

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

Meeting opened 6:30pm

Present: Cllr Smith Cllr Samuel Cllr Wager
Cllr Slingsby Cllr Whittaker-Smith

- 1. To receive apologies for absence**
No apologies were received as all Cllrs were present.
- 2. To receive declarations of interest**
None received

19/39 To confirm the minutes of previous Parish Council Meetings

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved:

Prop: Cllr Samuel Sec: Cllr Whittaker-Smith

19/40 Clerk's report on items from the previous meeting

- A reply from Emma Simkin had been received. She understands the Council's point of view that another village walkabout would be fruitless.
- Litter pickers have now been purchased.

Standing Orders were suspended for the members of the public present to comment on the subject of new gateway signs for the village. Clerk to continue looking for funding for these.

Standing orders were resumed.

19/41 To approve the accounts annual governance statement for 2018/2019

Prop: Cllr Wager Sec: Cllr Slingsby

19/42 To approve the accounting statements for 2018/2019

Prop: Cllr Samuel Sec: Cllr Whittaker-Smith

19/43 Planning Application 19/00949/FUL: 1 New Hill – change of use from garage to 2 bed bungalow

Following a discussion, which included standing orders being suspended to allow members of the public to comment on the application, it was unanimously decided to object to the application.

Comments included:

- The existing building is close to the boundary with both 27 Chapel Close and 2 New Hill, with associated impact upon the privacy and quiet enjoyment of both properties.
- The existing building is timber-framed and clad and has never been subject to any level of planning application or approval. It is therefore inappropriate to now apply for "Change of Use" to residential for a structure which has never received formal planning.
- The proposed garage would stand well in advance of the default building line to front elevations along Chapel Lane, so would be visually intrusive, out of character with the surrounding properties and very prominent.
- The proposed driveway for 1 New Hill is very close to the New Hill / Chapel Lane junction, entry and egress is likely to impact on the safe use of the junction and upon neighbouring householders on New Hill.
- The proposal is considered to over-develop the plot, which from local knowledge may also contain contaminated land.
- The exterior design is out of character with the other nearby dwellings.

- The existence of multi-user Severn Trent Services along the rear of the properties on New Hill may need to be moved or diverted at high cost, should the land at the rear of 1 New Hill be developed.
- Previous applications were strongly objected to by neighbouring householders and were subsequently rejected. These rejections were upheld at appeal. The latest application, which is seen as less than transparent, would have no less impact on the area and is close to the Conservation Area of the village, so should be strongly resisted.

19/44 Willows Café

Cllr Slingsby gave the following report *‘As with last year, we fundraised for Party in the Park and we donated £160 from the Treasure Map and profits on the day before.*

We held our film night on 18 May, we advertised extensively and got more people in than the last few films but it is still difficult to justify the license cost. We will take a break for the summer and reconsider our options. I am intending to start the repair club (name TBC) in the Autumn and I have approached Sue from the sewing group to see if they would be interested.

Last week Lynn Preece Arts Development Officer from NSDC came to chat about what we do in the village, where there might be opportunities to apply for funding, and local groups/entertainers that I might approach for our summer party. Unfortunately she is already booked for 13 July otherwise she would have attended and run some circus skills workshops but she has offered us £150 in funding to buy in some entertainment. There are grants available to fund arts initiatives in the village which might be of interest to our user groups (craft/sewing, art) and she also advised that I apply for funding for some film licenses and to buy the additional PA equipment that we need. We can demonstrate that we have been working ourselves to develop these schemes and have put our own money in which will support our application. She also advised that we should be able to apply for a grant towards decorating the inside of the hall. Her background was in web development, so I asked if there were any resources who might help in professionalising our village website. She arrived at a busy time in the café, and was impressed by what we do and promoted us through Facebook as it was Volunteering Week last week.’

19/45 Payments for approval

Prop: Cllr Samuel Sec: Cllr Slingsby

19/46 To receive items for information and future meetings

- A letter from Citizen’s Advice had been received asking for a donation to their funds. It was decided to send the usual £50 donation. **Prop: Cllr Whittaker-Smith Sec: Cllr Slingsby**
- A letter had been received from a resident of the Forestry Houses detailing a meeting that took place between Cllr Mike Pringle and the Police regarding the parking on New Hill. This is a meeting that neither the Parish Council nor the Clerk were aware of. Cllr Mike Pringle had asked the resident to write to the Parish Council asking what their plan to tackle the school parking issue on New Hill is. The Parish Council is fully aware of the parking issues not just on New Hill but around the village and the Clerk has been involved in various meetings which have included Highways, Mark Spencer MP, the Police and Cllr Mike Pringle. All these meetings have been to no avail and Parish Council do not have any authority to do anything themselves on this matter. It is in-fact a County Council issue. Clerk to respond to resident.
- Cllr Mike Pringle had been in touch regarding a ‘village walkabout’ to discuss any issues the village has. It was decided that instead of a true walkabout it would be better to invite Cllr Pringle to the next meeting to discuss issues. Clerk to invite.

19/47 To suspend standing orders for public participation

Clerk to report the state of the path between Walesby & Boughton to Highways

19/48 Time and date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 6:30pm on Thursday 4th July 2019 at the village hall.

Meeting closed at 7:47pm