

## Minutes of Wymondham & Edmondthorpe Parish Council Meeting

Held at Wymondham Village Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Present:

Councillors: Christian Semmens as Chair, Trevor Mear, Howard Gresham, Pat Peters & Kevin Spiers

District Councillor: Malise Graham

Clerk: Terry Brown

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### Public Time:

Cllr Mear raised the suggestion of some kind of quiz to publicise the existence and location of the soon to be installed new notice board (see minute 032/3.)

Cllr Gresham reported on the visit by James Cutts LCC Tree Inspector 1/3/19 re the highway safety of the Cross Tree in Edmondthorpe and that the problem had been satisfactorily resolved.

### 027 To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Matthew Williams

PC-4364 Sharon Roscoe

### 028 District and County Councillor Time

Cllr Graham gave an overview of the continuing funding issues at MBC but confirmed, in response to Cllr Peters, that there was no threat to current refuse collection service.

### 029 Police Time

None.

### 030 Members Declarations of Interests

None

### 031 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of Council held 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019

The minutes were approved & signed by the Chairman.

### 032 Matters arising from previous meetings

#### /1 to review progress on allotment issues

The Clerk reported that an invoice for water at the allotments had now been received (see minute 038.)

#### /2 reported sewage flooding on Butts Lane

The Clerk reported on a failure to involve both Severn Trent and the Environment Agency with the problem. He was now discussing it with MBC and Cllr Malise Graham asked to be copied into the communications.

Action Clerk

#### /3 to reconsider noticeboard siting

Cllr Gresham reported on meetings held with Cllr Mear and Western Power such that two sites had been selected for the Council's consideration.

After discussion the meeting agreed for it to be sited near the bus shelter.

Action Cllr Gresham

### 033 To receive Councillor reports

There was some discussion on the current state of the Wadling footpath between Wymondham and Edmondthorpe but the meeting was of the opinion that it did not merit improvement that might take away the character of the path.

Cllr Peters raised the problems caused by the siting of closed for repair notices placed on the gate to the footpath that runs from Rookery Lane and along the boundary of the school playing field to Glebe Road, as well as the gate to the play equipment.

Cllr Semmens would check if the notice had now been removed and also if the footpath was clear.

Cllr Semmens would also check if the footpath across Strawberry Farm land is evident this year.

Cllr Semmens is to investigate.

Action Cllr Semmens

#### **034 To receive & consider reports from representatives on outside bodies & meeting**

##### **/1 to discuss LCC Highways latest proposals**

Cllr Spiers reported on a recent response from LCC.

They are currently in the process of collating a report of the different VAS signs available with their respective add-on features and the various prices for the equipment and hope to have this information to Parish Council very soon.

Also there are two schemes in Wymondham to tackle speeding namely speed limit buffer zone in the village and second, a scheme for a reduction in speed from national to 50mph along Wymondham Drift. The idea still is that both schemes will be advertised and consulted upon together due to the fact they complement each other. The proposed date for advertisement is Thursday 25 April 2019. The notice will be placed in the local paper, Melton Times. The Parish Council will be consulted as part of this process.

Last the de-clutter project being carried out by the Council for all A & B class roads is currently underway. However, given the scope of the project, it is still in its initial stages where currently we are updating and renewing our existing asset inventory in order to assess the signs that will be removed, updated or re-sited. Regrettably, this is a large project with actual works being programmed to start later in the year.

#### **035 Planning:**

None.

#### **036 Correspondence**

##### **Emails:**

##### **07/02/2019 Colin Clews re the CiCLE Classic race**

Cllr Semmens reported on the proposals to use the Sedley field charging for visitors in an attempt to keep Main Street as free of traffic as possible.

#### **037 Matters for Discussion**

##### **/1 to consider issues concerning the future of graveyard provision**

Deferred to a future meeting.

##### **/2 to consider progress on possible LED lights conversion**

The meeting considered this agenda item in two parts, whether to proceed with a conversion and, if so, second how to finance it.

The Chair reviewed previous discussions and the possibilities, namely do nothing, a partial conversion or a full conversion. The meeting was of the view that a full conversion should proceed with the exception of the three poles in Edmondthorpe Road which would be subject to planned undergrounding work by Western Power. Councillors considered the long-term cost savings, improvement to the ambience of the village lighting and the greater flexibility that the LED scheme would provide justification for their decision.

Therefore, the Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to proceed with the conversion.

The Clerk outlined the mix of financing possibilities, namely repayment over five or ten years with funds available from either Parish Council reserves, LCC five-year financing or PLWB (Public Works Loan Board) financing over ten years.

After careful consideration the meeting **RESOLVED** to use Parish Council reserves for 50% of the funding expected to be £9000 but with the Clerk to confirm and the remainder to be funded by a 10-year PWLB loan at an advantageous rate. The Clerk was instructed to coordinate with LRALC in the first instance to set this up. Action Clerk

The Clerk asked for help from a Councillor to draw up the precise specification of types of LEDs required to be fitted by LCC and Cllr Semmens agreed to provide these details. Action Cllr Semmens

**/3 to approve the 2019/20 allotment rent and regulations**

The Clerk drew the meeting's attention to the changes made between the 2018 and 2019 invoice letter as regards allotment parking.

The Council approved the 2019/20 documents.

**/4 to consider the award of prizes for best kept allotment**

Deferred to the next meeting.

Cllr Semmens exhibited the Allotment cup and the meeting discussed in general how its lapsed use might be resurrected.

**/5 to comment on MBC Local Plan re Wymondham**

Councillors voiced their annoyance at a longstanding series of errors made by MBC Planning and **RESOLVED** to approve the draft letter presented by the Clerk and to be copied to Cllr Malise Graham.

Action Clerk

**/6 to discuss St Peters Primary School/Community Play Equipment**

Cllr Peters asked for clarification of the reasons why the first bid had failed. These centred on a lack of information (from DLAT) on budgets and funding and uncertainty over the future ownership of the current Play Park site.

Cllr Peters reported on discussion with Anne Harvey at the School following the Parish Council's recent decision not to support the application for grant aid and suggested that the letter from the PC declining the application for a grant towards the community playground equipment should be forwarded to DLAT for their response on the school budget/funding to go direct to the Clerk.

Cllr Peters suggested that that a new application to the Parish Council would depend probably on the response from DLAT but that other applications including Awards for All and fundraising will continue.

The School roll currently stood at 39.

The Executive Head is retiring at Easter and the Assistant Head is also leaving at Easter. DLAT are in the process of recruiting a new Executive Head.

Cllr Peters emphasised that whatever the future of the school is, the play equipment is for the community and not just the school. The land is owned by LCC and would have to be referred to the Secretary of State if selling the playing fields were ever to be considered in the future

Action Cllr Peters

**/7 to discuss issues concerning Melton Road bridge**

Several Councillors commented on state of the roadside at this point. Also, Cllr Peters raised a concern at the poor signage at his point and that both concerns gave a poor first impression of the village. The Clerk is to contact LCC.

Action Clerk

**/8 to receive an update on the forthcoming Local Elections**

The Clerk reminded the meeting of meeting to brief all concerned on the Parish Council Elections on 12<sup>th</sup> March at MBC offices. The Clerk would pick up nomination packs on the 19<sup>th</sup> and deliver to home addresses.

All completed applications must be with MBC by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 4 pm latest.

Action Clerk

**038 Finance**

The submitted schedule of payments was approved.

The meeting approved and paid a late arrived invoice for Waterplus £286.51 re allotment water

Bank balances at 14/02/19 were confirmed as

TSB Current account	£11735.10
TSB Deposit account	£25110.72

**039 To receive items for the next agenda**

Cllr Peters requested that to discuss St Peters Primary School/Community Play Equipment remain an agenda item.

**040 Date of next meeting:** Monday 1st April 2019 at 7:30pm Edmondthorpe Social Club.

The meeting ended at 9.55pm