

Norton & Lenchwick Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting, 1st March 2012 No.03/12

Clerk to the Council, Mike Smith, 12 Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford WR11 7RT

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Present

K. Leonard, Chairman, A. Hill, V. Chairman, Councillors J. Middleton, J. Fretwell, D. Bush,
R. Houghton, County Councillor C. Holt, District Councillor, C. Homer, and M. Smith, Clerk.
1 Parishioner, P. Parfitt

1. Apologies

None

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. **The meeting was adjourned for the Public Question Time, notes of which are appended to these Minutes (if applicable)**

4. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th January 2012 were agreed

5. District / County Councillors Report

Councillor C. Holt told the meeting that the councils Bold Program for reducing expenditure had been successful and has so far saved £30m in the last twelve months and they are looking at saving a further £20m.

The Chairman reminded Councillor C. Holt of his generous offer of £700.00 towards the VAS project.

County Councillor told the meeting that of the “greener and more efficient issues in Wychavon Strategy. Also there is to be an investment of £100k towards a faster broadband network.

6. Chairman’s Report

The Chairman stated that she would be attending the Parish Conference on the 25th April.

The Neighbourhood Watch initial meeting was held with CSO Simon Hall & PC Dave Shortell.

Over 10 interested people were sent invitations but only 4 attended. This was unfortunate as 2 guest speakers who run successful programs in Bishampton attended to give an overview of the program.

We currently have volunteers for Kings Lane, Byrd Row and Lloyds Close. I would like to ask each Councillor to assist in some outreach work to see if they can get a willing participant in their neighbourhood to sign up. I believe the Neighbourhood Watch will be extremely beneficial for the Parish as we have no real centre point, not having a school or a shop. It will tie small neighbourhood Groups together which will be tied into the greater Neighbourhood Group. An added benefit is that we will be eligible for reduced insurance premiums

A meeting is being scheduled for the 19th March at WDC between Gill Collins and Emma Worley From the Planning office, Landowners Smith & Wadley, Barbara McLaren from the Village Hall Committee, County or District Councillor and myself.

Our proposal for planning to allow the re-location of the existing permitted development adjacent to the Village Hall. We propose planning allow Smith & Wadley to move the development away from the Hall and toward the Playing Field. This will allow a buffer between the development and the Hall.

This location is outside of the development line. There is a precedent for planning to allow this move in exchange for a considerable land donation that would benefit the community. Smith & Wadley have indicated that are willing to do this.

7. Field Path Officers Report

No issues

8. Lengthsmans Report

None

9. Street Lighting Officers Report

None

10. Finance & Policy Committee Report

No Report

11. Community & Outreach Committee Report

No Report

12. New & Ongoing Items

a) VAS Signs / Insurance

A motion was discussed to purchase the VAS signs. This was proposed by Councillor JF and seconded by Councillor AH. Unanimous vote.

Clerk to deal with insurance details.

b) Clearance of Hedge / Ditch Area.

The quote from P. Parfitt was accepted by a unanimous vote.

The invoice would not exceed £350.00

c) Street Lighting.

Clerk would contact Prysmian re the repair of lighting poles etc.

d) Emergency Plan.

A committee would need to be formed for this venture

e) Worcestershire Agreement.

It was agreed to allow the V. Chairman to complete this for the next meeting

f) Dog Bins.

A motion was passed to purchase 2 dog bins in the next financial year. These would be sited on the Evesham Road by the Church and by Lenchwick Lane Notice Board.

g) Risk Assessment.

Councillors agreed the amendments to the form with a unanimous vote.

h) Allotments.

More work needs to be done on this issue regarding leasing aspect etc. Also the access needs to be addressed. There may be the possibility of a DC grant towards the project.

i) Lengthsman.

Tenders were assessed and it was unanimously agreed to offer the post to P. Parfitt.

The Clerk will arrange the details.

13. Planning

A complaint from a Parishioner was raised re caravans. This was discussed and a copy of the map supplied would be emailed to District Councillor C. Homer.

14. Finance

Copies of accounts were made available for Councillors

A motion was unanimously agreed to increase the Clerks Salary hourly rate to £9.75 per hour and the office expenses to £13.50 per month. Also holiday pay is also due at a rate of 2hrs per year covering 2010 / 2011 and 2011 / 2012.

Cheques signed,

B. Arrowsmith, Lengthsman, December / January £220.00

Cox & Hodgetts, Deeds Storage £25.00

M. Smith, Clerk Salary Jan/ Feb, Mileage, Newsletter P & D and Stamps £315.54

Receipts,

Lengthsman Reimbursement for Nov. £110.00

Grant for VAS from WDC £2000.00.

15. Date of the next meeting as 3rd May which will also be the Annual / Statutory meeting

Items for the Agenda must be received 14 days prior to the above date

Meeting Closed at 8.45

Signed.....

Date.....

Notes of the Public Question Time