

## **COGENHOE & WHISTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Parish Council meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 7.30 pm, in Cogenhoe Village Hall.

**PRESENT:**

Mrs. E. Packer	Mr A Stanton	Mr Malcolm Scott
Mr Aubrey Carter	Mr David Murray	Mrs Karen Gerrard
Mrs Jean Grubb	Mr Roger Brown	
Mrs Mary Padbury		

**ATTENDING:** Mr Michael Clarke, Mrs Carole Clarke, Mr Steven Hollowell

**APOLOGIES:** Mr James Biggs, Mr Geoff Carverhill

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** E Packer – Village Hall, Karen Gerrard – Caravan Park

**PUBLIC SESSION** – Meeting closed for this item: Police were invited to attend but were unable due to ill health. They will attend February meeting.

### **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:**

District Council Tax has been set at 2.9% increase.

A meeting is to be held to discuss the possibility of moving SNC offices from Springfield site to central Towcester. Cost should be neutral but parking and accessibility could be difficult.

Steven Hollowell is still working with SNC regarding ownership of the hedge outside 34, Station Road. He has written to SNC Homes explaining the history of the hedge and asking for immediate assurance that they will maintain it and is awaiting a reply.

Steven has also written to Compton Estates regarding their non-maintenance of roadside hedge in Mill Lane and is awaiting a reply.

Volunteers are needed for the overnight count on election night.

### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:**

2010/2011 Budget. Proposal is out for consultation regarding the proposed 3.5% increase. County Council website offers facility for people to register their views on spending priorities.

NCC on whole have coped well with pressures due to extreme weather. Some footpaths still need to be gritted. Whiston Hill needs to be put on a gritting schedule as extremely dangerous and slippery. People must be discouraged from using gritting salt in bins for personal use – article being placed in Feb Outlook magazine.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** These had been previously circulated & were duly proposed by Jean Grubb, seconded by Aubrey Carter and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

## **MATTERS FOR REPORT arising from the Minutes:**

We need to replace our Path Warden and enquiries are to be made to the new walking group, which has been set up in the village.

Elizabeth Packer has re-jigged the Admin Areas to include Mary Walker. She is also going to give Mary a description of all Working Groups so she can choose her areas of interest.

## **PUBLICITY & COMMUNICATIONS:**

### **PARISH MATTERS:**

#### **a) Amenities:**

- (i) Clerk is to get a quote for planting and maintenance options in village with a ballpark budget of £2,000 per year.
- (ii) Allotments – Roger Brown and Albert Stanton spoke to land owners about the possible use of their land for allotments but no land is available for this purpose.

#### **b) Minerals and Sewerage Plant:**

Geoff has received a notification from Mark Chant, Head of Planning Policy, regarding Northamptonshire Minerals & Waste Core Strategy: Suggested changes. Representations can be made to these changes only, by 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Geoff Carverhill will make suggestions on behalf of Parish Council.

#### **c) Highways & Transport:**

- ❖ Litter Pick – Roger Brown is speaking to CPRE to confirm litter pick dates. These will hopefully be in the Easter Holidays. Benefits of combining with them include high visibility jackets, publicity and posters. Roger to progress.
- ❖ Snow Warden. This vacancy is still open and we need to find a volunteer. Elizabeth and Clerk have been onto NCC regarding missing grit bin in The Piece and also re-filling of other bins. Councillors to continue to check their grit bins throughout cold snap.
- ❖ Ditch adjacent to the footpath along York Avenue. It has been requested that we look into having this drain converted into a “French Drain”. The land belongs to Playing field so Aubrey/Jean will raise the matter for discussion at the next meeting.
- ❖ Football Lights – reports received that lights are still blinding drivers on Brafield Road, in spite of adjustments made pre-season. Clerk to inform Ken Vaughan at SNC and ask him to progress.
- ❖ Elizabeth Packer and other villagers are met Roger Hayes from NCC to discuss the claim which we submitted several years ago to modify the Definitive Map to register the footpath which runs from the Playing Field to Nats Barn via Short Lane as a Public Right of Way. (2006). Case being built for presenting to NCC.
- ❖ Discussion re large mobile homes being moved using Church Street & Mill Lane. Loss of goodwill has occurred from residents of Church Street & Mill Lane caused by the disruption these moves cause. It was also suggested that perhaps they needed a police escort. Clerk has been speaking to John Trimble at NCC and Ken Vaughan at SNC concerning this. John is looking into all the various planning applications to see what the status is. Ken will be able to retrieve files from storage next week.
- ❖ Elizabeth attended Highways Rep day and reported the large puddle, which has appeared outside 35 Orchard Way – Helen Howarth will investigate this.
- ❖ Clerk to report large pot-holes on roundabout over A45.
- ❖ The Piece street sign(s) are to be reported missing and replaced.
- ❖ Presentation from Highways meeting is being printed out and will be put in the circulation folder.

**d) Crime & Disorder:**

One house was burgled, several cars have been broken into, a horsebox was stolen as were 40 chickens and there was a fracas at the Sports & Social Club.

Volunteers are needed for next Speedwatch, which will take place in April/May.

<b>e) Finance:</b>	Bank Balances:	a) Current a/c	£ 1,699.39
		b) Deposit a/c	£26,649.06

It has been confirmed that we have received our mowing contribution from NCC of £822.74.

It was proposed by Karen Gerrard seconded by Roger Brown and unanimously agreed that the following accounts be paid:

1321	Heather McNicol	Wages & expenses	£	470.36
1322	A H Contrcts	Dog bins	£	91.31
1323	E-on	Lighting maintenance	£	17.25
1324	E-on	Lighting supply	£	461.41

Cogenhoe & Whiston Parish Council demand precept payment of £20,000 from South Northants Council to be paid in two instalments in April & September 2010.

**f) Lighting:**

Light in Telephone Kiosk has finally been fixed. Hedge/vegetation needs cutting back at 8 Orchard Way as it is obscuring streetlight KF26.

**g) Playing Field & Village Hall:**

Discussion on fund raising – possibly a dog club function will be organised. Fees for booking Village Hall for non-villagers have gone up. No football teams are currently using the facilities although replacements not actively being looked for as expenses in maintaining goalmouth can wipe out benefit. School looking for more maintenance to be done to car park.

**h) Planning:**

S090704/FUL	50 York Avenue	2 Dormer windows to front & 2 storey extn. to side.	PC no object	
S091012/FUL	107 Station Road	Single storey front, 2 Storey side & single Storey rear extns	PC no object	SNC Permit
S091047/FUL	2 Orchard Way	2 storey side extn	PC no object	SNC Refuse
S091155/OUT	Rear 82 Station Rd	New bungalow	PC no object	
S091251/FUL	53 Church Street	Flat roof & single extn		

Land on Whiston Road. Ken Vaughan has unravelled ownership and should soon be cleared up with possible planning application expected in the future.

Land Agent who is looking after Manor Works has done some boarding up of broken windows.

Ken Vaughan has been told that the boat owners have been informed that they may not stay there for the whole year. He has not had replies from new personnel at Billing Aquadrome regarding possible new planning permissions. Again any info regarding use as sole residence would be helpful – i.e. mail being delivered, on electoral register etc.

## **WNJPU EMERGENT CORE STRATEGY:**

It was agreed unanimously that Geoff Carverhill should contact CPRE to ask for their support.

Geoff is also going to invite candidates from all major political parties to Parish Council meeting for them to give us their views on this subject.

Signage – all done. Steven Hollowell & Roger Brown chasing one remaining Landowner for permission to erect.

Draft west Northamptonshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Published. This draft publication will be available for further evidence until 11<sup>th</sup> February. Information is available on [www.westnorthamptonshirejpu.org](http://www.westnorthamptonshirejpu.org)

### **i) Pocket Park:**

#### **Clerks Salary**

The clerk then left the meeting to enable a paper laying down The Terms and Conditions of Employment of the Clerk to Cogenhoe & Whiston Parish Council to be approved.

After discussion it was proposed that the clerk's salary be fixed at NJC salary point SCP16 from 1<sup>st</sup>. December 2009, (currently £5243pa / £8.40phr) with regular annual increases in line with nationally agreed salary scales for Council Clerks, plus occasional increases in the NJC salary point to recognise improved standards of performance following the annual appraisal.

An annual appraisal will be carried out with the Chairman in November each year.

The hours of work are at present 12 hours per week, with regular checks to ascertain that this arrangement meets the needs of the Council.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

### **Letters Received:**

1. SNC – Planning
2. SNC Planning
3. SNC Planning
4. A.H. Contracts – invoice
5. Barclays Bank – statements
6. SNC – Steven Hollowell – Hedge Station Rd
7. SNC – Mill Lane Hedge to Compton Estates (Steven Hollowell)
8. SNC Planning
9. NCC – MGWSP Satisfaction Questionnaire
10. West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit
11. NCC – Parish Grass Mowing
12. Neighbourhood Watch
13. NCC – Section 38 Agreement, St Peters Way

### **Letters Sent:**

1. Parish Repairs – lighting
2. SNC – Planning
3. SNC – Planning

