

## **GREAT & LITTLE WHELNETHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting held at Whelnetham Community Centre on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

### **Present**

Chris Thomson Chairman  
Howard Singh  
Tim Webber  
Peter Royce  
Rob Ireland  
Christine Peck Parish Clerk

In attendance

Terry Clements St Edmundsbury B C (Joined the meeting at 7.50 pm)

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

David Howes

### **2. Minutes of Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

Minutes having been previously emailed to Members were signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

### **3. Matters Arising from Minutes**

None

### **4. Members Declaration of Interest**

Howard Singh and Peter Royce are members of the Community Council Committee.

### **5. Police Matters**

Although not in attendance, there were no reported incidents in Great or Little Whelnetham since our last meeting. We were advised that we were to be allocated a new PCSO 3248, Dawn Farrow, as from the end of the month.

Chris mentioned that there was a speed camera permanently situated in Sicklesmere Road.

### **6. Chairman's Report**

Chris reported that a fairly new resident to the village, Lesa Lee, had shown interest in joining the Parish Council, although not able to attend this meeting, but hopes to come along to the next one.

Rob also intimated that a friend of his, Justin Smith, was also interested in joining. Chris confirmed that we had made the donations of £100 each to Cygnets, Under 5's, Great & Little Whelnetham Churches and the Benefice Newsletter. All had acknowledged expressing their thanks. The Cygnets were purchasing a new camera. The website was now virtually complete and would be going live prior to the next meeting.

Documentation had now been received from St Edmundsbury in relation to the Rural Vision 2031 which earmarks the preferred site for the allocated housing in Hambrooke Close. Originally the allocation was for 15 properties but this was now indicating only 10. However, we are in communication with Architects who were acting on behalf of their clients interested in developing land beyond Erskine Lodge. Terry confirmed that he is now in a position to make his opinion known and confirmed he is in favour of the Erskine site as being an ideal location, providing of course village people are given first option on the properties. There had been some confusion regarding instructions for the removal of the fallen tree by the bottle banks at the Community Centre. However, the Parish Council have paid the cost involved.

## 7. Finance

Current total bank balance **£7,616.48**

Current account   £6,486.12       (reconciled with entries of Cash Book)

Instant access     £ 130.36

Payments to make - All agreed as follows

Clerks expenses       £ 26.92

HMRC Tax             £ 84.00

Community Centre Hire   £120.00

Suffolk Acre sub.       £ 25.00

Tree surgeon           £375.00

## 8. Updates

### PLANNING -

C Marsh, The Bungalow, Low Green, Little Whelnetham

Single storey rear extension and detached garage   **GRANTED**

A Edwards, Homelea, Sudbury Road, Little Whelnetham

Continued use of existing detached workshop and attached storage building for repair/refurbishment of second hand furniture       **STILL PENDING**

Mr & Mrs J Williamson Manor Farm Great Whelnetham

Revised scheme Change of use and conversion of agricultural barn to dwelling  
**GRANTED**

Mr & Mrs Gregory Hillcrest Station Hill Little Whelnetham

Garage and domestic store

Mr & Mrs McCallum The Rectory Little Whelnetham Road Sicklesmere

Rear conservatory

Mr P Vale The Old Forge Sicklesmere

Extension dormer windows summer house

Chris confirmed that the appeal by Mr Clifford Faiers to the Secretary of State for planning had failed and therefore this matter has now been dropped.

**GT WHELNETHAM SCHOOL** – Terry reported that Pre-Ofsted training has taken place. A temporary teacher was in place. Following a survey, the school had extended the morning opening time by 5 minutes and thus the staggered drop off timing had eased the traffic congestion slightly.

**TRANSPORT** – Peter confirmed parking continued to be an issue. There was concern regarding the “A” board advertising and a vehicle for sale outside Brick Kiln Cottages

The possibility of having a sign put in place which flashes when motorists are going too fast (either a static or mobile) was discussed and was general thought to be a very good idea. Terry thought these were in the region of £3,000 and would obtain further information for the next meeting,

**HOUSING** – See details in Chairman’s report above.

**RAILWAY WALK** - The tree surgeon had now completed work on the trees along the Walk and all appears to be satisfactory. Cost £375.

Terry left the meeting at 8.40 pm

## **9 Correspondence**

An invitation to enter Suffolk Village of the Year - declined

Letter from Nowton Park Friends Group to their Annual General Meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

Data Protection do we need to register? - it was agreed that this was not necessary.

Prayers at Meetings - not applicable to our meetings.

Legal Topic Notes

LTN 80 Members Conduct and registration and disclosure of interests

LTN 81 Pre-Determination

In view of the length of these documents, Chris agreed to take them away to read and report back to the next meeting.

## **10 Any other business**

The Clerk informed the meeting that the annual Risk Assessment was due. This was updated and revision was made to item 7 deleting Tess Wright and adding Rob Ireland for checking the Railway Walk. Item 9 now to include the play area.

The Fidelity Insurance cover was also reviewed but it was felt at £25,000 is was more than adequate.

As discussed at the previous meeting the Clerk issued 10 letters to residents of Tutelina Road with properties backing onto the playing field giving four options regarding the trees -

- 1 Top all trees
- 2 Fell all trees to ground
- 3 Fell every other tree
- 4 Leave as they are

In total nine replies were received - 5 to fell, 3 to top and 1 to remain as they are. After discussion it was decided to go along with the individual requirements as far as possible. David to instruct the contractor accordingly requesting that all holes should be filled.

An enquiry had been received from the tenant of No. 2 Tutelina Rise regarding a tree stump at the end of the front garden which attracts wasps during the summer. Enquiries had been made but ownership could not be found. Tenant was happy to remove this if in doing so would not cause a problem. All agreed this could be done.

Little picking equipment had been delivered –

- 5 florescent vests
- 3 bag hoops
- 6 litter pickers

Complaints had been received regarding the dog bin in the corner of Raynsford Road green continually being vandalised. St Edmundsbury not prepared to replace any more but Parish Council could purchase a more substantial one if required ( approx. £100 cost). After discussion agreed to remove completely.

Clerk confirmed the oak tree to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee had been delivered. Chris asked for advice from Tim as to best area to plant this. He said oaks were not deep rooted, just needed firm ground underneath. All agreed the best place for this would be along the Railway Walk. Rob Ireland volunteered to organise the planting at a suitable time when members could attend.

Howard reported that although he had inserted details in the local magazine for ideas on events for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, no response had been received. Therefore, it would seem nothing would be taking place.

### **Confirmation of Future Meeting Dates**

Further Meetings for 2012 will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> May (Annual Parish Meeting) 11<sup>th</sup> July, 12<sup>th</sup> September and 14<sup>th</sup> November.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

**Signed Chairman** .....

**Date** .....

**All Members of this Parish Council hereby agree to adhere to implement the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council.**