

Whatton in the Vale Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday January 8, 2019, at the Jubilee Hall, Whatton in the Vale at 7.30pm

Coun. Chris Grocock (Chairman) (A)
Ray Evans (A) Chris Edwardson Georgia Elms (A)
Jane Morris Julia Faulconbridge Gregg Redford (in the chair)

Before the meeting six residents attended to outline their concerns on continuing damage to grass verges in the village. The meeting chairman Cllr Gregg Redford said they were awaiting information from Via-Notts County Council as to what steps they might undertake, if any, to combat the problem. Various suggestions were put forward, including the possibility of making the road through the village one way.

It was felt the number of heavy goods vehicles in the village were increasing and this was the main cause of the problem, with, in particular, the narrow Church Street being unable to accommodate them. Parked vehicles were also a problem.

It was agreed to ask Via officer Kendra Hourd and County councillor John Cottee to attend another meeting to see if they would agree to some action to tackle the problem being implemented

Concerns were expressed by members of the public on the late delivery of the newsletter advertising the meeting.

Also present clerk Mike Elliott

The meeting chairman commented on the resignation of Ray Evans, brought about by illness. He would be greatly missed as a member.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Coun. Chris Grocock (unwell), Coun. Georgia Elms.
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Coun. Redford in regard to a letter from the Cranmer Local History Group.
3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 27, 2018 were accepted as circulated and signed by the chairman after it was agreed to insert the fact the council had discussed Planning Application 18/02667/Out involving proposed housing on land East of Orston Lane and were opposed to it.
- 4 OPEN SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, LIMITED TO 15 MINUTES
There were no members of the public present.
5. CLERK'S AND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
The clerk said he had arranged for the Christmas tree and base they had erected on The Green to be moved. The base for the tree had not been successful and the tree had been blown over more than once during the festive period.
A local resident had received contact from Notts County Council concerning the overgrown hedge on his land on Main Street. The clerk had written to him about it and had had a useful conversation with him. The letter received from the County Council did not originate from contact with them by the parish council, or a resident.
6. REPORT FROM THE BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER
There was no report.
7. CORRESPONDENCE
Cranmer Local History Group made a grant application for £50 towards the cost of maintenance of their website. It was agreed to make the grant.
Progress was being made with the request to Notts County Council for the claim for repayment of grass cutting costs with an email letter from Mr Frank Fearn confirming this.

8. PLAYING FIELD

The meeting chairman reported on the action of the Whatton and Aslockton Playing Fields Trust in introducing a Child protection and Adults at Risk Policy involving their ground.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Rushcliffe Borough Council planning applications

18/02651/COU James Fisher, Whatton Lodge Farm, Grantham Road. Change of use of part of building from workshop for car valeting from grass mower storage/farm workshop with part time vehicle fabrication to full time vehicle fabrication. There was no objection.

10. FOOTPATHS

There was nothing to report.

11. FINANCE

Accounts for Payment were approved as per the circulated list

Members discussed a Budget report presented by the clerk and after consideration of it and agreeing that some provision be included for a grant towards the cost of proposed playing field improvements, it was unanimously agreed to seek a precept of £15,815 for the 2019-2020 financial year. The figure included £2500 ringfenced for the playing field project.

12. ENVIRONMENT

Strong concerns were expressed over tree pollarding work in the grounds of the parish church and the clerk was asked to make immediate contact with the Borough tree officer to register the council's views. Coun. Faulconbridge said work had so far been done to two of the 15 trees and had far exceeded the original proposals to pollard 5metres from the top of them. The clerk was to approach the Diocesan Authority at Southwell to ask if they were aware of the work being undertaken, and to have it stopped. The closure of the footpath alongside the churchyard had not been advertised and this was to be raised with Notts County Council.

13. QUEEN'S WOOD

Coun. Faulconbridge agreed to take on the responsibility of looking after the overseeing of plans etc for the Queen's Wood. She said later in the year she and her son would walk the wood to check on its condition and would welcome being joined it by councillors or members of the public.

14 CASUAL VACANCY The position is open for co-option in 7 days' time and was to be an agenda item for the next meeting. The clerk said the council did not have to co-opt because it being within six months of election day, but they could.

15. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 19, 2019

Co-option for vacancy on the council. Grass verges. Newsletter delivery. Village trees.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9-10pm.