

Minutes of a Meeting of the Waltham Parish Council held in the Waltham Library on Tuesday 4 August 2009 at 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor M Archer (Chairman), Councillors Archer A, Baker, Barrett, Bean, Davies, Dewires, Frisby, Penney, Shaw, Surtees, Teanby and Woodliff. Councillor P Jackson NELC, Fire Fighters David Scott and Mark Smith, Sergeant Steve Lynn, 7 residents and the Clerk.

01.08.2009 Open Forum – To enable any resident to raise any items with the Parish Council:

Mrs Robbins, Cheapside stated that she wished to complain regarding the lack of the maintenance to the bank on Cheapside in front of her property. The bank is cut very little, a number of trees have fallen down and are unstable.

The Chairman assured Mrs Robbins that they would take on board her comments and discuss this under agenda 11

Ms Fletcher, Manor Drive stated that residents are appreciative of the efforts of the P.C.S.O's.

Last March she presented a petition to the Parish Council from residents asking what exactly what would the Leas Infants' building be used for, what hours would it be open and what is to be done regarding the problem of parking. To date no response.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council is still waiting for a response.

Councillor Jackson stated that when the petition was presented to the Scrutiny Panel it was agreed that Officers would look at the parking. Assurances were given that the building would be used during normal office hours, sometimes Officers would use it outside of these hours.

Waltham is the only village that does not have a Children's Centre. The Pre School will also use this building.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council have real concerns regarding the parking and Officers have agreed to look at this and the funding of this provision.

The Parish Council agreed to discuss this under agenda item 12.

Ms Helen Lewis, Manor Drive read a letter stating that after last months meeting she was totally disgusted that the Parish Council approved the planning application for 93 High Street despite some Members being absent. She had presented a petition from residents and the Parish Council took no notice of this. The Parish Council does nothing for the residents and most certainly does not back them. Ms Lewis gave the Clerk the letter.

Mrs Bond stated that if Ms Lewis came to every meeting then she would know what happens.

The Chairman requested the residents to resolve their issues privately out of the meeting.

02.08.2009 Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct Order (2007)

Declaration of Interest by Members of the Parish Council in relation to the agenda below:

Councillor Frisby declared a Personal Interest in agenda item 25 - Flood Defence Scheme - as he was a flood victim.

Councillor Surtees declared a Personal Interest in Agenda Item 15 as she uses this facility.

Councillor Davies declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in Agenda Item 12, as her daughter is a Manager of the Pre School.

03.08.2009 Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillor Clayton and Evans and Councillor Colquhoun NELC.

The Clerk stated that she had spoken with Councillor Clayton and he is home from hospital following his heart operation and improving steadily.

04.08.2009 To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of 7 July 2009:

Page 27 To receive a report form was amended to read To receive a report from. Councillors Archer A and Frisby was amended to read Councillors Archer M and Frisby.

Following these amendments the Minutes were agreed as distributed and the Chairman signed them.

05.08.2009 Fire Brigade Liaison:

The Chairman welcomed the Officers to the meeting.

Mark stated that Carl is improving. He is leaving the Fire Service at the end of August to work abroad.

Carl has taken a one-year leave of absence. In the meantime a new Sub Officer may be appointed as a temporary promotion.

The Parish Council requested Mark to convey their best wishes to Carl and thank him for his support.

Mark stated that they attended a joint Emergency Exercise on Waltham Airfield This took approximately 4 hours and was very successful.

Fire Fighter Scott stated that it had been a quiet month. They attended 9 incidents, 7 in Waltham, 1 in Irby and on standby at Grimsby. These included 2 false alarms, 2 car fires, 1 general fire, and 1 road traffic incident.

The Fireman's Fete will be held at Peakes Lane Fire Station on 20 August 2009.

David stated that he is now a member of Red Watch at Peakes Lane, Grimsby and is enjoying his work.

Councillor Frisby stated that he was aware that the Fire Service attended an incident at The Limes – they had no key for the gate and no key for the fire alarm.

Mark stated that they do not touch fire alarm systems – it is not up to them to re-set them - this has to be done by the owners.

He agreed to speak with the Community Fire Association and arrange for a key to the gate and request that they inform Shoreline regarding the fire alarms.

The Chairman thanked the Officers for attending and they withdrew from the meeting.

06.08.2009 Police Liaison:

The Chairman welcomed Sergeant Steve Lynn to the meeting.

Report enclosed.

Sergeant Lynn stated that residents need to make sure that they lock garages and sheds, as there have been a number of burglaries.

Good alarms are available and details can be obtained from the Street Briefing Teams.

This is also a good opportunity for residents to meet the P.C.S.O's.

Following the article in the Grimsby Telegraph they received a good response for volunteers.

The P.C.S.O's have been in touch with the resident who parked her car fully on the

footway in Manor Drive and also dealt with fly tipping down Ings Lane. The vehicle reported with an out of date tax disc parked on the High Street has also been dealt with, the new tax disc was forwarded to the owners old residence. The P.C.S.O's continue to deal with issues of parking round Waltham Windmill centre.

The Chairman stated that the yellow lines restrict parking at all times – including disabled parking.

Councillor Penney asked if any progress had been made regarding the man on the windmill site. Sergeant Lynn stated that these incidents have been logged on there Intelligence System and the P.C.S.O's are aware.

They have no identification and no further information.

Councillor Penney also asked if any progress had been made regarding the incident on 30 March 2009 regarding the elderly lady surrounded by a group of youths. Sergeant Lynn stated that they have no details of this incident on their system.

The Chairman raised the problem of traffic speed. Officers with speed guns were on Brigsley Road last week.

Sergeant Lynn stated that P.C. John Mallett collects all the data and information and he liases with Officers from NELC.

The data is evaluated and traffic speed is worked out. The data is stored centrally not within the Policing Teams.

The Chairman asked if the P.C.S.O's are trained with the speed guns. Sergeant Lynn stated that P.C.S.O. Lawson is partly trained.

In November NELC and P.C. Mallett are to take the Speed Reduction Caravan to Street Briefings.

The Chairman thanked Sergeant Lynn for attending and he withdrew from the meeting.

07.08.2009 Matters arising:

None.

08.08.2009 To receive a report on the Clerk's actions since the meeting of 7 July 2009:

The Clerk stated that NELC is set to join a number of other authorities and become responsible for on and off-street parking across the Borough.

Councillors agreed to a draft plan to launch Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) borough-wide by April 2010. The policy will now be consulted upon before a final decision in December 2009.

CPE is the enforcement of on and off street parking restrictions by local authority – employed civil enforcement officers and will enable the income from Penalty Charge Notices to be used to fund the enforcement operation.

A two tariff fine system will see charges of up to £70, which can be halved if paid within 28 days.

Mr Tony Tyler of New Road has requested that NELC send a Traffic Warden or suggested that the Parish Council could employ a private contractor to enforce the law of parking on footpaths and grass verges in Church Lane, Cross Street and New Road.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that the Clerk would request the P.C.S.O's to contact Mr Tyler and also monitor the parking. It was also agreed that if Mr Tyler took photographs of the offending cars this may be useful to the P.C.S.O's.

Liz Jones would be requested to ask Dave Poucher to respond to Mr Tyler's letter of June.

NELC has developed a Derelict Commercial Property and Land Strategy and Action Plan and will pro-actively identify problem properties as well as encourage referrals.

Contact details:

Derelict Commercial Property 01472 324747

Empty Homes 01472 324749

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that this department would be requested to look at the former butchers, Tasker's in the High Street.

The Clerk stated that the Audit for the financial year 2008/2009 has been completed.

The Audit Commission state that no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

They wish to draw attention the following:

1. The Parish Council received a precept of £23,668.50 in 2008.2009. This has not been included in Box 3 of the Statement of Accounts. This has been included in Box 8 of the Statement of Accounts.

The Clerk stated that this is the 2009/2010 Precept paid in advance by NELC.

RESOLVED:

NELC would be requested not to pay the Precept in advance.

2. The fidelity insurance cover is not adequate. Cover should also be extended to include Councillors.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that the Clerk would look at this and speak with Allianz.

The Parish Council thanked the Clerk for preparing the accounts.

09.08.2009 Planning Matters and to discuss the planning applications received from North East Lincolnshire Council:

No planning applications received.

Councillor Jackson stated that the planning application for 93 High Street was approved by NELC's Planning Committee last week by 6 votes – 4 with 1 abstention.

He voted against the application.

The Clerk stated that Rod Jones NELC's deputy Director of Planning and Transport has forwarded details in respect of the installation of velux windows.

Copy enclosed.

The following planning application has been approved by NELC:

DC/437/09/WAB Convert integral garage to form a sitting room & erect detached double garage
(Amended plan showing reduction in height of proposed garage)

13 The Drive

Approved.

RESOLVED:

NELC are to be asked to take action to have the metal stakes on the grass verge outside 40 Ings Lane removed.

Councillor M Archer declared a personal interest and took no part.

10.08.2009 To discuss the Web Site:**RESOLVED:**

The Parish Council approved the document on the History of Waltham and Grove Park as prepared by the Clerk.

These would now be forwarded to Lesley and she would be asked to request that the site is now opened.

11.08.2009 Pavements/Street Lighting/Highways:

The Clerk stated that NELC are to change the lighting columns on the Barnoldby Road crossing next week. They are also to install extra street lighting. This work will improve the lighting levels. Work is expected to take 4 weeks.

Miguel Cooksey has connected to the Bradley Road sign and has set it to "LIMIT MODE" whereby it only flashes 30 in red to drivers exceeding the limit. He is unable to communicate with the Cheapside sign and will have this investigated. On his return from leave he will contact the Parish Council about establishing further sites to enable a rotation of the signs on a periodic basis.

The dropped kerb outside the Post Office is one of 30 to be installed and work is expected to commence on the list next week.

NELC are to provide the "No parking on grass verges" signs and install them. The cost of £274.58 is included in the accounts for payment. The Ward Councillors are to reimburse the Parish Council.

NELC are yet to publish the Draft Order for the 50mph speed limit for Station Road. They have been informed by letter of the Parish Councils objections to this proposal.

NELC are to give consideration to a 20mph speed limit for Grove Lane, Ings Lane and Skinners Lane, also in the areas around the Leas School and in the village centre.

Councillor Baker stated that he felt that many footpaths in the village were in real need of repair.

The Chairman stated that footpaths on the main traffic route are not being repaired but off main routes are.

RESOLVED:

The following highway matters are to be forwarded to NELC for consideration/attention:

1. Prioritise footway repairs.
2. Is a crossing to be installed at the junction of Church Lane/High Street and if so what is the timescale?
3. What do they propose to do regarding the speed limit?
4. The hedge on Skinners Lane to the Tea Gardens needs to be cut back.

The Parish Council approved the following items, which have already been passed for attention to NELC at the request of Councillor Baker:

1. Drain cover at Skinners Lane has 2 large holes in it, which a ladies shoe could be caught in.
2. Corner Skinners Lane/Cheapside no dropped pavement.
3. Outside the Vets on Grimsby Road the road has subsided and if you are riding a cycle this is dangerous.

Councillor Jackson agreed to speak with Steve Whittles regarding Barnoldby Road and Grimsby Road footpaths.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that they would consider the report from the Traffic Committee at the September meeting. The Clerk would place this as an agenda item.

12.08.2009 To receive an update re Leas Infants and Junior Schools:

Councillor Davies declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in this item, as her daughter is a Manager of the Pre School and left the room whilst it was discussed.

Councillor Jackson stated that Scrutiny Panel agreed to look into the possibility of providing further on site car parking.

Once this had been done a report would be forwarded to the Environment Portfolio Holder.

RESOLVED:

NELC would be asked to inform the Parish Council the exact use of the building.

This request would be sent to Sally Jack and Elaine Kitchen.

13.08.2009 To receive a report re the flood defence scheme – Mount Pleasant:

Councillor Frisby declared a Personal Interest in this item - as he was a flood victim.

The Clerk stated that Andy Smith has informed her that work on the scheme is now completed. There is still the issue of trying to discourage access along the embankment, palisade fencing has been erected and shrub planting will be undertaken when the weather permits.

15.08.2009 To give consideration to a Section 137 Payment to Worlds Community Bus:

Councillor Surtees declared a Personal Interest in this item as she uses this facility. She left the room whilst it was discussed.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed to make a Section 137 Grant of £100.00 to Wolds Community Bus.

16.08.2009 Parish Office:

The Clerk stated that the toilets have been painted. New hand wash dispensers have been installed.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that the toilets were much improved - they would monitor them. If it were felt that tiling was needed they would look at undertaking this.

They also agreed to place £100 per year in the budget for damage/refurbishment.

17.09.2009 To receive a report on Re-cycling:

The Clerk stated that Councillor Colquhoun informed her that it has been many years since an audit of the assisted collection for wheelie bins has been carried out and many people have moved or may no longer require the service. The response to the survey has been good and for those residents who do not respond for whatever reason a follow up visit will be made. There is no intention to stop this service but rather to insure that all who need it are able to have it.

18.08.2009 Waltham in Bloom 2009

The Clerk stated that the judging had been carried out and the prize giving had taken place. The Vice Chairman presented the prizes.

The Vice Chairman stated that it was a very pleasant evening and the majority of prizewinner's turner up.

The Clerk had written to the Officers of the Fire Station and Stuff and Flowers for the effort they had made in decorating their premises.

The Vice Chairman stated that the efforts of all residents make a difference to the village.

A special mention was made of Paul for his litter picking and watering of the flowers around the village centre.

Zest Deli and Waltham Windmill Gifts and Interiors sponsored the event.

Best Kept Business Premises;

1st Prize Tilted Barrel.

2nd Prize Fairway News.

3rd Prize Ronald Farmer Court.

Best Kept Garden:

1st Prize Mrs Pauline Saunderson, Chestnut Road.

2nd prize Mr & Mrs Ted and Cynthia Ford. Carmague Avenue.

3rd Prize Mrs Beryl Sharman, Elsham Drive.

Best Kept Allotment:

1st Prize Mr Norman Ward, Danesfield Avenue.

2nd prize Mr Greg Bryant, Grimsby Road.

3rd Prize Mr Alan Cliff, Ashbourne.

The Parish Council agreed that many residents have beautiful, well-cared gardens but do not enter the competition.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that when Members are judging if they see a garden/business premises that is really nice then they would be given a certificate thanking them for their effort.

19.08.2009 Youth Report:

The Clerk stated that she has forwarded a copy of the Parish Councils survey to Officers at NELC and they have agreed to take into consideration the comments when they look at the provision of play equipment.

To date no information has been received regarding the installation of the new equipment.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council needs to be involved and have input into this project.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that the Clerk would speak with Councillor Colquhoun.

Councillor Surtees stated that she had visited Haverstoe Park with her brownies. The play equipment is excellent.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that they should look at this park.

Councillor Bean stated that the Tennis Tournament is to be held on 24 August 2009.

Posters are up in the village.

Small leaflets have been prepared giving details of this and other events and these have been distributed.

Councillor Baker stated that he has no notices for the youth and if he did he would just pin them to the building at Mount Pleasant.

Councillor Bean stated that the meeting of the Youth Committee to be held last Friday was cancelled and this is to now take place in September. Angie Burnett is still off sick.

The Chairman stated that somebody must be doing her job.

RESOLVED:

The Clerk was asked to find out the Officer covering for Angie.

20.08.2009 To receive a report from the following Committees:**(a) Allotments**

Anglian Water is to clear out and clean the allotment dyke after the 1st September 2009.

Councillor Barrett stated that Ashley Court has cut part of their hedge back and this is on the allotments.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that they would leave this and if Anglian Water does not remove it then they would make arrangements for it to be removed.

The Clerk stated that every week residents request an allotment. The allotment Committee inspects allotments on a regular basis.

One allotment holder has been given two weeks to tidy his allotment. Failure to do so will result in his tenancy being terminated as per the rules.

The Parish Council agreed that the majority of the hedges on Ings Lane and High Street needed to be cut back. This is the responsibility of the allotment holders as per the rules.

RESOLVED:

The Clerk would write to all the above allotment holders requesting that they trim back their hedges, failure to do so will result in this being undertaken by a contractor and the cost of this will be added to their rent.

Councillor A Archer stated that he has an item regarding the allotments that he would like to take in Committee.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed.

(b) Parks and Open Spaces

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that they would accept the quotation from Jatam Services Limited to supply one heavy-duty picnic table (Galvanized and Powder Coated) at a cost of £776.25.

Councillor Surtees stated that the tree at the Ings Lane entrance to Grove Park needs cutting back.

Councillor Dewires stated that he would do this.

She also stated that the footpath is still flooding in areas. Also, the gate and entrance fence needs replacing

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that this would have to be looked at and a capital project undertaken.

Councillor Frisby stated that there is a large amount of rubbish, a hammock and a large piece of wood in the beck at Mount Pleasant. Two dens have also been built.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that the removal of the play equipment has created problems.

NELC would be requested to remove these items.

Councillor Bean stated that her neighbour Mr Rouse had requested her to raise that he was concerned that 2 Alsations are regularly in the park not on a lead.

Councillor Teanby stated that he was aware of these dogs and they are under the control of their owner.

RESOLVED:

Following a long discussion it was agreed that Councillor Teanby would have a word with the owner.

© Cemetery

Councillor Shaw stated that Lesley has received an application to place a Plaque Memorial on a grave.

RESOLVED:

Parish Council agreed to suspend the meeting to allow the Chairman to ask the contractor if this would create a problem in respect of maintenance. The contractor stated no.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that this would be allowed. The plaque would be placed at the head of the grave in the same place as a headstone.

The rules for the Cemetery would be amended to read:

“Plaque memorials will be allowed in place of and not as well headstone.”

The Parish Council also agreed that the following rule would be added to the Cemetery Rules:

- (e) The scattering of ashes within the cemetery is not permitted, because of the damage this causes to the ground. There are provision for the burial of ashes in an appropriate casket. Please ask the Clerk for further details.
- (d) Public Rights of Way

Footpath 72.

Councillors A & M Archer and Surtees declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in this item as landowners and left the meeting whilst it was discussed.

Councillor Woodliffe – Vice Chairman in the chair

Councillor Woodliff stated that he, the Clerk and Councillor Colquhoun attended a meeting with Mr Paul Hutson NELC and an Inspector who has been brought in to progress this footpath.

We confirmed that the Parish Council want to see this Footpath open and support the Closure of the Definitive Routs and suggested that the Awarded Route be amended to make it a feasible and practical route to walk.

Officers had meetings all day with everybody concerned and they are to report back.

The Clerk stated that she had been informed this morning that they would probably call another meeting.

Councillor M Archer – Chairman in the chair

- (e) Bowling Green

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that they would make arrangements to look at the new bowling club built at Binbrook.

The Clerk stated that the ladies of the Bowling Club are to hold a coffee morning on Saturday to raise funds for the building and she has been asked to open it.

21.08.2009 To receive a report from Councillors on meetings attended:

Councillors Archer M, Bean and Frisby attended the Town and Parish Councils Liaison meeting.

Acting Chief Inspector Bradley gave a presentation on the Policing Pledge. A copy has been forwarded to all Parish Councillors.

She also gave details of the Neighbourhood Policing Policy.

The Chairman stated that they felt this was not beneficial, as it would create another tier of administration.

Councillor Jackson stated that he and Councillor Colquhoun felt that the Waltham Ward already has a good rapour with Officers and agreed it would create another tie of administration.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed.

Andrew Milner the Head of Environmental Services was also present.

Martin Ambler, Enforcement Officer gave a presentation.

Planning Enforcement is a real problem and this was discussed.

Councillor Jackson stated that Planning Committee recently discussed a report on Enforcement Issues. NELC is to adopt a more robust approach and Officers are to report quarterly to the planning committee.

Councillor Woodliff stated that he and the Clerk judged the Cleethorpes Carnival.

22.08.2009 To discuss any personnel matters:

Councillor Woodliff stated that Paul's six monthly review has been completed.

No problems were raised. Officers did ask if the Parish Council would consider increasing the contribution paid towards Paul's salary. They were informed that the budget has been set for this year and it would not be possible.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed.

Councillor Woodliff stated that when Paul is absent the village certainly suffers. Paul also waters the bedding plants during the summer months.

Humberton Parish Council has made their litter picker redundant.

Councillor Woodliff stated that the Clerk is on holiday from 17 August for two weeks.

Lesley is unable to cover due to school holidays but is willing to come in an evening and clear the telephone messages, emails and deal with any urgent matters.

Councillor Frisby stated that the Personnel Committee should have discussed this.

The Chairman stated that that there was not time to set up a meeting.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed that the office would be open during the morning by Councillors.

Councillor Frisby, Bean and Baker agreed that they would be available and would provide details of when to the Clerk.

The Clerk would then prepare a rota.

Councillor Woodliff stated that he is aware that the Clerk's husband is not well.

The Parish Council agreed that if the Clerk needed time off then she should and inform the Chairman/Vice Chairman.

RESOLVED:

The Parish Council agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow the following item to be discussed.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm.