

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th December 2019 at 6:30pm in Walesby Village Hall

Meeting opened 6:30pm

Present: Cllr Smith Cllr Tapper Cllr Woodhouse
Cllr Slingsby

Cllr Smith proposed an extra agenda item was added following Clerks report, 19/89 to discuss trees around the village – this was unanimously agreed.

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from, Cllr Whittaker-Smith had a personal engagement; Cllr Samuel was stuck in traffic.

2. To receive declarations of interest

Declaration of interest was declared by Cllr. Tapper as he volunteers at Willows Café.

19/81 To confirm the minutes of previous Parish Council Meetings

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved:

Prop: Cllr Woodhouse Sec: Cllr Tapper

19/82 Clerk's report on items from the previous meeting

- A meeting with Rev. Burton will now be held in the new year, Clerk waiting for suggested dates from Rev. Burton.
- Mr. N Saunders has been sent a letter of thanks for his work outside the door of the village hall.

19/89 Trees

A proposal has been received to look at planting trees along Retford Road maybe with the schools involvement. A member of the public has already contacted Highways on this matter and they were quite positive. Clerk to contact Highways for their thoughts on species and the way to take the proposal forward.

Clerk to contact Highways regarding the black walnut tree on the Main Street / Retford Road junction due to its height and condition.

The Church has put in an application to remove some Yew trees along the edge of the churchyard to allow machinery to access the churchyard. Clerk to ask N&SDC if there is an update on this application.

Cllr Smith to look into a Woodland Trust scheme to potentially acquire trees.

The Pocket Park committee had sent their required list of trees for the Park. Cllr Smith to question them as the request seemed to be for a large number of trees for the area.

19/83 N&SDC Grant Scheme: To discuss possible projects at the Village Hall

It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting due some of the Councillors with expertise in this area were unable to attend this meeting.

19/84 Willows Café

Cllr Slingsby read the following:

“Last night, we had our Carols @ The Hall and we had a good turnout again. Sue Baker led the singing with Jeremy Mayes on keyboard, and we handed out free turkey rolls, mince pies and mulled wine. We had a visit from Santa and handed out gifts for the children. We raised £115 on the tombola/raffle that we have donated to the 7th Heaven Hedgehog Rescue in Retford, they were flooded out in the recent bad weather and we wanted to support a local good cause who require donations to continue their good work. We plan to hold a Winter Warmer in the next few months but details have yet to be arranged. We also plan to put on an event for the 75th anniversary of D-Day, perhaps a street party.

Following our discussions over the past few months, we have now reached the end of the 4th year of running Willows and we are now starting up as Willows Community Hub, which will be run as a not for profit community venture. We will continue to operate as before, raising money from Willows, but taking on more of the social/charitable initiatives for the village. We have created a Constitution and we will be holding our first AGM in January to elect officers (I am retaining responsibility in the interim period) and define our plans for the coming year. We will also be opening a bank account and purchasing our own public liability insurance. This means that the Parish Council income will be reduced but also expenditure will be reduced as Willows will now make their own purchases and take on the full cost of village events and donations to local good causes.

We finished the year with cash on hand of £1,241.56, having banked £1750 during the year (£500 less than the total for FY 18/19). I would like to propose that the Parish Council make a start up grant to the Hub to enable us to get through the coming months when cash flow will be lower (holiday period and Christmas vouchers are handed out) and we have a large event planned (Winter Warmer).”

It was decided to leave any decisions until the next meeting when there maybe a more complete Council.

19/85 Payments for approval

Prop: Cllr Woodhouse Sec: Cllr Slingsby

19/86 To receive items for information and future meetings

- Planning application 19/02149/FUL; construction of home office at The Gables, Central Avenue had been received. Clerk to reply to application with the following:
- Walesby Parish Council have the following concerns / comments regarding this application:
- -There are no dimensions of the proposed building contained in the application, even on the plans.
- -The position is ‘on’ the boundary with the neighbouring property.
- -The proposed building appears to be made of wood, is there access for a Fire Engine if required?
- -There is no proposed usage for some of the rooms in the proposed building.
- -There is no mention of drainage for the building, and it is in an area which is known for its drainage issues.
- -Is this a commercial development on a residential plot?
- -It is felt that there is a lack of information contained in this application

19/87 To suspend standing orders for public participation

19/88 Time and date of next meeting

Due to the festive period and Councillors being away it was decided to hold the January meeting a week later than usual, therefore the next meeting will be held at 6:30pm on Thursday 9th January 2020 at the village hall.

Meeting closed at 7:57pm