

Norton & Lenchwick Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting, 2nd May 2013 No.05/13

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 Derek Bush, K. Davies & M. Smith, Clerk

1. Apologies

Councillor J. Fretwell, District Councillor C. Homer & County Councillor C. Holt

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Public Session

None

4. Review of the minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the previous minutes were agreed

5. District / County Councillors Report's

None

6. Chairman's Report

D. Councillor C. Homer has arranged a meeting with Andrew Ford V. Chairman A. Hill and myself. Andrew will outline what is involved with the Neighbourhood Plan. It is quite a process with seed money of up to £20,000 available to Parishes who wish to pursue the plan. The Parish Plan is supposed to be an opportunity for us to shape the development of our area. Once we have all the details we will present these at the next PC meeting so we can all decide if this is the path we wish to go down. Steve Bromley, the Planning Consultant we met a few months ago called me to give me an update. He has completed technical meeting with the Planning & Housing officers at WDC. The meetings were only to discuss technical points like aesthetics, ecology, the number and type of affordable housing. The Housing officer would like to see two of the dwellings designated intermediate affordable. As explained, they would be 100% freehold subsidised by the developer and available to local residents at a discounted price. As far as the Planners agreeing to allow the development, that stage of the talks has not been started yet. Steve will be back to us again at a later time when there is more development in the process.

The Village Hall AGM was held in April with Eileen Staunton being elected as Chairman replacing Barbara McClaren.

There will be a Rooftop Housing walkabout on the 20th May at St Egwins Road. Rooftop only arranges one walkabout per year in the Village and only then it is one street. This is a good opportunity to go any issues with them. So far issues are, not cutting their grass areas and the peeling purple garage doors

7. Field Path Officers Report

None

8. Lengthsmans Report

None

9. Finance & Policy Committee Report

The Chairman attended a presentation by Peter Lacey on “Financial Management
A précis of this presentation is available to Councillors if requested

10. Community & Outreach Committee Report

Councillor K. Davies & myself knocked on doors and dropped leaflets targeting families and teens to come to our open meeting to give us ideas for the upgrade of the Playing Field. In the end only a few people showed up along with District Councillor C. Homer. The few that did make the effort had children between the ages of 4 & 12 and gave us some excellent ideas of what children in that age group require.

None of the teenagers we asked showed up but ironically they were playing football in the park in less than 30 minutes after the meeting. It makes you wonder how much of a priority a scooter / skate ramp really is for them.

As the surgery was so poorly attended we will need additional outreach to Parishioners probably in the form of a petition where they agree they are happy to have their money spent on Playing Field improvements. It is a bit of a dilemma when this money is designated for our Parish to spend and we have almost nothing else we can spend it on but we have to jump through many hoops to get it.

To not make the effort is not an option or the money just sits there unclaimed which is not in the best interest of the Parish.

11. New & Ongoing Items

a) Community Outreach & Planning Surgery Report

As Item 10

b) New Homes Bonus

Item in the next Newsletter outlining the PC’s suggestions for using this money for Playing Field upgrade

c) Future Village Events

Ideas put forward were,
Another Tea Dance, possible a “Vintage Afternoon”
Another Quiz Night, which was very popular
A Film Night

d) Newsletter Frequency.

It was agreed to keep it to twice a year

e) Playing Field. Improvements & Inspection

Councillors to view supplied brochures and put forward recommendations for equipment at the next meeting. The inspection of the Playing Field by Wicksteed had been requested and the report will be available at the next meeting.

f) Street Lighting Update

The remaining work to be carried out by Prysmian is due start in early May

12. Planning

None

13. Finance

Copies of accounts were made available for Councillors

The Parish Council to a three year contract for the Insurance

Cheques signed,

Npower, Electricity £86.20

Lengthsman, Feb/Mar/Apr £515.00

Came & Co, Insurance £388.97

M. Smith, Salary Mar/Apr £251.70

Calc, Training £10.00
Smart Cut, Grasscutting (Mar) £259.56
Calc, Affiliation Fee £367.12

Receipts

WDC, Precept £5,500.00
WCC, Lengthsman £380.00
WDC, Grasscutting Subsidy £943.00
HMRC, VAT Refund £1,711.39

14. Date of the next meeting as 4th July 2013

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

Meeting Closed

Signed.....

Date.....

Notes of the Public Question Time