

## **GREAT & LITTLE WHELNETHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Parish meeting held at Whelnetham Community Centre on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2013.

### **Present**

Chris Thomson - Chairman                      Howard Singh  
David Howes                      Peter Royce                      Tim Webber  
Christine Peck - Parish Clerk  
Terry Clements – St Edmundsbury Borough Councillor (joined at 7.50 pm)

Members of Public

Mrs V Fletcher    Ms Helen Chilvers

### **Public Question Time**

Helen Chilvers attended the meeting in her capacity as Chairperson of the Community Centre to obtain information on the proposed football wall. David explained the idea was to provide a facility for older children. A football wall was only one idea; the Council is open to others and would be happy to work with the Community Council to agree what is appropriate. The Council is willing to provide some funding for this. Helen would refer the information back to her committee and let us know what they think. She left the meeting at this stage.

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

None received.

### **2 Members Declaration of Interest**

Howard Singh is a member of the Community Council Committee.

### **3 Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2013 and matters arising**

Minutes having been circulated to Councillors were signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

### **4 Police Matters**

Although not attending, the Police reported the following crimes

24/09/13 Theft Little Whelnetham Cash box and punnets of plumbs removed from small stall by roadside outside house.

12/10/13 Burglary Little Whelnetham Locks forced on two wooden sheds, nothing taken. Padlock on door of brick built outbuilding forced and a pedal cycle and various tools removed.

12/10/13 Burglary Little Whelnetham padlock forced on wooden shed, nothing taken. Another padlock forced on a brick built outbuilding, untidy search made and a strimmer removed only to be dumped outside by the driveway.

11/11/13 Great Whelnetham burglary during daylight hours, home entered through insecure window and laptop removed.

A report was also produced giving speeding data, but there had been no checks in our villages.

## **5 Chairman's Report**

Chris reported that we have at last been given permission to purchase a speed sign but subject to the following conditions

1. that it should not be in the same location permanently (we have already indicated four locations )
2. that it should be managed by Suffolk County Council. It was suggested that maybe Terry should assist the purchase from locality budget. All agreed this should proceed.

Chris had received a telephone call from a resident in Raynsford Road at the time of heavy rainfall, asking for help in relation to the flooded garage area. Chris informed the resident that this was not something Parish Council is empowered to deal with, but supplied contact details of others who can help.. Nothing further has been heard.

The planning application for the car park at the Railway Line had been withdrawn. David had met and walked the line with Bill Attwood and offered his help if a working party could be formed. However, nothing further has been forthcoming. With regard to the opposite end of the line, Chris has now received confirmation from Suffolk CC confirming a lease on a peppercorn rent basis but with no repair obligation. This was agreed and documents now with their legal department.

Chris has been contacted by the new chair of Little Whelnetham church friends group asking for Tom's details so that further work could be ordered for the churchyard. Howard proposed that as we do not now contribute to Great Whelnetham church no additional expense should be incurred. We would continue to fund what had been agreed thus far, no more. Any further requirements would have to be met independently..

An email had been received asking the Council to support an effort to remove the Victorian post box and get a modern replacement. The Council did not support the proposal. Larger items can be taken to the village post office; all agreed the post office is an asset to the village that should be supported. Chris to reply accordingly.

## **6 Updates**

- **Planning** -
  - Mrs J Shore 21 Raynsford Road Great Whelnetham
  - . Erection of single storey rear extension, extension of front porch

Mrs. Lye Acorns Stanningfield Road Great Whelnetham  
Prune back oak tree with preservation order

- **Gt Whelnetham School -**

Terry reported that at recent meeting between Great Whelnetham and Lawshall there had been a good turnout. They were looking into sharing facilities in order to cut costs. The view is that the need is for a two tier system.

- **Transport -**

Peter reported that he had an article in the local press regarding the A134 road surface which apparently is continuing to be regularly monitored and alleged to be safe and will not be rectified until next year. Agreed that he should continue to remind SCC of the need for it to be addressed as soon as possible next year. Terry reported that SCC had changed contractors and had held back funds for the replacement, so there had been no loss to the public purse.

Hedges along the road are in need of cutting back and will need to be done by contractors.

- **Housing -**

There would appear to be conflicting news on the present position on the Erskine building development. Terry suggested that Chris should check this out with Karen Mayhew.

- **Railway Walk -** dealt with above in Chairman's report

- **Play area -**

David reported that part of the play area surface, although a temporary repair was made in the summer, has come apart again, and a further temporary repair is required and he has obtained the material. To relay this, the quote from Wicksteed was £3,482. which all agreed was extremely high and possibly a local contractor could do the work and install a timber surround. David to investigate, and Terry suggested he speak to Cathy Manning at St Edmundsbury, who could possibly supply information on recognised contractors.

## 7 Correspondence

The Clerk had received a letter from Anglia Water Services giving information on construction of a new water main from Barnham treatment works to Little Whelnetham Reservoir. The pipework will run mainly in fields.

## 8 Finance

Current a/c balance	£6,104.76	(checked with bank statement no. 49)
Direct Access	£1,131.27	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 7,236.03</b>	

Payments since last meeting	Old Parsonage Garden Services	£300.00
	A Gillam play area repairs	£400.00
	Domain renewal	£ 26.38
	Wicksteed repairs to tiles	£138.01
	Wicksteed play equipment	£1440.00
Payments to be approved -	Grass cut play area	£177.90
	Parsonage Garden Services	£270.00

The budget for the next financial year was discussed and agreed. However, this could not be finalised as the appropriate application form had not as yet been received from St Edmundsbury.

**9 Any other business**

None

**Next meeting 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at 7.30 pm**

**Signed Chairman**

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**Date**

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