

A meeting of Parwich Parish Council was held on Wednesday, 15th October at 7.30 pm in Parwich Memorial Hall.

Present: R Bunting, C Healy, N Linnell, E Yeomans, M Gerard-Pearse, the clerk, Mrs S Hampson, and 5 members of the public.

As Mr Bunting had been delayed Ms Healy opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the public. Copies of the public speaking document were distributed to the members of the public.

Part 1 – Non-confidential information to consider the following agenda items:

14.10.1 Apologies/Councillors' attendance register

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from Mrs J Bennett and Mr M Harrison, County Councillor, S Spencer, District Councillor, Sir R Fitzherbert and PCSO K Wakefield. Members duly completed the attendance register.

14.10.2 Declaration of personal/pecuniary interest of councillors

Mr Yeomans declared an interest in the final item of the agenda concerning the forthcoming mowing contract in Parwich and completed an entry in the register. There was no need, by any other councillor present, to complete an entry in the register.

14.10.3 Minutes of the previous meeting and items from the minutes, minutes of the previous planning sub-committee.

The minutes of the previous meeting had been forwarded to members in advance of the meeting, had been displayed on the Blog and had been displayed in the shop. The planning sub-committee had not met since the previous meeting.

Resolved: The minutes were approved as a true record of proceedings and signed by Councillor, Mr M Gerard-Pearse, as Ms Healy was not present at the previous meeting and Mr Bunting had not yet arrived to the meeting.

14.9.4 Public speaking

Three members of the public spoke in turn; one referred to an extract of letter which she had received from the parish council; another spoke of a letter provided from Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA). The clerk had also received a copy of the letter from PDNPA regarding planning permission at Blanche Meadow. Two other members of the public attended to listen to the agenda item on Pump Hill as they had submitted an offer for its purchase.

14.10.5 Items from public speaking

Covered by the agenda

14.10.6 Ashbourne Community Transport

A representative from Ashbourne Community Transport had confirmed attendance at the meeting but unfortunately, on the day of the meeting, was unable to attend due to illness.

Resolved: The clerk to forward a further invitation to attend the November meeting.

14.10.7 Water course management

In advance of the meeting, the clerk had forwarded details of a Flood Warden workshop being organised by the Environment Agency with Derbyshire County Council (DCC) to the two water course wardens in Parwich but neither was in attendance at the parish council meeting. The clerk had also sent a letter to DCC

requesting maps, answers to questions posed at the meeting in September and for a representative from DCC to attend the October parish council meeting. A letter of response and maps had been received in time for the meeting but unfortunately, the representative from DCC was unable to attend. It will be necessary to use the maps to ascertain known key areas of flood risk, relevant sources of flood risk and any key assets.

Resolved: Clerk to forward the details and maps received from DCC to the water course wardens.

Resolved: Clerk to contact the water course wardens and to request their attendance at the above workshop. Clerk to clarify with the wardens if parish council attendance will be required.

Resolved: Clerk to invite DCC to attend the November meeting.

14.10.8 Update from District and County Councillor

Apologies had been received from both the District and County Councillors.

14.10.9 Update from PCSO and dog fouling

The clerk had placed a notice on the Blog to alert the community to the problem of dog fouling in the village, including contact details for the PCSO. The clerk had contacted the PCSO in advance of the meeting to enquire if she had received any reports from members of the community. The PCSO had advised the clerk that she had not been contacted at all regarding dog fouling. Notices have been placed around the village and members hoped that awareness had been raised.

14.10.10 Nethergreen and Land Registry Map

Members discussed registering this area again at Land Registry to Parwich Parish Council. The parish council can demonstrate responsibility for this location for many years. Members discussed registering other non-registered areas to the ownership of the parish council at the same time. Some maps were viewed but were not of sufficient quality to submit for registration purposes. Mr Gerard-Pearse advised he had a better quality map. Rights of way access over the land and references to the Commons Register and village green status were briefly discussed but should not affect registration of ownership of the land to the parish council. The clerk provided details of the Rights of Way officer at DCC.

Pot holes have now been dealt with on the car park at Nethergreen but trees requiring attention at this vicinity were also discussed again.

Resolved: Areas of land not previously registered in Parwich to be registered to the parish council if possible to achieve.

Resolved: Mr Gerard-Pearse to pursue the registration of the land, after consultation with a local solicitor and DCC's solicitor/legal team.

Resolved: Clerk to forward details of the solicitor at DCC to Mr Gerard-Pearse.

Resolved: Mrs Linnell to assist Mr Yeomans in tidying the trees at Nethergreen, if necessary.

Members discussed other issues at Nethergreen raised by a resident over the last few meetings.

Resolved: Members consider that the issues raised by the resident are planning issues and are, therefore, not issues to be further discussed by the parish council. Only registration of the land will remain ongoing at future meetings until this is achieved.

14.10.11 Hedge laying competition

Mr Bunting advised that unfortunately, the hedge discussed at the previous meeting, was considered too overgrown for the purpose of the competition. A member of the public with considerable hedge laying experience offered to look at the hedge to see what could be achieved.

14.10.12 Parish Council website

Resolved: To prepare the cheque for 2Commune in the sum of £150 + VAT for the initial set up and registration costs.

Resolved: Mr M Gerard-Pearse to begin works on the home page for the parish council's website.

14.10.13 Sheep wash/Pond

The clerk had sent correspondence to a resident to proceed with planting of the pond. The invoice had been received from the contractor who had recently cleared the pond. (See items of account)

Resolved: Mrs Linnell to speak to the resident concerned about the iris planting.

Resolved: Item to be placed on a future agenda.

It was also reported that a resident has cleared out the ditch off Kiln Lane near their property.

14.10.14 Parsons Croft, usage by the school, car park, hard play area and bookings

Two contractors had been contacted regarding estimates for replacement panels and posts at the tennis courts. A further contractor will be contacted after the meeting. Vegetation near the courts needs attention. The tennis courts are in an appalling state; nets are shredded. A netball post has also been smashed. The tennis club had previously kindly taken on a lot of the responsibility of maintenance but the tennis club is no longer in existence. Previously, the cost of power washing the courts cost in the region of £1,000-£1,500.

Resolved: Mr Bunting to be the point of contact to meet with contractors at the tennis courts, if required.

The former clerk to the parish council who has kindly continued taking bookings for the hard court area had contacted the clerk. A new bookings clerk will be required. She further reported some issues with the tokens required to operate the lights and also an issue with one of the lights. Mrs Linnell reported that the lights have been turned on and should function. Members discussed costs to hire the area for both residents of Parwich and external users. The installation of a meter operating with one pound coins was discussed as an alternative to using tokens, as this would reduce the need for bookings to be taken. Mrs Linnell offered to act as the bookings clerk.

Resolved: Mrs Linnell to act as bookings clerk. A salaried bookings clerk was considered not possible due to the low frequency use at present.

Resolved: Previous bookings clerk to be advised of the above course of action.

Resolved: Mrs Linnell to approach local electrical contractor to discuss the possibility of installing a £1 coin meter to operate the lights.

Resolved: The area must be maintained to ensure it remains an area for the community. See agenda item below (Pump Hill)

14.10.15 Pump Hill

Two members of the public had attended the meeting with regard to an offer made for the purchase of Pump Hill in connection with another resident* for the area to remain as a garden. This offer was compared to the purchase cost of the land years before when it came to belong to the parish council.

Mr Gerard-Pearse provided an update on the parish council selling Pump Hill following a conversation he had undertaken with a solicitor regarding the legality of an agreement in existence between the parish council and the resident* detailed above. An extract from this agreement was also discussed in relation to honouring the first refusal to purchase of the land by the resident* and achieving the maximum but realistic amount for the land. As a public body, members discussed the need to obtain professional valuations of the land to ensure the appropriate amount is realised. During the meeting, members were unsure how many valuations should be carried out but two may be sufficient. Members appreciated that costs would be incurred as a consequence of achieving transparency and to achieve the appropriate figure for the land.

Resolved: Clerk to contact the Chief Officer at Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) for advice on the required number of valuations.

Resolved: Mr Gerard-Pearse to approach Bagshaws and John Taylor to each carry out valuations of Pump Hill.

Resolved: Mr Gerard-Pearse to confirm the legal red line boundary of the land and to discuss the required number of valuations with the solicitor.

Resolved: If valuations obtained support the figure offered to the parish council then this will be discussed at a subsequent parish council meeting with a view to resolving this agenda item.

Resolved: Sale proceeds from Pump Hill could be used to maintain the hard court play area.

14.10.16 Initial identification of budget items for precept

Members briefly discussed several budget items required from the forthcoming precept.

Resolved: Expenditure against previous year's budget items to be discussed at the November parish council meeting.

14.10.17 Items of account, clerk's monthly salary, contractors

Parish Council rents had been received.

Items of account included:

Cq 1218	P Lownds	2 mowing cuts	£110.00
Cq 1219	2Commune	Internet set up fee for new parish council website	£180.00 (inc VAT)
Cq 1220	S Hampson	Reimbursement of expenses	£7.52
Cq 1221	S Hampson	October net salary	£214.20
Cq 1222	Valley View Landscapes	Pond clearance	£1,116 (inc VAT)
Cq 1223	N Linnell	Reimbursement for key cutting	£24.00

14.10.18 Planning applications and planning sub-committee

There were no new planning applications to consider. Retrospective planning at Uppermoor had been granted.

14.10.19 Correspondence and communication

A letter from DCC had been received regarding the rationalisation of waste bins in Parwich.

Resolved: Ms Healy to attend to this request.

A resident had contacted the clerk regarding grass cutting in the village. The clerk had also been approached regarding the parish council representative at the Remembrance Day service. Correspondence also included: DALC circulars, DDDC area forums.

Resolved: Mr Yeomans to represent Parwich Parish Council and to lay the wreath at the Remembrance Day parade.

Resolved: Clerk to advise the representative of the Odd Fellows of the details of Mr Yeomans' attendance.

14.10.20 Items for the next agenda

DCC water course management, Ashbourne Community Transport, Nethergreen and Land Registry, Nethergreen trees, Pump Hill, Pond/Sheep Wash planting, preliminary discussion on 2015-16 mowing tenders, comparison of budget items for precept, hard play area sign and tennis court fencing.

14.10.21. Date of the next meeting: 19th November 2014

Part 2 –Confidential Information

Resolved: That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted (in respect of a discussion concerning tenders) it was advisable in the public interest, that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

14.10.22 To consider tenders for replacing tennis court perimeter fencing

Resolved: In view of an additional contractor to be approached to submit an estimate for the above, this item to be deferred until estimates have been received from all contractors approached.

14.10.23 Preliminary discussion on 2015-16 mowing tender requirements

Members discussed some of the future requirements for the 2015-16 mowing tender including number of cuts and height of cuts. Members also considered increasing the areas to be cut with the possible amalgamation of the two existing contracts in to one large contract. Incorporating maintenance items was also discussed.

Resolved: Clerk to contact existing contractor carrying out the bulk of mowing in Parwich to supply details of all areas presently mown.

Resolved: Ms Healy to begin to prepare a job specification in liaison with another councillor and/or the clerk.

Resolved: Item to be discussed as a confidential item during future agendas.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.55 pm

Mrs S Hampson
Clerk
Parwich Parish Council

31 October 2014