



WINSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Winshill Parish Council held at the Neighbourhood Resource Centre 7.30 pm on Wednesday 21st June 2023.

Present:

Councillors J Batten, S Bullock, D Fletcher*, M Fletcher, A Lawrence, M Metcalfe, J Muir, I North, K Smith* and C Wileman (also the County Councillor). *also a Borough Councillor.

Also present:

S Taylor (Clerk), Jane Whitfield (PCSO) and Mr & Mrs Hopkins (residents of Highbank Road).

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillor Boshier.

MATTERS RAISED IN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The length of the grass on the bank in Highbank road was raised as an issue. The County Councillor reported that this was due to a health and safety concern raised by the contractor due to the slope. He agreed to take the matter back to the Highway Authority and ask them to explore alternative means of cutting the grass on the bank.

Members congratulated the Centre Manager, Kim Smith, who had been awarded the British Empire Medal for services to the community.

PART I

103/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors D Fletcher, M Fletcher, Lawrence and Smith declared an interest regarding the NRC Charity.

104/23 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 17th May 2023 were agreed and signed as a correct record of events.

105/23 CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair of the Centre Charity had raised concerns about residents using the car park during the day to the extent that people attending the Centre couldn't park. She also had concerns regarding a dip in the footpath to the front of the building. After considering the car parking problem, the wording of any sign and the problem of enforcement, members agreed to a trial of putting polite notices on windscreens before going ahead with the purchase of a notice board at the entrance. The Centre Manager agreed to get a quote for patching to the footpath.

106/23 **FEEDBACK ON RECENT CRIME/ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

The PCSO advised members that the recent crime figures were not too bad, although concerns were raised with respect to youths riding motor bikes across Newton Road Park. The police were aware of this but asked that the public keep reporting every incident in order that it be given a higher priority response.

107/23 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Members raised no objections to the following application:

P/2023/00607 – Single storey extension and raising the ridge height at 82 Dalebrook Road.

108/23 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Residents of Hobart Close and Queensland Crescent had apparently raised concerns about the overgrown hedges alongside the footpaths. The County Councillor pointed out that the responsibility for cutting the hedges back lies with the residents and not the Highway Authority. The latter could, if necessary, write to/serve notice on residents to cut the hedges back. It was reported that flooding to the front of Newton Road properties had occurred during the recent storms due to the waves caused by passing vehicles. Potential solutions were discussed including increased cleaning/more drains to issuing sandbags.

109/23 **BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

The Chairman reported on various matters including waste management, overnight litter picking on the A38, the Staffordshire Sustainability Board and the potential electrification of the refuse fleet and the remodelling of the routes. The collection of food waste was likely to be introduced by providing additional bins, whilst the current grounds maintenance contract was being reviewed due to the persistent poor performance of the contractor. A request was made for the litter on Wheatley Lane Recreation Ground to be cleared and the dog bins to be emptied more frequently.

110/23 **THE COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS**

It was noted that the situation had been made worse due to the rate of inflation. The Centre Charity had been very busy with parents having concerns over providing their children with adequate food and clothing. Both the breakfast and lunch clubs were full, with food parcels also being provided. Mention was made of Lidl being very supportive with food donations.

111/23 **TRANSFORMING THE TRENT VALLEY- NEWTON ROAD PARK**

It is now anticipated that the wildflower seeds will be sown in August, whilst the fruit trees for the orchard have been agreed with the National Forest. The Round Table visited the park on 17th June and donated £204 towards the project. There is a need to clear an area of sticky weed and brambles with volunteers required to help on the morning of Saturday 24th June.

112/23 **NEIGHBOURHOOD RESOURCE CENTRE**

The Centre Manager advised that Farm Fresh were still involved in helping contribute towards the cooked breakfasts with some 70 residents being served. Autumn Days were planning a summer trip and the CAB were busy providing 3 slots on a Wednesday.

Resolved:

- That the annual partnership grant of £21,000 be paid to the WNRC Charity.

- That a bill for planting of and associated costs around the Centre of £532.87 be paid to the WNRC Charity. (This bill was later withdrawn due to an accounting error).
- That the annual charge of £5,500 from the CAB for providing weekly advice sessions be paid.

113/23 **REVIEW OF PLANTING/GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

Councillor M Fletcher reported that Planters had again provided a significant discount and that the spend limit for adopt a tub was again £25. It was agreed that prize money of £50 be given to each of the 3 category winners in Burton in Bloom. The Heart of England in Bloom judging was taking place on 5th July.

The Covid Tree in the Peace Wood is showing signs of life and so may not need to be replaced; however, the Notice Board has been damaged and needs replacement.

Resolved:

- That the Peace Wood sign be replaced at a cost of £700 from the contingency funds.
- That a sum of approximately £200 be provided to purchase the buffet for the Heart of England in Bloom judging on 5th July.

114/23 **ENGAGING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE**

The youth club was currently well attended although the older children still need to be engaged.

115/23 **WEBSITE/FACEBOOK**

It was agreed that the next edition of the parish newsletter be put on the Website as time was of the essence for many of the articles.

116//23 **PARISH PLAN**

There was nothing new to report.

117/23 **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Members reviewed and agreed the Accounts on 21st June 2023.

118/23 **APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING**

The application for funding from Winhill Scouts was referred for details/costs of the proposal to be provided.

119/23 **REPORT ON ACCOUNTS PAID**

		£	cheque no	minute no
JRB Engineering	Poop Scoop Bags	341.28	1467	219/21
Planters	Plants	765.26	1468	219/21
Winhill Allot. Ass.	Grant	800.00	1469	203/22
ESBC	Salary Costs	1,144.43	1470	212/22
A&M Gardening	Bretby Lane Works	480.00	1471	212/22

Resolved:

That payment of the above accounts is confirmed.

120/23 **CLERK AND MEMBERS' REPORTS**

Concern was raised regarding the Japanese Knotweed in Newton Road as the owner, Mr Pipes, was no longer contactable. It was also reported that the regular litter pick in Newton Road Park was no longer happening although Burton Phoenix Canoe Club had cleared the river of litter. Members were invited to visit the Winshill Allotments on their 1st July Open Day.

121/23 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:

That the next Meeting of the Parish Council be held on Wednesday 19th July 2023 at 7.30 pm.

PART II

MATTERS OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE

There were no matters of a confidential nature to discuss.

The meeting finished at 9.10 pm.

Chairman