

## WARMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting  
held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2008  
At 7.30pm  
In the Village Hall, Warmington

### 1. ATTENDANCE

Mr D Rowell (Chairman)	Mr N Donaldson
Mr M Dixon (Vice Chairman)	Mr D Short
Mr C Ellard	Mr I Cutler
Dr T Helstrip	

13 Parishioners were also in attendance.

### 2. APOLOGIES : Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs J Simpson and Mr G Reid

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA : Dr Helstrip declared a prejudicial interest in planning item 5 a) as a neighbour of the proposed development and Mr Rowell and Mr Cutler declared personal interests in the same item as members of the Working Men's Club

### 4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a) Proposed provision of a dog fouling bin on Big Green. It was agreed at the last meeting that a dog bin should be provided outside the Pocket Park in Big Green. It has now been ascertained that this will cost in the region of £130 - £140. The Parish Council have also received an objection from a Parishioner regarding the proposed location of the bin. Mrs Windsor was in the audience and voiced her concerns asking why it was necessary and why that particular location had been chosen. She pointed out that children play in and near the Pocket Park and felt that a dog bin would become full very quickly and therefore liable to overflow causing a health hazard. Mr Rowell pointed out that technically Mrs Windsor had no right to speak at this point in the meeting, it being closed. As Chairman however, he has the right to open the meeting and is willing to do this when Parishioners have such obvious concerns and request that this happen. The Parish Council then discussed locations and pointed out that all dog bins were emptied on a regular basis. Mr Ellard proposed and Mr Short seconded that a dog bin be purchased to be located outside the Pocket Park on Big Green AIF

b) Provision of Memorial Board in Church porch. A quotation of £130 for a new Memorial Board to be made and fitted had been obtained by the Clerk. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Donaldson seconded that this be accepted. AIF. It was agreed that Mrs Carpenter's very kind offer to update the Board with an illuminated script and utilizing non fade ink be accepted.

c) Parish Council newsletter. The Parish Council have received an "observation" from a Parishioner suggesting that the editorial of the last newsletter was not quite as balanced as it should have been. The lady decided that she did not want to take the matter any further however and make a formal complaint. Advice has been taken from both NALC and ENC and it seemed sensible to put together a newsletter policy. The Clerk has begun to write a policy as a starting point for Councillors to add to, amend etc with a view to adopting a definitive policy at the May meeting.

Mr Rowell pointed out that it would be necessary to liaise with 5 All Magazine to ensure that the policy did not contravene their remit. He pointed out that the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting were not printed verbatim in the 5All Magazine with the result that some of the meaning was lost. This situation needs to be addressed.

Dr Helstrip pointed out that if part of the newsletter invites comments then these comments

should be published in the next edition. Mr Dixon agreed that this would be the case where the comments were in writing. Dr Helstrip further suggested that when the funding for the newsletter comes to an end sponsorship could be considered. This to be discussed at the next meeting with the Newsletter Policy.

d) Consideration of Ambulance service statistics. The Clerk has looked at the statistics for the ambulance service provided by the East Midlands Ambulance service. Generally they are meeting or exceeding their targets with small exceptions. Dr Helstrip pointed out that the call reputed to have taken 3 hours had never been traced to a particular authority and that statistics had not been received from Peterborough. It was agreed not to take the matter any further at present. Dr Helstrip pointed out to the audience for their information, that if a doctor attends and calls an ambulance then it is not deemed as urgent, first aid having been given. If however the patient makes the call then the matter is given the necessary grade of urgency.

e) Consideration of renewal of NALC subscription. Dr Helstrip proposed and Mr Donaldson seconded that the subscription be renewed @ £183. AIF

f) Consideration of appointment of Internal Auditor. The Clerk defined the internal auditor as a person independent of the Parish Council who audits the accounts, looks at procedures and signs off the Annual Return prior to it being sent to the External Auditor, presently BDO Stoy Hayward. Dr Helstrip proposed and Mr Ellard seconded that the Internal Auditor be appointed @ £159.60. AIF

g) Consideration of subscription for NALC “Local Council Review”. It was agreed that a copy of this magazine be obtained before a decision is made.

h) Access gate to the dovecote. Mr Short pointed out that although the gate has a chain over it this can be lifted off. The gate is not locked. Water is still leaking over the path at the dovecote although the hole has been filled up. Mr Rowell had recently been made aware that there was a watering system put in for the Willow Walk when the bypass was being constructed. It failed in the first year and could have been damaged again by recent building work. Anglian Water will be contacted to investigate further.

i) Consideration of support for Oundle Delivery Office. A letter had been received requesting support in the attempts to prevent the closure of Oundle delivery office. It was agreed that the Clerk write a strong letter of support.

j) Consideration of nominations for the position of Chair of the Parish Council. Mr Rowell stated that he will not be standing for the position of Chair at the next meeting. Consideration will therefore need to be given to possible nominations.

## 5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Working Men’s Club, 18-20 Chapel Street – EN/08/00479/FUL - Extension to Working Men’s Club, new access and infrastructure - AC Building. Mr Rowell opened the meeting at this point and Dr Helstrip went to sit in the Public Gallery. Comments from the public were as follows:-

- ❖ Mr Farrar, as one of the Trustees of the Working Men’s Club, commented that the application is for a sound and tidy development of the area. The car park is presently an eyesore. The development will allow specific access to Nene Pastures. The wooden shed will be got rid of and generally the area will be tidied up and thus be beneficial to the village.
- ❖ The majority of concerns regarded car parking. The Parish Council were in receipt of a copy letter sent to ENC by Mr Middleton suggesting that the proposed parking is inadequate and this same concern had been voiced to Mr Rowell by Mr Mynard, a Chapel Street resident. To illustrate their point residents had counted the cars in the car park one weekend. There being 29, they would suggest that the proposed 19 (17 + 2 disabled) is inadequate. It is feared that people will then use Chapel Street and grass

verges for parking. This in turn will add to the noise levels experienced by local residents.

- ❖ Concerns were expressed regarding the recycling bins and it was asked whether acoustic fencing would be utilized at the side of the development to minimize the noise from the use and emptying of the bins. Concerns were also expressed as to whether lorries would still be able to access the bins to empty them.
- ❖ Dr Helstrip stated that he agreed that the current car park is an eyesore and that the Club needs to be developed, but would suggest that the design needs to be enhanced. The current proposal for the footpath assumes that 1 – 1.5 metres of the play area will be lost to accommodate it. This needs to be revisited and it would seem that the necessary land should come from the Club and not the Play Area. There is currently no provision in the application for a safe crossing from the Club over Chapel Street. Mr Rowell pointed out that when the Parish Council were to put in the footpath, Highways were very insistent that safety barriers were used to prevent sudden arrival on to the road. They also insisted that the path was lit. Dr Helstrip also voiced his concern that the proposed parking is inadequate. It is likely to result in parking on Chapel Street and on verges both in direct contravention of the Village Design Statement. Dr Helstrip would suggest that the proposal to build five houses is revisited. More parking could be provided and there still be enough money for the redevelopment of the Club.
- ❖ The fact that both the application for the Club, access and infrastructure and the one giving the detail for the five houses were not received together was queried. Dr Helstrip had spoken to the case officer, Samantha Hammonds, and ascertained that ENC had received both together, but that the one for the houses was inadequate in some way and thus withdrawn by the builder. It is likely to be resubmitted imminently. Mr Farrar suggested that ENC will view both applications together as one package.

Dr Helstrip left the meeting at this point and the meeting was once again closed.

Discussion ensued regarding all of the points raised above. Parking was deemed to be the big problem. Mr Ellard expressed surprise that an acoustic survey had been carried out but not a parking survey. The Parish Council were keen that the access to Nene Pastures was constructed in the correct location and suitably maintained. Maintenance issues such as the path, hedge etc could be perhaps covered by a covenant. The Parish Council agreed that whilst they were not against the development it was obvious that the plans needed to be revisited. The concerns to be put in writing to ENC and a meeting requested with the case officer.

Dr Helstrip returned to the meeting.

- b) Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan – Site Allocation Representations. Warmington received four site allocation representations, two from the Parish Council concerning Slaughters Field and the Ancient Monument, one from Bletsoes concerning Slaughters Field and one from CPRE concerning the land off the Peterborough Road to the right of Dexter Way. CPRE feel that this land should be maintained as open land. As the Parish Council agreed with the view of CPRE in principle it was agreed that no further representations need to be made to ENC. AIF
- c) Tansor Grange Barns, Tansor Wold Road, Tansor – EN/07/02228/FUL – Conversion of existing barns to holiday accommodation – Ashton Estates. This application already has planning permission. The original application was not received by the Parish Council as the planners had not appreciated that there is a right of way through to Warmington. Mr Rowell felt that the only difference in the application is the no through road sign encouraging people to turn left and thus not utilize the Roman road. The Parish Council had no objections to this application. AIF.

## 6. PARISHIONERS' QUESTION TIME

- a) It was asked whether the Agenda and Minutes could appear on the website as quickly as possible. It was explained that there are two websites , the village website [www.warmington.org](http://www.warmington.org) which is maintained by a parishioner and the Parish Council website [www.warmingtononline.co.uk](http://www.warmingtononline.co.uk) updated by the Clerk. The Clerk agreed to update this latter as quickly as possible. It was suggested that there be a reciprocal link between the two sites.
- b) Mr Donaldson had been asked by a Parishioner to raise the fact that there is not a “no dogs please” sign in the Play Area. The Clerk to look into this.
- c) Dr Helstrip stated that the Cinema Club is to screen “The Battle of Britain” on September 20<sup>th</sup>

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.