

# EVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2007**

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

**07/08/209 APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was submitted by District Councillor Simpson.

**07/08/210 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting. Later, at agenda item 5 (Public Discussion – Corner Farm Planning Application), Councillor Bardsley declared a prejudicial interest, being a close neighbour, and left the meeting during consideration of that item.

**07/08/211 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

The Minutes of a meeting of the Council, held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2007, were approved as a correct record.

**07/08/212 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**07/08/213 PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

- (a) PCSO Stephanie Jones was present to introduce herself as the officer with responsibility for Everton. She gave details of recent crimes.

The Clerk enquired as to whether the recently publicised concentration of policing in Harworth was affecting her coverage of Everton, and she confirmed that it had some effect, but not great.

A brief discussion took place about the work of the Safer Neighbourhood Group.

*Councillor Bardsley vacated the chair at this point in favour of Councillor Maclagan, and left the meeting.*

- (b) Mrs. D. M. Troop referred to the reasons stated by the Parish Council in opposing Planning Application 19/07/32 (Erection of 7 new dwellings, garages and associated driveways along with alterations and extensions to the two dwellinghouses arising from the approved consent of the former farmhouse at Corner Farm, High Street, Everton). She explained why, in her opinion, the reasons could mainly be discounted. She did agree, however, that there was a real issue as regards obstruction by parked vehicles on High Street, but said that the issue was irrelevant to the application referred to.

After Mrs. Troop had spoken, she invited the Parish Council to (a) visit Corner Farm if Members wished, (b) to reconsider its objection to the current application, and (c) to not oppose any future application should the current application be withdrawn for any reason. She also agreed to email the points made to the Clerk.

*Councillor Bardsley once more assumed the chair at this point.*

- (c) Mr. A. Ballarini questioned the wisdom of the Parish Council supporting a small development of affordable housing in Everton, expressing the view that a planning precedent could be established. He also considered that take-up could be from non-residents, and he expressed the view that the housing needs survey questionnaire used in Everton was biased in favour of affordable housing.

In response, Councillor Bardsley fully explained the history to the matter, stressing in particular that (i) the Parish Council's aim was to see affordable housing provided for local people, (ii) that the questionnaire was a standard approved document used nationally, and (iii) that the matter was at a very early stage with no guarantee of any suitable site becoming available, etc.

**07/08/214      ACCOUNTS**

Resolved:      That the November Accounts be approved for payment.

**07/08/215      BANK RECONCILIATION**

Members received the bank reconciliation statement to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, which showed a balance of £14,186.96 (before deduction of unrepresented cheques of £27.00).

**07/08/216      BANKING**

As required by the Parish Council's Risk Assessment Policy, a review took place of banking arrangements. The Clerk explained that a significantly better rate of interest could be obtained at NatWest.

Resolved: That, subject to satisfactory terms being obtained, the Parish Council's bank accounts be transferred to NatWest.

**07/08/217 MEMBERS' TRAVELLING EXPENSES**

The Clerk reported on the current National Joint Council mileage rates payable to elected members, based on engine size. Members observed that, at a time when people were being encouraged to use less energy, it was inappropriate for higher mileage rates to be paid for bigger engines.

Resolved: That rates be set at a maximum of 40p per mile.

**07/08/218 BUDGET MONITORING**

The Clerk submitted the November budget monitoring statement, which showed a projected year-end balance in line with the target balance, assuming budgeted expenditure (including the P3 earmarked reserve) was spent.

**07/08/219 RISK REVIEW AND ASSET INSPECTION**

The Risk Assessment policy was reviewed.

Resolved: That the Risk Assessment Policy be amended as now agreed.

**07/08/220 SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP**

After a brief discussion it was agreed that there should be no increase in the Parish Council's representation on the local Safer Neighbourhood Group.

**07/08/221 KEY CONTACTS**

Following a suggestion by Councillor Ferrar, it was agreed to publish contact details of key services, etc. on the local notice boards and monthly in HEDS Together.

**07/08/222 BASSETLAW PARISH LIAISON GROUP**

Councillor Bardsley kindly agreed to attend the meeting to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2007, owing the unavailability of Councillor Jefferies.

**07/08/223 COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/183 of October, 2007, the Clerk submitted a report on further developments, which included a letter from the Parish Council's insurers stating that public and employer's liability cover would apply, provided that all employees and volunteers worked at the sole request, and under the sole control of, the Parish Council, having completed training, with a risk assessment having been carried out, and all equipment and clothing provided by the Parish Council.

An email was submitted from District Councillor Simpson stating that the District Council's insurers were of the opinion that the Police should take responsibility for insurance.

Resolved: That consideration be further deferred, pending consideration of the matter by the local Safer Neighbourhood Group the following evening.

**07/08/224 PROPOSED FLOWERBED AT CARR VIEW**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/184 of October, 2007, the Clerk reported receipt of an email from A1 Housing Ltd. confirming that, if the Parish Council intended to create and maintain the proposed flowerbed, and it did not restrict access for grass cutting, then there would be no objection. An agreement would have to be prepared.

Resolved:

- (a) That the Clerk request that the agreement be prepared.
- (b) That the Clerk contact the Garden Holders to ascertain whether they could assist in any way.

**07/08/225 PARISH COUNCIL EMERGENCY PLAN**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/181 of October, 2007, Councillor Bardsley submitted a report on his recent meeting with Councillors de Bel and Jefferies regarding the development of the above. It had been agreed that there was a need for (a) the plan to be developed in partnership with relevant village organisations, (b) vulnerable people to be identified and (c) the Parish Council to meet key stakeholders.

Resolved: That a meeting be arranged.

**07/08/226 AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN EVERTON**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/132 of September, 2007, further discussion took place on progress regarding the above. The Clerk reported that he had been assured by Ms. Jayne Wilson, of ACIS Group Ltd., that she would shortly be in a position to commence discussions with relevant organisations

Members observed that, whilst Ms. Wilson's input was very much appreciated, the Parish Council could not at this early stage commit itself to any particular provider.

**07/08/227 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**

Two training courses were noted:

New Councillor Training – 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2007 – Epperstone  
Budget & Finance Training – 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2007 – Retford

**07/08/228      PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/189 of October, 2007, Councillor Dunn reported that he had met the Wayfinder Officer, Rachael Rickell, about resurfacing work. Ms. Rickell confirmed that P3 money could be spent on surfacing bridleway 4, and she would try to identify the landowner(s). The work would consist of filling in the deep ruts with large hardcore, e.g. limestone or old bricks, and covering with a good depth of limestone dust which would eventually grass over.

Resolved:      That further information be awaited, and Councillor Dunn and the Clerk be authorised to take appropriate action, including engaging a contractor.

**07/08/229      VILLAGE CHARITIES**

Councillor de Bel still had nothing to report. She agreed to pursue the matter with the Charity Commission.

**07/08/230      HIGHWAY MATTERS**

- (a)      Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/192(a)(i) of October, 2007, the Clerk submitted details of the sites currently being trialled by the County Council.
- (b)      Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/192(b) of October, 2007, Councillor Bardsley reported that, following approval from Punch Taverns, the parking advisory sign had been affixed to the public house wall at Chapel Lane.
- (c)      Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/192(c) of October, 2007, a letter was submitted from the Nottinghamshire Police Freedom of Information Section, providing information and statistics relating to the speed cameras on the A631.

Resolved:      That the Clerk seek clarification as to the breakdown of Notices of Intended Prosecution between speeding identified by mobile cameras and SPECS (distance over time) cameras.

- (d)      Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/192(d) of October, 2007, the Clerk reported that he had been informed by the County Council that a bid would be made for works to take place in 2008/09 to address the deterioration in the A631 footway (north side), between Everton and Scaftworth. The vegetation growth had, however, been attended to.

Councillor Bardsley reported that the remnant of a street sign, referred to earlier, was still present on the A631.

- (e) A discussion took place about the footways on High Street and from Mattersey Road (Broomfield Lane junction) to Mattersey.

Resolved: That the Clerk request the County Council to include schemes for 2008/09, with priority being given to High Street.

**07/08/231 TUNNEL TECH NORTH**

- (a) Copy correspondence was submitted from Misson Parish Council to Mr. John Mann, MP, suggesting that the District council acted incorrectly in granting the recent planning permission, and requesting a meeting with Mr. Mann to discuss bringing the matter to the attention of the Secretary of State for the Environment.
- (b) Councillor Bardsley reported that he was still trying to get Mr. John Rhoades, Scientific Officer at Bassetlaw District Council, to organise a meeting of the Liaison Committee.

**07/08/232 LOCAL COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FUND**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/194 of October, 2007, Councillor Bardsley reported receipt of an email from Miss Jenny Lane, Head Teacher at Everton Primary School, stating that she was sure that the school could link with the Playgroup over the possibility of a funding bid to improve children's readiness to access the Foundation Stage at age three. She intended to consult on the matter.

**07/08/233 HEDS TOGETHER**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/203 of October, 2007, a letter was submitted from Mr. Tony Connold, Editor of HEDS Together, thanking the Parish Council for its recent letter, and stressing HEDS' commitment to providing topical features of local interest.

**07/08/234 LICENSING ACT 2003: STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

Councillor Bardsley reported that he had perused the above document, produced by the District Council, and found it quite acceptable.

**07/08/235 CLOSURE OF DANESHILL HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING CENTRE**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/200 of October, 2007, an email was submitted from the county Council, stating that negotiations were ongoing with a view to purchasing necessary land at Retford for the site expansion. Draft layouts were being designed and costed by the contractors.

Resolved: That the Clerk write to the County Council, seeking clarification as to whether land purchase costs were included in the original costings

**07/08/236      REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Resolved:      That a request for financial assistance by Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice be refused, in accordance with the Parish Council's policy of generally assisting only village charities.

**07/08/237      RURAL NET 2007**

Councillor Bardsley submitted a paper he had produced on key points of interest from the recent Rural Net 2007 Conference, which he had attended on behalf of NEBF:

- Sustainability of Rural Communities
- Affordable Housing
- Environmental Impact – reducing the carbon footprint

Resolved:      That with regard to Environmental Impact, the Clerk make enquiries with the National Association of Local Councils as to its position on the subject.

**07/08/238      POST OFFICE CLOSURES**

Resolved:      That no action be taken with regard to intended post office closures, in view of the fact that no local post offices were affected.

**07/08/239      PARISH PLAN**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/142(b) of September, 2007, email correspondence was submitted from Mr. Richard Scott, regarding the play park improvements, and Miss Jenny Lane and Mrs. Sue Hughes regarding the Everton School Vision. With regard to the latter, Councillor Bardsley pointed out that it embraced the possibility of a new school/community building in the Metcalfe Recreation Ground. Councillors de Bel and Dunn agreed to draw the attention of the Metcalfe Charitable Trust to this possibility.

Resolved:

- (a)      That Mr. Scott be invited to lead a presentation on the play park at the December meeting of the Parish Council.
- (b)      That it be suggested to Miss Lane and Mrs. Hughes that a public meeting take place in the New Year, with key stakeholders specifically invited, at which Miss Lane and Mrs. Hughes would present their plan for discussion.

**07/08/240      ROBIN HOOD AIRPORT**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/201 of October, 2007, a letter was submitted from the Airport, responding to the Parish Council's letter of concern over implications for the area from the Airspace Change Proposal 2007.

A key point made in the letter was that, whereas the easterly departure route was currently utilised by the majority of departing aircraft from runway 20k, changes to the departure routes associated with the Airspace Change Proposal would lead to the route becoming a secondary route, to be used infrequently by aircraft departing from Runway 20.

Members remained concerned over the need to obtain accurate figures on take-offs and landings, and Councillor Maclagan kindly agreed to write to Councillor Chris Stringer on the matter.

**07/08/241      OLDER PEOPLE IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

Letter was submitted from the Leader of the County Council seeking parish councils' views on County Council policy and proposals.

Resolved:      That the County Council be informed that the Parish Council considered it to be of paramount importance that there continued to be a local authority care home in Retford.

**07/08/242      MANOR FARM, HARWELL**

Resolved:      That the Clerk press Bassetlaw Planning Department for details of progress into enquiries about the presence of a certain garage at this address.

**07/08/243      PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**19/07/34**

Mr. & Mrs. G. Fairclough

Retain detached dwelling and triple garage at Barrow Cragg, Nutcroft Way, Harwell

Councillor Bardsley reported that he had attended the meeting of Bassetlaw Planning Committee the previous week, intending to speak on the above application. However, the matter was adjourned for legal advice by the District Council Legal Department.

Councillor Bardsley, and Mrs. E. Reep (representing local objectors) decided to reserve their right to speak until the matter was next before the Planning Committee.

Councillor Bardsley explained to Members what his approach would have been if he had spoken, and Members expressed their agreement.

Resolved: That the Clerk request the District Council to furnish him with the legal advice, once it was available, to assist Councillor Bardsley in preparing his speech.

**19/07/41**

Mr. & Mrs. G. Horsepool

Erect single-storey extensions and detached garage at Orchard View Cottage, Gainsborough Road, Everton

Resolved: That no adverse comment be made.

**07/08/244 PLANNING DETERMINATIONS**

**19/07/31**

Mr. M. Jones

Erect conservatory at 2 Rose Villas, High Street, Everton

Permission Granted

**19/07/39**

Mr. & Mrs. R. Metcalfe

Erect 3 dwellings with garages and construct new access at site within grounds of The Manor House, off Harwell Sluice Lane, Harwell

Permission Refused

**07/08/245 PLANNING APPEAL**

**APP/A3010/A/07/2053661/WF**

**19/07/19**

Mr. & Mrs. E. Heeley

Outline application to erect detached dwelling and garage and construct new access on land adjoining Pinfold Cottage, Pinfold Lane, Harwell

Appeal Submitted

**07/08/246 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

Resolved: That, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be excluded, and they are requested to withdraw.

**07/08/247 INTERNAL AUDIT**

Pursuant to Minute No. 07/08/190, the Clerk submitted a report regarding internal audit.

Resolved: That Mr. D. Ingman be appointed Internal Auditor.

**07/08/248      TENANCY OF PARISH LANDS**

Letter was submitted from John H. Pickup & Co., enclosing two copies of the Farm Business Tenancy Agreement signed by Mr. R. Troop, and requesting signature by the Parish Council.

Resolved:      That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to sign both copies of the deed, and one copy be returned to John H. Pickup & Co.