

CALVERTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 9 September 2014

Present:

Chairman: J Bailey

Vice Chairman: N J Quilty

Councillors: Miss E J Bailey, Mrs S D Bereznyckyj, Mrs P D Bosworth, M J Hope, Mrs P A Marks, R A Marks, B R Marriott, W Mellors, D S Musson, Mrs E E Quilty, E E Sturman.

Staff present: G W Bott

Apologies: J Wood, R D Wood.

The meeting commenced at 6.45pm.

823 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

824 **MINUTES**

Prop. N J Quilty, Sec. W Mellors.

Resolved: Minutes of meetings held 8 and 22 July 2014, having been circulated to all members, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

825 **MATTERS ARISING**

Min. 813 – The appropriateness/impact of development adjacent to a local listed property – Mrs E E Quilty asked whether GBC had responded to the Council's written enquiry. The Clerk undertook to establish the position. M J Hope reported that he had spoken with relevant GBC officers who stood by their initial interpretation of the Town & County Planning Act as it affects this case. Mrs E E Quilty remained of the opinion that the law had not been interpreted correctly. The Chairman asked that the matter be put on the next scheduled meeting agenda for fuller debate.

Min. 818 - Exchange of Information Reports by Councillors with Responsibility - Neighbourhood Plan – M J Hope asked whether the meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Group had taken place. N J Quilty reported that the meeting had been called for 19 September 2014.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 6.50pm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - For Information Only

Ten members of public were present.

Mr Ken Mafham of Ken Mafham Associates was invited to update the meeting on the latest position regarding the potential legal challenge to the Aligned Core Strategy (ACS). Mr Mafham reported that following the Inspector's Report he had written to the planning authorities setting out three reasons why the core strategy as proposed was not legal. Those reasons were: no required green belt review had been undertaken; no required review of

alternatives to releasing green belt land for development had been undertaken; and the methodology for assessing housing requirements was at odds with a recent Court of Appeal decision. His letter invited the authorities to renew the core strategy process addressing the above points. The letter also indicated that adoption of the core strategy in its current form would most likely result in a judicial review challenge. Mr Mafham explained that the first step in the challenge process would be the planning authority adopting the strategy. The legal challenge would then be submitted and the authority would have 21 days to raise a defence.

Mr Mafham suggested a key reason for Calverton Parish Council joining the action would be to protect existing green belt status as the proposed strategy would see identified sites not now required for development taken out of the green belt and left vulnerable for future development should current sites not deliver expected housing numbers.

Councillor M J Hope raised the concern that the challenge would delay the strategy leaving a window where local sites might be vulnerable to unwanted development with little formal policy mechanisms to resist applications. He further noted there are buffer leeways on many identified sites making it unlikely that those sites would not provide the expected development scope. He felt it was important to have an agreed local plan as soon as possible. Councillor N J Quilty asked whether applications to develop green belt sites could be resisted whilst the ACS was subject to judicial review proceedings. Mr Mafham responded that such applications should be resisted on the grounds that lack of a 5 year land supply does not satisfy the requirement for special grounds to release green belt land for development. Also, such applications could be referred to the Secretary of State. In pursuant inquiries evidence of the availability of alternative brownfield sites could be submitted making unwanted approvals unlikely. Mr Mafham stated that if Calverton Parish Council could extract from GBC an undertaking to protect sites from losing green belt designation then he would advise the Council not to join the action.

Councillor Mrs P D Bosworth suggested this matter should be the subject of a separate meeting. Councillor Mrs E E Quilty disagreed stating that the Council had already fully discussed the position and had resolved to support the legal action in the current circumstances.

Councillor N J Quilty noted that since the ACS hearing, additional sites had come forward within the district which only served to reduce the pressure on Calverton. He felt that renewing the ACS process would most likely result in a lower development figure for the village. Mr Mafham cautioned that the overall housing figure was only ever described as a minimum – no maximum figure was stated.

Councillor Mrs E E Quilty suggested Councillor M J Hope's concerns were not necessarily a relevant issue since with or without Calverton Parish Council the legal action was likely to proceed. Mr Mafham noted that additional groups were forming in unparished areas to support the challenge effort. Councillor M J Hope asked if other GBC parishes were supporting the action. Mr Mafham indicated that they were not but had not been approached. Councillor Mrs E E Quilty noted that Ravenshead in particular were not badly affected by the proposed strategy.

The Chairman thanked Mr Ken Mafham for his attendance.

The Chairman invited County Councillor Boyd Elliott to address the meeting.

County Councillor Elliott reported that together with Mark Spencer MP he was organising a day to bring various organisations including NCC and Severn Trent Water to the village to investigate flooding issues. The event would be publicised shortly.

County Councillor Elliott noted a temporary road closure for re-surfacing works.

County Councillor Elliott noted that Woodborough Parish Council are in the process of organising a new Speedwatch group and offered to chair a joint meeting for Speedwatch volunteers across Calverton and Woodborough.

Councillor W Mellors asked whether verges which are regularly crossed to access parking could be removed and replaced with hard standing to stop the grass and earth being cut up. Councillor D S Musson referred to discussions with ASRA identifying difficulties with this approach. Councillor Mrs E E Quilty suggested retention of green areas was important in combating flooding issues.

Councillor J Bailey reported issues with vehicles ignoring the weight limit requirements on Mansfield Lane.

Mrs Inger raised concerns with the 20 mph zones around schools and asked for more interactive speed signs. County Councillor Elliott pointed out that the zoning and signage scheme was based on detailed analysis of traffic surveys. The 20 mph limit is advisory which explains why the signs are different in appearance to normal ones.

Councillor Mrs S D Bereznyckyj joined the meeting at 7.35 pm

Mrs Inger noted that the Paviers field needs to be cut. Councillor D S Musson noted that the work had been ordered.

Mrs Inger complained that trees on William Lee Park along Park Road need trimming and reducing in height. Councillor J Bailey suggested a tree survey would be required.

Mrs Inger asked about progress with the development of the Sports Pavilion and Community Hall on William Lee Memorial Park. The Chairman noted that this issue was on the agenda to be discussed later.

Mr Robb complained that he was aggrieved by a letter sent to him suggesting his allotment was untidy. He noted that he had arranged to meet with Councillors with responsibility for allotments to review the position. Councillor B R Marriott apologised and accepted that the plot may have been mis-identified.

Councillor M J Hope noted that a number of letters had been sent to allotment holders following a recent inspection and asked what criteria had been used. The Clerk explained that the inspection processes were as had been operated for some time based on the judgment of the relevant Councillors interpretation of the conditions set out in tenancy agreements. Councillor B R Marriott confirmed that 19 letters had been issued following the most recent inspection. The Chairman confirmed his view that the processes were appropriate and he was satisfied that they were being operated fairly. Furthermore, individuals had the opportunity to respond to letters if they felt they were unjustified and any such responses would be dealt with fairly and sensitively.

Mr Robb reported increasing amounts of dog excrement in the village. Councillors agreed this was a growing issue. Councillor M J Hope suggested incidents should be reported to the GBC Neighbourhood Warden.

Mr Robb asked about progress with the proposed crossing on Crookdole Lane. Councillor N J Quilty reported this was in hand via NCC Highways.

Mr Barton asked for assurances that the Council would not be lighting any bonfires on an allotment site before the end of September. The Clerk noted that such assurances could not be given as there may be justifiable reasons for the Council to sanction a fire in the proper management of sites and the tenancy condition about lighting fires applies to tenants only. The Chairman agreed to review the current position.

Councillor N J Quilty raised concerns with the amount of time devoted to public participation and suggested the Council may wish to consider a resolution to restrict the time allocated.

Mr Nestor, on behalf of the Cricket Club, thanked the Council for allowing a recent charity day to be added to the special match day arrangements and reported the fund raising success.

Mr Nestor also referred to an email about the suggestion to re-align an entrance fence and gate to better protect against unwanted vehicular access to the public park. The Clerk reported that the matter will be put on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting. The Chairman suggested a site meeting to draw up more detailed plans would be useful.

Mr Lloyd thanked the Council for its donation to the local Royal British Legion Remembrance Day event. Councillor N J Quilty agreed with revised plans for the route of the march.

Mr Lloyd also referred to an issue with the erection of a polytunnel on an allotment at the Collyer Road site.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7.55 pm

MATTERS FOR DECISION/DISCUSSION

Prop. N J Quilty, Sec. E E Sturman.

That this Council agrees to take the specified action in respect of each of the "Matters for Decision/Discussion" items as listed on the Agenda dated 28 August 2014 and debated at the meeting held on 9 September 2014.

Agreed.

826 2014/15 MEMBERSHIP OF RURAL COMMUNITY ACTION NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (RCAN)

Prop. M J Hope, Sec. N J Quilty.

That the Council renew its membership of RCAN. Agreed.

827 ESTABLISHMENT OF ROSE GARDEN IN ST WILFRID'S SQUARE

N J Quilty asked for the matter to be deferred to the next scheduled meeting.

828 2014 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

To set date and budget for the 2014 Christmas lights switch-on.

Prop. N J Quilty, Sec. Mrs P A Marks.

That the switch-on be set for Saturday, 29 November 2014, and a maximum budget of £4,000 be set. Agreed.

N J Quilty offered to co-ordinate arrangements and report details to the next meeting.

County Councillor B Elliott asked that the Council write to him about the provision of a Christmas tree.

829 **LETTER FROM PERSIMMON HOMES RE: LAND NORTH OF COLLYER ROAD, CALVERTON**

The Clerk was asked to respond indicating that the site was removed from the SHLAA and is subject to a covenant preventing development of the kind suggested.

830 **LETTER FROM CHAIRMAN OF WOODBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL RE: COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH GUN**

The Clerk was asked to respond indicating that the Council had no record or knowledge of the sharing agreement referred to and wished to have equal access in the future.

831 **REQUEST TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF CEMETERY TREES ON MANSFIELD LANE**

Councillors agreed to defer consideration of this request until after any tree works emanating from existing tree surveys had been approved and undertaken.

832 **QUOTATIONS FOR TREE WORKS IN ST WILFRID'S CHURCHYARD AND MANSFIELD LANE CEMETERY**

Prop. N J Quilty, Sec. Mrs P A Marks.

That the quotation from GBC be accepted. Agreed.

833 **ELECTRICITY CONNECTION TO CEMETERY CHAPEL, MANSFIELD LANE**

Prop. D S Musson, Sec. B R Marriott.

That the quotation for mains connection from Western Power be accepted. Agreed.

Prop. N J Quilty, Sec. D S Musson.

That the Clerk be delegated authority to progress internal works up to a maximum budget of £628 provided further competitive quotations are obtained. Agreed.

834 **REQUEST TO REVIEW INTERMENT FEE**

Prop. N J Quilty, Sec. D S Musson.

That in the particular circumstances of this case the interment fee be adjusted to the standard rate. Agreed.

835 **POTENTIAL PARISH COUNCIL ACTION REGARDING FLOODING**

M J Hope suggested that flooding problems may be alleviated if the drainage ditch running from James Seely Park through to the end of Crookdole Lane was cleared of debris and blockages. He suggested there may be a case for the Parish Council taking on this task.

N J Quilty reported that the Flooding Forum had identified the same issue together with some mis-connection of pipes. He proposed that if NCC and Severn Trent Water were unable to resolve the issues, the proposal for the Parish Council to undertake the work should be brought back for consideration.

Mrs P A Marks referred to blockages with water entering the drainage system in James Seely Park and suggested Park Keepers might regularly review and clear the opening.

836 SELF HELP IN CALVERTON

M J Hope reported on the efforts of a resident to clear up a particular section of the village that had become overgrown. He suggested the Council write to the individual recognising his community-spirited contribution. County Councillor Elliott noted that he had arranged to deliver some surfacing materials to this site. N J Quilty suggested the Council should help the individual to complete the re-surfacing. Agreed.

837 WILDLIFE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN – MOWING OF PITCH AND PUTT AREA

Councillors aired concerns with quoted cost of cutting and removing arisings from the site as required by the management plan. Alternatives to mowing were considered.

Prop. Mrs E E Quilty, Sec. R A Marks.

That for this year only the quote of £1,250 to cut and remove arisings be accepted and to look at alternative approaches in future years.

Prop. M J Hope, Sec. Mrs P D Bosworth.

An alternative proposal to cut the area only this year and to start the management plan next year based on an alternative and affordable approach.

M J Hope's alternative proposal was lost by 6 votes to 5.

Mrs E E Quilty's original proposal was carried by 6 votes to 5.

838 PARKING CONGESTION PROBLEMS – JUNCTION OF FLATTS LANE AND COLLYER ROAD

Mrs P D Bosworth suggested the Council write to the Co-op asking them to provide additional parking on the paved area to the side of Collyer Road. N J Quilty suggested writing to NCC Highways to see if there was anything they could do as officers had already seen the problems on a site visit. He further suggested writing to the Police about parking enforcement. M J Hope suggested potential for parking on the shops forecourt though NCC would have to allow access across the pavement. The Clerk was asked to write initially to the Co-op and NCC Highways.

839 PROGRESS ON DEVELOPMENT OF PROPOSED COMMUNITY HALL AND SPORTS PAVILION ON WILLIAM LEE PARK

The Clerk reported on current work via GBC to establish a final capped price for delivering the agreed specification. On completion of this work the Council would need to make formal decisions to:

- i) enter into a build contract with the chosen contractor;
- ii) enter into phase 3 of the GBC contract to manage the build process;
- iii) authorise borrowing in line with the existing borrowing approval; and
- iv) opt to tax on the building to mitigate VAT liability.

Given that the next scheduled meeting is not until 14 October 2014, the Chairman agreed to call an extraordinary meeting at the appropriate time in order to expedite the decisions.

The Clerk will chase GBC about draw down of S106 funding to support this project.

840 **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported on the need to regularly review Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. Mrs P A Marks, N J Quilty and J Bailey agreed to assist with the process of forming review proposals, if any.

The Clerk reported on works to improve the Garden of Rest following complaints from the public and via local funeral services. In particular, work is ongoing to create a sustainable area to accommodate memorial vases which are currently located at various points around the garden. N J Quilty suggested that before any memorials are moved there should be an open meeting to discuss the proposals and explain the reasons.

841 **EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS WITH RESPONSIBILITY**

Planning - no report.

Footpaths / Highways / Environment - Mrs S D Bereznyckj noted that the Pinfold was untidy and she had undertaken some clearance work. She further noted the poor way that the hedge at the Memorial Garden had been cut and left. The Clerk was asked to write to the Working Men's Club setting out the Council's complaints.

Parks / Leisure - Mrs E E Quilty noted the satisfactory negotiations to obtain repairs to play equipment damage on William Lee Memorial Park. Repairs are scheduled for 16 September 2014.

Allotments - the position as set out under the public participation section of the meeting was noted.

Core Strategy / Large Developments / Planning Policy - the ACS and legal challenge position as set out under the public participation section of the meeting was noted.

HR / Employment / Staffing - no report.

Website / IT / Communications - no report.

Cemeteries - no report.

Finance - no report.

Neighbourhood Plan - N J Quilty noted the meeting of the Steering Group set for 19 September 2014.

Speedwatch - R A Marks proposed to convene a meeting of the volunteers to organise future activities.

842 **CHEQUES TO SIGN**

Prop. J Bailey, Sec. Mrs P A Marks.

Resolved: That the following cheques be authorised and/or signed*:

A1 Mobile Ltd	£326.40	Play Day Toilets (Balance)
Fire & Rescue Service (Trading) Ltd	£184.48	Check Fire Extinguishers and Supply New to Chapel Store
Lewis & Mellors Ltd	£295.20	Fit New Door and Lock to Electric Box William Lee Memorial Park

Sellors Ltd	£70.00	Parks Equipment – Loppers + Strimmer Harness
Reprotec Connect For Ltd	£16.00	Photocopying / Printing
Corden Hardware Co Ltd	£7.82	Parks Equipment
Royal British Legion	£500.00	Grant for Remembrance Day Parade
Calverton Horticultural & Craft Show	£250.00	Grant for Room Hire
Calverton Working Mens Club	£24.00	Cut/Remove Trees Heritage Garden
Sellors Ltd	£32.00	Parks Equipment – Strimmer Head
Post Office Ltd / HMRC	£794.60	PAYE & NICS Deductions July
NCC Pensions	£180.56	Pension Contributions July
CSA	£229.02	July Wage Deductions
Frank Key Ltd	£144.00	Cemetery Maintenance – Gravel Boards for Garden of Rest
Corden Hardware Co Ltd	£8.51	Parks Equipment
Cash	£200.00	Petty Cash Transfer
NCC County Supplies	£46.18	Stationery & Parks Supplies
Pete Dalton	£96.00	Parks Equipment – Bulk Oil Order
Corden Hardware Co Ltd	£9.82	Parks Equipment
Corden Hardware Co Ltd	£47.66	Parks Equipment
GBC	£1,052.90	Car Parks Business Rates
Corden Hardware Co Ltd	£66.37	Parks Equipment - Workwear
Ucheck	£18.00	DBS Check Fee (Balance)
GBC	£288.40	Trade Waste – July–Sept Cemetery & Council Room
Corden Hardware Co Ltd	£226.17	Parks Equipment - Workwear
Clarke Dove (Insurances)	£79.50	Pay Day Insurance
Corden Hardware Co Ltd	£58.55	Parks Equipment
Reprotec Connect For Ltd	£16.07	Photocopying / Printing
Corden Hardware Co Ltd	£26.44	Parks Equipment
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	£2,400.00	Pitch & Putt Management Plan
Corden Hardware Co Ltd	£19.96	Parks Equipment
Severn Trent Water Ltd	£54.83	Water Rates – Council Room
Calverton & Woodborough Allotment Association	£340.00	Contract May – July 2014
D Musson / Jon Walker Timber Products Ltd	£78.48	Fencing Timber – Collyer Road Allotments
Severn Trent Water Ltd	£177.95	Water Rates Collyer Rd Allotments Feb-Aug 2014
Corden Hardware Co Ltd	£8.27	Parks Equipment
Post Office Ltd / HMRC	£1,167.91	PAYE & NICS Deductions August
NCC Pensions	£180.56	Pension Contributions August
CSA	£229.02	August Wage Deductions
GBC	£7,926.97	Grounds Maintenance Contract April – June 14
Corden Hardware Co Ltd	£189.50	Parks Equipment
Natural Cut Stone Ltd	£480.00	Repairs to Steps in St Wilfrid's Church Yard

*Cheques marked with asterisk to be signed at meeting

Prop. J Bailey, Sec. Mrs P A Marks.

It is likely that the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following item on the grounds that the item involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1, Sch. 12a, LGA 1972. Agreed.

843 **STAFFING**

Prop. Mrs P A Marks, Sec. B R Marriott.

That the request for an advance of salary be agreed on the basis that suitable arrangements are reached to protect the Council's position in the event that the member of staff leaves the employment of the Council before the advance is fully repaid. Agreed.

The meeting closed at 9.34pm.

GWB/LJH
17-Sep-14