

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 24 February 2009 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Members Present: Councillors M Thomas (Chairperson), B Hallam, A Belgrove, T Thomas R Heckford and the Clerk

Members of the Public Present: County Councillor G D Collett (part meeting)
RBC Councillor R Hazelton (part meeting)

1. **Apologies** PCSO K Winfield
2. **Declaration of Interest** – Councillor B Hallam declared an interest on Quotations for the fencing around the Village Pond.
3. **Public Questions** - None
4. **Minutes** – On the proposition of Councillor T Thomas, seconded by Councillor Hallam the minutes of the meeting on 13 January 2009 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairperson.
5. **Police Report** – An up to date report on burglaries and car crime had been received from PCSO K Winfield and this was circulated to the Councillors.
6. **County Councillor G D Collett and Rugby Borough Councillor R Hazelton**
 - 6.1 Yellow Lines – The double yellow lines at the junction of Lower Street & Main Street are still outstanding, but should be laid within 7-10 days.
 - 6.2 Dunchurch Divisional Panel – this meeting would take place at Draycote Water on Wednesday 4 March at 7.30 pm.
 - 6.3 Flooding – a meeting is to be arranged to discuss flooding within the whole County as to what recommendations can be made.
 - 6.4 30 mph Signs – Agreement had been reached with the Highways Department for the moving back of the 30 mph sign in Lower Street to a point past the pond. The Council continues to canvas for having the 30 mph sign in Moor Lane also moved further out of the village.
 - 6.5 “Flexi Buses” – the purchase of new “Flexi Buses” are due in the next financial year, but as yet the precise routes have not been agreed.
 - 6.6 De Courcey Bus Service – this bus service which goes to Rugby via many villages has now changed (23 February) it will come down Main Street Monday to Friday at 9.22 am travelling towards the A45. This bus can be hailed anywhere on the Village Hall side of Main Street and will go direct to Rugby via Dunchurch and Sainsbury’s. On the return journey, which leaves Rugby at 11.45 am, passengers will have to inform the driver to go via Willoughby.
 - 6.7 Abattoir – Onley – Councillor G D Collett informed the meeting of a Planning Application for a proposed Abattoir, cold store and a meat processing plant with associated offices on land adjacent to Daventry Road (A45) near Onley for Messrs E & D Baker. Councillors agreed to discuss this under Planning item 7 on the Agenda.

County Councillor G D Collett left the meeting saying that the next Parish Council Meeting on 24 March 2009 and the Annual Parish Meeting on 21 April 2009 would

be his last attendances as he was stepping down as our County Councillor at the forthcoming elections in June. The Chairman thanked Gordon for his continual hard work for Willoughby Parish over the last 37 years and said he would be difficult to replace.

Rugby Borough Councillor R Hazelton arrived at the meeting.

- 6.8 46/48 Main Street Drains – the Highways Department Engineers have now conceded that the residents at these properties are correct in relation to the flooding problem and instructions had been given to rectify the blockage.
- 6.9 RBC R Hazelton requested that Willoughby Parish Council prepare contingency plans for the village with respect to flooding or other emergencies. Councillors agreed to discuss at next meeting.
- 6.10 Council Rents – Rugby Borough Council on instructions imposed on them by the Government had increased Council property rent by 6.5%.
- 6.11 Public Liability – Rugby Borough Council have requested that Parish Councils look at the cover they hold in respect of Public Liability.
- 6.12 Weight Limits for Heavy Lorries – Clerk had obtained from Warwickshire County Council a number of “Information Packs” for monitoring Heavy Lorries using the Village as a short cut. It was agreed to approach several residents and request them to complete these packs for submission to WCC. Additional packs are available if required from the Clerk.
- 6.13 Planning Applications – RBC R Hazelton requested that any correspondence between RBC and Willoughby Parish be copied to him in future.

RBC R Hazelton left the meeting.

7. Planning Applications

- 7.1 Land off Moor Lane – Councillor R Heckford had met with the Planning Authorities and the advice given was that no immediate action needed to be taken by the Parish Council except that since an Article 4 had been placed on the land the Parish Council should advise the Planning Department at once of any alterations being carried out or attempted. As yet no decision was known as to the status of the erection of a barn on the land.
- 7.2 Playing Field Shelter – Councillor R Heckford had been advised that no formal planning application would need to be made to remove and replace the existing Shelter in the Playing Field.
- 7.3 Abattoir – (see minute 6.7) Councillors agreed that objections should be raised in regard to the proposed Abattoir at Onley. The objections are based on its proposed site, increase in traffic, additional access onto an already dangerous road, the possibility of offensive smells and possible future development. It was also agreed to raise disappointment with Rugby Borough Council regarding awareness of this application as it only became known through County Councillor G D Collett and Press coverage.
- 7.4 Cottage Farm – the Enforcement Officer at Rugby Borough Council Planning Department is satisfied as to any development or number of properties listed on the Council Tax Return.
- 7.5 Land on Braunston side of A45 past old Railway Bridge – Council have been informed by the Enforcement Officer at RBC that no Planning permission is

required for a second Caravan and a small shed at this site.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr J Walton – Flooding Grants

Councillors agreed not to apply for any grants for alleviating flooding in the Village from the Government as it was felt that both the Environmental Agency and Warwickshire County Council having stated in the past that little more can be done to prevent all flooding in Willoughby would not take on any further works, grant or not

It was however agreed to look at strimming back the sides of the brook between Lower Street and the Box Bridge during the growing season and raise with the Highways the height and contours of the road at the Bridge (Moor Lane/Lower Street) to see if during flooding water could be prevented from running down Lower Street.

9. 9.1 (Agenda 9.2) Moor Lane Seat – completed

9.2 (Agenda 9.3) Village Pond – tree felling now completed including the tidying up of land at the rear of the pond. Mr K Fuller of Kilsby had agreed to uphold his original quotation in regard to the dredging of the pond, but add an extra £700 for building an island in the middle. Councillors agreed that dredging should be held back until the summer when the pond had dried up more. Clerk asked to advise RBC of this decision.

On the proposition of Councillor Heckford, seconded by Councillor Thomas a quotation of £1650 from Support Services for the erection of perimeter fencing was agreed. It was agreed that Councillors should meet at the pond on 3 March to discuss and agree with Support Services some additional fencing which was now required.

Councillor B Hallam left the meeting during the discussion on 9.2 (fencing), Councillors agreed to look at style and cost of a suitable memorial seat to Mrs C Marlow at the next meeting.

9.3 (Agenda 9.4) Playing Field refurbishment – An estimate for the replacement of 4 cubic metres of bark around the existing swings and a quotation for the erection of a Shelter have been received, but as yet no decisions have been taken. Councillors are to view Playing Field equipment from Husson on another site (Clerk to arrange) and further quotations for a Shelter sought.

9.4 (Agenda 9.5) Village Leader Project – ongoing.

9.5 (Agenda 9.6) Village Fete – the initial meeting with Village organisations had been held which was very positive, another meeting arranged for 26 March.

9.6 (Agenda 9.7) – Longdown Lane sign – replaced but damaged again – raised with Highways Department.

9.7 (Agenda 9.8) Neighbourhood Watch – still ongoing but will now be approached on a personal basis as the response has been poor.

9.8 (Agenda 9.10) Affordable Housing – 5 further sites are being investigated by Warwickshire Rural Housing Association.

10. **FINANCIAL**

The Clerk gave an outline report to the Council in regard to projected costs and commitments until the end of the Financial Year.

11. **URGENT BUSINESS**

Shrubbery Footpath – the condition of this footpath is causing concern to the Councillors and it was agreed to inspect it along its whole length on 3 March with a view to taking up the issue of repair with the Highways Department.

12. **Annual Parish Meeting** – 21 April 2009 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall – Clerk to prepare Accounts for 2008/2009 and Annual Report.

13. **Date of Next Meeting** – 24 March 2009 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Parish Clerk *[Signature]* **Chairperson**

Date *9/3/09*