

WHINBURGH & WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Whinburgh & Westfield Parish Council on Tuesday, 15 October 2019 at 7.30 p.m. in Whinburgh & Westfield Pavilion, Whinburgh Playing Field, Shop Street, Whinburgh.

**Present Councillors: Tony Needham (Chairman), Nick Anema, Siân Carrel, Mike Goodrick, Simon Whiteley.
Julian Gibson (Clerk)**

- 1 Apologies for absence.** It was **resolved** to accept the reasons for absence given by Cllr. Brace and Cllr. Hansell.
- 2 Declarations of interest.** Councillor Carrel said that, while she had no Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, for professional reasons which she could not disclose she would leave the room during Agenda item 8.5, and take no part in the discussion or vote.
- 3 Dispensations.** None.
- 4 Public Participation Session.**
 - 4.1 County Councillor Ed Connolly spoke about the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation (Agenda item 7.1).
 - 4.2 A member of the public pointed out that partially redundant and sometimes misleading signs relating to diversions and road closures were still in various locations in the parish. The Clerk said that this would be covered in Agenda item 6.1.
 - 4.3 A member of the public raised objections to the planning application which is the subject of Agenda item 8.5.
 - 4.4 A member of the public objected to the Council's proposal to install new play equipment on the old bowling green, saying that it would be clearly visible from her driveway, and would create noise, impacting on her amenity. She also complained about the PIR lighting on the path to the Pavilion coming on during the night.
 - 4.5 District Councillor Ian Martin presented a report, mentioning that his council had agreed to put aside £100k p.a. for a Community Matched Funding programme providing grants of up to £5k, and also £30k for VE and a VJ Day celebratory grant scheme. The aim was still to get the Local Plan adopted at the 12 December meeting of his council. He said that the revised methodology regarding call-in of planning applications had come into effect, and seemed to be effective, to the extent that the applications going to Planning Committee had been reduced to a more workable number.
- 5 Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 17 September 2019 were **confirmed** and **signed**.
- 6 Matters arising.**
 - 6.1 [4.1] **"Road Closed" signs arising from work on A47.** Apparently these signs were positioned by Highways England. The Clerk had contacted them regarding a similar issue with parishes either side of the A11, and received a positive response from Kier, saying that they were responsible for maintain the road for Highways England, and would deal with the matter, and so he then contacted them about the A47. He then received an automated response, saying that Kier were no longer responsible for these roads, and redirecting him to a different Kier email address, which he contacted but has not received a response. So he will now go back to Highways England regarding both issues.
 - 6.2 [6.3] **Bank signatories.** In an attempt to help Barclays sort this out Cllr Needham has taken new forms in to Dereham Branch. As there were no replies to the Council's letters,

the Clerk resurrected the complaint made to the Barclays Group Chief Executive about the Mandate Change Team before the May elections. Thanks to the Executive Client Relationship Manager who dealt with the original complaint, Barclays has now confirmed that the new mandate on the Council account is in effect (see Agenda item 7.8), and that afternoon the Clerk had received an email saying that Whinburgh Parochial Charities mandate was in place, although written confirmation was still awaited.

7 Correspondence. The following correspondence was **received**.

- 7.1 Norfolk County Council: *Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation*.
- 7.2 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *Annual General Meeting - 20 November 2019 - Invitation & Agenda*.
- 7.3 Came & Company: *Intra-group reorganisation affecting Stackhouse Poland Limited trading as Came & Company Local Council Insurance*.
- 7.4 The Pensions Regulator: *You're our key contact for re-enrolment - what you need to do*.
- 7.5 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Business accounts- at a glance* - balances on 30 September 2019.
- 7.6 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account* - 31 August - 30 September 2019.
- 7.7 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Active Saver Account* - 31 August - 30 September 2019.
- 7.8 Barclays Bank Plc: *Confirmation of your Mandate Change Request*.
- 7.9 Norfolk Constabulary: *Shipdham with Scarning & Mattishall Newsletter* - October 2019.
- 7.10 Norfolk Constabulary: *Breckland District Community Speedwatch Monthly Returns* - September 2019.

8 Planning.

- 8.1 **3PL/2019/1106/HOU: Lakeside, Dereham Road, Whinburgh.** Rear single storey oak framed extension. It was **noted** that the Clerk has responded "no objection" under his delegated powers having consulted with six councillors.
- 8.2 **3PL/2019/0976/HOU: Old School House, Shop Street, Whinburgh.** Erection of timber shed to the front of the dwelling. It was **resolved** that the Council had no objections.
- 8.3 **3PL/2019/1181/D: Northfields Lane, Westfield.** Reserved matters for submission for proposed 3 dwellings with detached garages following outline permission 3PL/2017/1162/O. The Council **agreed** to respond to this application and 3PL/1225/F as one.
- 8.4 **3PL/2019/1225/F: Northfields Lane, Westfield.** Change of Use of Agricultural Land to Residential (Garden Space) and Access Land (Provide Road Access Improvements) with conditions. The Council **resolved** that it objected in the strongest possible terms, flooding, sewerage, layout, overdevelopment, access, and biodiversity (lack thereof). The Council also **resolved** that it should add an objection concerning access to its earlier response to application 3PL/2018/1207/O, which is a part of the same site.

At this point Cllr. Carrel left the room.

- 8.5 **3PL/2019/1194/VAR: Lowdells House, Shop Street, Whinburgh.** Variation of Condition 2 of 3PL/2017/1472/F - Revised Entrance to the site. Although it was understood that Breckland had written to the applicant advising that they should withdraw the application, it was **resolved** that the Council objected, on the grounds that it had objected to the original application on the grounds of access safety, and the new plans were so cluttered it was impossible to make out the visibility splay it claimed to demonstrate. In addition, the rear half of the gardens had been taken out of the original site plans in order to make an area which was excluded, possibly in preparation for a

further application. As a result the proposed dwellings sat on much smaller plots (plot 1 in particular) and were out of character with neighbouring properties.

Cllr. Carrel rejoined the meeting.

- 9 **Westfield Fuel Allotment.** Cllr. Whiteley reported that he had spoken with the Chairman of the Fuel Allotment Trustees and also the secretary and the Rector as ex-officio Trustee. The Fuel Allotment is a registered charity governed by the Trustees, which administers Lolly Moor nature reserve and the Westfield allotments at Vinegar Hill. The Trustees have no intention of allowing any changes to the present set up to be made. The Council accepted the situation and expressed its complete satisfaction with the situation.
- 10 **Play equipment update.** In the absence of Cllr. Brace it was **agreed** to hold this item over to the next meeting.
- 11 **Electricity supply to Pavilion.** The Clerk reported that he had spoken with a representative of Utility Aid at a conference. They provide a service for parish councils and other organisations to try to obtain a better deal for the purchase of energy, and had made a recommendation for when the Council's present contract expires. However, Cllr, Brace had found another supplier which offered a better rate which Utility Aid did not look at because it was a relatively new player in the market. The Council **agreed** not to go through Utility Aid, and the Clerk will advise them accordingly.
- 12 **Finance.**
 - 12.1 **Credits.** Receipt of the following credits were **noted**:
 - 12.1.1 Yoga Club: £24.00 - 13 September 2019.
 - 12.1.2 Breckland Council: £3,550.00 Precept - 24 September 2019.
 - 12.2 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 30 September 2019 was **received**.
- 13 **Matters for consideration at next meeting.** Play equipment project.
- 14 **Next meeting.** The next meeting of the Parish Council was **confirmed** as **Tuesday, 19 November 2019**, at 7.30 p.m. in Whinburgh & Westfield Pavilion, Whinburgh Playing Field, Shop Street, Whinburgh.

Confirmed:

Tony Needham, Chairman

19 November 2019

Possible Future Meeting dates:

Tuesday, 19 November 2019

Tuesday, 17 December 2019

Tuesday, 14 January 2020

Tuesday, 18 February 2020

Tuesday, 17 March 2020

Meetings will only be called if there is business to discuss which cannot wait until the following scheduled meeting date.