

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Waltham Parish Council held in the
Waltham Library on Tuesday 1st December 2009 at 7.00 pm.**

Present: Councillor M Archer (Chairman), Councillors Baker, Davies, Dewires, Frisby, Shaw, Teanby and Woodliff, Ward Councillors I Colquhoun & P Jackson, Fire Fighter David Scott, Police Inspector Neil Pattison, 2 Members of the press, 8 Residents, and the Parish Clerk.

01.12.2009 Open Forum – To enable any resident to raise any items with the Parish Council:

Ms J Bunn of Kirkgate, Waltham spoke and gave her objections to a one-way system in Waltham. After seeing the drawing in the Parish Office she had several concerns, these included the vastly increased volume of traffic which would be directed down Kirkgate, which is largely a residential street where children and the elderly reside. It would hinder the homeowners of Kirkgate who wish to enter and exit their driveways. The location of the bus stop and pedestrian crossing will create a large blind spot. The buses, which operate, from 6.15am to 11.30pm would stop outside her property, this will enable those people on the bus to have a clear view into her bedroom window, directly effecting her privacy. After seeking the advice of an estate agent, Ms Bunn said that the value of her property would be greatly affected should this route be taken. The youths, which she said currently, congregate in the existing bus shelter across the road, will then be outside her house. Ms Bunn closed in saying she felt that the best solution would be to make the High Street a no parking area, which would benefit the traffic flow.

The Chairman thanked her for her comments. He explained that he could not enter into debate at this point but will speak about her comments and the other comments received in item 12a on the agenda.

02.12.2009 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 and Prejudicial Interest in Agenda Item 12 (a) as he lives in the High Street.

Councillor Davies declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in Agenda item 13, as her daughter is the manager of the Pre-School.

03.12.2009 Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillors A Archer, Bean, Barrett, Clayton, Evans, Penney, Surtees, the retired clerk Mrs M Stennett and Fire Watch Manager Carl Lamb.

04.12.2009 To approve the Minutes of the Meetings of:

One item of spelling was altered on page 72 “contactors” was amended to read “contractors”.

Following this amendment the Minutes were agreed as a true record and the Chairman signed them.

05.12.2009 Fire Brigade Liaison:

The Chairman welcomed the Officer to the meeting.

Fire Fighter Scott opened by saying Waltham Fire Station had received a total of 18 fire calls during November. These are detailed in the attached report.

The Chairman asked if the fire service is still exchanging old chip pans for new safer equipment. Officer Scott said there is none available at the moment but when further funding is received they will continue with this service.

After asking the Councillors if they had any further questions for the fire officer, the Chairman thanked him for attending and he withdrew from the meeting.

06.12.2009 Police Liaison:

The Chairman asked to defer this item till later in the agenda to allow Inspector Pattison time to attend as he was visiting several Parishes that evening.

RESOLVED: All Councillors agreed to defer this item.

07.12.2009 Matters arising:**(a) Remembrance Sunday**

The Clerk read a letter she had received from Mrs J Pearce, who expressed her disappointment at the Remembrance Sunday parade. She felt that she and the people around her were not able to hear the service clearly. They had no idea when the two-minute silence was and felt she would have been better to have stayed indoors and watched it on the television. She summarised by saying the poor organisation was not acceptable. Councillor Shaw also received similar comments after the event. The Chairman explained that the equipment, which had been used in the past, was no longer available. The Parish Council has purchased a new PA system. The microphone of this was not turned on and therefore the voices were not carried, as they should have been. The Chairman apologised for this technical error and said that this mistake would not happen again. The Chairman now has recordings of a bugler and chimes for next years service.

The Chairman also explained that the British Legion had approached him after the event asking if the Parish Council would like to take over the organising of the whole event. The Councillors discussed this and agreed that this event should be a partnership of both organisations, and that the British Legion plays a key part in Remembrance Sunday.

RESOLVED: The Remembrance Sunday event should continue to be organised by both the Parish Council and British Legion.

08.12.2009 To receive a report on the Clerk's actions since the meeting of 3rd November 2009:

The Third Sector Forum Event of Neighbourhood Management meet on Tuesday 8th December 2009, 10am to 12noon. Residents and local organisations are invited to attend. Bookings are being taken by Vicky Hardy on 01472 231123.

RESOLVED The Councillors agreed to place this item on the Website, Councillors Teanby, Woodliff and Frisby asked that they receive a copy of the details.

ERNLLCA have issued the 2010 dates for the Advanced Chairmanship which are Part 1 Wednesday 17th February 2010, Part 2 Wednesday 24th February 2010 and Part 3 Wednesday 3rd March 2010 at the Angel Suite in Brigg.

NELC have a new One place website which will give an overall picture of life in North East Lincolnshire. This can be viewed on www.nelincs.gov.uk/news/pressreleases/.

Confirmation has been received of our £25,000.00 7-Day Temporary Loan from NELC Ref: T3232. Confirmation has also been received of our repayment of £10,000.00 Loan into our bank account Ref: T3217.

The Chairman has received correspondence from Lyndsey Parker who works as a Regeneration Support Officer for Shoreline Housing. She would like to attend a parish meeting to give an outline of her services. The Councillors agreed that this would be beneficial but had a tight agenda for January and could ask her to the February meeting.

RESOLVED: To ask Lyndsey Parker to come to the February meeting.

The Clerk spoke about the New Academy for Cleethorpes. The management team from Tollbar Business and Enterprise College have been asked to help in the setting up of the new academy. It was stressed that they will be working together and that this will not affect the running of Tollbar. Ward Councillor Jackson confirmed that this was a government initiative to help the struggling school.

In the new year NELC will have a new name for the Community Warden Services after the council's cabinet agreed to refocus the service's efforts into maintaining pride in the area, this will be Community Pride. The key aspects will include having more flexible officers and improved street presence, increased efficiency and better communications.

09.12.2009 To receive a report on the Flood Defence Scheme

The Clerk read a letter, which had been sent to all residents of Ludgate Close and Penny Mews from NELC. This letter was to pass onto the insurers of the residents to confirm that the Flood Defence Scheme was now in place. One resident had written to the Parish Council and thanked all concerned on a job well done.

Councillor Baker asked about the planting scheme along the beck. The Clerk confirmed she had chased Paul Barley on this matter and he had confirmed that this would be done in the next few weeks weather permitting. Councillor Teanby had concerns over the high water level in Grove Park during recent rains. The Chairman said that NELC have a drainage clear up programme and that the weeds were being removed.

06.12.2009 Police Liaison:

The Chairman welcomed Inspector Pattison to the meeting.

The Inspector spoke about the importance of local knowledge and how the community can help in reducing the crime in the local area, and to report any incident that they see. He asked the Councillors and residents about the police presence in the area. Inspector Pattison issued the Parish Council with a police report, a copy of which is enclosed.

Councillor Frisby asked for an update on the youths on motorbikes in the village during the last week. The Inspector said that again it is important for the local community to be involved, as they will know who these people are, and once this information is received the police can then take action. The Chairman said that the PCSO's are aware and keeping watch for them. The Inspector apologised for the communication errors, which occurred on the lead up to the Firework display and Remembrance Sunday parade. He asked for an early meeting next year to be more prepared for these events.

Councillor Frisby asked if there were any plans in moving to the Laceby Road Station. The Inspector said that the officers only have a briefing at Immingham then travel to their areas. The Inspector said that this would not change. The Chairman asked if the mobile speed camera would be coming to the village. Inspector Pattison said he would check up when this would be in the area.

The Chairman had received a request from the Police to increase the facilities for the PC's and PCSO's and they have asked if they can put a microwave oven in the kitchen area of the Parish Office. This will then allow them to have hot breaks. This was discussed and it was agreed. There would need to be some conditions made in order to keep the office clean and odour free.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to allow the Police to put a microwave in the Parish Office with conditions.

10.12.2009 Planning Matters and to discuss the planning applications received from North East Lincolnshire Council:

Notice of Decision: DC/829/09/WAB, to erect ground and 1st floor side extension with 2 roof lights at 16 Neville Turner Way, Waltham. This application was refused by reason of its position and scale would have an unacceptable impact on the amenities the neighbour can reasonably expect to enjoy.

The Tree Preservation Order for the trees at Brigsley Road, Waltham was renewed on 5th November 2009.

Councillor Teanby asked if there had been any answer regarding the replanting of the trees, which had been removed. The Chairman said that we were told these would have little or no chance of survival.

Councillor Frisby asked if there had been a decision on Ings Lane. The Clerk confirmed that there had been no decision received through the post to date, but on the NELC Planning Page of their website it does state that this planning application was refused. Ward Councillor Jackson confirmed this and said we should receive this in writing by the next meeting.

11.12.2009 Youth Report:

(a) Play Equipment Mount Pleasant & Neville Turner Way.

The Clerk showed the Parish Council a plan, which had been received from Sue Pearson for the play equipment at Neville Turner Way and explained that she had given the Parish Council some comment sheets for the Parish Council or residents to complete and to be returned to her as soon as possible. Councillor Baker explained that NELC wanted to combine the funds, which they have with the funds, which the Parish Council has to make one large play area. The Council had in a previous meeting said that this wouldn't be suitable and agreed to separate the funds and have an older age group play area in Mount Pleasant leaving the younger ones to enjoy their play at Neville Turner Way. Councillor Baker raised a few issues that using a zip wire in the younger area would just encourage the older ones to go there. The flooring, which NELC has on their design, is not suitable and the area would be a mud bath. Councillor Baker also had concerns over the drop off point on the Agility Mound as this looks to be a straight drop. The Councillors discussed all these issues and added that there is need for bins and seating in the area. The Councillors asked the Clerk to place their concerns onto the comments form and return them to Sue Pearson as this project is due to be completed by March 2010. The Chairman added that this is a very wet area, and all equipment should be placed higher than ground

level to ensure that it does not retain water during the wet months, and he confirmed that the equipment would be 10 meters away from the beck.

RESOLVED: The Clerk is to inform Sue Pearson of their concerns regarding this equipment.

The Councillors then looked at the drawings for the Mount Pleasant area.

The Clerk confirmed that we had been successful in the first stage of the Leader Programme bid, and have received the forms to complete for the second stage. The Chairman added that we would be looking at a different section of people to use the equipment in this area. This would include the older and disabled groups. Councillor Shaw had concerns over the basket swing. The Clerk explained that this is for multi user and the disabled as a disabled child can be laid down in the basket to swing. Councillor Teanby asked what material the climbing net would be made of. The Chairman said it would be industrial rope and similar to the one at the Windmill play area which has stood the test of time. The Councillors agreed that the zip wire would be more suitable in this area.

The Chairman suspended the meeting to allow a resident to speak. She enquired if the children have been involved in choosing this equipment. The Chairman answered to say that the sub committee are collecting information from different suppliers at this stage and once some ideas have been collected then they will take these to various groups to ask their opinion. The meeting reconvened and Councillor Baker confirmed that he is visiting the youth bus on Wednesday evening and will enquire with them their feelings on the types of equipment they would like to see.

12.12.2009 Pavements/Street Lighting/Highways.

(a) To receive a report re One-Way System.

Councillor Frisby declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item as he lives on the High Street. The Chairman asked the Councillors to allow him to remain as he has information to pass onto the Parish Council regarding this item.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to allow Councillor Frisby to remain and pass on the information he has.

Councillor Frisby explained that after a comment from a resident of Waltham, which had been published on the Grimsby Evening Telegraph website, he had taken advice from ERNLLCA and Rob Walsh of NELC, and had decided to resign from the Traffic Flow Through Waltham Sub Committee. Councillor Baker disagreed with this decision and said that all of the Councillors live in and around the village, should they all have to declare an interest. The Chairman explained that a particular Councillor was questioned publicly due to his direct access onto the High Street. He then took advice from ERNLLCA and NELC and made his own decision to resign from the Sub Committee. Councillor Baker questioned the person who wrote the comments saying they should not be taken into account as they were anonymous and did not come directly to the council but via a newspapers website. The Chairman repeated that when a councillor is questioned whatever the source it needs to be taken seriously. The Code of Conduct binds all Councillors and Councillor Frisby took the advice from ERNLLCA and the Monitoring Body, and then reached his decision from the advice he was given. Councillor Baker said that it was wrong for him to have to resign. Ward Councillor Jackson also explained that once the advice was given from the Monitoring Body it remains the Councillors decision whether he wishes to take that advice. The Chairman asked the Councillors to discuss the item on the agenda, which is to receive a report regarding the One Way System. Councillor Woodliff asked if any of the agencies contacted had replied. The Clerk stated that only

Stagecoach had replied at this moment in time. Councillor Woodliff asked if there is no one to head this committee would it better serve for future use. Councillor Teanby asked the Council to look deeply at what this committee had already achieved, it is being pro-active at looking 10 to 15 years ahead in how the traffic will flow around the village, with the increased housing, it is looking at car parking, helping local businesses, taking on board public concerns over increased traffic, speed limits, safe crossing points and safety in the village as a whole. The work, which this committee has done, has been tremendous. After some discussion it was agreed to wait for the feedback from the other organisations contacted and to defer this to the next meeting. Councillor Baker agreed to go onto the sub committee, but would not be able to be Chairman. It was agreed for a Chairman of the Traffic Flow Committee to be elected at the time when the next meeting is planned.

RESOLVED: To wait to hear from all the agencies contacted, and at the next committee meeting look at electing a new Chairman.

The Chairman reported that at the new dropped kerb on the corner of Cheapside and Kirkgate there has been some damaged caused to the footpath on the kerb edge. Councillor Woodliff reported outside 58 Mill View the gully had sunk approximately 6" due to the volume of traffic being diverted down this way.

The drain cover at Skinners Lane still has two large holes in it. The drop kerb at Cheapside/Skinners Lane has been completed. The subsidence outside the vets on Grimsby Road has been repaired and the Waltham Sign has been reported again to Dave Poucher during a recent hand over meeting.

The Clerk read a report from Dave Poucher regarding the Flashing Speed Signs. The manufacturer will visit the area on 7th December. We will be informed of the progress in this matter.

The Chairman asked if the Councillors would like him to be present at this visit to make clear any concerns.

RESOLVED: The Councillors agreed to ask if the Chairman could be present at this meeting.

Councillor Davies said that the number had been stolen off her gate. The Chairman asked the Clerk to put this into the police book. Councillor Dewires reported a blocked drain on the corner of Manor Drive and High Street in the area of the bus stop.

The Chairman said that Paul Jolly requires a salt spreader, which you can push, rather than him using a shovel to throw the salt onto the paths.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to purchase a walk behind salt spreader.

13.12.2009 To receive a report re Leas Infants and Junior Schools.

Councillor Davies declared a personal and prejudicial interest and left the room. The Clerk informed the Council that she has had a report of rats on the old infant school building. She has spoken to Elaine Kitchen and Kay Snape and pest control have been brought in.

Councillor Teanby said he concerns from villagers that there will be no space available in the school as children from outside the area are coming to the pre-school and then getting places within the primary school. Councillor Shaw believed that children who lived in the catchments area might get preferential treatment. The Chairman suspended the meeting to allow a resident to speak. She wanted to back up Councillor Teanby as she has also heard that the school was nearly at capacity. The Chairman reconvened the meeting. After some discussion it was proposed that the

Local Educational Authority was contacted to find out the criteria for being accepted into the school. It was felt that due to the Pre-School being a privately run business the Parish Council do not have the authority to approach them with any questions.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to ask the Local Educational Authority to find out what criteria is needed to enter The Lea's School, and how close to capacity they are.

Councillor Davies rejoined the meeting.

14.12.2009 To receive an update re Christmas Trees 2009.

The Clerk confirmed that the Christmas tree has been ordered and that 8 businesses have taken up the offer of a small tree on the outside of the building. These will be delivered on Wednesday 2nd December.

15.12.2009 To discuss the Web Site:

The Clerk confirmed that during November the website had 222 visitors, 135 first time and 87 returning. 8 comments on the One Way Traffic flow was also received via the website. Councillor Frisby asked if we could open up the comments from the website so that all could read them rather than them going to the Clerk. The Chairman showed concerns that the website would be used as a public forum for chitchat similar to that shown in the local news website.

16.12.2009 To receive a report re CCTV.

The Clerk has had a reply from the Library, and they are happy for the Parish Council to place a post in the area where the road sweepers barrow is kept, providing we apply for the relevant planning permission and provide the appropriate CCTV signage. Joan Sargent asks that we keep her informed of any progress made on this matter. The Chairman spoke of the success that the CCTV has had this month. Capturing the young man who damaged the office roof, who the police then arrested. The police have asked that he be made to make an apology to the Parish Council for his act, and would like us to permit this.

RESOLVED: The police can ask the youth to come into the Parish Office to apologise for his actions.

After speaking to the police and viewing the CCTV recently the Chairman feels that the Parish Council should look at updating the camera which covers the Co-Op car park, as it is the oldest camera and is of poor quality.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council agreed to make enquiries to the possibility of upgrading the Co-Op car park camera.

17.12.2009 To receive a report from the following Committees:

(a) Allotments

The Home Paddock hedge has been cut. The Chairman said that NELC carried out this service. Martin Taylor from Anglian Water will be clearing the dyke on the allotments in the next two weeks, weather permitting.

(b) Parks and Open Spaces

(i) Fencing around the War Memorial

The Parish Council discussed at a previous meeting the possibility of fencing around the War Memorial. This was to discourage cars being parked on the ground surrounding the cenotaph. After some discussion it was thought that placing some large planting tubs around the area with decorative posts and fencing in between, which could be removed when the area is needed for large groups to attend would be

more favourable. The Ward Councillors said that they would look favourably towards funding this item. This decision was proposed, seconded and with 2 against, it was carried.

RESOLVED: To bring designs of how the area would look, to the Parish Council.

(ii) Village Signs

The Clerk explained whilst handing over in the office, some plans were found which Maureen said was the winning entry to a competition to design a village sign. The Chairman took the winning design to a local blacksmith to see if it could be made into a metal sign. This would be at each entrance to the village and would stand on a 3mtr high post. The Parish Councillors agreed to receive formal quotations for 5 signs to be made, one of which should be the winning designer Miss McWilliams if she is able to manufacture them. The Ward Councillors said that they would look favourably towards funding this item.

RESOLVED: To obtain two quotations for the making up of the winning village sign.

© Cemetery

Nothing to report.

(d) Public Rights of Way

Nothing to report.

(e) Bowling Green

A Meeting was held on Wednesday 25th November 2009 with Melanie Robinson the disabled access officer; She agreed that a disabled access was required from the car park into the bowling green entrance. She felt that the users were “quite reasonable in their request” to ask for disabled access to this area.

The Chairman showed the Parish Council pictures of several types of Pavilions.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to obtain a price on the Amersham design from Cartledge Timber Frames.

Councillor Frisby asked if there was any indication to the pipe locations on site. The Chairman said that none of the documents at the office gave any indication to where the pipes are located. We would have to seek advice from Anglian Water on this matter.

18.12.2009 To receive a report from Councillors on meetings attended:

Councillor Frisby attended a Bowling Green meeting, on site at the Bowling green on 5th November, also he attended an ERNLLCA meeting on 19th November but felt this was a disappointing meeting as only 7 members attended and the Chairman and Alan Barker gave their apologies. Councillor Frisby also attended the Neighbourhood Management Workshop on 30th November; Inspector Tracey Bradley was introduced as the Chairman. Some discussion followed asking who had elected the Chairman and was a democratic process used. It was agreed to ask to Andrew Milner who are the elected representatives for the Wolds and what democratic process was used in electing them. Councillor Frisby said that Andrew Milner has offered to attend a Parish Council meeting.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to invite to Andrew Milner to a Parish Council meeting to discuss Neighbourhood Management.

RESOLVED: As the time had reached 10pm The Parish Council agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow the following to be discussed.

19.12.2009 To receive a report re the Parish Office:

The Chairman explained that the public and police area of the office carpet is looking very dirty despite having been cleaned by a cleaning machine. He asked the Councillors if they would consider replacing this part of the carpet with a piece similar to that in the entrance. Councillor Shaw asked how this would be funded. The Chairman said that the Council could use the office surplus to fund this.

The Chairman also spoke about replacing the Police desk with one that matches the Clerks. It would have a separate locking drawer unit and the table could then be pulled out for the officers to have their rest breaks on. A bike holder was also mentioned to hold the officers bikes when not in use. Councillor Frisby asked how many bikes would be held in the office. The Chairman said that at the most 2 bikes would be stored in the office. These would come from the Police surplus budget.

RESOLVED: To get a quotation for the replacement of the office carpet, police desk and drawer unit.

The Parish Council went into committee to discuss the remainder of the items.

The Committee meeting closed and the Council re-convened to ratify the decisions taken in Committee.

The meeting closed at 11.05pm.