

## **Parwich Parish Council**

### **Minutes**

A meeting of Parwich Parish Council was held on Wednesday, 12th February 2014 at 7.30 pm in Parwich Memorial Hall.

Present: C Healy, M Harrison, J Bennett, N Linnell, R Bunting, E Yeomans, the Clerk, Mrs S Hampson, and 7 members of the public.

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

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from County Councillor, S Spencer. Members present completed the attendance register.

#### **14.2.2 Declaration of personal and prejudicial interest of councillors**

There was no need by any councillor present to declare an interest in the register.

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

The minutes were accepted as a true record of proceedings and signed by Mr Harrison as Ms Healy was not present at the January meeting.

#### **14.2.4 Public speaking**

Ms Healy reiterated to the members of the public present, the rationale for the introduction of a regularised public speaking session which limits the time individuals can present matters during this section of the meeting. Suggestions from members of the public included: extending the time allocated for public speaking; merging public speaking with correspondence and communication. Concerns expressed during public speaking included those surrounding public transport issues and the car park at Nethergreen. Prior to considering the next agenda item, Ms Healy asked the public if any one else wished to speak. At this point no member of the public declared a request to speak or speak further.

#### **14.2.5 Items from public speaking**

Items raised during public speaking were covered by the agenda for the meeting.

#### **14.2.6 Update from County Councillor and District Councillor**

##### **County Councillor**

County Councillor Spencer had sent his apologies, however, he had advised the clerk that he tried to make contact with a gentleman at Derbyshire County Council (DCC) regarding public transport issues in Parwich but no information was received to update the parish council in time for the meeting.

##### **District Councillor**

The district councillor was not in attendance; however, communication sent to the District Councillor from the clerk had subsequently been forwarded to the Head of Environmental Services at Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC) regarding the removal of the recycling units from the Sycamore Inn. A lengthy and detailed response had been received from the Head of Environmental Services which detailed some of the reasons for the removal of the units and the lack of consultation with the parish council and residents. The response referred to: the decline in usage (referred to in tonnes), duplication of service following the introduction of the household recycling scheme; inclusion of some trade waste in the units; the involvement by the existing contractor. Geographical problems regarding wheeled bins and adhoc collections can be overcome.

**Resolved:** Unfortunately, there is no further action to be undertaken by the councillors, however, the councillors remain irritated by the lack of consultation prior to the removal of the recycling units.

#### **14.2.7 Public transport issues**

Unfortunately, the transport expert at DCC whom the clerk had forwarded communication to after the last parish council meeting had been on annual leave until 27 January. The clerk and County Councillor Spencer had both sent further communications after this date, however, an update from DCC was not received in time for the meeting, which was frustrating. Mr Harrison suggested obtaining data from the "Smart Ticketing" scheme in operation on the buses services in Parwich. Members thought this was an excellent suggestion. It was further suggested that making direct telephone contact may expedite a response.

**Resolved:** Clerk to request information on the data collected from "Smart Ticketing" on Parwich transport services and how the data is being used, prior to the March meeting.

**Resolved:** Clerk to provide contact details to members.

#### **14.2.8 Public meeting regarding flood warden management scheme**

Mrs Bennett reported that she had produced posters to publicise a public meeting on 25 February at 7.30pm; Mrs Linnell will laminate the posters.

**Resolved:** Posters will be placed around the village and in some publicly frequented places.

Information was reported regarding the pond, stream and overflowing drains. From enquiries, Mrs Bennett reported that DCC would be clearing the drains very shortly. The issue of the drains and protection of the culvert will feature during the public meeting.

A small window of opportunity to remove the non-invasive water cress from the water courses exists before tadpoles emerge. The jubilee pond does not need silt to be removed. Advice from DCC is awaited with regard to plants and replanting in the Sheep Wash; consultation with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust is involved in this process. It was reported that plants had previously been removed from this location prior to 2009 ie not by the present parish council.

**Resolved:** In the interests of trying to achieve a positive outcome to the area before summer and to clear the undesirable weed, mechanical means to be employed shortly after the parish council meeting.

#### **14.2.9 Car park at Nethegreen**

During this item it was necessary to issue a reminder that the council was in session and to further remind those present that the public speaking session was in fact finished. The chairman reiterated that she had asked if any members of the public wanted to speak before the end of public speaking and this opportunity had been declined.

Members of the council had conducted site meetings at key areas of the parish subsequent to the last parish council meeting. One of the key areas visited was the car park at Nethergreen. From the site meeting members considered the following options for the car park:

- to leave the car park as it is at present with no renovation
- to return to a village green with no car parking
- to carry out a restoration project
- to purchase a bag of type 1 chatter to put in the holes, as a short term solution

Members considered this matter carefully and took a vote regarding the most appropriate restoration and impacting costs involved. It was further reported that the car park facility was created approximately 6 years ago and it features in some tourist guide books. The depth of the holes on the car park in question are not that deep and are in fact worse on some highways. Consideration was given to a joint venture to restore the car park with the nearby property owner. Every option considered involved a cost. Present weather conditions are problematic. Mr Yeomans and Mrs Bennett offered to carry out a remedy using type 1 chatter.

**Resolved:** Item to be placed on a future agenda together with consideration regarding remedial work.

**Resolved:** Clerk to contact Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) to make enquiries regarding the car park

**Resolved:** Attempts to be made to establish when the car park was originally created.

#### **14.2.10.... Parish Council website**

Work has commenced on the production of a parish council website.

#### **14.2.11 Public toilets**

Following an approach by the clerk, Mr Harrison had not been contacted by a local tradesman (1) to view renovation requirements at the toilets. Mrs Bennett had been approached by another tradesman (2) who had previously submitted an estimate for renovations with a request to resubmit a revised estimate which would reduce labour costs. Members discussed the facilities being open without a cleaner being in place.

Reference was made to access by the bowls club and the caravan clubs.

**Resolved:** Ms Healy to contact both tradesmen referred to above

**Resolved:** Item to be placed on the March agenda and to include further advertisement for a cleaner

#### **14.2.12 Playground footbridge**

Members had conducted a site visit to view the footbridge prior to the council meeting. Options brought before the meeting were to repair or to remove the footbridge. Mrs Bennett had spoken with the tradesman who had submitted an estimate at the previous meeting. The rationale for an estimate to include two handrails as part of the renovations was explained. The tradesman will resubmit an estimate for repairing the bridge.

**Resolved:** An invitation to be made by Ms Healy, to a further tradesman, to submit an estimate for repairs to the footbridge to make safe.

**Resolved:** Item to be placed on the March agenda.

#### **14.2.13 Defibrillator**

Ms Healy had received an enquiry regarding availability of a defibrillator in the village. First Responders would like a site to ensure easy access to the public. Sites which have been considered include: the front of the Memorial Hall, the public house, the church porch. It was further reported that the church members have agreed to the use of the church porch. The clerk reported some experience in securing the supply of a defibrillator in other parishes.

**Resolved:** The originator of the enquiry may contact the clerk for further information.

#### **14.2.14 Pump Hill**

The clerk had received communication from the Headteacher at the Primary School with regard to the use of Pump Hill. Unfortunately, following the receipt of advice, the Headteacher declined the kind offer of the use of Pump Hill. Members considered the impact of this decision. The members considered Pump Hill as now having no real benefit to the village, due to the lack of access. Members further considered the terms of the gift to the parish council from the original owner of Pump Hill.

**Resolved:** Clerk to write a letter to the previous owner of Pump Hill.

#### **14.2.15 WWI Commemoration enquiry**

Further communication received by the parish council indicates that no definitive decision has yet been reached by the British Legion regarding the commemoration of the anniversary of the outbreak of World War I.

**Resolved:** The parish council members reiterated a previous decision. The parish council will consider commemoration of the end of the war, not the beginning.

**Resolved:** The item will appear on a future agenda in 2018.

**Resolved:** Clerk to advise the British Legion to contact the parish council with further updates.

#### **14.2.16 2014 and 2015 caravan bookings**

The clerk had received an enquiry from a caravan club for 2015. Members considered the requested dates and fees for 2015.

**Resolved:** Clerk to confirm the dates with the caravan club and to advise of the new rates for 2015.

**Resolved:** Clerk to advise the grounds person responsible for mowing Parsons Croft to mow a week in advance of bookings.

#### **14.2.17 Parish council vacancy and co-option**

An updated notice has appeared on the Blog following confirmation by DDDC that an election has not been called for. The period of notice will expire on 20th February then the parish council is at liberty to co-opt to fill the one vacancy on the council. Some interest has already been expressed and members discussed the decision process. Members discussed the interview process for candidates.

**Resolved:** The parish council would like to thank the residents who have already expressed an interest in this vacancy and look forward to any further expressions of interest.

**Resolved:** The parish council will hold interviews during a confidential meeting on the same evening of the next parish council meeting. Clerk to advise candidates accordingly.

#### **14.2.18 Highway and footpath issues**

Residents have reported to some members of the parish council the issue of trees which are overhanging pavements in some areas. These trees originate from residents' properties and do not belong to the parish council. The situation is hazardous and has the potential to force pedestrians on to the road.

**Resolved:** Clerk to contact the property owners concerned to request that the trees are pruned, to alleviate the problem.

Severe potholes were reported in the vicinity of Springfields and the same junction reported after the previous meeting. Members discussed methods which residents could use to also report highway issues outside of parish council meetings.

**Resolved:** Clerk to report the potholes to DCC.

**Resolved:** Clerk to request that the Blog displays the contact details of Call Derbyshire and a local rate number, to enable highway issues to be reported by residents.

#### **14.2.19 Items of account**

Cq 225	S Povey	Removal of 5 moles	£50.00
Cq 226	Parwich Memorial Hall	February hire	£15.00
Cq 227	S Hampson	Reimbursement of expenses	£13.78
Cq 228	S Hampson	February salary	£214.20
*Cq 229	Parwich Memorial Hall	July, November & December duplicate payments	£40.00

\*Cheque for Parwich Memorial Hall was reissued as the Memorial Hall secretary does not appear to have received hire cheques for November and December. One cheque received had not been banked during its period of validity. This amount was also reissued.

HMRC had contacted the clerk regarding the introduction of electronic payments. At present, this is not possible.

**Resolved:** Clerk to make enquiries and to contact HMRC.

#### **14.2.20 Planning**

Mrs Bennett reported positive comments from a resident whose planning application had been discussed at the previous meeting. Three new planning proposals were considered by members during the meeting. A proposal at Nethergreen, Hall Gates and Whitecliffe Farm.

**Resolved:** Members approved all three applications; clerk to submit supporting planning comments to PDNPA.

#### **14.2.21 Correspondence and communication**

Ms Healy had received a lengthy letter from a resident raising various issues with the parish council and village.

**Resolved:** Members approved the content of the drafted letter of response. Clerk to send to the resident concerned.

Further communication had been received a resident concerning the condition of the children's playground swings.

#### **14.2.22 Items for the next agenda**

Pump Hill, Recycling units at Sycamore Inn, Public transport, Flood Management, Site meetings including footbridge and car park, Co-option/Casual vacancy, toilets. Other additional items to be compiled by the clerk.

#### **14.2.23 Date of next meeting**

19th March 2014

The meeting was declared closed at 10.20 pm

Mrs S Hampson  
Clerk to the Parish Council  
13th February 2014

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