

**Whatton in the Vale Parish Council**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday January 27, 2014, at the Jubilee Hall, Whatton in the Vale at 7.30pm**

Coun. Gregg Redford (Chairman)

Ray Dawson

Barbara Harris

Carole Key

Malcolm Seagrave

Graham Linney

Janet Ayres

**Also in attendance:** The clerk Mike Elliott. and Notts County Council member Martin Suthers and Rushcliffe Borough Council member Jacquie Marshall.

**1. Apologies** There were none

**2. Declarations of Interest** Couns. Carol Key, Graham Linney and Barbara Harris.

**3. Minutes of the meeting held on November 18 2013**, were accepted as circulated and signed by the chairman

**4 Open session for members of the public, limited to 15 minutes**

No matters were raised.

**5. Clerk's report**

The new decorative village name signs should be completed and erected within three weeks.

The chairman reported a manhole cover surrounds problem on Coney Lane which the clerk reported to Severn Trent on January 3 and which has been dealt with.

Graffiti remover is available from MLS at £10 per litre and the clerk was asked to order a litre.

20 Green Walk property. Rushcliffe Borough Council says the growth in the gardens there has been cut back. The owner has been asked to cut back the growth more regularly.

**6. Correspondence**

Rebecca Edwardson wrote in regard to the problem of dog fouling and said she felt the matter was getting worse. She called for support from the council for action. The clerk was asked to discuss the matter with Rushcliffe Borough Council and ascertain from them what the parish council may do to tackle what was felt to be a severe problem.

Notts NALC wrote in regard to its branch newsletter and the clerk said he had ordered a copy for use in the circulation file. The Planning Inspectorate wrote in respect of Aslockton footpath 13/Whatton footpath 19 and said there had been no objections to the proposed modifications; Western Power wrote to give notice of work on Chapel Walk. And said they would keep disruption to a minimum.

**7. Playing Field I Play equipment**

The chairman reported that the new nest swings had been erected but the safety surface was yet to be laid.

**8. Planning matters**

Rushcliffe Borough Council planning applications

13/001730/ful PD and ED Player. Manor Lodge Cottage, Moor Lane. Erection 1 500kw wind turbine measuring 50m to the hub and 77m to the blade tip and associated infrastructure (kiosk and cabling route). Land south west of Whatton Manor Stud, Manor Lane. Revised document, including grid reference, landscaping assessment and noise impact assessment. Object.

13/02395/ful. T Spencer, Whatton Lodge Farm New garage. No objection.

13/02336/ful. Ms J Spencer, Millsyde, Conery Lane, Conversion of roof space with a new dormer window and a new single storey extension to the rear, alterations to the window positions. No objection.

13/02471/ful PD and ED Player, Manor Lodge Cottage, Moor Lane. Demolition of existing dwelling house and erection of new dwelling house. No objection.

14/0008-0/LBC Mrs L :Parker, The Windmill, Conery Lane. Change of use and extensions to farm dwelling. No objection.

Rushcliffe Borough Council planning decisions

13/01965/ful. T Sanders, 5 Whipling Close. Conservatory. Grant.

14/00005/Conare Fell cherry, reduce and thin beech by 20 per cent and crown lift to 4m at Russet Lodge. Approve.

14/00006/Conare. Crown lift 2 willow trees to 2.5m and reduce and re-shape by 2m at Dunville, Burton Lane. Approve.

13/02336/ful. Ms J Spencer, Millsyde, Conery Lane. Conversion of roof space with a new dormer window and a new single storey extension to the rear, alterations to the window positions. Grant.

In respect of the Hollies Paddock proposal discussed at the previous meeting, the clerk was asked to confirm to Mr David Shaw they would support the erection of a building in the north east corner of the field providing it was a single detached dwelling or two semi-detached properties and subject to the acceptability of the design of the property.

## **9. Environment**

The chairman said he had contacted PC Sally Charles in regard to the policing arrangements for the village.

Good work had been carried out by the Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board on, much of the water course for which they responsible in the village and the clerk was asked to write to thank them, and at the same time point out the areas they had not dealt with.

The chairman reported agreement had been reached with Notts County Council over costs for grass cutting and the parish had submitted an account to them in the sum of £2,078

Members discussed a suggested Walking Treasure Hunt involving the Jubilee Hall committee and as they had in the past expressed concern about the 'fragmented' nature of the communities in the parish and the perceived lack of 'community spirit' this would be a way to combat that it was felt that collaborating with other Groups, in particular the Jubilee Hall, the Parish Council could take the lead in helping to establish a wider community involvement. - \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

The Jubilee Hall had suggested a 'Walking Treasure Hunt' on July 13 which would involve two walks around the village getting people to either find items/identify nature or wildlife/identify historical items such as building dates/landmark features etc.

It is unclear at this stage the role that the Parish Council would take in the project but it was agreed that the Parish Council join with the Jubilee and explore its involvement with the project and that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to undertake such work as is required to deliver the project. Any financial impact to be restricted to £250 without further approval of the Council.

The council discussed the possibility of recognition of a commemoration for the centenary of the start of the 1914-18 war and supported a suggestion of a garden area being established on the Green (Ivy Row) in front of the flag pole.

## **10. Footpaths**

A number of issues were raised in respect of Footpaths 1 (Blackberry Hill), 13 (Fish Ponds field and Bridleway 3 (Orston Lane). The chairman reported responses to those issues had come from Jane Baines at Notts County Council.

He reported in respect of Whatton BW 2 (Orston Lane) that the bridge there does have a 3 ton weight limit on it and that he would organise the replacement of the missing signs.

The ditch nearest the village has been cleared but it needed the grips cut into the verge to help clear the water. The path further along, where there is less water, has unmanaged ditches. The hedges and ditches will be for the landowners of the adjacent fields to cut/clear. The bridge over the Elton ditch has been exposed now that the vegetation has been removed, the IDB replaced some of the handrail.

In respect of Whatton FP 13 the path is fenced-in to an average width of 1.2m and whilst this has changed the feel of the path it is not too narrow. The path was diverted in 2003 to its current location and had a legal minimum width of 1m. He said in regard to Whatton FP 1 (Blackberry Hill) this was obviously a well used footpath. He was happy to arrange for way mark post(s) to be installed along the footpath, with the permission of the landowner.

The council agreed that Coun. Redford and Coun. Seagrave should be authorised to contact Notts County Council in respect of matters concerning Public Rights of Way, as and when it was required on behalf of the Parish Council.

**11. Affordable housing**

The letters seeking comment on the possibility of a scheme had been delivered and are due back to the Housing Association and Rushcliffe by February 14. The chairman said he hoped members would stress to residents the importance of sending comments in.

**12 Azimghur Road land**

Rushcliffe Borough Council had forwarded the lease for the land. The clerk was asked to arrange for a solicitor to verify its contents.

**13 . F i n a n c e**

**Accounts for payment** were approved as per the circulated list

**Budget and precept for 2014.5**

Members received reports prepared by the chairman and the clerk in respect of the budget for 2014-5 and the precept and after discussions agreed to seek a precept of £11,586, to include a sum of £480 transitional grant from Rushcliffe Borough Council, reducing the parish precept element to £11,106.

**14 . Date for next meetings** were approved as March 25, May 12, July 29, September 23, November 25, and December 16.

The clerk said all the dates except the one in May were on Tuesdays, the change from Mondays being necessary to assist the Jubilee Hall where there was now a regular Monday night booking.

**15 . Agenda Items for Next meeting** — No further items for discussion at the next Parish Council Meeting were suggested.