

# EVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2007

**Present:** Councillor D. J. Bardsley (Chairman). Councillors Bacon, Dunn, Ferrar, Jefferies, Maclagan, Martin and Woods

**07/08/128 APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was submitted by Councillor de Bel (holiday).

**07/08/129 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Jefferies declared a personal interest at agenda item 12 (NALC Northern Area Committee), being a member of the Committee.

Councillors Bardsley and Jefferies each declared a personal interest at agenda item 13 (North East Bassetlaw Forum), being members of the Forum.

Councillor Jefferies declared a prejudicial interest at agenda item 5(b) (Housing Needs Survey – Update on the Report by Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council), being Chairman of the Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council, and left the meeting during consideration of that item.

**07/08/130 MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

The Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the Council, held on 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2007, were approved as a correct record.

**07/08/131 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**07/08/132 HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY**

- (a) Ms. Jayne Wilson, Development and New Business Manager at POD/NCHA, gave a presentation on affordable housing, during which Members raised various queries. During her presentation, Ms. Wilson kindly offered to discuss the draft housing needs survey analysis with Mr. G. Jackson, of the Bassetlaw Housing Department, and Ms. Carole Turner, of Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council. The Clerk would furnish Ms. Wilson with further relevant material.

Resolved: That Ms. Wilson be thanked for a very helpful and interesting presentation and her kind offer to enter into the abovementioned discussions.

- (b) Consideration was briefly given to an email from Ms. Carole Turner, Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council, giving further explanation on the findings of the Housing Needs Survey. The matter would be further discussed following Ms. Wilson's proposed discussions.
- (c) The Chairman produced a map of the village on which he had delineated several possible sites for a small development of affordable housing. After a brief discussion it was agreed that consideration be deferred pending finalisation of the draft housing needs survey analysis.

**07/08/133 COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH AND ASSOCIATED A631 SPEEDING ISSUES**

- (a) The Clerk reported that the Police had carried out site risk assessments, and were ready to commence training of volunteers. He also reported that consideration needed to be given to whether to purchase a speed gun or to share with Mattersey.

Resolved: That, subject to his satisfaction over various issues, the Clerk be authorised to purchase a speed gun.

- (b) Mr. D. Kerford, of Bawtry Road, was present to discuss A631 speeding issues and the role of Community Speedwatch.

As regards the A631, Mr. Kerford referred to recent accident statistics, and made points about (i) the need for the interactive signs in the village to be properly calibrated, (ii) the urgent need for speed cameras in the village, (iii) the need for traffic calming in the village, (iv) the effectiveness or otherwise of the speed cameras outside the village and (v) the need to control high-speed aggregate lorries.

As regards Community Speedwatch, Mr. Kerford advised Members that most of the speed guns in use were now out of date and needed to be withdrawn. He also stated that volunteers were not adequately insured. Finally, he stressed that areas with Community Speedwatch quickly lost Police speeding enforcement.

Resolved:

1. That the Clerk make enquiries about operational aspects of the existing speed cameras, including details of linkage.
2. That the Clerk endeavour to obtain details of numbers of drivers fined after being caught by the existing speed cameras.
3. That the issues raised by Mr. Kerford about Community Speedwatch be also addressed by the Clerk.

**07/08/134 PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

There were no members of the public present following Mr. Kerford's departure immediately after the previous item.

**07/08/135 ACCOUNTS**

Resolved: That the September Accounts be approved for payment.

**07/08/136 BANK RECONCILIATION**

Members received the bank reconciliation statement to 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2007.

**07/08/137 BUDGET MONITORING**

The Clerk submitted the September budget monitoring statement.

**07/08/138 RISK REVIEW AND ASSET INSPECTION**

There were no matters to report.

**07/08/139 NALC NORTHERN AREA COMMITTEE**

The next meeting was on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.

**07/08/140 NORTH EAST BASSETLAW FORUM**

The next meeting was on 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.

**07/08/141 POST OFFICE CLOSURES**

Letter was submitted from the County Council stating that Post Office Ltd. had embarked on a process of planning to implement the closure of up to 2,500 post offices nationally and to explore the impact locally of the minimum threshold criteria for remaining coverage. The views of Nottinghamshire Parish Councils were sought on their communities' access to Post Office services.

Resolved: That the County Council be informed that, as Everton had lost its own post office, it was extremely important that the post office at nearby Mattersey was not lost.

**07/08/142 PARISH PLAN**

The Chairman proposed that it was time to take stock of progress of the Parish Plan with villagers generally and major stakeholders in particular.

During the ensuing discussion, Councillor Jefferies expressed concern over the need for a new village emergency plan to be developed within the context of the Parish Plan.

Resolved:

- (a) That the Chairman's offer to write a consultation article in HEDS Together be accepted.
- (b) That the Chairman and Clerk liaise regarding the content of a letter to major stakeholders.
- (c) That the question of a village emergency plan be discussed at the appropriate time.

**07/08/143      EVERTON SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/94 of July, 2007, an email was submitted from Miss J. Lane, Head Teacher at Everton Primary School, explaining that she was simply proposing a crossing with a crossing sign, and considered that any application to the County Council should be by the Parish Council, with support from the school. The Clerk had replied to Miss Lane enquiring as to precise details of her suggestion, and her response was awaited.

**07/08/144      PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP**

- (a) Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/95(a) of July, 2007, Councillor Dunn reported that he still had to have discussions with the Wayfinder Officer, Rachael Rickell, about resurfacing work. The Clerk reported that County Highways had referred the question of resurfacing work at Pinfold Lane to the Rights of Way Department, and a response was awaited.
- (b) A letter from the County Council giving details of P3 training events was noted.
- (c) The Clerk would request the District Council to clear fly tipping from the junction of Scaftworth footpaths 1 and 2.
- (d) The Clerk would inform the County Council that the headland at Everton footpath 10 had been ploughed up.
- (e) Comment was made on the design of the new County Council finger signs.

**07/08/145 BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION**

Letter was submitted from the competition organisers, explaining that Everton narrowly missed winning an award in the 2007 competition. Marking was even tighter this year amongst the four Category C finalists, and the village was congratulated on being placed a close third in an extremely strong final. Orston won the competition, with Normanton-on-Soar runner-up. Members were informed that the winner's sign at Carr View would shortly be removed.

Councillor Dunn suggested that a flowerbed be developed on the grassed area at Carr View, and Members agreed. Arrangements would be made in due course.

**07/08/146 VILLAGE CHARITIES**

Consideration would be deferred until the next meeting owing to Councillor de Bel's absence.

**07/08/147 HIGHWAY MATTERS**

- (a) The Chairman reported that a 20 mph speed limit had been introduced in Bawtry. Furthermore, he had found evidence of widespread adoption of 20 mph speed limits across the United Kingdom.

Resolved: That the Clerk write a letter to the County Council, strongly protesting about the waste of time and money in carrying out a lengthy trial of 20 mph speed limits, when such limits were an accepted traffic management measure throughout the country (with copies to the Leader of the County Council and County Councillor Bullivant).

- (b) Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/62(b) of June, 2007, the Clerk reported that Mrs. Moody did not wish a parking advisory sign to be erected on her wall at Chapel Lane, and preferred a stand alone sign in front of it. Unfortunately, the County Council was not prepared to allow such a sign, or to allow a sign to be placed on a street lighting column.

Resolved: That the Clerk enquire as to whether the management of the Blacksmiths Arms was prepared to authorise a sign on its roadside wall.

- (c) Email correspondence was submitted from the County Council relating to the request for repair of the A631 footway (north side), between Everton and Scaftworth. An unsuccessful bid for funding for 2007 had been made, and would be resubmitted for 2008.

The correspondence also referred to points raised by the Parish Council, stating (i) that the problem of overhanging trees, bushes and weeds in the same area had been passed to the Network Inspector for investigation and any necessary action, and (ii) that the sign maintenance team had been asked to attend to an apparently redundant steel post some 25 yards east of the interactive sign to the west of the village.

Resolved: That the Clerk write again to the County Council, pointing out (i) that the footway was in such a poor state of repair that continuing damage by vegetation was likely to completely destroy the path by 2008, and (ii) that there was a health and safety issue for pedestrians who needed to use the footway (with copies to the Leader of the County Council and County Councillor Bullivant).

- (d) Resolved: That the Clerk complain to the County Council about the amount of straw which had fallen from agricultural vehicles on to Mattersey Road, and the consequent clogging of the surface water drains.

**07/08/148 TUNNEL TECH NORTH**

The Chairman confirmed that he was attempting to have a meeting of the Liaison Committee convened.

**07/08/149 QUALITY TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS – LOCAL COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FUND**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/100 of July, 2007, consideration was given to possible bids.

Resolved: That the Clerk write to the school and playgroup, to enquire whether schemes to either improve children's readiness to access the Foundation Stage at age 3, or to improve children's readiness for school at age 5, were viable, particularly in view of the fact that funding of up to £500 was available.

**07/08/150 COMMEMORATIVE TREES IN THE METCALFE RECREATION GROUND**

Resolved:

- (a) That an oak tree in memory of Robert Troop be purchased from British Hardwood Tree Nursery Ltd. at a cost of £100.
- (b) That plaques in memory of Robert Troop and Jack Bell be purchased and displayed following consultations regarding the proposed wording.

**07/08/151 THE MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS**

Resolved unanimously:

- (a) That the Model Code of Conduct for Parish and Town Councils be adopted forthwith, including paragraph 12(2).
- (b) That the Standing Orders be amended to set out clearly the circumstances whereby members of the public could attend meetings of the Parish Council for the purpose of making representations, giving evidence or answering questions.
- (c) That the Ten General Principles of Public Life, set out in the Annexure to the Model Code of Conduct for Parish and Town Councils be also adopted forthwith.
- (d) That copies of the Code of Conduct be available at the Clerk's home for inspection by members of the public on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm.
- (e) That a notice be published in the Retford Times stating (i) that the Parish Council had adopted the Code of Conduct, (ii) that copies of the Code of Conduct were available at the Clerk's home as detailed at (d) above, together with the village website and (iii) specifying the Clerk's home address.
- (f) That the Standards Board for England be informed of the adoption of the Code of Conduct.
- (g) That Members of the Parish Council attend training to be given by Bassetlaw District Council.

**07/08/152 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BILL**

Letter was submitted from Mr. John Healey, MP, Minister for Local Government, stating that the Government's objective was to strengthen the Bill, so that it could be used in a positive and constructive way.

**07/08/153 HARWELL WOODS**

Letter was submitted from Thornely Taylor Estates Company, stating that it would endeavour to remove litter from the woods on a fairly regular basis.

**07/08/154 BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME**

Councillor Dunn kindly agreed to study the relevant documentation with a view to a possible bid for wayside seating.

**07/08/155 BEST RURAL RETAILER COMPETITION**

Members noted the above.

**07/08/156 A CRASH COURSE IN PLANNING – NORWELL – 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2007**

Members noted the above.

**07/08/157 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HEALTHCARE NHS TRUST ‘MAKING A DIFFERENCE’ – CONFERENCE AT NOTTINGHAM – 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2007**

Members noted the above.

**07/08/158 DONATIONS**

(a) Letter was submitted from Vitalise, requesting financial assistance.

Resolved: That no action be taken.

(b) Letter was submitted from HEDS Together, thanking the Parish Council for its recent donation.

(c) Letter was submitted from Councillor M. W. Quigley, Chairman of Bassetlaw District Council, expressing appreciation in respect of the generosity of the local community in making a donation of £197 to her Flood Appeal.

**06/07/159 AUDIT OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2007**

Letter was submitted from UHY Hacker Young, the Parish Council’s External Auditor, confirming that the audit was complete. There were no matters to report.

**07/08/160 SURFACE WATER FLOODING**

An email was submitted from the Environment Agency, stating that flooding from surface water was outside the remit or expertise of the Environment Agency. Unless there was evidence of deliberate action or neglect on the part of the landowner or owner responsible for ditches or watercourses, then it was probably a natural effect.

Resolved: That the Clerk seek an assurance from the County Council that the surface water drainage in Everton was working correctly.

**07/08/161      BASSETLAW DISTRICT COUNCIL/A1 HOUSING CHOICE BASED LETTINGS PROPOSAL**

The Chairman submitted a report on the above, including his discussions with Ms. Anne Gray, of A1 Housing Ltd. regarding (a) arrangements for advertising properties for lettings and (b) future funding opportunities to improve properties such as the elderly persons' bungalows at Carr View/High Street. The Clerk was awaiting further information from Ms. Gray.

**07/08/162      TRANSPORT TO HEALTH**

This scheme had been advertised locally.

**07/08/163      NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 50 PLUS TRANSPORT VOUCHER PILOT**

Letter was submitted from the County Council stating that, due to the success and overwhelming demand for the above scheme, the service had been suspended pending a review.

**07/08/164      SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS GROUP**

Letter was submitted from P.c. Chris Gregson regarding the establishment of a Safer Neighbourhood Group covering specified local villages. The Parish Council was invited to be represented at the first meeting of the Group to be held at Beckingham on 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.

Resolved:      That Councillor Maclagan be authorised to attend.

**07/08/165      STREET LIGHTING COLUMNS**

The Clerk would inform the County Council of the need for black street lighting columns to be repainted, together with other necessary works to certain columns.

**07/08/166      THE PIGEONCOTE, MANOR FARM, HARWELL**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/114 of July, 2007, a letter was submitted from English Heritage explaining the reasons for the delay in furnishing information to the Parish Council.

The letter went on to say that, with regard to the unauthorised demolition of the pigeoncote, enforcement and prosecution powers lay with the District Council, not English Heritage. Nevertheless, English Heritage had reminded the District Council on three occasions that, if demolition was to be permitted, a planning application and reasoned justification had to be submitted.

The Clerk had since queried the matter with the District Council, and had been informed that the owner's architect had been fully informed of the need for Listed Building Consent to demolish the pigeoncote, and an application was awaited.

**07/08/167      BARROW CRAGG, NUTCROFT WAY, HARWELL  
PLANNING APPLICATION 19/04/30**

The Clerk reported that he had recently made an enquiry to the District Council as to whether works required by the inspector, in particular the laying out, surfacing and draining of space for cars to be parked and vehicles to turn, had been complied with. made.

The Clerk had been informed that the timetable between the District Council and the applicant was for the works to be completed by November, 2006. A site visit indicated that the works had not been done, and the applicant's agent had been contacted accordingly. A further enquiry earlier in the day indicated that a fresh planning application might be forthcoming.

Resolved:      That, unless positive information was forthcoming regarding compliance with the inspector's requirement by the next meeting, the matter be escalated.

**07/08/168      PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were no planning applications.

**07/08/169      PLANNING APPEAL  
APP/A3010/A/07/2047953/NWF  
19/07/1R**

Change of use of storage building to form general store/coffee shop and deli with associated alterations at Everton Nurseries, Old Gainsborough Road, Everton

Appeal Submitted

Resolved:      That a firm letter of support be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of the appeal.

**07/08/170      PLANNING DETERMINATIONS**

**19/07/14**

Mr. & Mrs. C. Arden

Vary Condition 2 (Alterations to recesses for structural reasons) and Condition 9 (Car Parking Area) of 19/03/8 at Marples Barn, Mill Lane, Mattersey Road, Everton

Permission Granted

**19/07/26R**

Mr. & Mrs. S. Forbes

Demolish outbuildings and erect single and two storey extensions to side and rear at Mayfield, Bawtry Road, Everton – resubmission of 19/07/15

Permission Granted

**19/07/29R**

Mr. Rodgers,

Erect detached garage/utility and brick retaining wall at Mill Cottage, Mattersey Road, Everton – resubmission of 19/07/17

Permission Granted