

MINUTES of a MEETING of WHITWICK PARISH COUNCIL held on THURSDAY 19 JANUARY 2012 at the St John the Baptist C of E School, Parsonwood Hill, Whitwick.

Present: Councillor R Woodward (Chairman) (In the Chair)

Cllrs S Colledge, E Easom, D Everitt, T Gillard D Howe, N Pearson, L Spence and L Weaver

In Attendance: Mr P Ellis, Interim Clerk, Mrs L Ellis, Interim Assistant Clerk
PCSO J Sorrell
3 members of the public

Apologies: Councillors A Barker and J Straw

Declarations of Interest:

Councillors D Everitt and D Howe declared personal and prejudicial interests in Minute No 105 (Planning Matters) as members of NWLDC's Planning Committee

102. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

A member of the public complained of an increase in dog fouling at The Hockley. It was agreed to request NWLDC's street team to apply spray-on warnings to the surface of this footway.

103. MINUTES

Resolved: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 December 2011 as previously circulated be approved as a correct record

104. COMMUNITY POLICING

The Chairman welcomed PCSO Jim Sorrell to the meeting. He reported that overall, there were fewer crimes in the area than in the previous year with a number of domestic and neighbour issues being recorded that had not impacted on the wider public.

With regard to the Christmas and New Year periods, he was not able to go into detail as a number of issues from this were still on-going.

A dialogue had been held with local pub landlords with one tenant being removed and replaced by a temporary licensee. The Police were aware of reports regarding public order issues on Christmas Eve and twice on Boxing Day and had attended in numbers. However, no-one had been willing to corroborate the reports or make any

.....Chairman's initials/signature

statements or complaints despite a number of people being approached. The introduction of a doorman for New Years Eve had made a great improvement. Members requested that the Police continue to monitor the situation to ensure there was no repeat this year.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Sorrell for attending and hoped to see him again at future meetings.

105. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Applications

The following application had been notified by NWLDC:

11/01086/FUL – alterations and extension to dwelling – 240 Church Lane, Whitwick

Resolved: That no objections be made to this application

(b) Decisions

The following planning decisions had been notified by NWLDC :

Approved:

11/00420/FUL – erection of compound with storage container and welfare unit – Holly Hayes Wood, Leicester Road, Whitwick

11/00957/FUL – demolition of existing garage, erection of attached garage and single storey extension, alterations to existing kitchen and outbuilding – 164 Church Lane, Whitwick

Refused:

11/01035/T56 – erection of 12.5m replica telegraph pole telecommunications installation with antenna behind a shroud, associated equipment cabinet and ancillary works (prior notification) – grass verge on west side of Market Place (at junction with Hall lane), Whitwick

Resolved: That the reports be received

106. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were submitted for payment:

NWLDC – Uncontested election - £43.26

NWLDC – Printing - £33.88

The Parking Shop/Close Invoice Finance Ltd – Grit bin - £130.46

Amazon – Inkjet black printer cartridges 2 pack - £34.25

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AuthSMTP - Server account (for Outlook emails) - £18.00

Resolved: That these accounts be approved for payment

107. COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT 2012/3

Further to Minute no 101, members gave further consideration to the Clerk's Budget Report (copy previously circulated and attached to the official copy of the December minutes).

The Clerk reported that the Council Tax Base for the current year was 2857 and the proposed figure for 2012/3 was 2861 – a minimal increase.

The gross amount payable for a Band D property could be calculated by dividing the precept by the tax base. In the current year, £31,000 divided by 2857 equalled £10.85. Using next year's proposed figure, £31,000 divided by 2861 would result in a small reduction to £10.83. A precept of £31,050 would maintain the gross Band D charge at £10.85.

Resolved:

(a) That the Council precept on NWLDC for the sum of £31,050 in 2012/13

(b) That the sum of £6,500 (the estimated cost of a contested election) be allocated as a reserve balance

(c) That the sum of £1,500 be allocated for community grants and that the Clerk submit a draft grant-making policy to a future meeting based on a maximum of £250 per individual grant

(d) That the residual sum of £10,641 be allocated for community initiatives

108. PROPOSED LOGO

Consideration was given to draft designs which had been prepared by Quiet Storm at no cost to the Council (copy previously circulated and attached to the official copy of the minutes).

A member referred to an article in a local newspaper which indicated he was running a public consultation on the issue on behalf of the council. He was disappointed that a personal blog on his website had been misrepresented in this way and he had asked the paper to print clarification in its next issue. He then reported on the results of his personal website poll which had closed earlier that evening.

Members debated the merits of the various options. The Clerk reported that further work might be required on the preferred option to ensure it could be reproduced in black and white.

Resolved: That Option 7 be adopted

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Councillor T Gillard left the meeting at 7.07pm and returned at 7.08pm during debate on Minute No 104 (Community Policing)

Councillor L Weaver entered the meeting at 7.13pm at the conclusion of debate on Minute No 104 (Community Policing)

The meeting terminated at 7.27pm

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