

NEW WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEW WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNSDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2014 AT THE NEW WALTHAM VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr G Williams (Chair)
Councillors R Breed, G. Baker, D Croy, L Gibson, C Mumby, J North
And D Raper

Officers: L Dyas, Clerk to the Council

Also present: Councillors Fenty and Harness (Ward Councillors)
9 Members of the public, 2 members of the Police

		Action
14/104	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllrs Matthews, Simpson and Norton.</p> <p>The Chair said that Cllr Gibson wished to read out a statement. Cllr Breed left the meeting. Cllr Gibson read out her statement and asked the Parish Council to accept it as her resignation. She then left the meeting. Cllr Breed re-joined the meeting at 7.02pm</p>	
14/105 (A) (B)	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Cllr Baker declared a personal interest in agenda item 14/113 Village Newsletter</p> <p>There were no dispensations issued in respect of the business to be transacted.</p>	
14/106 (A)	<p><u>Minutes of meetings</u></p> <p>Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd September 2014</p> <p>Resolved: That the minutes be accepted and agreed as a true record.</p>	
14/107 (A) (B) (C)	<p><u>Police & Community Reports</u></p> <p><u>Police Report</u></p> <p>The police report was read out. The Chair said we seemed to have taken a big step backwards with regard to ASB behaviour. There was a mosquito in place at the Greengables shops about 5 years ago and asked if it was still in place. The PCSO said it had not been used for a few years. Cllr Baker left the table to give the PCSO some information. Cllr Mumby enquired about the 4 bikes stolen from Dunbar Avenue and the PCSO replied the garage was next to a field. Cllr Williams thanked the police for their report. Cllr Baker enquired about how parking was monitored; the police said the plan was to visit every school every 54 days, which included Toll Bar and Enfield School.</p> <p>Resolved: That the report be received with thanks.</p> <p><u>Community Pride Team</u></p> <p>The Chair read out the report, which combined New Waltham and Humberston statistics.</p> <p><u>Young Peoples Support Service/Football Scheme</u></p> <p>Cllr Baker said there would be a combined report from next month</p>	

	<p>Which will be retrospective. However, a report was received re the football scheme. The Chair asked whether we should write to Toll Bar asking if their football grounds could be used during the winter months, as the Greenlands fields flood very easily.</p> <p>Resolved: The Clerk to write to the Head of Toll Bar with the information from Graham Rodgers</p>	Clerk
	<p>Public Participation Resolved: That the meeting be closed to allow for a period of public participation (7.10pm)</p> <p>Mrs K Peers informed the meeting that ex Cllr Gibson was responsible for the New Waltham Community Facebook page. However, there was no disclaimer stating that New Waltham Parish Council was not responsible for this site. 98% of the postings were satisfactory but the other 2% were about Mrs Peers. There is nothing on the site about Humberston and Great Coates Parish Councils. Mrs Peers was concerned that ex Cllr Gibson was having a “dig” at her. The Chair said it had been made plain that ex Cllr Gibson administered the site in her capacity as a private individual and not as a councillor. Mrs Peers said that ex Cllr Gibson approached other councils in her capacity as a New Waltham councillor and wanted to know whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) New Waltham Parish Council was aware of this b) Did New Waltham Parish Council sanction this c) What action will the council take <p>The Chair said he would respond to Mrs Peers.</p> <p>Mrs Peers thanked the Chair for the investigations under the exempt item from the last meeting. She pointed out that previously ex-Cllr Gibson had said the council would be hearing from the Police. However, Mrs Peers said the Police are not investigating NWPC and enquired whether there had been a breach of the code of conduct by ex-Cllr Gibson, as it seemed she had been trying to discredit existing serving members. The Chair said this would be discussed as an exempt item. Mrs Peers requested a formal apology from the Council and ex Cllr Gibson.</p> <p>Cllr Baker said he was still bound by judiciary but will in the next few days give an opinion on this.</p> <p>Mrs P Breed said on behalf of several residents, there was concern about the audit item 8 and the involvement of the Police as outlined in the August minutes, and asked for some clarification. The Chair replied the Clerk had contacted the Police and they confirmed they were not investigating New Waltham Parish Council.</p> <p>A resident enquired about parking restrictions in Charles Avenue. The Chair requested that if any resident had any queries regarding parking restrictions to contact the Clerk who will in turn let NELC know.</p> <p>The public session finished at 7.24pm</p>	Cllr Williams
14/108	<p><u>Planning Matters</u> DM/0949/14/FUL-Tollbar Academy, Station Road, New Waltham Install 2 new pedestrian gates for sixth form student use This work has already been carried out before any comments could</p>	

<p>14/109</p>	<p>be made Resolved: That the application is supported DM/0790/14/FUL-5 Thompson Road, New Waltham Install bathroom skylight to pitched roof Resolved: That the application is supported</p> <p><u>Future Dates</u></p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 5th November 2014. There were 4 votes for and 3 against to retain the next meeting date. ERNLLCA Annual Conference – 14th November 2014 – Cllr Baker to attend Town & Parish Liaison Committee – 27th November 2014</p>	
<p>14/110</p>	<p><u>Reports</u></p> <p>Village Hall Committee Meeting - Cllr Mumby said it was decided at the last meeting that when the Post Office moves into the Spar shop, the gates will be open when the play area is open. Cllr Williams asked for some clarity on this and will include the outcome in the newsletter. ERNLLCA AGM – Cllr Baker attended the AGM on behalf of the Council. He went through the resolutions which had been made and said that Cllr Breed was re-elected. Cllr Baker had thanked A Barker for his assistance and support over the past year.</p>	<p>Cllr Mumby</p>
<p>14/111</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p> <p>c)</p> <p>d)</p> <p>e)</p>	<p><u>Parish Council Matters</u></p> <p>Wreath for Remembrance Day – Cllr Raper has organised this and will collect at the end of October 2014. It will cost £18.50 with a donation of £11.50 going to the British Legion, making a total cost of £30.00, the same as last year. Resolved: That the proposed donation is supported</p> <p>Arrangements for Christmas 2014 – Cllr Breed proposed that NWPC provide mince pies and cakes for the carol concert at St Matthew’s Church on the 15th December 2014. Cllr Breed will also liaise with NELC Electrical Dept regarding the Christmas lights. It was decided to put the lights on at the beginning of December 2014. Resolved: The Council supported the proposals.</p> <p><u>Community/Local Plan</u> The Chair said the Clerk and himself would be meeting Jake Newby from NELC for some guidance and will give feedback at the next meeting. If anyone has got anything to put forward, will they please contact the Clerk.</p> <p><u>Appointment of Personnel Committee</u> The Chair said there were two vacancies on the Personnel Committee. Cllrs Breed and Croy were both proposed and seconded to sit on the Committee. Cllr Williams asked Cllr North to organise the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Appointment of Comms/Newsletter Committee</u> Both Cllr Williams and Baker volunteered to sit on this Committee. Cllr Baker said they would look for input from other members.</p>	

f)	<p><u>Greenlands Youth Project Update</u></p> <p>Cllr Baker thanked Cllr Fenty for the amount of work he had put into this; Cllr Williams seconded this, and thanked Cllr Fenty for his support. Cllr Baker said there had been a reduction in funding, which would continue over the coming years, combined with a re-organisation. GYPO and Cazzie Adams had offered their services free of charge to support the young people, but Cllr Baker was not in a position to give an opinion on this. There was a lot of street work being carried out until the service had been sorted. Cllr Baker said there would be a meeting with NELC in Jan/Feb 2015 with regard to agreeing a SLA and recommended the Council pay the SLA. Cllr Fenty said there were pressures on ward funding; however, Paul Casswell had said that perhaps other funding could be found from the Premier League to support this type of activity. It was therefore important to continue dialogue with YPSS and Graham Rodgers regarding this issue. Cllr Baker proposed to continue with what we were doing but would need to consider the offer from GYPO. The Chair thanked Cllr Baker and Fenty for their hard work.</p>	
g)	<p><u>Verge or Footway Parking Restrictions Update</u></p> <p>The Chair read out the exemptions and reminded the Council there would be more signs in the village. Albery Way was not included in the restrictions due to the plethora of additional signs. Cllr Baker enquired why Pretyman Crescent was not included and the Chair responded by saying it had not been submitted to the Council or NELC. Cllr Baker said there was a proposal for double yellow lines down Cardiff Avenue. The Chair said the restrictions would continue to be monitored.</p>	Clerk
h)	<p><u>Priors Green</u></p> <p>This will be deferred to the next meeting as there had not been a meeting with the Friends of Priors Green.</p> <p>Resolved: To defer this item to the next meeting</p>	
i)	<p><u>Delegation of grounds maintenance functions and lease of buildings from NELC –</u> The Chair gave an update and said the Clerk had been in touch with Waltham Parish Council in order to look at shared resources. However, their business plan has not gone to Council yet. However, we need to push this forward as the Council will soon be setting the precept. Cllr Breed enquired what assets would be in the plan and the Chair replied the village green, the pavilion with playing fields and the bowling green. Cllr North asked about insurance liability as currently only Thursday night is covered by NWPC and the rest is covered by NELC insurance. The Clerk will enquire from NELC regarding this issue.</p>	Clerk
j)	<p><u>New legislation on recording of meetings</u></p> <p>The Clerk had circulated a draft policy from ERNLLCA and Cllr Baker suggested the Council take their advice. Cllr Breed asked whether recording or filming would commence before the meeting started. The Chair clarified that recording or filming would only commence once the meeting was formally opened and would finish once the meeting was closed. The Clerk was asked to incorporate this into the policy.</p> <p>Resolved: To adopt the policy on recording of meetings.</p>	

14/112	<p><u>Information Update</u> The Chair proposed we remove this from the agenda as we no longer used a circulation bag as the majority of items were circulated electronically Resolved: To remove this from the agenda</p>	
14/113	<p><u>Village Newsletter</u> Cllr Baker said the Clerk would now be responsible for the publication of the newsletter. The Chair reminded Cllr Baker that a free advert and apology for N Hirst should be included. Cllr Mumby to clarify with NWWH Committee with regards to the barrier and car park at the village hall so an article can be included. Cllr Breed said we used to go around new businesses in New Waltham and the Chair said it was in hand.</p>	
14/114	<p><u>Finance</u> Resolved: That the cheques are authorised for payment as per the circulated cheque list.</p> <p>The Clerk had circulated some quotes for a replacement post for the fence at Priors Green. Resolved: To accept the quote from Platers for £195.00</p>	
14/115	<p><u>Any Other Business</u> Cllr Baker said that due to a re-organisation of the bus services, there is currently no timetable and explained the changes to service 8 and 51. Also looking at the possibility of a bus to Scunthorpe due to people being treated at the hospital in Scunthorpe.</p> <p>Cllr Mumby had received a complaint about the state of the woodwork of the vacant flat above the Spar shop. Cllr Fenty said this was an enforcement matter and asked Cllr Mumby to send him a photo and address so he could pass it on to the appropriate department within NELC for advice.</p> <p>To consider exemption of public and press for these items under Public Bodies Admission to Meeting Act 1960, Section 1 (2) on the grounds that discussions of the following business is likely to disclose confidential information.</p> <p>a) Shaw Trust – The Chair outlined the issues regarding the Street Cleaner’s employment contract. Shaw Trust have asked whether the Council would be willing to employ the Street Cleaner directly. The implications were discussed i.e. length of service, TUPE obligations, payroll and pension liabilities. If the Council did decide to employ him, the precept would have to be increased as a result, but the Chair was not prepared to expose the Council to such a risk. Cllr Baker said there was a meeting planned between Shaw Trust, Cllr Breed and the Clerk and the Chair asked to be included. Cllr North enquired about section 13 of the agreement as there could potentially be some shared costs. The Chair reminded the Council that as residents, we are being double taxed for the services of the Street Cleaner. Cllr Baker said we should adjourn any decisions until after the meeting with Shaw Trust and to take some legal advice. Resolved: To adjourn any decisions on this item pending the meeting</p>	

With Shaw Trust.

Resolved: The Chair had the authority of the Council to engage with Shaw Trust so any information update can be brought back to the next meeting.

b) To consider statement regarding ex-Clerk – The Chair would like the Council to consider a couple of items;

- To issue an apology to the ex-Clerk regarding the allegations made by ex-Councillor Gibson.

Item 8 in the audit report and the statement made by ex-Cllr Gibson has been found to be incorrect by the investigation carried out by the Clerk. Salary paid was found to be correct as per the contract of employment and salary scales, and it had been proved there were no wrong doings by the ex-Clerk.

Resolved: To extend an apology to the ex-Clerk

- As ex-Cllr Gibson has now resigned, was there a motion for her to make an apology to the ex-Clerk? 6 councillors in favour and 1 against this motion.

Regarding the resolution from the last minutes item 14/99 (h) for the Clerk to administer a newly designed NWPC Facebook page, the Chair offered some services to assist the Clerk in getting the Facebook page up and running as soon as possible.

The meeting closed at 8.38pm