

## **EDITH WESTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council (PC) held on Monday 11 August 2014 in The Village Hall**

Present: Councillors – G. Fagence (GF) , J. Boddington (JB), K. Simpson (KS), D. Crowden (DC), H.Shepherd (HS), A. Tinsley (AT), P. Hawker (PH) and the Clerk; Barbara Shirley (BS)

Visitors: Mr N. Milne (NM), Mrs W. Halford (WH), Mrs M. White (MW)

Item	Description	Action
1. Apologies	County Councillor Bool, County Councillor Waller	
2. Declarations of interest on items on the Agenda	1. GF and HS – Tommy's Close Trustees 2. KS – Chair, Village Hall Committee	
3. Minutes of meeting of 30 June, and extraordinary meeting of 28 July	GF explained that as the meeting on 28 July was not quorate, it was necessary to meet again, particularly as there were matters outstanding on the community grant applications.  Minutes of 30 June and 28 July were agreed as a correct record.	
4. Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda	No matters arising.	
5. To note the current bank balance on the Parish Council's accounts	BS circulated the bank reconciliation of the Parish Council's accounts for Q1, 2014/15.  1. As at 30 June, bank balances were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>£1408.16 in the community account</li><li>£13,579.50 in the savings account</li></ul> 2. The Parish Council has received a refund of £396.91 from HMRC, which is VAT reclaimed by the Parish Council for the last three financial years. In future, the money will be reclaimed annually  3. The Parish Council has received notification from the external auditors of the approval of the accounts for 2013/14. There was a point raised by the auditor about incorrect recording in one of the sections of the return, but this did not affect the outcome. BS has now placed the appropriate notice of conclusion of audit on the Parish Council noticeboard.  4. BS asked if the Parish Council would agree to the transfer of £1,500 from the savings account to the current account. Agreed by KS, seconded by GF.	

<p>6. Applications for funding for community projects</p>	<p>a) Update on requests for funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £129.41 paid to the Holy Weeders for plants in the churchyard</li> <li>• Replacement of lamp outside 18 King Edwards Way – not agreed</li> <li>• <b>Tommy's Close Trustees</b> - request by WH on behalf of Tommy's Close Trustees for contribution to funds for the maintenance of the play area. Funds needed to refurbish the wooden perimeter and replace the woodchip surface. If this is not kept up to safety standards, it will fail the ROSPA inspection. WH hoped that the Parish Council would be able to make a contribution to the maintenance of the playground, alongside the Trustees' own fundraising efforts.</li> <li>• KS asked if the Trustees have made an application to the national lottery fund. WH hopes to make an application.</li> <li>• It was felt that £700 was expensive for grass cutting, although WH confirmed that it was being done at the same price as last year.</li> <li>• KS suggested that the Tommy's Close Trustees could achieve an economy of scale if they joined forces with the church to use the same grass cutting contractor</li> <li>• Income generated by Tommy's Close Trustees has decreased because there has been no donation from the Vintage Fayre.</li> <li>• PH suggested that if the playground needs repair, then this must be done as a priority. He proposed £1,000 should be granted to the Tommy's Close Trustees, seconded by AT. All agreed.</li> <li>• <b>Village Hall Committee</b> – KS on behalf of the Village Hall Committee outlined proposals for refurbishment of the toilets at the village hall, for health and safety reasons, but also because refurbished toilets will make it more attractive for people who wish to hire the hall. KS reminded the Parish Council that village hall was built to remember those residents of Edith Weston who gave their lives in WW1, and refurbishment work will be done to mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War.</li> <li>• The refurbishment of the toilets will cost £12,600, and with a grant from the Lottery Fund of £10,000 the Village Hall Committee is asking the Parish Council for £2,600.</li> <li>• KS confirmed that the Village Hall Committee has £11,000 in savings allocated towards redecorating and rewiring.</li> <li>• The Village Hall Committee wish to invest in the hall's future, and to bring the toilets up to modern health and safety standards.</li> <li>• In answer to a question from DC, KS confirmed that rates for hire of the village hall are competitive and in line with charges for village hall hire elsewhere.</li> <li>• The Village Hall has had the income from the Annual Village Barbecue cut by two thirds as this is now shared with the</li> </ul>	
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	<p>Church and Tommy's Close. PH asked if the Village Hall Committee were now asking the Parish Council to top up their income if they were giving grants to other groups in the village</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GF felt that Tommy's Close has a very small amount of income, compared to the Village Hall. He proposed that the Parish Council granted 50% of the amount the Village Hall Committee requested - £1300. This was not seconded or agreed.</li> <li>• HS asked if the funds could be found from the £11k the Village Hall Committee has in its savings. KS confirmed that this money was already allocated for redecoration and rewiring, and the Village Hall Committee were looking to the Parish Council to use its available savings to top up the Lottery Funding already secured for the purpose of renovating the toilets.</li> <li>• GF asked the Parish Council to support the request for the refurbishment of the toilets. Proposed by GF, seconded by DC and JB, HS abstained, and PH and AT voted against.</li> <li>• HS proposed the Village Hall Committee should be granted £1,000 towards the refurbishment of the toilets, seconded by JB, agreed by GF and DC, against PH and AT.</li> </ul> <p>b) Grant awarding policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PH has prepared draft policy and application form on awarding community grants. It was agreed that anything with a committee is a community organization in the village.</li> <li>• The policy and application form was agreed by those present.</li> <li>• The Parish Council will consider whether there are sufficient funds for the Parish Council to request applications for funding for 2015/16 towards the end of the current financial year.</li> </ul>	
7. To agree payment of invoices	<p>Payment of invoices was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lamin and White – quarterly payment - £36.00</li> <li>• Metasys – Edith Weston website hosting - £48.00</li> <li>• Rutland County Council – street lighting costs for 2013/14 £455.42. Street lighting costs will be added to the Parish Council precept going forward.</li> </ul>	
8. To consider the request from Edith Weston Parochial Church Council for grass cutting of the cemetery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As this is an annual request from the PCC, it was suggested this might form part of the precept. However, the Parish Council must establish the ownership of the land and establish whether or not the Parish Council are responsible for maintaining the upkeep of the cemetery.</li> <li>• Proposed by GF, and seconded by KS that the PCC receive a one off payment of £400 towards grass cutting in the cemetery</li> <li>• PH suggested that if RCC passes over responsibility for grass</li> </ul>	

	<p>cutting to the Parish Council, then it should be possible for a contract to include the cemetery and Tommy's Close.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In answer to a question from NM, it was confirmed that the cemetery is not an asset held by the Parish Council</li> <li>• It was confirmed by BS that the asset register is audited by the Parish Council annually. HS asked if Well Cross could be included on the asset register. This will be discussed at the next meeting.</li> </ul>	
9. Ongoing safety issues in the Parish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GF confirmed that the road sign on Normanton Road has broken again</li> <li>• PH was concerned about the hazard to pedestrians on Manton Road being caused by the overhanging branches.</li> <li>• GF to speak to Mike Brown at RCC about both issues</li> <li>• GF confirmed that he has now fixed the broken stile on Weston Road, but is reporting the matter to Carter Jonas</li> <li>• GF will look into repainting the gates outside the village</li> </ul>	<p>GF</p> <p>GF</p>
10. To discuss correspondence received by the Clerk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council Forum agenda, 24 July – no action required</li> <li>• The Parish Briefing – no action required</li> <li>• Letter from RCC re. Individual Electoral Registration – poster to be placed on village noticeboard</li> <li>• Age UK Leicestershire and Rutland Wills Campaign 2014 – poster to be placed on village noticeboard</li> </ul>	<p>BS</p> <p>BS</p>
11. To discuss any Planning Permission applications received between now and the meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MW attended the meeting to ask for the support of the Parish Council in connection with the planning application at 7 Rectory Lane for the replacement of the existing porch with a covered porch. It was agreed that the application should be supported by the Parish Council on the grounds that the existing porch is dilapidated and needs replacing, and that there are existing properties in the village with covered porches. Proposal to support the application by PH, seconded by KS. BS to submit an electronic response to RCC on behalf of the Parish Council</li> <li>• Appeal by Mr R. Bee against decision not to grant permission for 18 hole golf course and club house at Lyndon Top Farm – no action required</li> <li>• Ref 2014/0699/CAT – crowning of trees, 23 Weston Road – no action required</li> <li>• Ref 2014/0608/CAT – removal of trees and reduction in spread of trees, 37 Weston Road – no action required</li> <li>• Ref 2014/0543/CAT – reduction in height of tree, 1 Well Cross – planning permission granted.</li> </ul>	<p>BS</p>
12. To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting	Monday 29 September 2014, 7.15 pm, Village Hall, Edith Weston	

