

Hemswell Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 08 July 2014 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Dutton, Blanchard, Foster, Huntley, Peacock, Storr, Cty Cllr Strange (part), Dist Cllr Howitt-Cowan, Sharon Gleave (Clerk) & 3 members of the public.

Public discussion

Following on from noise complaints from Eco-Plastics last year, it was felt that the noise issues had been resolved. However, complaints are now received regarding noise from Eco-Plastics once again. 56db was recorded in the middle of the night last week. The resident complained to Eco-Plastics and the Environment Agency and has since had a meeting with Eco-Plastics. In order for the Environment Agency or West Lindsey to be able to do anything we need an audit trail of complaints. The resident has put together a letter advising people what to do if they are experiencing high levels of noise from Eco-Plastics and would like permission for it to go out in our next newsletter. The Parish Council agreed that the newsletter could go out. The resident will print of 160 copies and deliver them to the Clerk next Monday. Rumours are circulating that Eco-Plastics are soon to be putting in a second production line; we need to try to resolve the noise issues before this happens.

The Chairman proposed to bring forward Cty Cllr Strange's report as he needs to leave the meeting early.

Resolved: To bring forward Cty Cllr Strange's report from 05.07

Cty Cllr Strange

All is going well at the County Council. They have to save £90m every year from now on due to Government funding cuts. Schools are good; children's services and older people services are ok. Highways are improving and are spending money on improving road surfaces. Highways are putting a 50mph speed limit in from Caenby Corner to Hemswell Cliff, without any request, because of accident statistics. Parishes can now come together to purchase a mobile reactive sign. They could then be moved around parishes. Cost is £6k for a pair. Cty Cllr strange feels that a great failure of the County Council is that they have not resolved speeding and safety issues on the A631 through Hemswell. The Parish Council feel that the main problem is the distance of the entrance/exit road to Hemswell to the bends. Discussed dangerous hedgerows and cutting. The Energy for Waste plant is doing well and is making money each year. Highways roadshows should be starting soon.

Cty Cllr Strange left 8pm.

The Chairman proposed to bring forward Cty the Wind Farm funding from 08.07

Resolved: To bring forward

Cllr Dutton read the following which has been confirmed by LALC regarding our legal position for contributing to the funding to fight the Wind Farm application:

The expenditure must be made under Section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 1972 As with all donations under this Section it must benefit the majority of the Parish

The donation must be proportionate, i.e. not the whole amount available under Section 137
There must be a clear mandate (with proof) in place to back up the donation
This proof of mandate is also necessary for audit purposes

The Department for Communities and Local Government has confirmed that the appropriate sum for Parish Councils for the purposes of expenditure under Section 137 for 2014/2015 is £7.20. This is multiplied by the number of electors on the Electoral Register of the Parish and is available from the precept.

We certainly have a mandate as 3 years ago when the Parish plan was put together the majority were against wind farm energy in the area. 2 years ago when the application process started the Village Hall was filled with large majority of people being against the proposals. 171 people from the village sent in the objection letter template and many people also sent in their own personal objection.

Cllr Dutton proposed that we give £5 per head as a proportion which equates to a £900 donation. Cllr Huntley proposed that we increase it to £1000, Cllr Peacock seconded the proposal and the remaining councillors unanimously agreed.

Resolved: To donate £1,000 to the fight against the Wind Farm.

01/0714 Chairman's welcome

Cllr Dutton thanked everyone for coming.

02/0714 Apologies for absence and reasons given

Cllr Black
PCSO McFaul

Resolved: the apologies were accepted.

03/0714 To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, and to consider any applications for dispensations in relation to disclosable pecuniary interests.

None.

04/0714 Police report

Clerk read the following Police report:

07/07/14 Suspicious Circumstances at Helens Way. A vehicle was reported to be seen speeding off at 23:45hrs. Caller worried as there is an empty property!

27/06/14 Suspicious Circumstances in Brook Street regarding a white van driving slowly around the village. The van is local as registration was given to the Police

27/06/14 - A resident called the Police at 02:30hrs who stated that two males tried his door to his house in Maypole Street. Resident yelled and the unknown males ran off.

29/05/14 - Theft of jewellery from a property that is for sale on Weldon Road. The property had approx. 6 viewing over a period of 2 - 3 weeks when the theft took place. (The property is now sold)

Discussed the report. Cllr Peacock will write an article for the newsletter asking residents to be vigilant.

05/0714 District and County Councillor report

- Cty Cllr Strange – Already done
- Dist Cllr Howitt-Cowan

West Lindsey has gone back to appointing 3 Directors. A Commercial Director has now been appointed and the idea is to have a more businesslike approach to West Lindsey. The Council has a lot of assets and would like to become self sufficient. They are hoping to build on some bungalows on land in Gainsborough which will bring in some revenue. West Lindsey has bought Lea Road School and is hoping to return it for educational use for a rent. Lincolnshire College and Riseholme College are interested. Years ago West Lindsey passed the Waste disposal to Lincolnshire County Council and the contract ends soon and discussions are taking place to bring it back to West Lindsey as there is money to be made. Dist Cllr Howitt-Cowan chairs the Scrutiny Committee and they would like to communicate/engage with younger members of the community, school/youth councils etc. They are looking to redesign the Council Chambers to make them more user friendly. Dist Cllr Howitt-Cowan is keen to improve tourism.

06/0714 Notes of the last meeting of the Council held on 04 March 2014 to be approved as the minutes.

The notes of the meeting held on 04 March 2014, having been previously circulated were proposed and seconded as the minutes and signed by the Chairman. Cllr Dutton brought attention back to note that he is standing down in 2015, if the Parish Council would like to bring a new chair in early then Cllr Dutton is happy to take a Vice-Chair role.

The street sweeper is coming on Wednesday after discussions regarding the systems at West Lindsey.

Discussed the Clerk vacancy.

07/0714 Clerks Report

None.

08/0714 Matters for consideration

- Wind Farm funding – already discussed.
- Newsletter Printing
Mr Millward has confirmed that he does have a problem with his printer and would like us to find someone else to do our newsletter printing. Two quotes have been received and they are for £32.80 and £85.
Resolved: to go with the £32.80 quote from L C Printing Services
- To consider quote for rabbit fence in the cemetery
Quote received for £542.50. Discussed the quote.
Resolved: to accept the quote. Clerk to notify Helping Hand.
- To consider grass cutting within the village
Clerk has received an email from a resident regarding grass cutting contractors missing sections within the village. The Contractors in question are from Lincolnshire County Council and have incorrect instructions, Clerk to contact LCC and to respond to the resident.
- To consider any application for the Community Wildlife Grant
No interest.

09/0714 Faults and Repairs

Discussed dog waste on Beck Lane. Clerk to contact the dog warden and to put a notice in the newsletter.

Clerk to mention overhanging trees to Highways.

The Brook Street sign is in need of updating. A resident would like permission to update it, this is not a Parish Council decision as it is West Lindsey's property.

Clerk to report.

The noticeboard is in need of repair. Clerk to apply to the community chest for repair and renovation.

10/0714 Cemetery

Nothing to report.

11/0714 Village Hall update

Cllr Huntley read a report.

The new windows are in and the Committee are thrilled with them, there is much more light and they will be easier to keep clean. The new heating system should be installed well before the winter. Hoping to complete the final hurdle for the Big Lottery funding this week. Cllr Huntley handed over the completed Grant Aid application for the previously agreed £1,075 grant funding from the Parish Council. They are still actively fundraising and made £200 doing refreshments for open gardens. There are now 3 teenagers who are valued members of the Village Hall Committee.

12/0714 Financial Matters

- The Councillors were presented with the profit & loss, bank reconciliation & variation to date.
- The following cheques were authorised:

Payee	Matter	Amount
Mrs S Gleave	Clerk's Salary	255.00
Mr R Millward	Newsletter Printing	40.00
Wind Farm Appeal	Parish Council contribution	1,000.00
Village Hall Committee	Grant Funding	1,075.00
Mr D Gillot	Grass Cutting/Cemetery Works	499.96

13/0714 Planning matters

Nothing to discuss.

14/0714 Correspondence

- CPRE AGM Invitation
- Email regarding book research – Clerk to respond
- Email regarding area maps – Clerk to respond

15/0714 Councillors reports and items for inclusion on the next agenda

None.

16/0714 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 09 September 2014 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9.05pm

Signed:

Date: