

## EDITH WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council (PC) held on Monday 30 November 2015

Present: Councillors – N. Milne (Chair) (NM), J. Boddington (JB), I. Langford (IL ), P. Coe (PC) and the Clerk: Barbara Shirley (BS)

Visitors: County Councillor G. Waller (GW), D. Forbes (DF), PCSO Hobbs, PCSO Allam

Item	Description	Action
1. Apologies	County Councillor Bool, Councillor Shepherd, PC P. Le Pla	
2. Update on ongoing safety issues in the Parish	<p>The Chair asked PCSO Hobbs and Allam to present the report on crime for the Rutland South area for the last 30 days:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theft from motor vehicle</li><li>• Theft of bicycle</li><li>• Substance left on roof of vehicle</li></ul> <p>Current problem solving in the area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hare coursing</li><li>• Reducing burglary in Ketton including doorstep sellers, security marking sessions in the village hall after Christmas, regular police patrols</li></ul> <p>The Chair thanked PCSO Hobbs and Allam for attending the meeting.</p>	
3. Declarations of interest on items on the Agenda	No declarations of interest received.	
4. Minutes of meeting of meeting of 26 October	Minutes of the meeting of 26 October agreed as a correct record.	
5. Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Yellow lines, Normanton Road</b> - GW has spoken to David Brown at RCC about the installation of the yellow lines on Normanton Road. It was confirmed that the Parish Council and County Councillors were not consulted about this work. It was suggested that the Parish Council might wish to write to RCC asking for the lines to be removed. JB has noticed that the yellow lines are preventing people from parking on the roadside.</li><li>• The Chair asked the Parish Council to vote on whether to ask RCC to remove the yellow lines:</li></ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dispose of yellow lines – NM, PC, IL</li> <li>○ Retain yellow lines – JB</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As the majority were in favour of removing yellow lines, the Clerk was asked to write to David Brown at RCC asking that they are removed.</li> <li>• <b>Lancaster bomber crash memorial</b> – an e mail from Alan Jury was read out to the Parish Council, confirming that the PCC are in favour of a memorial to be sited on the post next to the church gates, where it can be put on to dressed limestone. DF has discussed the memorial with the Diocese, although he has yet to receive their formal approval. Suggested date for unveiling will be 4 March 2016, by a senior RAF officer, followed by a blessing by the vicar. DF to discuss with AJ.</li> <li>• <b>Grass cutting</b> –IL confirmed that the Diocese have confirmed that the former village pond area on Weston Road is glebe land. Has spoken to the agents, Carter Jonas, and they will arrange to tidy the area.</li> <li>• <b>Cemetery</b> – DF spoke about the village cemetery, which unlike the majority of other village cemeteries, belongs to the Church Commissioners, following the gift of the land to the church by Major Ernest Braithwaite. The legal owner of the land is the vicar, and the PCC maintain it on behalf of the Rutland Deanery.</li> <li>• There are likely to be legal costs incurred should the Parish Council wish to take on responsibility for the cemetery from the PCC. Legal proceedings could take up to six months.</li> <li>• With regard to grass cutting at the cemetery, DF asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to take on the grass cutting on their behalf? The Parish Council agreed to pay for the grass cutting in the cemetery, as per the quotation from Cory, although the Parish Council would not be responsible for it. IL felt this puts the Parish Council in a difficult situation with regard to graves and burials. DF was reminded that the quotation from Corey for grass cutting included a standalone quotation for the cemetery, and it was agreed that DF will contact Corey to discuss grass cutting for 2016/17.</li> <li>• The Clerk will ask LRALC for advice on what is involved in a Parish Council taking on responsibility for maintenance of a cemetery. GW suggested the Clerk in South Luffenham would also be a useful contact.</li> <li>• DF will return to the Parish Council to discuss further.</li> </ul>	<p>BS</p> <p>DF/AJ</p> <p>DF</p> <p>BS</p>
--	--	--

6. To note the current bank balance on the Parish Council's accounts	<p>The Clerk circulated the Q2 reconciliation of the Parish Council bank accounts. The balance as at 15 November is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community account - £332.74</li> </ul> <p>It was agreed that the Clerk will ask HSBC for a transfer of £750 from the savings account to the Community account.</p>	
7. To agree payment of invoices	<p>Payment of invoices agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eon – non metred electricity, October 2015 - £61.12</li> </ul>	
8. Governance – Parish Council Code of Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council website requires that all the Parish Council's governance documents are available to the public. Whilst there is no question of the Parish Council now having appropriate governance in place in the past few years, there is now a need for formalized documentation.</li> <li>The Code of Conduct is based on an NALC template, and it was agreed by all present that this will be adopted formally by the Parish Council.</li> <li>The Clerk will place the document on the Parish Council website.</li> </ul>	BS
9. Parish Council vacancy update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Clerk confirmed there have been no candidates coming forward for election, and that the Parish Council should now proceed to a formal co-option.</li> <li>A resident has already come forward to express an interest in joining the Parish Council.</li> <li>The Clerk asked the Parish Council if they wished to invite interested parties to submit a brief cv, explaining why they wished to become a Parish Councillor. Candidates for co-option will be invited to attend the January Parish Council meeting where a vote for the preferred candidate will take place. This was agreed by those present , and the Clerk will put a notice on the Parish Council website.</li> </ul>	BS
10. Planning for the Parish Council precept – 2016-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was agreed by those present that the Parish Council will meet before the January Parish Council meeting to discuss the setting of the 2016/17 Precept.</li> <li>BS to canvass the Parish Council for a suitable date for an informal working group meeting in December.</li> <li>IL asked about grit bin refills, and it was confirmed that the Parish Council are entitled to have the grit bins refilled annually. If the weather is cold as it was in 2012/13, then RCC will provide another refill at a cost of £50. The Parish Council agreed in previous years to ensure that there is provision within the Precept for this.</li> <li>NM suggested that in the light of the successful bid for funding from</li> </ul>	BS

	<p>the Transparency Fund, the Parish Council might wish to consider including IT equipment in the Precept, with a 3 or 4 year budget forecast.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GW asked the Parish Council to bear in mind possible changes to street light funding. It is proposed that RCC may upgrade with low voltage lighting, all Parish street lighting for which they are currently responsible. The proposal is that Parish Councils take responsibility for all street lighting within Parish Council boundaries.</li> </ul>	
11. Update on ongoing safety issues in the Parish (continued from agenda item 2)	<p><b>Village gates</b> – No response from GF</p> <p><b>Defibrillator</b> – IL asked if there is a list of people in the village who are able to help in an emergency should the defibrillator be required. NM to find out from GF if there is a list, and if not, to ask for volunteers who can be trained.</p> <p><b>Street lights</b> – BS has noted that two street lights at the bottom of Weston Road have not been working for some time, and there is also street light out just outside the glebe land field on Weston Road. JB confirmed that GF was looking into this.</p>	
12. Update on environmental issues in the Parish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Grass cutting</b> – already discussed earlier in the agenda</li> <li><b>Weeds</b> – GW believes that spraying of weeds should be included in the same contract at the grass cutting. IL confirmed that weeds are now only sprayed twice a year. NM suggested that this might have to form part of an informal working group agenda so that the Parish Council can consider how this is budgeted for going forward. IL pointed out that RCC have not at any time suggested that weed spraying is part of the grass cutting contract.</li> <li><b>Well Cross</b> – JB confirmed that he will spray the weeds and repoint Well Cross in the next few months. IL feels that there are also other issues such as the tree and the seating area around it which need to be dealt with so that Well Cross becomes a feature of the village. IL asked if it would be possible for the Parish Council to spend some funds on relaying the slabs around Well Cross? NM suggested this might be a project for the Parish Council to undertake in 2016.</li> </ul>	JB
13. To discuss correspondence received by the Clerk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A letter of thanks has been received from DF on behalf of Edith Weston PCC, thanking the Parish Council for the contribution of £500 towards grass cutting in the cemetery.</li> <li>Mrs J. Denyer on behalf of Rutland Community Agents –BS has now put details of the event on 1 December on the Parish Council website.</li> <li>LRALC Newsletter – NM asked if this can be placed on the Parish Council website.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Melton and District Communities Working Together – no response required.</li> <li>• Consultation on Housing Allocation Policy – no response required.</li> <li>• E mail from Mrs H. Smith, 4 Coniston Road re. fireworks. The Clerk was asked to respond to Mrs Smith, and explain that the Parish Council have no powers to prevent fireworks in the village.</li> </ul>	BS
14. To discuss any Planning Permission applications received between now and the meeting	<p>PC reported:</p> <p>Letter received from RCC re. application to demolish three houses, and replace with one at Hambleton – no response required.</p> <p>ref: 2015/0978/CAT - Fell ash tree, 15 Well Cross – no objections</p> <p>ref: 2015/0977/CAT -Repollard 8 lime trees, 8 Weston Road – no objections</p> <p>ref: 2015/0976/CAT - Fell silver birch tree, conifer, and reduce crown of maple tree, 17 Well Cross - no objections</p> <p>Planning permission has been granted for the following:</p> <p>ref 2015/0902/FUL – proposed summerhouse, 1 Well Cross</p> <p>ref: 2015/0846/LBA – two storey rear extension, Grange Cottage , Normanton Road</p> <p>ref: 2015/0953/CAT - Fell beech and silver birch trees, 33 Weston Road</p> <p>In response to a question from PC, GW agreed to ask planning officers about their response to the objections from the Parish Council to a planning application in respect of 15 Well Cross.</p>	GW
15. To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting	<p>Monday 11 January, 7.15 pm, Village Hall, Edith Weston</p> <p>Apologies – County Councillors Bool and Waller</p>	