

WHAPLODE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 17TH MAY 2017
AT WHAPLODE DROVE CHURCH MEETING ROOM

Present as per register.

Present: W Brown, County Cllr Pepper and 4 members of the public.

Apologies:

Cllr Clayton and Cllr Stimson.

The Chairman advised of the sad passing of Cllr Pullen and the meeting observed a minute silence.

Public Forum:

Residents of Buttercup paddock Whaplode attended the meeting to express concern that Mr Hoyes had removed the Lodestone sculpture. Cllr Barlow explained that he had been reviewing the ownership of the village sculptures for a number of years. The residents felt the Lodestone enhanced the area and members asked the Clerk to write to Mr Hoyes about the situation.

Appointment of Chairman and Vice Chairman for the ensuing year:

MS and PS proposed Cllr Merchant be Chairman and BM and MS proposed Cllr Clay as vice chairman which members agreed.

Minutes and matters arising:

The minutes of the April meeting having been previously circulated were agreed and there were no matters arising.

Police matters:

In the absence of the Police there was no formal report.

Finance Report:

The Clerk reported the following cheques for payment which members agreed,

101793 G Hawkes salary/expenses	£ 391.46
101794 HMRC	£ 214.35
101795 MGM	£ 408.00 vat £ 68.00
101796 Came & Co	£ 723.99

Balances:	High interest a/c	£ 69,792
	Business Prem	£ 23,360
	Current a/c	£ 22,267
	Less cheques	£ 1,838
	Balance	£ 113,581

Members agreed renewal of the insurance cover which is on a fixed three year agreement.

The Clerk reported that the 2016-2017 audit figures were completed and members agreed the annual governance statement section 1 and accounting statement section 2 for the Chairman to sign.

Date of next meeting:

The Clerk advised the date for the next full council was 16th August at Whaplode. There is a finance meeting on 14th June.

Planning applications.

The Clerk reported that applications had been dealt with as per annexed. Members discussed the merits of Neighbourhood planning but felt with four wards in the parish it would be too complex to do a local version.

Allotments:

The allotment holder of garden allotment 6 had asked permission to keep duck and chickens which members declined as no livestock can be kept – the Clerk will write. A new applicant had been found for vacant allotment 9.

Star of India footpath:

The Clerk reported that he had contacted Lincs CC about closing the bridleway and he will chase progress. Cllr Merchant has supplied a detailed map.

Highway matters:

Whaplode village – the dirty refuge bollards in the High Road had been reported but as yet no action had been taken – the Clerk will chase.

Whaplode St Catherines – Cllr Clay reported no new issues.

Whaplode Drove – Cllr Mackman reported that he had contacted Highways about various matters including broken road name signs.

Saracens Head – no new issues.

Interactive traffic indicators:

The Clerk reported that LRSP had suggested that the post installation in Whaplode Drove be next to the telephone exchange which members agreed – the Clerk will chase progress.

Whaplode playing field:

Cllr Merchant advised that the field was in good order and being well used.

Whaplode sculptures:

See public forum for update.

Whaplode St Catherines playing field:

Cllr Clay reported that Terry Wilkinson will put in traps. MGM had quoted £60 to cut the playing field, members agreed 10 cuts per annum from 1st March - 31st October.

Whaplode Cemetery update:

Cllr Stafford had now obtained two quotes to do the cemetery fencing with D Munson Construction Ltd at £4,655 plus VAT being the lowest. Members agreed for Cllr Stafford to instruct the contractor. The Clerk will write to update local residents.

General correspondence & general business;

Members discussed ongoing arrangements for wards. Following the passing of Cllr Pullen Cllr Stafford will move to Whaplode ward. Cllr Roulestone will confirm his resignation and the Clerk will advise SHDC of a vacancy on Whaplode and St Catherines, and Saracens head wards. Members thanked Cllr Roulestone for his previous work.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.05

Chairman