A Meeting of Whaplode Parish Council was held on Tuesday 27\textsuperscript{th} January 2009 at the Methodist Hall High Road Whaplode commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Present as per register.

PCSO Bev Robinson PC Holland Marie Coles (SHDC) and one parishioner were also in attendance.

Cllr. Mark Dennis was welcomed to the meeting having signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and been given a copy of the Code of Conduct.

Marie Coles was introduced by Cllr. Chandler.

Declarations of interest:
Cllr. Bob Merchant – planning issues re GR Merchant Ltd.
Cllr. Pat Carter – Whaplode St. Catherines Memorial Hall.

Police matters: PCSO Bev Robinson reported on the Whaplode St. Catherines project stating that she now had funding as the start date was before the PC meeting and it seemed to be successful.
PC Holland the new Community Beat Manager was introduced to the meeting who would be concentrating on speeding and anti-social behaviour. Mention was made of parking problems outside Whaplode school on the green: Cllr. Merchant undertook to find out the cost of a dropped kerb. Cllr. Stancer enquired as to the results of the speed gun on Shepeau Stow corner. PCSO Bev. Robinson undertook to find out for the next PC meeting. The Police were also monitoring the situation of the cut through from Wesley Road and Whaplode Cemetery as the fence had now been damaged. The Police were congratulated on their work in Whaplode village.

The Minutes of the previous meeting having been circulated were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters arising: Whaplode – reinstatement of bus stop: agreed a reminder be sent.

Vacancy Whaplode Drove ward – no nominations had been received.

Consider estimates and sign precept for 2009-10: estimated were circulated to Members and agreed as per annexed. Resolved that the precept remain the same for 2009/10 at £12000 and the form was signed accordingly.

Pay accounts – resolved that the following cheques be signed:
See annexed.
Audit 2008 – the Clerk reported correspondence from the Internal Auditor Clement Keys and a clear audit had been received.

Highways (a) Whaplode Village – bypass and weight and speed restrictions: Cllr. Creese reported that the bypass was not likely to happen in the near future but he and Cllr. Chandler would still be pursuing the speed restrictions. Development West of Holbeach: after discussion it was agreed that the Clerk write to SHDC expressing the P.Cs support economically but asking SHDC to consider the environment and impact for people living along the A151 and the road safety issues ie. central reservations for people to cross.

(b) Saracens Head – request for additional footway lighting: correspondence was received from LCC stating that it was a SHDC issue and a letter from SHDC saying they had no budget for the installation of new street lights for the current financial year. Cllr. Chandler undertook to speak with SHDC to see if the budget could be resurrected.

(c) Whaplode St. Catherines -Hurdletree Bank traffic survey: a letter was reported from Lincs, Road Safety Partnership as per annexed and noted.

(d) Whaplode Drove (i) Broadgate B1166 road sinkage etc. a letter was reported from LCC stating that an inspection would be made and necessary repairs carried out. Cllr. Mackman reported that he had spoken with Paul Rusted at LCC but nothing had been done. Members agreed that the Clerk ask a representative from LCC to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in March. LCC were also doing a traffic count of HGVs using the road.

(ii) Oxcroft Bank – extension of 30mph – a letter was reported from LCC saying that the PC’s request would be added to their list for investigation.

(iii) Shiphay Stow School – overgrown trees: the Clerk reported that LCC were writing to the school.

A letter was circulated from Lincs. Road Safety Partnership regarding a vehicle activated sign which would be placed on the B1166 in Shepeau Stow village.

Cllr. Carter brought to Members attention the lack of a footpath and lighting in Cranegate North and with the speeding traffic it was dangerous for children. Also Cranegate South. Members agreed that LCC and SHDC be made aware of the situations

Allotments Crown rent review: the Clerk reported that she had written as instructed and at the request of Carter Jonas sent a list of our tenants. A reply was now awaited.

Planning applications – the actions of the Sub-Committee as annexed were approved.

The date of the next meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting was fixed for Wed. 25th March at Shiphay Stow School commencing at 7.30 p.m.
Affordable Housing – Cllr. Merchant said he had nothing further to report but was confident the matter would go ahead.

Whaplode Playing Field – Cllr. Merchant reported that there were no problems.

Whaplode St. Catherines Playing Field – Members discussed improving the play equipment and after discussion it was agreed that the Clerk obtain costings for two goal posts. The Clerk was also instructed to ask our contractor to roll the field at the appropriate time and to repair the wire fence.

Freedom of Information Act – the Clerk reported that the document had to be updated on the 1st January which had been done at the office and a copy was produced for the Notice Board.

Linacs. Association Local Councils - a letter was reported asking for volunteers.

General correspondence and general business by leave of the Chairman:

Linacs. CC Fire and Rescue Plan was produced to the meeting.

Concern was also expressed with regard to dog fouling on the pavements in Whaplode.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed.