

CARLTON cum WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held via Zoom On Thursday 6 August 2020

Present: - Stephen Roberts, Paul Archer, Mary Maitland, Giles Dobson, Kate Homan, Robert Foster, Edith Osborn as Clerk, Henry Batchelor - County Councillor, Geoff Harvey - District Councillor
Caroline Revitt, Christopher Davies, Josephine Roberts, Tom Boden

A quorum was established.

1 Apologies: Polly Fenwick

2 Minutes of Meeting held 11 June 2020.

Further to the above minutes, it was noted that the War Memorial had been cleaned in June 2020, the insurance of the defibrillator was understood to be covered by the Community Heartbeat Trust. Colin Farrant has all the documents and therefore this could be checked.

Stephen Roberts proposed that the minutes of the last meeting be approved and this was seconded by Paul Archer.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no new Declarations of Interest.

4 Administration

4.1 Village Website

It was reported that Polly Fenwick had been in contact with a resident of West Wickham to obtain advice on setting up a website which would comply with the new regulations. A hosting company had been suggested at a cost of £4.99 per month plus VAT. A new web-name had been suggested as carltoncumwillingham.co.uk and the website would include parish council business as well as community information.

Polly Fenwick was thanked for her work on setting this website up.

Stephen Roberts proposed that this website be so named and that the parish council would pay £4.99 per month plus VAT to maintain this website. This was seconded by Mary Maitland.

5 Finance

5.1 Payments proposed for authorisation were:

5.1.1 CAPALC chq 358	£ 75.00
5.1.2 Brown & Ralph chq 359	£ 710.40
5.1.6 SLCC chq 360	£ 65.00

It was noted that S106 money can be reclaimed by SCDC if not used by the parish council.

Henry Batchelor joined the meeting.

Henry Batchelor confirmed that this was the case.

Giles Dobson mentioned that there were two rotten bridges within the parish which needed repair and could this S106 money be used for this purpose. It was, however, noted that bridges are the responsibility of Cambridgeshire County Council and Henry Batchelor would contact the appropriate person on behalf of the council.

Giles Dobson proposed that the payments be approved and Paul Archer seconded the motion.

5.2 Receipts, payments and reconciliation as at 31 July 2020.

The receipts, payments and reconciliation as at 31 July 2020 were proposed for acceptance by Giles Dobson and seconded by Paul Archer.

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6 **Planning.**

6.1 20/02891/FUL Scrapyard Willingham Green – Change of use to residential comprising the demolition of the existing outbuildings and the construction of 2 No. Dwellings

Stephen Roberts summarised the history of this latest application.

The above application increases the number of houses on the site to six, four houses having already been approved. In view of the particular areas of concern regarding this site highlighted during previous planning applications, the parish council made the decision to provide a forum for the Willingham Green community to comment. There are strict criteria on what a parish council can and cannot comment on. These are referred to as material considerations. Examples of material considerations are: highway issues, layout and building density, design, appearance and materials, compliance with the Local Plan.

He thanked everyone from Willingham Green who offered feedback including parish councillors and Geoff Harvey who has been involved in this process to date.

Responses from residents have been attached to the parish council's response to the application and submitted by the deadline of 5 August. The consensus from everyone was that something needs to be done about the site. Willingham Green has no mains drainage/sewerage disposal and local feedback indicates that water supply and pressure is not good. Sustainability of any new development therefore has to be a material consideration. A previous planning application some years ago was rejected for 10 houses, 5 of which were to be affordable housing, partly on this basis.

Environmental concerns were also taken into consideration by the parish council. The parish council do not wish to oppose this application but approval is on the basis that the comments and issues raised by residents are taken into consideration.

Geoff Harvey thanked the parish council for consulting residents and for the report on the background of this site. The history extends back a long way. Some contamination is leeching out into neighbouring ground. The plan is to build in sustainable situations as more people in an area leads to more traffic. There is logic behind allowing 2 large houses, there is also a market for large houses. On balance his view aligned with the parish council's view. Stephen Roberts' statement reflected well on the parish council. He noted that there is a backlog of applications to be considered.

7 **Environment**

7.1 LHI application for Willingham Green

Robert Foster advised that the LHI application had been submitted and was waiting review. The deadline for applications is 27 September. He thanked everyone for building the case.

Stephen Roberts thanked Robert Foster for leading on this project.

Henry Batchelor advised that the result would not be known until January/February 2021.

7.2 Footpaths and Road surfaces/gulleys

It was noted that the ongoing harvesting was causing problems with paths through the fields.

Josephine Roberts had been cutting back brambles on some of the footpaths through the meadow off Acre Road. She requested more plantings be laid on the by-road.

The Chairman suggested that the S106 money could also be used for cutting back the hedge growth. Stephen Roberts will contact Peter Gaskin to see if there are any plantings available for free, if not he would obtain a quote from Hairds to use up the last of the S106 money.

The gate from Willingham Green to Brinkley allotments is off its hinges. Robert Foster will advise Stephen Roberts so that he can report this on the CCC website.

Giles Dobson advised that he had spoken to Jackson Stopps in order that the hedge outside Walnut Trees is cut as it overhangs the pavement.

7.3 Highways issues

It was noted that the potholes had been filled in.

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Willingham Green has a new road surface

7.4 Climate Change issues

Stephen Roberts had asked Robert Foster to lead on climate change issues. He will liaise with Caroline Revitt regarding the surrounding landowners.

Mary Maitland raised that Extinction Rebellion should not be given a platform. She referred to an email which had been circulated to the village.

7.5 Zero Carbon Communities Grant

Robert Foster attended an online seminar in July regarding this grant. The funding scheme is split into 3 groups, cycling, tree planting and community buildings. Cost of projects can be up to £15k. It involves community engagement to promote returning areas to their natural state. This tallies with discussions locally re planting trees and wild flower sowing. Co-funding is preferable. The deadline for applications is the end of September. The pebble fund offers funding for nature based solutions. It could support a few applications and gets people together to discuss the ecology of the area. Josephine Roberts commented that further tree planting is possible in places where there is plenty of space but it would need discussion with the landowners, eg at the top of the bridleway at the Willingham Green end or on Acre Road near the farm. Wildflowers could be sown on the verge next to the Churchyard.

Giles Dobson suggested talking to landowners about creating a spinney.

Robert Foster advised that the project is required to be for the community and allow access by all. Kate Homan stated that Carlton Green would like to be part of this.

Stephen Roberts suggested that a sub-committee should be set up to decide if an application can be put together by September. Committee members – Kate Homan, Robert Foster, Caroline Revitt, Josephine Roberts, Geoff Harvey.

7.6 Fibre to the Premises (FTTP)

There was no update on when this would be available in Willingham Green. Further funding is available.

8 District Councillor's report

Report provided by the County Councillor.

Geoff Harvey advised that the August report had not yet been circulated. He had had positive feedback from his previous report having been circulated in Village Voice. He noted that the District Council is slowing down for the summer.

Aidan Van de Weyer has stepped down from the Greater Cambridge Partnership so action on transport issues may start to move forward.

Neil Gough is replacing him as Bridget Smith's number two.

The Government's published Planning White paper has wide ranging implications and he noted that it was prepared in a rush, everyone should contribute their thoughts on it.

9 County Councillor's report

Councillor Batchelor commented as follows:

- He noted that there had been rat-running when the A1307 was closed for any reason. The Greater Cambridge Partnership are spending money on improving the road and are holding a workshop on 10 August to discuss the Abington to Haverhill section. The Dean Road crossroads will be reworked, there will be an extension to the priority bus lane and speed cameras as there are speed concerns at the Suffolk borders.

- He noted that the LHI application had already been discussed.

- Covid- Local Authorities are required to be prepared for a 2nd spike which could lead to localised lockdowns. He advised keeping the local connections such as WhatsApp group as they will be needed. He noted how well the village had pulled together over this period and helped neighbours.

10 General observations or matters for consideration at the next meeting

Items to be discussed at the next meeting:

No items were raised.

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The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 12 November 2020 at 8pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.10pm.