

WINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at the Burton Institute, Winster on 6 August 2007

Present	Parish Councillor Brian Long in the chair. Parish Councillors Mat Adlam-Stiles, Paul Armitt, Rob Greatorex, Stephen Harrison, Don Shimwell and Allan Stone.
In attendance	Three members of the public, Kath Potter, Parish Member of PDNPA and Veronica Kemble, Clerk.
Public Open Session	<p>A request was made that the Saturday skip lorry be advertised in the Village Mag as well as on the noticeboard.</p> <p>The street light on West Bank has still not been reinstated by DCC.</p> <p>Kath Potter requested copies of correspondence relating to 11 Leacroft Road and Lower Westhills.</p>
Apologies	Parish Councillor Jo Ferguson.
546/07 Minutes	Resolved That the Minutes of the meeting of WPC held on 2 July 2007 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.
547/07 Clerk's update on matters in hand and action required	<p>62/04 Buckdale/Lower Westhills Despite assurances from Narenda Bajaria, Chair of PDNPA, that officers of the Authority would report the contents of WPC's letter to the Planning Committee, it was subsequently learned that this was not read out at the recent planning meeting but was brought to the meeting's attention by Kath Potter. The planning officer dealing with this has asked PDNPA's legal team for advice and due to holiday commitments no progress has been made. Again WPC is concerned that staffing issues at PDNPA are leading to delays in dealing with legal issues which in itself compounds the situation. The Clerk was instructed to continue to put pressure on PDNPA.</p> <p>402/06 11 Leacroft Road This matter went to Court for possession proceedings but the Court had not listed it as a full hearing despite the fact Dales Housing having previously advised that it was a possession hearing other than for rent. The hearing has been put back until a January 2008 with various procedural matters to be dealt with before then. Both tenants indicated an intention to defend the proceedings. The Clerk suggested that Dales Housing should seek an earlier date if the lack of time was due to a Court error. Dales Housing has had two further site meetings with the tenants. The tenants have now agreed who owns which possessions at the property. The rubbish which had previously been moved from the front garden of the property is now at the rear of the house. Social Services failed to attend the second meeting. WPC is appalled at the events which have happened in relation to this property and feels let down by the legal system and social services. It was felt that Social Services' failure to attend the meeting shows a lack of interest. The problems with these tenants span over several years, with the Chair of WPC having previously tried to resolve some of the issues with the tenants direct. They range from rubbish on site to antisocial behaviour and affect the village as a whole. It is believed that the criminal activities of the two young people at the property will be dealt with over the next two weeks and could lead to an ASBO, despite the Police having previously told WPC that these activities were beyond the scope of an ASBO.</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to write a letter to the Court in support of Dales Housing in this matter.</p>

**547/07
Clerk's update
on matters in
hand and action
required
continued**

428/06 Footpath 2, Woodhouse Lane A full response is still awaited from Whitehouse Construction. The Clerk will chase this.

494/07 Cemetery ABA has still not responded to the Clerk and DALC is taking this up with ABA. It is felt that the current service received from ABA is unsatisfactory.

511/07 Parking on Woolley's Yard It is believed that the sales particulars for the property concerned now state that there is no parking with the property.

522/07 Holiday/second homes The various lists were circulated and noted and will be held on file with the electoral register.

529/07 Piece of Land on West Bank The Land Registry Search shows that there is no registered estate in relation to this piece of land. It has been on DDDC's cutting schedule for over ten years and DDDC has cut it regularly until now and the Clerk will ask DDDC to resume cutting it.

533/07 Florence Gladwin Close The Clerk has issued a further invoice for £50 for work carried out this year and chased payment of the invoice for 2006/2007.

533/07 Overgrown hedge at The Manor This has been cut back. The new owners of The Manor are keen to use local contractors for any work.

535/07 Street cleansing DDDC has stated that the schedule for the Winsters clean towards the end June/beginning of July was for village cleanse, roadside gullies, manual and mechanical sweep. This is above and beyond the weekly Monday main street sweep. Part of this work was not undertaken and DDDC will be advised of this.

The following items are still pending or being monitored.

16/04 Dog fouling

75/04 Birchover Lane

240/05 Chesterfield House

311/05 Westhills/allotment gate

312/05 Warning signs for Warden

319/06 Pedestrian Safety - Elton Rd

330/06 Wall on West Bank

333/06 Yew trees in churchyard

370/06 Burma Road

403/06 Wall at Bank Top car park

455/06 Mosey Mere

472/07 Affordable Housing

494/07 Cemetery

522/07 Additional traffic

536/07 Japanese Knotweed

592/07 Grasscutting on West Bank

Cemetery turning circle

Clerk's gratuity

Stone Setts on Main Street

Wall at Richfield, West Bank

Well at Oddo

Woodhouse Lane parking area

Resolved To note the matters in the report and to take the action outlined.

**548/07
Planning**

NPDDD 0507 0386 Conversion of garage at Ivy Cottage, Wensley Road

This application has been refused.

534/07 Ephraim House/Oak Lee, East Bank The situation with the stone on the road did improve for a while but has now recurred. The Clerk will find out whether Bryan Thompson at PDNPA has contacted DCC about this.

Resolved To note matters raised and write the letters outlined above.

**549/07
Footpaths,
highways and
related issues**

349/06 Weight limits An overweight lorry was recently photographed on West Bank and the resident concerned has written to Simon Tranter at DCC about this. The Clerk will also write to DCC confirming that this has been discussed and seeking an update on progress with the Department of Transport.

549/07
Footpaths,
highways and
related issues
continued

Dog fouling There is a lot of dog fouling especially on Woodhouse Lane between the cattle grid and stile. A reminder will be placed in the Village Mag asking people to clear up after their dogs. Additional notices will also be displayed in the area.

Street light The street light on Elton Road opposite the Church is obstructed by the tree and will be reported.

Branches in the Churchyard These need to be removed by the Warden.

Headstone in Churchyard A Church Warden is understood to have laid down one headstone. The Parish Council had no involvement in this.

A marked up plan of all the footpaths in the parish was circulated to all Parish Councillors.

Resolved To note the matters raised and write the letters indicated

550/07
Audit

The internal and external audit procedures and internal financial controls were outlined for the benefit of new Parish Councillors. The internal audit report shows no areas of concern but recommended a greater breakdown on some of the working papers and a better audit trail. The internal auditor also recommended a greater analysis of the Warden's hours in relation to the jobs carried out. Aspects of the insurance policy were briefly discussed and the Chair suggested that WPC should consider increasing the fidelity insurance in line with recent average balances and year end funds. The quarterly internal checks are important and need to be more timely. Parish Councillor Allan Stone will carry out the June 2007 check as soon as possible.

Resolved To:

1. Sign the Statement of Account and Annual Governance Statement.
 2. Circulate a copy of the Asset Register to all Parish Councillors.
 3. Increase the sum for fidelity insurance to £20,000.
 4. The quarterly internal checks will be actioned within one month of the end of each quarter.
-

551/07
Wall at
Woodhouse Lane

The Clerk has spoken with the resident who still maintains that when WPC carried out the work on the play area it undermined the footings of his wall. He indicated that he wants to reinforce the bank on the north side of his wall to strengthen the foundations. WPC still contends that the work on the play area was carried out in the 1970s, many years before the wall was erected. The stone and rubble from the wall is still on the bank and the resident has erected a flimsy fence which is also encroaching onto WPC's land. The remains of the wall are topped with copers which tends to indicate that no further work is anticipated.

Resolved To write to the resident reiterating WPC's view that the wall was built substantially after the play area, and asking him to remove the debris and fence from WPC's land without further disruption to the facility.

552/07
Late night bus service

The response from DCC was circulated prior to the meeting. It is understood that the behaviour which lead to the withdrawal of the service must have been particularly bad, but it is felt that the behaviour of a few people should not spoil the enjoyment of the majority of bus users.

The Clerk will write to DCC asking them to revisit this as the situation has now changed with the passage of time and there is a call from members of the public for this service to be reinstated. It is suggested that a three month trial be instigated and that a Travel Technician or other suitable person could travel on the bus in addition to the driver to monitor the situation.

Resolved To note the response from DCC and write to them as outlined.

553/07
Council tax banding

The Clerk has obtained copies of all the Council Tax bandings for Winster. These only show holiday lets or second homes that have been declared as such and may not be entirely accurate. Second homes receive a Council Tax discount. Holiday lets come under business rates.

Resolved To receive the documentation.

554/07
Financial update

Resolved To note:

		£
Payments	s/o Clerk's salary	122.60
requiring approval	s/o Warden's salary	121.52
	253 Post Office Ltd tax clerk's (£34.32) and warden's salaries (£34.10)	68.42
	254 DCC for grounds maintenance at Woodhouse Lane and Bank Top for 2006/2007 (VAT 464.80)	2,656.00
	255 Burton Institute room hire (VAT £15.79)	106.00
	256 DDDC Election costs	93.85
Balances at 6.8.07	Current account	3,855.88
	Savings account	11,566.80
Including	Earmarked reserves for:	
	Open spaces	1,650.00
	Street light (2006/2007)	500.00
	Election costs for 2011	906.15

£1,000 was precepted for the election.

555/07
Correspondence

DALC Communications with PDNPA
 DALC DALC Executive Committee
 DALC Circular 16/2007
 DALC Circular 17/2007
 DALC Circular 19/2007 (circular 18/2007 has not been issued)
 DCC Buses from Winster
 DDDC Licensing Act consultation
 DDDC Review of Polling Districts and Polling Stations
 DDDC Standards Committee - Code of Conduct
 E Midlands Airport Community Investment Report 2007
 PDNPA Consultation on Traffic Regulation Orders
 PDNPA 2007 "Parishes' Day" 15 September 2007
 DDCVS Quart newsletter July 2007

Information about Parish Council Accounts 2006/2007

The National Trust is due to replace some of the damaged stonework on the Market House this year.

WPC is happy with the current polling arrangements remaining.

Parish Councillors Rob Greatorex and Brian Long will be attending the Peak Park Parishes' Day.

**555/07
Correspondence
continued**

Two new Parish Councillors attended the full day DALC training and the other two the evening session. Both sessions gave a useful insight into being a Parish Councillor.

Parish Councillor Rob Greatorex has been elected to the local committee of the Standards Board. Fellow Parish Councillors offered their congratulations.

**Public open
session**

One resident stated a belief that the majority of the dog fouling is caused by local dog walkers' dogs and not visitors' dogs.

A resident advised that contractors were seen spraying some of the gennels during the recent cleanse.

Kath Potter indicated that the late night buses from Rowsley were also withdrawn and that the latest bus from Rowsley to Matlock centre is at 9 pm. Rowsley has pursued this through the Rural Transport Partnership without success.

The holiday cottage issues are to be discussed in the Local Development Framework on 14 September 2007.

**556/07
Matters for
information**

The no smoking sign is missing from the Wensley Road bus shelter. More durable signs are on order.

The PDNPA Traffic Regulations Orders consultation will be recirculated for discussion at the September meeting.

Next meeting

Monday 3 September 2007.
