

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8th April 2019
AT KEN STIMPSON COMMUNITY SCHOOL (Computer Room)**

MINUTES

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Rod, Boulton, Pauline Fury, Ivan Hammond, Bill Mercer, Vince Moon, Roger Proudfoot, Geoff Smith, Sally Weald.
<u>WARD COUNCILLORS:</u>	Cllr John Fox
<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</u>	Cllr Judy Fox, Martin Greaves, Cllr Steve Lane, Kay Molyneux and Ruta Dalton
<u>VISITORS:</u>	Lawrence Wright.
<u>MEETING OPENED:</u>	7.05pm

1. CHAIRMAN

1.1 CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS: Vince Moon opened the meeting thanking everyone for coming. He especially welcomed Lawrence Wright. Lawrence Wright was invited to receive his Civic Award. Lawrence had been unable to attend the presentation event at the Town Hall the previous week. As it is important to acknowledge such an important occasion the award has been formally made at the Neighbourhood Watch AGM and the Neighbourhood Council also wanted to acknowledge the achievement. Vince highlighted the important community contribution that Lawrence has made to Werrington and the City: through Scouting, Neighbourhood Watch, Neighbourhood Council, Parish Church. He was pleased to be able to acknowledge this important event. Lawrence thanked Vince and commented that the date of the certificate was 63 years to the day of him starting in the police force.

1.2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: The apologies were noted as above.

2. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM: There were no members of the public present.

3. PLANNING

REVISIONS TO PLANNING TEAM & APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING CHAIR: Rod Boulton was invited to take the Chair of the Planning Group and this was unanimously agreed by members.

SIGNIFICANT APPLICATIONS and GENERAL REPORT: Rod highlighted the recent planning applications: house extensions, parking at Olympus House, bin store and parking Papyrus Road, tree removal from church yard and illuminated sign in Dukemead. Of interest was the solar panels on Tesco which will not be seen from the ground. There were no objections to any of these applications.

4. OFFICER/COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.1 SECRETARY

4.1.1 MINUTES: The minutes of Monday 11th March were received and approved as a true record.

4.1.2 ANY MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising.

4.1.3 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY 4th JUNE (VILLAGE CENTRE)

Elections: Sally advised that the term of office of herself, Geoff, Ivan, Kay and Martin are coming to an end. She has nomination forms for completion. She will contact Kay and Martin.

Awards: Sally reminded members about the following award categories: The Werrington Award, The Good Citizenship for Youth Award, Community Contribution award(s), Community Appreciation award(s), Environment Award(s). There was a discussion about possible nominations and comments made about the inappropriateness of previous awards. The importance of sustained effort and commitment was highlighted. Sally asked for all suggestions to be submitted by beginning of May with the details why the award should be made.

4.1.4 UPDATE ON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AND PLAN

A workshop has been held with ACRE attended by 5 Neighbourhood Council members and 5 others. Sally said that it helped to prepare the ground for everyone's involvement and for ACRE consultants to continue working with the group. A report has been received including help to cost out the next funding application and it has been agreed by those present to invite ACRE to continue to work with the group. The next funding application is in process of being considered and this will include the

community consultation and focus groups with further support from consultants. The consultancy estimate for the next 12 months is £4800, and consultation itself is estimated at £1700 and £580 has already been spent on the workshop, website and refreshments. The lack of money is problematic and the additional Lottery Grant is essential to progressing this right to completion.

ACRE has suggested that the consultation could just involve posters, the carnival and online presence and a door to door consultation isn't necessary needed. The Forum group suggested that with high level of elderly people, the chance to express views, the need to secure the vote at the end and the need to inform people, then a commitment to such a consultation is needed. The meeting agreed with this view.

There is a meeting pencilled in on 23rd April to finalise the objectives and questionnaire. Sally asked for clarity if this meeting is needed and Geoff suggested that it is.

The next Area Forum meeting takes place on 13th May at 7pm at The Barn.

4.1.5 REPORT

Sally advised that she has been looking at getting the some of the integration funding by linking a community arts event with mural painting the underpasses alongside Cuckoos Hollow. Sally, John and Judy met with Nathan Murdoch of Street Arts Hire who painted the recent mural at Ikea underpass and the Centre murals. Subsequently, Sally, Vince, John and Cllr Steve Allen (a Newborough Councillor) met with Highways to seek their permission to do the work and their response is now awaited. The intention that schools, organisations and individuals are invited along to an arts event to input to the designs and then join together with Nathan to do the mural(s). There is also the opportunity for some environment funding to plant the approaches. Whilst Highways are giving permission, a request has been made to repaint the vandalised Cuckoo Hollow boundary stone. Gunthorpe Councillors, Newborough Councillors, Newborough Parish Council and Tim Fox have all been informed and their participation invited. To increase interest and to get families involved, permission is also sought from Highways to set out a geocaching trail.

Bill said that Nathan had given prompt attention to damage at the Library murals, He also said that the Davids Lane underpass needs attention. Sally said that another underpass would be too much take on and can't be linked to Cuckoo Hollow work easily. But hopefully there will be paint left over for Nathan to utilise locally. John said that this paintwork is being damaged by 'scratching' as the anti-vandal paint is working.

Sally said that a second funding application is being made to support the next year of 'drop in events' to support the Neighbourhood Watch, Environment Group, Area Forum together with new display stands.

4.2 HONORARY TREASURER

Geoff advised that the books will be going to the independent examiner this week. The accounts show a credit balance of £4,520.69 in the general account. In this sum certain amounts are ringfenced such as income for Area Forum (now mostly paid), Co-op project, and Neighbourhood Watch. £395 was raised by Crowdfunding and it would be good to reactivate this. Geoff distributed the annual Neighbourhood Watch accounts (for whom we act as their bankers) as circulated at their Annual General Meeting held the previous Friday. He noted with thanks the income coming from Ivan's good work in selling signs - Geoff referred to a disappointing attendance at that meeting despite good advance publicity.

4.3 PRESS AND P.R. OFFICER:

Sally said that the AGM will feature in the next Spotlight.

Mike has received payment for the next year's website support and hosting from the Neighbourhood Plan money. He has already indicated his charges for 2020/21 which will be included in the funding application.

Mike has extended the website to include the Neighbourhood Plan in its title and a new page with information and links about the Neighbourhood Plan. Sally said that a website review may need to be made as the Plan develops.

4.4 ENVIRONMENT GROUP

- i) Roger gave details of the Rivercare event on 4th May, 26th September (The Paddocks) and 5th October and the Bugs and Beasts Weekend on 12th/13th July.
- ii) He had a good meeting with Network Rail at Sobrite Spring including NR's Conservation Volunteer Regional Organiser. They are intending to do monthly events on scrub clearance, dog wood clearance and planting, litter clearance. There is a commitment to this for the next five years even suggesting a NR employee volunteer day.

There is a problem with the fencing being taken down presumably to allow horses to access the water. Stronger fencing is being put up and if problem persists maybe an alternative is another open pond. Whilst NR wants to prevent pond access it doesn't want to take a hard line. John also said that the Council was also committed to dealing with the wider horse problem. Sally confirmed that, following the last meeting, she had included Adrian Chapman in on the email to Network Rail. Bill expressed strong views about the contamination having made the pond unfit for wildlife. Roger says that the pond does have amphibian life in it and, whilst contamination is a problem, there is further concerns about the liner being damaged.

- iii) The Sobrite Event on 8th February was well attended despite the rain with several new volunteers.
- iv) Roger has seen the draft management plan for Cuckoo Hollow and Werrington Brook via the Environment Agency. It looks very good and professional but he will be feeding comments back. A question was raised again about the boom position but that is being determined by the bridge footings. Concern was also raised about the lack of 'petrol interceptor because of the concern of contaminants coming of parkway and other roads. Oil also already killed one of the swans. Roger said that this has been commented on this the past and he will remind Environment Agency.
- v) Bat boxes are being reviewed with Cambridgeshire bat group and permission is needed from City Council. There are at least three species of bats and there will be increased focus on these at events.
- vi) Roger visited an area of City Council ground with wild flowers and a pond adjacent to Martin Court with John which is now overgrow. There is the potential for a volunteer day to put in a path and seat specially to enhance it for the residents of Martins Court. Rod said that the work down Fen bridge Road had made a great improvement. He was looking at improving the dyke alongside with maybe bulb planting. Roger said it would also be good to put wild flower seed on the banks.
- vii) Roger said that he had ten cherry trees overwintered and there are options to plant these: Sobrite Spring, Martin Court.
- viii) There have been some well attended litter picks arranged by other people

4.5 DOG FOULING

Ivan reported continued low activity: March 17 - 41 stencils, March 18 – 12 stencils, March 19 – 5 stencils 283 in total.

The additional of bins and signs help but there will always be an element of society who will take no notice. Bill said that he still had some signs and it was agreed to put these on Birkdale Avenue, Wells Close and Coverdale Close. Sally asked for some photos for WNC Facebook. Sally reminded that there was still the DooDoo map project but with the large amount of publicity it needs, it was too political for her personal involvement.

5 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr John Fox extended Judy Fox's apologies for absent due to illness. John reported on the following:

- i) Church Street is being resurfaced on 3rd July. Some bollards will be placed to prevent parking encroaching over drives. Sally said that she had already mentioned the Conservation Area Management Plan which refers to road works being done to enhance the area, line painting and signage. John confirmed that Highways are aware of this and work will be done with this in mind.
- ii) Remedial work is being done in Hall Lane.
- iii) Roger asked that attention is made to protect the 'Fish' signs on the drains.
- iv) There was a long discussion about the potential for the future Sports Centre, and the history of the Skate Park.
- v) CLF funding being used to match fund benches and dog bins. Roger was asked for his input on the repositioning of the dog bins.
- vi) Six green boxes have been painted. John requested details of any missed.
- vii) Many signs are covered with grime especially where overgrown by trees and several are faded beyond repair. The replacement of the Church Street sign has been requested.

6 REPRESENTATIVES AND GROUP REPORTS

6.1 COMMUNITY POLICING:

PCSO Martha Harley had forwarded the area statistics. Sally questioned if these statistics are worth Martha's time and effort.

It was noted that scam in Werrington Park Avenue. Lawrence said that this was someone knocking door to door. This has been reported to the police. As they had no one to send down he had to go and on speaking to him, the person left the area.

Ivan draw attention to the silent calls facility then contacting police after dialing 999, then dial 55 it will be put straight through to police. There is also a 'what3words' app where the Country is drawn into a grid and identified by 3 words allowing you to identify your position when calling emergency services.

6.2 **PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON MEETING:** Vince advised that the next meeting takes place on April . Of interest in future meetings are Neighbourhood Watch and 'Good Neighbourhood' Scheme'

6.3 **WERRINGTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (WCA)**

Sally said that the Village Centre handover went well mainly due to the efforts of Mark the temporary caretaker. Geoff advised that a meeting had been held between users and the Parish Church but there was nothing to report. In response to questions, Sally advised that two groups are not continuing due to lack of volunteers namely the Wednesday Social and Nene gardening. Lawrence said that this wasn't anything to do with the Parish Church.

6.4 **REPORT FROM NORTH WERRINGTON RAILWAY ACTION GROUP:** Bill drew attention to the Spotlight Report commenting on the usefulness of the Network Rail Comment alongside it.

6.5 **OTHER MEETINGS:** No reports received.

7 **ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS.**

7.1 **NEXT MEETINGS:** The next meeting will be held at The Barn on Monday 13th May which will be preceded by an Area Forum meeting.

7.2 **OTHER MATTERS:** Ivan drew attention to the Larks Green Helicopter Fun Day on 18th May. There will be a Neighbourhood Watch stall. Sally asked if Neighbourhood Plan could have a poster and leaflets.

MEETING CLOSE: 9.30pm.

