

## MULBARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at

7.30pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016

Councillors present:-

Bev Leek    Richard Tucker    John Joyce    Steve Sewell    Victoria Goff

**First Public Session.****1.1 Police Report.**

PCSO Sore reported that since the last meeting and midnight 6<sup>th</sup> March there were two reported crimes: theft from a retail outlet and actual bodily harm (ABH). In the same time period there were no calls relating to noise, nuisance or antisocial behaviour.

There were no questions from the Council or public for PCSO Sore.

**1.2 District and County Councillors' Report.**

Cllr Legg reported that SNC council tax has risen by 3.3%. With regards to complaints about the development on Long Lane, he reported that he has had numerous discussions with planning officers at SNC who reported that some conditions had still not been signed off by Highways. Cllr Legg urged any local resident that had a complaint about the development to contact SNC and Hopkins Homes, where possible giving vehicle registration and company details; the Police (101) will respond if there is a volume of complaints.

Cllr Foulger reported within the last 48 hours some progress has been made with the discussions he has been having with SNC, Highways and NCC regarding the Long Lane development. Highways have now assessed the site and have advised that Flordon Long Lane needs to be rebuilt; they also raised concerns about depressions in Cuckoofield Lane that could affect underground services. Cllr Foulger echoed Cllr Legg comments about encouraging residents to complain to Hopkins Homes, as they are the developer they will not want the adverse publicity.

**1.3 Public Session**

Ms Lizzie Martin on behalf of the Mulbarton Community First Responders wished to update the meeting on the successes of the group: three new members have recently successfully completed their training and another three are booked on courses for this month. The group is currently acting as an umbrella group for members in the Keswick area, until there are enough members to form a Cringleford/Keswick standalone group. During recent months they have responded to several calls that have all had good outcomes. The members that have been Heartstart and defibrillator trained will soon be offering training to community groups and individuals.

A member of the public asked about ditches along Long Lane and if the Environment Agency was responsible clearing them. Cllr Leek explained that the Environment Agency was only responsible for ensuring that the water was flowing; Cllr Leek reported that she and some of her neighbours take

responsibility for the ditches outside their properties by regularly clearing out rubbish. In response to whether the Environment Agency should pipe the ditch, it was concluded that this wouldn't happen as it is classified as a waterway. Following discussions about whether the pavement along this area was safe, there being problems when two buggies wish to pass, it was concluded that the Environment Agency would say it was a Highways issue as there are bollards and wire along the ditch boarder and that Highway would say it was fit for purpose.

In response to a question as to whether the financial reports of the Parish Council are available on the website, it was reported that this year's annual audit return would be displayed on the website as well as notice boards; the statutory advise issued by the auditor would be adhered to. Monthly payment schedules are available online at the end of the monthly minutes.

A member of the public commented that it was nice to see the village sign back in position and also the finger post signs.

In response to a question about additional equipment being installed on the skate park it was reported that costings are still being reviewed as well as looking at repainting the area with noise reducing paint. It was noted that acoustic matting may be option to help with noise. It was agreed to review this matter during the month and to add to next month's agenda.

In response to a whether anything could be done about traffic and parking in the village especially around the schools and if a crossing could be installed, Cllr Joyce responded that the Parish Council is only one voice and as stated earlier volume counts, if locals feel strongly then they should make contact with the County Council. It was also suggested that experience suggested that in many cases most of the speeding traffic is by locals and all need to take responsibility to persuade local people to be responsible. Cllr Foulger noted that most of the worst offenders are parent taking their children to school. Cllr Leek suggested that the resident may like to encourage others to get involved with a community Speed Watch project that the Police would support.

## **2.0 To close the meeting to public participation.**

Cllr Leek closed the meeting to public participation and formally started the Parish Council meeting.

## **3.0 To receive and consider apologies for absence.**

Apologies received from Cllr Leigh.

## **4.0 To receive declaration of interest on items on the agenda.**

No councillor upon review of the agenda felt it necessary to make a declaration of interest.

## **5.0 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 were unanimously agreed as a true record of the meeting and duly signed after proposal by Cllr Joyce and seconding by Cllr Tucker.

## **6.0 Finance -To receive financial report and approve invoices for payment as per schedule.**

A proposed schedule of payments was handed out for approval in addition to copies of the latest financial summary. Following proposal by Cllr Sewell and seconding by Cllr Goff all payments were duly passed. A copy of payments is attached to these minutes.

## **7.0. To consider any planning applications.**

2016/0450 - Tractor Shed, Old Hall Farm Track, The Common - The conversion for change of use of the Old Tractor Shed into a holiday let dwelling.

Cllr Sewell reported that he felt the Parish Council did not need to comment on this application and explained that regulations have recently changed that allowed farmers to convert building to increase revenues.

## **8.0 Correspondence requiring consideration.**

- Email from resident suggesting using the BT phone box as a tourist information point. Councillors decided that there needed to be a cut off point for suggestions and proposed that it should be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting, with a decision made shortly after.
- Commemorative medals for Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday – flyer received. MPC in 2012 provided all the children at the schools and pre-schools group with a Jubilee medal. Following discussion the Cllrs decided they would not pursue this matter any further.
- Email request from Hardingham Cricket Club for their third team to use the cricket pitch on nine Saturday afternoons during the season. All councillors agreed to this request in principle, the Club would need to make arrangements with either the Village Hall or Scout group to arrange catering and changing facilities and also gain confirmation from the Mulbarton Cricket club that the information provided about them only using the pitch on a Sunday was correct.
- Email from resident regarding the Park Run and comments made in the Parish News. It was felt that the issue of the park run had previously been discussed at length and that the organisers had recently confirmed to the Clerk that the winter course is now Orchard Park with the Common being classified as the summer course.
- Letter from Norfolk ALC advising increases in subscriptions for the financial year 2016/17. Following discussion, Councillors requested that Norfolk ALC membership be added to the agenda for the next meeting.
- Email from resident requesting a litter bin at either end of the alley that links Long Lane to Woodyard Close. Councillors discussed that further investigation was needed to consider this request. Cllr Leek stated that she would look at bins throughout the village and review options for additional ones and the cost of having them emptied.
- Email from the Village Hall Management Committee Chairman, stating that he was disappointed with the attitude of the MPC representative at the last meeting. Cllr Leek clarified that the MPC representative was at the meeting as MVHMC charity trustee and so would have been representing the charity and not solely the Parish Council. It was confirmed that a copy of the MVHMC accounts for the year ending 30.06.2015 had been received over the weekend.

## **9.0 Sub-committee/liason officer reports.**

Cllr Sewell reported that he had walked part of the Tas Valley Way with the resident that had made comment about signage of the route and concerns about the condition of the pathways. Cllr Sewell reported that the hedges had recently been cut, although there was still an overhanging branch that he would cut. Cllr Sewell explained that there is a difference between the Tas Valley Walk and the Tas Valley Way; he had also explained to the resident about how the signage in the fields could be interpreted and general guidance on navigating between them.

#### **10.0 To receive any items for inclusion on the next agenda**

- Review of bins – locations and emptying.
- Skate park – cost of repainting and options/costs for sound dampening measures.
- NorfolkALC membership for 2016/17.

#### **To adjourn the meeting for the 2<sup>nd</sup> public session.**

A member of the public requested in relation to earlier mention of a bin by Woodyard close, that it be put on the main road and not in the alley.

The Chairman of the VHMC stated that a reply from MPC to their last email was not necessary.

In response to a question about the date of the Annual Parish meeting, it was confirmed that meeting is booked for the 9<sup>th</sup> May and invites would shortly be sent out; the Annual Parish meeting although chaired by the Parish Council chairman acts only as an annual democratic point of communication that the Parish Council facilitates.

It was asked whether the Parish Council would consider lighting the beacon again for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, as it did in 2012 for the Jubilee. Councillors stated that they would look at others were doing countywide with regards to beacon lighting and consider the request.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm

The next meeting will take place on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.30pm

## Payments for February 2016

Cheque Number	Recipient	Details	Net total	Vat	Amount £'s
151393	Hatch Brenner	Professional Fees	841.00	184.00	1025.00
151394	TMA Bark	Play bark	193.98	38.80	232.78
151395	Alpha Electrical (Eastern) Ltd	Flood light survey & bulb replacement	455.00	91.00	546.00
151396	Barlett Signs	Directional signs	225.60	45.12	270.72
151397	Colorcote	Powder coating village signs	200.00	40.00	240.00
151398	P.Leigh	Expenses – village sign	102.50	10.56	113.06
151399	B.Leek	Expenses – road grit/postage	67.68	13.20	80.88
151400	A.Phillips	Salary	552.76		552.76
151401	HMRC	PAYE	143.98		143.98
151402	A.Nixon	Bus shelter repairs & labour for village sign	437.50		437.50
151403	A.Sillett	Tree surgeon – Orchard/Mulberry Park	150.00		150.00
		<b>Total for month:</b>	<b>3370.00</b>	<b>422.68</b>	<b>3792.68</b>