

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 19 November 2013 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm

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

Members of the Public Present: County Councillor H Roberts (Part Meeting)
Rugby Borough Councillor R Hazelton (Part Meeting)

1. **Apologies:** None received
2. **Declaration of Interests** – None
3. **Questions from the Public** - None
4. **Minutes** on the proposition of Councillor Belgrove seconded by Councillor T Thomas the minutes of the meeting on 24 September 2013 were approved as a true record (“with the hedge up to the Church in Brooks Close” item 7.2.4 omitted) and signed by the Chairperson and Clerk.
5. **5.1.RBC Councillor R Hazelton – update on issues**

5.1.1 **A45 Rubbish** – RBC Councillor R Hazelton informed the meeting that due to lack of labour the rubbish along the A45 road verges will not be collected in future and the Council will only deal with specific cases of fly tipping.

5.1.2 **Sawbridge Road & Grandborough** – A request has been made for the Parish Council to ask local motorists not to speed along this stretch of road. Chairperson agreed to put this request in the Willoughby Monthly. This is also being addressed by Grandborough & Wolfhamcote Parish Councils.

5.1.3 **Leader Funding** – Council advised that funding from the Leader Project had now ceased, it is not known if future funding from the European Union in 2015 will be available.

5.1.4 **Fox Covert** – The bridge fencing and sides have again been damaged on this Bridle Way with the additional problem of farmers ploughing the fields right up to the path edges and in some cases vehicles cannot now pass. RBC Councillor to raise with Grandborough Parish Council and WCC H Roberts to raise with County Council Highways Department (Clerk to e-mail location).

RBC R Hazelton left the meeting.

- 5.2 **W.C.C. Councillor H Roberts – update on issues**
 - 5.2.1 **Verge Edges** – WCC H Roberts said that he had spoken to the Police regarding the speeding of vehicles along country lanes in particular Contractors and Farmers vehicles refusing to give way. A policy was needed from WCC regarding the upkeep of road verges for although the verges in Moor Lane were being repaired the damage by farm vehicles and large lorries continues along most Warwickshire lanes.

5.2.2. **Road Markings** – the road markings at the entrance to Main Street from the A45 have been re-marked, however, other barely visible road markings in the Village await attention.

5.2.3. **Speed Aware Signs** – The Speed Aware Signs in the Village are to be taken away at the end of the month after their 6 month trial. These have not been totally successful as the batteries on one sign were stolen during the trial period.

The Speed Aware sign on the A45 coming from the Dunchurch direction is still not working and WCC H Roberts will raise the issue with Highways Department.

5.2.4. **Speed Checks** – Speed checks have been carried out in the Village but Councillors believe they were carried out at the wrong time of the day. It is also the belief of the authorities that the presence of speed signs is enough in itself from the “fear factor” alone.

5.2.5. **Longdown Lane Junction** – Parish Council raised with WCC H Roberts the continual concerns of the Parish Council in relation to the danger of turning right into the Village from the A45 at both junctions – the need for lighting at the Longdown Lane/A45 cross-roads, a pedestrian crossing at Main Street/A45 junction and a reduction in speed along the A45 to 40 mph in line with other villages on the A45 road.

5.2.6. **Weight Restriction – Longdown Lane** – Parish Council raised with WCC H Roberts the need for a 7.5 tonne weight restriction on Longdown Lane up to Barby to prevent heavy lorries using this as a short cut.

Parish Clerk to e-mail WCC H Roberts with these concerns before the of November to enable him to raise with Warwickshire County Council when road improvement schemes are approved.

WCC H Roberts left the meeting.

6. **PLANNING**

6.1 R13/1567 – Barn at Manor Farm – Planning permission granted.

6.2 R13/1965 – Navigation Farm – erection of workshop/store for agricultural equipment – Council has raised no objections.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1 **Winter Gritting Route** – Parish Council to request that Woolscott Lane (from the Cricket Club up to Woolscott) be gritted as this is a School Bus route and has not been included on the gritting schedule.

8. 8.1 **Village Pond** – nothing to add.

8.2 **Playing Field**

8.2.1. **ROSPA** Safety Report for the September site and equipment inspections has been acted on. Mr G Rigby to carry out repairs to equipment and Councillor T Thomas to obtain bark to infill “playing equipment bases” as requested. Report to be circulated to Councillors.

8.2.2. **Hedge** – Playing Field hedge has been cut back with the hedge on the Shrubbery Footpath side having both sides cut back.

8.2.3. **Transfer of Lane** – ongoing.

- 8.3 **Conservation** – A Tree Preservation Order has been placed on the Walnut Tree on the verge outside White House Farm Main Street.
- 8.4 **Highway Issues** – see 5.2.1 to 5.2.5. above.
- 8.5 **Allotments** – In addition to the grant for fencing and gates through “Get Growing” (part of Gardens Organic at Ryton) the Council has also applied for a grant towards the cost of installing water on the site through County Councillor H Roberts.

At a meeting in the Village Hall on 22 October an Allotment Association was formed consisting of Allotment holders at the meeting a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer were elected to run the Association.

- 8.6 **Queen’s Diamond Jubilee** – item to be removed from minutes as now complete.
- 8.7 **Neighbourhood Watch** – nothing to add.
- 8.8 **Quality Council**
- 8.8.1. **Parish Plan** – Final draft copy to be sent to Rugby Borough Council for approval.
- 8.8.2. **Village Design Statement** – ongoing
- 8.8.3. **Housing Survey** – Midland Rural Housing will fund and conduct an affordable Housing Survey in Willoughby to fulfil the Council’s obligation of conducting such a survey every five years. A covering letter will accompany the Survey Questionnaire.
- 8.9 **National Flood Forum** – A drop in session by the Warwickshire Flood Resilience Community Pathfinder Project had been held in the Village Hall on 12 November. Twelve members of the Village had signed up to be involved in helping in a flooding/emergency situation until the Emergency Services arrive.
- 8.10 **Emergency Plan** - ongoing
- 8.11 **Phone Box – Main Street** – A request will be made in the next issue of the Willoughby Monthly for volunteers to paint the Telephone Box outside the Rose Inn.

9. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

9.1 Grant Thornton the Auditors appointed by the Audit Commission have informed the Council of its “audit satisfaction survey” carried out by them. A notice of this completion had been placed on the Notice Board to enable inspection of the Accounts and Auditors Certificate and Report by villagers.

9.2 **Payments** – on the proposition of Councillor T Thomas seconded by Councillor A Belgrove the following payments were approved:

Severn Trent – Water Survey	£ 133.14
E.ON – Electricity Supply	£ 135.98
Thomas of Flecknoe – Allotment Site	£ 300.00
Play Safety – Inspection	£ 92.40
Village Hall Hire	£ 30.00
S Hartwell – Mowing	£ 198.00
Grant Thornton – Audit	£ 120.00
Thomas of Flecknoe – Hedge cutting	£ 50.00
SLCC – Subs	£ 64.00

10. **Date of Next Meeting** – Next Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 7 January 2014 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Parish Clerk..... **Chairperson**.....

Date