

Minutes of the meeting of Weston Longville Parish Council

Held at 7.30 pm on Monday 11 November 2013 in the Hall for All, Weston Longville

PRESENT:

Peter Ross (Chairman), Ruth Goodall, John Staveley, Anthony Thomas, Clare Morton.

Other attendance: Sonya Garland (Clerk), Councillor Joyce (County Councillor),

1	To receive and accept apologies for absence
	Apologies had been received from Mollie Parkinson. The Chairman welcomed Clare Morton to her first meeting as a Parish Councillor.
2	To receive Members' Declarations of interests for meeting tonight:
	Item 11 - AT as a trustee for the landlord of planning application 20131487.
3	To approve and sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 September 2013
	The minutes were agreed as factually correct and signed by the Chairman.
4	To receive information on matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda
4.1	Item 7 - Dealing with planning matters between meetings. After discussion, Councilors AGREED that if a major planning application was received between meetings an extraordinary meeting would be called if it was not possible to get an extension to the deadline. Minor applications would be dealt with via email as they currently were. Item 8 - BM Wind Turbines on the Airfield. The Chairman updated that he had held a meeting with the developers principally regarding shadow flicker and future liaison. It had been agreed that if any issues arose residents should report it to JS and PR, who would contact the relevant person in the developer's team to try and resolve the problem asap. JS and the Chairman would be holding another meeting with the developers on 20 November and requested that any more issues be sent to them before then. A formal complaint would probably be made to Broadland regarding how the issue of the shadow flicker condition had been dealt with. The Chairman also advised that piling for the turbine bases was still taking place.
5	To receive a report from the Police Community Support Officer
5.	30 calls had been made to the control room, resulting in 7 crimes being recorded (3x theft, 1x criminal damage, 2x theft from motor vehicle, 1x burglary other than dwelling). PCSO Webb reported that he had monitored speed through the area on 2x occasions; during the first session, between the chicane and the church, no speeding had been recorded. Results from second session on Honningham Road had not yet received but there had been a lot of vehicles exceeding the speed limit.
6	Parish Partnership Scheme
6.1	Correspondence had been received from the County Council regarding the Parish Partnership scheme, where Parish Councils could apply for minor road works to be

	carried out and split the cost with the County Council. JS reported that he had spoken with Highways but most works were so expensive that even 50% of the costs would be too much for the Parish to afford. A discussion was held around the weeds which grow at Woodyard corner; AT volunteered to spray this area twice a year, which councilors AGREED.
7	Implications of NDR Plans
	RG advised that a local resident had raised this issue, as they thought the parish council should be joining in discussions at an early stage. It was AGREED that the clerk would provide the name of the appropriate officer at the County Council for RG / JS to contact regarding the consequences of the NDR on the village.
8	Highways issues a) To receive an update (John Staveley) b) To consider tasks for the next Highway Rangers visit (Clerk)
a)	Councillors reported that the 7.5 tonne limit sign on Rectory Road had not been replaced after the water supply works had been carried out, and that the volume of heavy traffic on it had noticeably increased. JS AGREED to take a look at the signage at the Honingham Road end. JS AGREED to speak to Highways regarding painting SLOW on Weston Hall Road by the Dinosaur Park entrance. JS would liaise with Hockering Parish Council regarding their vehicle weight and height signs and how this would affect Weston Longville.
b)	• Carry out trimming at Woodyard corner (junction of Honingham Road / Ringland Lane) as it was over grown with nettles; • Carry out tidying at the triangle of the junction on the Lyng Easthaugh road / Weston Hall road junction; • Make repairs to verges and tidy grass through the centre of the village. • Carry out trimming from the grass bank outside the Parson Woodforde and Hall for All, right down to visibility sign. • The speed sign entering the village on Honingham Road was overgrown and could not be seen. • The hedging on the Wood Lane bank, turning into the village, needed trimming to aid visibility for drivers.
9	Village Hall and Play area
9.1	RG reported that bookings had been very good especially for children's parties. User group meetings were holding up and community events had been held. The Tour de Broads been booked again for 2014.
9.2	Financially the Hall was in good shape and a balance £13000 had been built up.
10	Greener Weston
	a) Update (Anthony Thomas)
10.1	AT reported that he was currently trying to get in touch with a local rose provider, to purchase roses to plant in hedges throughout the village. The Chairman agreed to assist AT with planting them.

10.2	A litter pick would be held throughout the village on 17 November. Participants would gather at the hall between 9-10am.
11	To consider Planning issues: a) Planning Applications/Enforcement (Clerk)
	20131458 - Woodforde Farm, Weston Green Road. After discussion the Parish Council AGREED to object to this as the new plan proposed to remove the approved line of trees within the site and rely solely on filling the gaps within an existing off-site hedge. This would further reduce the effectiveness of the screening which was considered to be already inadequate. In addition, there was no justification as to why the measures originally proposed for this important boundary would need to be changed. The Clerk would also contact the District Council and ask what measures had been taken to reduce or eliminate the light pollution that was being caused by the all night floodlighting of the site whilst it was under construction and once the solar farm was operating would all night security floodlighting to be allowed? 20131492 – Shepherds Business Park – no objections. 20131487 – Solar farm at Bernard Matthews. A notification had been received informing the Parish Councils of a screening opinion request by the developers asking if a full environmental impact assessment (EIA) would be required if a planning application was to be made regarding a solar farm on the old airfield at Weston Longville by Lumicity Limited. Councillors AGREED to respond that given the scope and nature of the application and the sensitivity of this open sight that a full environmental impact assessment should be carried out. The Councillors also noted reference to the site being "Brownfield", which it disputed as the land has always been classified as agricultural. Even if the application for the wind turbines on the airfield wrongly reclassified some of this site as B2 light industrial this did not apply to the two southernmost sections of the proposed solar farm. Broadland would also be informed of this.
12	To note correspondence/items actioned since last meeting (Clerk)
	The list was circulated and noted.
13	To receive correspondence and agree action/response (Clerk) A letter had been received from Great Witchingham playgroup, thanking the Parish Council for its donation.
14	Financial matters
	a) The revised accounts for 2013/2014 were received and noted. A discussion was held around the discretionary funds available to the council. It was AGREED to start paying the Hall for All £100 a year (5 mtgs of 2.5 hrs @ £8 per Hour) for room hire from the start of FY 2014/15. b) The parish precept for 2014/15 was discussed. The final tax base had not yet been received from Broadland Council, but officers had already confirmed that Broadland had withdrawn the grant that it paid last year, therefore the precept received would be less (by £175) than the current £4500 if the Parish Council maintained its requirement. It was noted that the precept was relatively large for a village this size, but that the precept had to be set on the basis of sound budgeting. A decreased precept would mean financial uncertainty for the Council. It was AGREED to maintain the current precept of £4500, which, depending on the final tax base,

	would mean a rise of approximately £1.44 extra per house. CM undertook to write an article for the Wensum Diary regarding what the precept was spent on. c) The following payments were agreed: • Norse invoice £469.47 • It was noted that the Clerk had still not been able to contact the Dereham Citizen Advice Bureau to ascertain who to make the cheque payable to. • Campaign Protection of Rural England This would be added to the next agenda for a full discussion • c) The Clerks salary, tax and expenses £520.70p The Chairman noted the national remembrance anniversary of the start of World War 1 would take place during 2014. Councillors AGREED to add the war memorial in the village to the next agenda, to discuss how it could be cleaned and repaired.
15	The Rural Services Network and their Fair Shares Campaign This item had originally been on the September agenda – the Petition was now closed.
16	Signage at the Wood Lane corner This had been discussed under an earlier item.
17	Dog bin for the playing field
17.3	RG advised Councillors that there was no dog bin available at the Hall for All. As such, dog owners often left mess behind. RG asked if the Parish Council would support a bin. It was AGREED to add this to the next agenda. In the meantime CM would write a note in the Wensum Diary asking users to not leave mess behind and for their opinions on how to improve the situation.
	AT noted that he had been unhappy that Councillors had objected to the temporary marquee planning permission which Weston Hall Park had requested (which had subsequently been granted). The chairman reminded him that had he attended the meeting he could have voted on this issue and that the council in making its objection had fully supported the business but with the proviso that the associated noise issues were dealt with. AT would organize another meeting with Martin Goymour in order to discuss the possibility of a footpath through the woods.
	It was noted that heritage airfield inspectors would be in Norfolk shortly and may visit Weston Longville. In addition, the Eighth in the East project had secured funding to work on airfields in central Norfolk.

Meeting closed at 21.30