

Minutes of the Guilsborough Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Guilsborough, on Tuesday, 21st June, 2011, at 7.15p.m.

Present: Mr M Revitt-Smith (Chairman), Mrs M Macdonald, Mrs P Townsend, Mr A Hart, Mr M Brennan. Also present were Catherine Boardman, County Councillor, Mr A Henretty, Guilsborough CEVA Primary School and one Parishioner.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss S Jaggard, Mr A Tebbutt, Mr P Hubbard and Mrs C Staley, Headteacher of Guilsborough School.

29/11 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There was no declaration of interests.

30/11 SAFETY TO SCHOOL SIGNS

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting the County Councillor and Primary School Headteacher. Councillor Boardman outlined the NCC position regarding Safer Routes to School. It was noted the school situation came within the criteria for the use of Activated Signs to slow the traffic down. It is proposed that the 20mph signs, which will be computer activated, will operate from 8.40am to 9.05am and from 3.00pm to 3.30pm. There is expected to be a consultation with the school regarding the timing of the signs operation.

The Headteacher explained that parents are being encouraged to park at the Ward Arms and then walk their children to the school, and the parents park there after school for collection of their children. The Headteacher raised the question whether some railings could be erected around part of the village green to make it safer for the children from the school buses and cars. There was a further suggestion that a cone should be placed outside the cottage near the green to prevent cars from parking at that position. It was agreed the bus companies should be contacted, when the signs have been erected, and the Headteacher agreed to contact the responsible County Council traffic officer to ask that the bus drivers be asked to co-operate in observing the speed limit.

It was agreed there should be a mention in Village Link informing residents of the new signs. The Parishioner addressed the meeting with her concerns.

On a different subject the Headteacher suggested a salt bin should be provided for use near his school. Maybe the Parish Council could purchase a bin, and salt, as necessary.

The Chairman thanked the speaker's for their contribution and they left the meeting.

The Parishioner also left the meeting.

31/11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Parishioner had left the meeting before this item on the agenda.

32/11 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held 10th May, 2011, copies of which had been previously circulated, were read, and signed, with notice that omitted from the May minutes, was mention of the Neighbourhood Watch use of email strategy, and a request to purchase 6 new signs. Confirmation was received that bcc will be used for all correspondence. The Clerk informed the meeting the signs had now been delivered.

33/11 MATTERS ARISING

(a) ACTIVATED SIGNS – Ref.6/11(b)

The Chairman agreed to prepare a letter for the Clerk to send to the NCC bearing in mind some of the issues raised earlier in the meeting. (Above Ref.30/11)

(b) VILLAGE CLEAN UP – Ref.6/11(c)

The Chairman informed the meeting the Clean-Up date is now 9th July, 2011, at 10.00am. meeting together at The Green, Guilsborough.

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(c) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD 12/4/11 – Ref.14/11

The Clerk reported our Chairman had second thoughts regarding the wording of the children's playing field. Her suggestion was that it should just be called the Playground. Following discussion the Council agreed to this suggestion.

(d) STREET LIGHTING – Ref.18/11

In the absence of our Lighting Representative Mr Hart agreed to try and identify the two lamps requiring a change to new low energy bulbs.

(e) CLERK'S PAYMENT – Ref.20/11

The Clerk explained that, with great help from Mr Hart payment of salary for April and May, 2011, less due income tax, had been made. (Net figure £594.58) PLUS Payment of accommodation for April and May, 2011. (Net figure £27.00) PLUS Mileage for April and May, 2011. (Net figure £17.60) PLUS Salary for June, 2011. (Net figure £297.39) Under the new arrangements the Clerk now had the payment book for forwarding the Income Tax due for April May and June, 2011. (Total tax paid £131.60)

The Clerk informed the meeting that the payment book mentioned that quarterly payment is acceptable.

(f) DONATIONS – Ref.21/11

The Chairman read to the meeting a letter of thanks from the PCC. The Clerk had received a telephone call of thanks, regarding the donation forwarded towards the publication of Village Link.

(g) INSURANCE – Ref.22/11

The Chairman read to the meeting the acknowledgment from our insurers Came & Co. that the premium renewal date will now be October 2012, instead of June.

(h) MOBILE LIBRARY – Ref.26/11

Mr Revitt-Smith had been in some discussion with Miss Jaggard concerning the mobile library. However, with the new information that the Primary School parents are being asked to use the Ward Arms car-park for collecting their children after school, this site now seemed unsuitable. The proposed timing for the library was 3.15pm to 4.15pm. The alternative could possibly be Pells Close. Mr Revitt-Smith agreed to visit the mobile library to try and identify where their customers reside in the village and see if they could go to Pells Close.

(i) WEEDKILLER - Ref.27/11

The Chairman read to the meeting the letter sent by the Clerk following the meeting. The Clerk informed the meeting of the response received from the recipient. The details were noted and no further action was proposed at the present time.

(j) NRHA SURVEY (Previous minute 4/1/11 Ref.97(h) on Page 471

The Clerk informed the meeting some survey forms had now been returned and Ms Joanne Martin wished to attend a future meeting to share the details with the Council. Unfortunately she had been unable to attend this evening meeting (21/6/11) but was available for our next meeting 2/8/11. The information passed to the clerk was that she was pleased with the response of a third. However, the Clerk had spoken with Miss Jaggard and she had not received a survey form, nor could Mr Tebbutt recall the form. The Clerk was instructed to ask her to come to our September meeting when more Councillors are likely to be available after summer holidays. In the meantime the Clerk was to ask for more information on the number of houses visited. It would appear that two thirds of the village were not interested in affordable housing.

34/11 GUILSBOROUGH SCHOOL/VILLAGE MATTERS

In the absence of the Headteacher there was no discussion on this item of the agenda.

35/11 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

DA/2011/0204 Construction of dormer bungalow together with associated works at land at The Lannet, West Haddon Road, Guilsborough.

The Council was informed that P.P. had been REFUSED.

DA/2010/0100 Proposed Windfarm at Kelmarsh. (Previous minute 16/10/2010 Ref.83/10)

The Council was informed that there is to be an APPEAL against the refusal by DDC. – Noted.

DA/2011/0433 Demolition of existing garage. Construction of dwelling, car port and alterations to existing access at Land to South East of Willow House, Cold Ashby Road, Guilsborough.

Observation submitted:- The above Council objects to the plan as presented as parking is insufficient as there is no street parking available. The Council does appreciate the proposed materials are in keeping with surrounding properties. The Council also feel the access has restricted sight in either direction.

DA/2009/0620 Proposed Windfarm at land adj. to Watford Lodge Farm, Watford.

The Council was informed that P.P.had been REFUSED subject to 3 conditions.

However, the Council was informed that there is to be an APPEAL against the refusal by DDC.

WINDFARM UPDATE

Mr Mark Brennan informed the meeting of the recent gathering with representatives from a small number of Parish Councils. The idea was to organise a more consistent and coordinated response to the issue of Windfarm planning applications and Renewable Energy Policy. It was also agreed an invitation should be given to the wider group of Councils across our area who may be interested in participating and contribute to the process. Our Council was informed that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 28th June, 2011 at 7.15pm.

Mr Brennan mentioned to the meeting that he, and Mr Hubbard, were prepared to act on behalf of the Council on issues concerning Windfarms. The Council agreed to this idea.

The Council instructed the Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Mr David O'Neil for all his hard work regarding the transport issue of traffic using our village route.

36/11 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Mr Revitt-Smith reported on his walk around the village with Mr Ian Smith of MGWSP. The Council noted that all the white lines will be refurbished. The issue of the overgrowth of the trees in the High Street is still being pursued. Mention was also made that following the harvesting of the elephant grass from surrounding areas the highway had been cleared of the debris. The attention of the Council was drawn to the current state of the footpaths in Pells Close. Mr Revitt-Smith explained this is a low priority as funding is not available.

37/11 PLAYGROUND INSPECTION

The Clerk reported on a telephone call from the Police following a report of damage to two items of play equipment. (The case is Crime No. NP13564/11) Mr Hart was aware of the damage and he will carry out the repair as necessary. It was suggested it would help the costs of future damage if a metal cutter could be purchased by the Council for Mr Hart to use. The Council agreed to this purchase which is not expected to exceed £50.00. Mr Hart informed the meeting our Community Police Officer was aware of the damage.

Mr Hart suggested that an approach be made to Mr Hugh Lowther, landowner, to ask him to arrange for the hedge height to be lowered when it is the hedge cutting season. Agreed.

The Council were made aware that Mr Kemp has still to make contact with Mr Hart to carry out the concreting work necessary.

38/11 NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT

Mr Hart laid on the table the current response from youngsters in the village. There were currently three items identified as favourites. A Horse Spring, Climbing Wall and an Aerial Runway. A closing date had been set for the end of June. Following this Mr Hart will prepare the total costs and consider how best to seek some financial support.

39/11 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

ORDERED that payment of the undermentioned accounts be approved:-

- 101308 P Winterburn (Clerk's salary for April and May, 2011, less income tax) £594.58
- 9 P Winterburn (Clerk's expenses for accommodation for April and May, 2011, plus mileage for April and May, 2011. - £44.60
- 310 Guilsborough Village Hall (Hire on 10th and 12th May, 2011) - £23.75
- 1 Post Office Ltd. (Clerk's income tax for April, May and June,2011) £131.60
- 2 P Winterburn (Clerk's salary for June, 2011, less income tax) - £297.39
- 3 M Hazle (Grass cutting 2011) - £550.00
- 4 Dave Shurville Signs & Designs (Purchase 6 Neighbourhood Watch Signs) - £58.20
- 5 P Winterburn (Clerk's expenses for accommodation for June, 2011, plus mileage for June, 2011 plus Qtrly. Telephone for the period April, May and June, 2011) - £78.00
- 6 A Hart (Threaded rods and washers to repair play equipment) - £9.95
- 7 K Robson (Fabric material for protest banner) - £97.20
- 8 Seaton Stores (Hospitality for local M.P.) - £14.60

40/11 BANK RECONCILIATION

The Clerk laid on the table the following bank statements reconciliation:-

Deposit a/c	£9,976.33
Current a/c	£8,340.47
Cash in hand	<u>150.13</u>
Sub Total	£18,466.93

Less cheques

101303	42.00	
6	100.00	
9	2,500.00	
1310	23.75	
1	131.60	
2	297.39	
3	550.00	
4	58.20	
5	78.00	<u>£1,280.94-</u>
Total Balance		<u>£17,185.99</u>

The balance was further reduced by payments agreed earlier under Ref.39/11 Namely cheques numbers 101306/7/8.

41/11 CORRESPONDENCE

Details had been circulated on the paperwork received up to 14th May, 2011.

Recently received:

NCALC Update May-June 2011. The Clerk informed the meeting there is to be a Chairmans course at the Assoc'n.office on 8th July,2011, from 11.30am to 2.30pm.

There will be discussion on the latest developments that will have an impact on Parish Councils. In conversation with Miss Jaggard the Clerk reported she would like to attend. The Council expressed support for her attendance and agreed to pay the delegates fee of £29.00.

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DDC– Email had been received concerning the Councillors’ Code of Conduct. It is known the Government is planning to make changes by way of the Localism Bill currently before Parliament. (It seems unlikely that the Bill will be passed into law until March next year) The District Councils Standards Committee will give further advice on the new regime when the details become known.

EMAIL FROM MR GRAHAM BYARS- The Clerk presented the email regarding Trustees Responsibilities to Village Hall along with a copy of The Nolan Principles. The Clerk was instructed to send a response that this matter is one for the Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee. NCALC had confirmed the Parish Council is the Custodian trustee for the charity. There is no requirement for members of the Parish Council to receive training. Nor is there a requirement for the Parish Council to hold an annual meeting as custodian trustees.

STEVE SHAW@Localworks.org An email had been received seeking our Councils support to a proposal by Leiston Town Council under the Sustainable Communities Act in respect of major developments. The full text was read by the Chairman and the Clerk was instructed to write and express our support to the proposal.

42/11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman reported on a telephone conversation with Mr Tebbutt. It was noted that Mr Tebbutt feels it is time to retire from the Council on health grounds, and had suggested the Council consider a Co-opted appointment to serve on the Council until the elections. Mr Revitt-Smith suggested that Mr David O’Neil be approached to see if he would consider joining the Council. There were no other names mentioned and the Acting Chairman will pursue this issue, after consultation with Miss Jaggard.

43/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the next meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday, 2nd August, 2011, at 7.15p.m.

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Chairman

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Date

