instructions to STWA.

#### **12.11.17 Planning applications and planning sub-committee**

There were no new applications.

Listed building consent had been granted to replace windows and a door at Foufinside. Proposals to fit air to air units at Rathborne Croft and Smithy Close granted. These will be fitted with antivibration mounts.

#### **12.11.18 Correspondence and communication**

Correspondence had been received from the solicitor acting for the sale of 2 West View. An agreement had been drawn up in 2004 between the parish council and the present owner of 2 West View granting pedestrian access. A new agreement had been prepared granting pedestrian access to the proposed purchaser to and from the Parish Council's land known as Parsons Croft at the point where Parwich Parish Council's land adjoins 2 West View, Parwich but not granting a permanent right of way for the prospective purchaser

from Parsons Croft. The parish council reserved the right to withdraw the permission at any time. There are no parking spaces allocated to West View properties.

Further correspondence included: PDNPA Parishes day; Western Power had confirmed future correspondence will be sent to the clerk; PDNPA sustainability appraisal document to be circulated; DALC circulars - these had been forwarded electronically in advance.

**Resolved:** Mrs Bennett to attend the Coffee Chat Cluster morning in Ashbourne; DALC's Chief Officer will be in attendance. The morning is designed to enable networking to take place between local council members of other parish councils.

Members discussed the possibility of a parish council website. The parish council would like to ensure communication within the parish continues to improve.

#### **12.11.19 Items of the next agenda**

Millennium pond, flooding, trees, budget items for future precept, Parsons Croft mowing tenders

#### **12.11.20 Date of next meeting**

Ordinarily, the parish council does not meet in December. The members discussed forthcoming meetings.

**Resolved:** A shorter parish council meeting to take place in December to discuss essential items only. Meeting to commence at 8.00 pm; Mrs Bennett to liaise with Memorial Hall bookings clerk and to confirm availability for 18th December.

**Resolved:** There will be no parish council meeting in February.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.45 pm

Mrs S Hampson  
Clerk to the Parish Council  
27.11.12

©Parwich Parish Council minutes remain draft until approved by the parish council at the next meeting.