

MINUTES OF WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Monday, 7th November 2011 at Guyhirn Village Hall

PRESENT

B Payne (Chairman)	C Allen	P Barnes	B Britain	M Clark	P Davies	J Fish
	T Fowler	B Reay	R Scrimshaw	D Thrower	G Booth	
Parishioners	A K Bell	H Bell	B Connors	S Connors	A Boswell	G Edwards
	T Jennings	S Mead	S Pitcher	S Pitcher	D Reeve	J Shailes
	W Ward					

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor J Tuck.

OPEN FORUM – Member of the public are invited to address the Council.

- A letter was handed to the Chairman from the young people of Guyhirn thanking the Parish Council for purchasing the basket ball hoop installed on the Guyhirn Playing Fields.
- Seven residents of High Road, Guyhirn attended the meeting to oppose the planning application F/YR11/0789/F erection of 5 3 storey 5 bed dwellings with attached garages land north of Thornbury House, High Road, Guyhirn. These residents live opposite the proposed development. Their reasons for objecting to this development is that it is outside the development area boundary for the village, on prime agricultural land, the houses are not in keeping with the existing adjacent dwellings, will exacerbate the existing road safety and traffic flow issues and with the filling of the existing dyke that runs alongside the fields what will happen to the surface water. In the Design Statement it states that there is a shortage of this type of development opportunity. The question has to be asked who has decided this.
- (a) Some concerns were voiced at the change of use of agricultural land to haulage yard, erection of a warehouse extension, office and staff facilities and formation of car park and extended perimeter access road and new drain Bretts Transport, Thorney Road, Guyhirn. Whilst they did not object to the development felt that there should be some caution as to the impact on the A47, impact on utilities and lack of landscaping.
- At the last meeting some concerns were voiced that Fenland District Council Planning Department had given planning permission for two houses to be built at Selwyn Corner before the safety measures were being put in place requested by CCC Highways. The developer had given his assurance that he would be widening the entrance before commencing on the development.

171. TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING dated 3rd October 2011.

The minutes of the 3rd October 2011 were signed as a true record.

172. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (information only)

There were no matters arising.

173. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST for items on the agenda

At this point of the meeting Mr Scrimshaw advised the meeting that he would not be taking part in any discussions regarding any Planning items on the agenda at any Parish Council meeting.

Mrs D Thrower declared a prejudicial interest on item 179(k) and left the meeting at the appropriate time.

Mr P Barnes declared a prejudicial interest on item 179(k) and left the meeting at the appropriate time.

Mr P Davis declared a personal interest on item 179(e), 180 and 181.

Mr B Payne declared a personal interest on item 180.

174. CALC VISIT REGARDING QUALITY STATUS

Officers of CALC will be attending the Parish Council meeting on the 28th November 2011.

175. POLICE MATTERS

(a) Cambridgeshire Police reply regarding the time scale for anyone to answer the telephone at Police Head Quarters. **Noted.**

(b) The Report regarding Crimes and Incidents for October 2011 was as follows:-

Wisbech St Mary – 2 thefts, 1 criminal damage.

Murrow – 2 thefts, 2 burglaries, 1 stolen motor vehicle.

Thorney Toll – 1 Burglary

Guyhirn – 1 incident of suspicious circumstances (bogus caller), 1 shed burglary, 1 theft.

- The biggest issue was the theft of metal. In all of the burglaries the perpetrators have gained access by smashing windows whilst the occupants have been out for the day.
- There had also been incidents where properties were being used for cannabis cultivation.

Speed watch figures

High Road, Guyhirn	131 vehicles 0 speeding
Murrow Bank	58 vehicles 14 speeding
Station Road, Wisbech St Mary	46 vehicles 18 speeding
Parson Drive	74 vehicles 10 speeding

176. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

- (1) Update on The Localism Bill from CPALC. **Noted.**
- (2) Mr Payne advised the meeting that he had received a document from Fenland District Council relating to the control of advertising. This was to point out the large number of unauthorised commercial advertising and to ensure that the unauthorised advertising does not pose any danger to the safety of our roads, roundabouts and junctions and wish the Town and Parish Councils to be proactive in helping FDC to put a stop to this.

List of planning applications determined by the Fenland District Council.

- (a) F/YR11/0771/F erection of a single storey side extension to existing dwelling Willock Farm, Rummars Lane, Wisbech St Mary. Applicant Ms S Goddier and Agent Miss A Grainger. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (b) F/02015/11/CW installation of a 500kW agricultural anaerobic digester and associated infrastructure at Somerset Farm, Cants Drove, Murrow. **We support this development and recommend approval.**
- (c) F/YR11/0789/F erection of 5 3 storey 5 bed dwellings with attached garages land north of Thornbury House, High Road, Guyhirn. Applicant G E Fowler. Agent Mr David Broker. **Recommend refusal as outside the development area boundary for the village.**
- (d) F/YR11/0783/F change of use of agricultural land to haulage yard, erection of a warehouse extension, office and staff facilities and formation of car park and extended perimeter access road and new drain Bretts Transport, Thorney Road, Guyhirn. Applicant S Brett. Agent R Briscoe. **Recommend approval but would recommend that access to and from the A47 be improved and that the new development be landscaped from the adjacent properties.**

177. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (a) agenda and associated documents CPALC AGM at Bluntisham Village Hall Saturday 3.12.11. **Noted.**
- (b) Order acknowledgement Wicksteed Playscopes basketball goal at Guyhirn Playing Field. **Noted.**
- (c) CCC Winter training for farmers to grit the roads. **Noted. Mr Fowler to contact CCC to see if these training sessions are in fact for farmers.**
- (d) CCC new small grants scheme for events which celebrate the 2-012 Olympics. **Noted.**
- (e) Invitation from CCC Parish Council's Health Commercial Vehicle Strategy meeting on the 29.11.11 at Swavesey Village College 7.00 pm to 9.00pm. **Noted.**
- (f) The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons and how to take part. **Noted**
- (g) FDC Rural Capital Grants Scheme is running. Groups can apply for grants between £10,000 and £100,000 and can be used for capital projects to fund buildings, play facilities, vehicles or any other equipment. It is for projects whose benefit will last more than one year. **Noted.**
- (h) Fenland Citizen Advice Bureau AGM 8th November 7.30 pm Wisbech Town Council Chambers, North Brink, Wisbech. **Noted.**
- (i) Amalgamation of Needham, Burial & Birdbeck District Commissioners and Ladus District Commissioners. **Noted.**
- (j) Invitation to the Cambridgeshire Learning Disability parliament on Abuse 25th November at the Orchard Community Centre 10.30 am to 3.00. **Noted.**
- (k) Community Foundation Lincolnshire public consultation The Grant Wind Farm, Sutton Bridge 23.11.11 at Wisbech Council Chambers 12.00 to 3.00 pm. **Noted.**
- (l) CPALC regarding Quality Status. **The clerk advised the meeting that we have been awarded quality status and that representatives will be attending our next meeting. The meeting congratulated the clerk for all her efforts in this respect.**

Correspondence in folder for information only

NHS Cambridgeshire helps you to Choose Well This Winter.

Clerk & Councils Direct November 2011

178. HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS

- (a) **CCC Highways regarding verge posts opposite the shop in Front Road. It was unanimously agreed that the clerk advise the CCC Highways that there should be no posts should be erected.**
- (b) **CCC Highways regarding Sandbank Hedge cutting. Still unable to find the owners. The meeting was advised that this work will be undertaken and will obtain reimbursement once the owners have been traced.**
- (c) **Response from Highways regarding items passed to them from previous meetings. Noted.**

From 01.08.11 meeting

1. **Nettles and hedge need cutting along the public footpath between Front Road, Murrow and Tholomas Drove. The area in some places appears to be water logged. Forwarded to the rights of way team.**
2. **The road direction signs at The Pigeons, Murrow are missing. Signs being replaced.**
3. **Road surface opposite The Pigeons need repairing. Will be patched soon.**
4. **Bellamy Bridge white lines need repainting. This has now been undertaken.**
5. **Chevron Alley Bridge Hooks Drove where joins Green Drove needs repairing. Order placed to refix.**
6. **Turf Fen Bridge near Travellers Site Chevron has been removed and is in the grass. Order placed to refix**
7. **Pot hole outside Firtree Lodge, High Road, Guyhirn Order placed to patch.**
8. **School signs on the road outside Guyhirn School need repainting. Wisbech St Mary lines will be painted once the road has been patched.**

9. Water on pavement outside Guyhirn Village Hall. This pavement had been repaired, but the repair had directed the water towards the village hall and not onto the road to enable it to drain away. **Area marked for patching.**

From 05.09.11 meeting

1. Seadyke Road and Front Road, Murrow numerous pot holes and subsidence. Some areas have already been marked for attention and when will this work be carried out. **Work undertaken.**
 2. Gull Drove, Guyhirn very unlevel. Numerous cars are being damaged and oil being spilt from the damaged sumps onto residents properties. **Uneven road signs erected.**
 3. Garden Lane, Wisbech St Mary impassable due to road surface completely broken up. **Patching**
 4. Branch off a tree at Gull Road across the road near the junction of Gull Bank. **Order placed for work to be undertaken.**
 5. Uneven road sign has been erected at the Black Drove End of Gull Drove. Are other signs to be erected on other roads such as Garden Lane, Follleys Drove, Seadyke Road and Front Road, Murrow. **These will be patched in the future.**
 6. Chevrons at Hooks Drove and Green Drove, Murrow were in the grass but now have disappeared. **Will arrange for this to be erected.**
 7. Rummings Lodge, Rummings Lane, Wisbech St Mary a Willow tree over the road. **Will inspect.**
 8. The Pidgeons corner opposite side to the bungalows road subsiding. **Will be patching.**
 9. Follleys Drove very uneven. **Will inspect probably suitable for uneven road signs.**
- (d) Grass has been cut back by Mr J Gray at the High Road Bus stop. **Noted.**
- (e) CCC Highways regarding uneven road signs being erected in Galls Drove, Wisbech St Mary, Murrow Lane, Wisbech St Mary and Gull Drove, Wisbech. Murrow Lane and Gull Drove are both subject to financial scheme bids for funding 2012/2013, but as yet it is not known if these bids have been successful. **Noted.**
- (f) Highways Agency pothole on the A47 Lindens Close, Thorney only a temporary a permanent repair will be made in due course. **Noted.**
- (g) CCC Highways preparations for the coming winter season. **Mr Fowler will make enquiries as to whether this training is for farmers and will attend a training session to ascertain its suitability before inviting other farmers to undertake this training.**
- (h) CCC Highway Warden Inductions Invitation. **It was agreed that the clerk writes requesting induction sessions to be held within our parish or at least closer that Witchford, Huntingdon and Whittlesford.**
- (i) A47 Junction at Guyhirn. **Mr Payne advised the meeting that the only left turn from Gull Road, Guyhirn onto the A47 has been resurrected in view of a recent incident**

The following items were reported to the meeting.

1. Mr Barnes advised the meeting that the lines at Bellamy's Bridge had been repainted.
2. Mr Fish stated that he continues to try and obtain signs on the A47 for the turn into Lindens Close.
3. A discussion took place in respect of allowing Mr Ludlow to place an advertising board on the bus shelter at Bunkers Hill. The size of the board will be approximately 2½ foot x 2 foot. It was agreed that this should go ahead and Mr Payne will contact Mr Ludlow. In view of the document received regarding unauthorised advertising it is important that we ensure that this is not one of them.
4. The clerk stated that a email had been received from CCC regarding the re-filling of grit bins. It was agreed that bins be purchased for Murrow near the War Memorial, High Road, Guyhirn near the school and Murrow outside the School. It was requested that the clerk find out whether we can purchase our own bins other than from the County. It was requested that the bin at Lindens Close, Thorney Toll be refilled.

Highways reports from Councillors on problems

1. Long Drove, Murrow large hole caused by a contractor dropping a heavy item onto the road.
2. Gull Road S bends no sign from Guyhirn to Murrow. From Murrow to Guyhirn there is a sign.
3. Dogs at Turf Fen Travellers Site running loose onto the road.
4. Top of Mill Road, Murrow The Ferns hedge needs cutting.
5. Top Mill Road/Long Drove unction near railway crossing pot holes.
6. Fence been erected at the Old Signal Box causing poor visibility.
7. Tholomas Drove Junction of Plash Drove and the High Road hedge needs cutting.
8. Gull Road, Guyhirn to Murrow Bank edge of road subsiding.
9. Installing reflectors on posts at the side of the road are a waste of money as they are regularly knocked over it would be more cost effective to place reflectors on the road.
10. Junction of Cants Drove and Murrow Bank a grass triangle in the middle of road which is causing problems for heavy goods vehicles. Can this be tarmaced over.
11. Road subsidence in Sand Bank.

Highways reports from Councillors on streetlights

1. Streetlight at Station Road, Murrow. **MHB represented met with Mr Scrimshaw and would let the clerk have a quotation for the installation of a streetlight.**

179. **FINANCE**

- (a) To receive a budgetary control report for the 2010/2011 year end to date. The balance recorded was

£147418.59..

To approve payment of outstanding accounts:

(b) Clerk June salary	£533.33LGAct 1972 S112 Agreed
(c) Tax & NI	£157.78LGAct 1972 S112 Agreed
(d) Folders	£46.76 LG Act 1972 S143 Agreed

To approve payment of grants

(e) Guyhirn Playing Field	£540.00 LG Mis Prov 1976 S196 Agreed
(f) Wisbech St Mary Community Centre Jubilee	£to be agreed LG Act 1972 S137 Agreed to not make any decision until we have received a reply from FDC regarding the amount of grant received.
(g) Wisbech St Mary Playing Field	£2500.00LG Mis Prov 1976 S196
(h) Victim Support	£to be agreed LGA 1972 S137 Declined request as there are no figures available as to how many parishioners have been helped.
(i) Guyhirn speed limit reductions	£3700.00LG&Rating Act 1997 S30 Agreed but awaiting invoices.
(j) Wicksteed Playscapes	£3320.40 LG Mis Prov 1976 S196 Agreed.
(k) Murrow Playing Field	£2500.00LG Mis Prov 1976 S196 Agreed. It was agreed that the clerk advise the committee that a parishioners has stated that the grass has not been cut for some time.

180. **PARISH PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT MATTERS**

Parish Property Maintenance and Risk Assessment reports from Councillors

1. Fence to be erected at the Chapel of Ease to allow access to the Play area. **Mr Payne advised the meeting that the purchase of this land is now with the Solicitors and an Invoice should be received in due course.**
2. Murrow Village sign. **Mr Clark stated that the sign has been repaired and will be taken to be painted tomorrow.**

181. **GUYHIRN POND**

Quotation received to fill in pond £820.00 **A quotation of £820.00 was presented to the Parish Council for the filling in of part of the pond to enable an area for seating. It was agreed that this work be undertaken.**

182. **QUEENS DIAMOND JUBILEE**

Date of the Diamond jubilee Tuesday, 5th June 2012.

A letter was received from Wisbech St Mary Community Centre for funding to help with Diamond Jubilee celebrations in Wisbech St Mary. It was agreed not to make any decision until we have received a reply from FDC regarding the amount of the grant we are to receive from them.

183. **PROPOSED REDUCTION IN SPEED LIMITS**

Update regarding speed limit reduction. After a discussion it was agreed by 9 votes to 1 vote to go ahead and fund the speed limit signs in Gull Road and High Road Guyhirn at a cost of £3700.00. Part of this will be VAT which the Parish Council will be able to claim back. It was suggested that when Mr Gray visit the suppliers of the signs that Mr Davies attends with him to represent the Parish Council.

184. **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2012/13 – VENUES TO BE AGREED**

Monday, 16th January 2012 – Thorney Toll Village hall
Monday, 13th February 2012 – Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday, 12th March 2011 – Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday, 16th April 2011 – Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday 21st May 2012 - Annual Assembly & AGM - Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 18th June 2012 - Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday, 16th July 2012 – Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday 13th August 2012 – Murrow Village hall
Monday, 10th September 2012 – Wisbech St Mary Community Centre
Monday, 8th October 2012 – Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday, 5th November 2012 – Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday, 3rd December 2012 – Murrow Village hall
Monday, 7th January 2013 – Wisbech St Mary Community Centre

185. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)**

- Remembrance Sunday 13.11.11 Wisbech St Mary at 11.00 am, Murrow at 12.00 and Guyhirn at 12.30 pm.
- Thorney Toll Trowel presentation on the 4th December at 3.30 at Thorney Toll Village Hall.
- Guyhirn Bus Shelter to be placed at the agenda for the next meeting.

186. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 28th November 2011- Murrow Village Hall**

187. **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2011/2012**

Monday, 19th December 2011- Guyhirn Village Hall
Monday, 16th January 2012- Thorney Toll Village Hall

