

TRAWDEN FOREST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the Meeting of Monday 2nd February 2004

Present

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| Chairperson | Bob Jackson |
| Vice Chairperson | Karen Galvin |
| Councillor | Gillian Greenwood |
| Councillor | Barry Hodgson |
| Councillor | John Edmondson |
| Councillor | Ruth Crompton |
| Councillor | Beverly Robinson |

Also Present

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| Visiting Councillor | David Robertson |
| Press Representative | Fiona Ritchie |
| Police Representative | P.C. Claire Sharples |

Visitors

Emma Jane Macdonald
Adele Waddington
Alison Clay
Joanne Lynch
Neil Crompton
Joan Harper
Len Robinson
Mark Gardener
Linda Whitfield

Apologies

Melva Burton

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed correct, proposed by Councillor Karen Galvin, seconded by Councillor Ruth Crompton.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Secretary

Emma Jane Macdonald, Adele Waddington, Alison Clay and Joanne Lynch had all applied for the post of secretary to the Parish Council. They each received a job description and read it through. They are all computer literate. Alison Clay brought a copy of her C.V. After being interviewed by the councillors present they were asked to stay for the meeting to get the feel of things. All agreed to do so.

Old Joseph's Barn

Councillors Ruth Crompton and Beverly Robinson declared an interest in this planning matter.

Joan Harper felt that the building of two houses on the site of Old Joseph's Barn would cause traffic problems in the area. She thought that the development would be intrusive and would destroy the character of the area. There would be more cars in the area and less parking for residents where parking space is already at a premium. She pointed out that the site was in a dangerous condition.

Len Robinson said that he had a right of access over the site to his property and was afraid that this would be restricted. He was also concerned that local residents had not been notified about the plans.

Neil Crompton felt that there would be loss of privacy as the windows of the new houses would overlook his own home and that there would be parking problems.

It was proposed that we write to the planning office objecting to the overdevelopment of the site and the possible loss of a right of way for other properties, also to the lack of provision for public parking. All were in favour of this.

Football Pitch, Trawden Recreation Ground

Councillor John Edmondson has asked why the junior football teams have to take second place to football teams from out of Trawden. He has also stated that the pitch designated for the junior teams was not as smooth as it should be. He

felt it was unfair that the juniors should have the times of their matches moved to accommodate other teams.

Linda Whitfield pointed out that the Trawden Celtic Junior team had looked into improvement of the junior pitch but had been put off by the cost of £700 for an initial survey.

It was proposed by Councillor Bob Jackson, seconded by Councillor Beverley Robinson that we write to Suzanne Hodgson at Pendle Borough Council to see what we can find out with regard to the upgrading of the pitch and the allocation of pitches.

Wall at Well Head

Councillor Bob Jackson reported that a wagon had reversed into the wall at Well Head knocking a corner down. Councillor Barry Hodgson will look into getting the wall repaired at a reasonable price.

Notice Boards

Councillor Melva Burton reported by letter that the notice boards at Laneshawbridge cost £800 each. Colin Mitchell made the ones at Barrowford.

Councillor Barry Hodgson will ask him for a quote for two for us.

Police Matters

P.C. Claire Sharples gave her apologies for being unable to attend our last meeting. She told us that a surgery she had held in Trawden had had no attendances. She will try again at a different time to see if this makes any difference.

During January there had been no burglaries in Trawden. There had been a number of car crimes, with damage to vehicles and a Kit car had been stolen from Chelsea bake house. A lawn mower and tools had been stolen from Duke Street, Winewall.

There had been six crimes in Trawden compared with one in Foulridge. There had previously been a spate of car crimes in Laneshawbridge but these seemed to have stopped at the moment.

P.C. Sharples was concerned about the announcement by the Government that they were downgrading the drug Cannabis. People think it is now ok to smoke cannabis. She pointed out that it is still an illegal drug and that anyone under 17 found smoking Cannabis, repeat offenders and anyone found smoking it in a public place can still be arrested.

Someone will be going into local schools to try to get the message across to the children.

There have been a lot of complaints about poor parking in the village. It was felt that it was a matter of people not using due consideration for others. P.C. Sharples will continue to look into this matter.

The Rank Foundation has a grant of £250 available through P.C. Sharples for use in the community aimed at reducing antisocial behaviour or community cohesion. Councillor Barry Hodgson suggested that it could be used at the Youth Club. This will be looked into.

Councillor Barry Hodgson said that there had been a few incidents of rubbish being dumped on the Herders Road Car Park at Wycoller. P.C. Sharples will look into this and keep her eye on the situation.

A survey was completed from Pendle Council about how we would like to receive our correspondence, by e-mail or ordinary mail.

P.C. Claire Sharples left at 8.30pm.

Planning

Booklets 'A Parish Guide to the Planning Process' was handed out to each councillor.

Mobile Phone Mast to the rear of Lodge Holme

This was not a planning application but a consultation. The planners had looked at two other sites in the village, the television mast at Lower Draught Gates Farm and the Church Tower. They felt that the site at Lodge Holme would be the best. There was a feeling that other sites could also have been considered. Residents on the nearby Becks Close estate have objected to the idea. Councillor Bob Jackson proposed that we write to the company planning the mast stating that we would defer our opinion until plans have been submitted to Pendle Borough Council. Councillor Barry Hodgson seconded this and all were in favour.

Joanne Lynch left at 9.00 pm.

Outline planning for a single dwelling at Fern House

There were no objections to this.

Conservatory at Naze End Farm

There were no objections.

Erection of Three Storey Dwelling at Granville's Shop, Lane House

Although it was felt that the building of a house and double garage replacing the existing garage at the shop would

cause more parking problems there were no valid reasons to object to the plans.

Conversion of Old Joseph's Barn to two dwellings

We will write to object to this on the ground of over development and parking problems.

Visiting Councillor David Robertson left at 9.15 pm.

Parish Matters

Councillor Barry Hodgson has had many complaints about the proposed building of the Panopticon at Wycoller. Visiting Councillor David Robertson pointed out that no-one had been consulted about this even at County Council level. It was going to be built as an art work.

Councillor Barry Hodgson also said that the street lamps at Forest Shed had never been connected. We will write and try to get them sorted out.

Councillor John Edmondson pointed out that the pavement outside the Forest Shed development was very rough with large potholes. We will write and try to get them filled in. It is the developer's responsibility to repair any damage they do.

Councillor Ruth Crompton had received a complaint about lack of gritting on Colne Road during the recent snowy spell. Several cars were stranded at the bottom of the road. It was pointed out that there used to be three grit bins, one at Dog Bottom, one at the end of Bright Terrace and one near Trawden Hall. We will write and ask for them to be re-instated.

Councillor Crompton also asked if there had been any progress regarding our request for Dog Waste bins at Wycoller. Councillor David Robertson suggested that we write to Lancashire County Council and ask if they would provide them.

Councillor Beverley Robinson had also received many complaints regarding the proposed Panopticon at Wycoller. She reported that the bench opposite the Parish Hall was in a poor state of repair. Councillor Barry Hodgson said that he had mended the bench. It was thought that we might put a new bench on the site if we put flower tubs there.

The question of the status of the Tram Tracks is to be brought up at The Colne Area Committee Meeting next week. Councillor John Edmondson will attend on our behalf.

Councillor Bob Jackson told us that the road at Winewall in front of the former Chapel was a mess with many large potholes. He would like the Council to maintain it but they say that it is a public road maintained at resident's expense. Councillor Jackson will ring the highways department to see about this.

Correspondence

We have received a letter from Trawden Forest Junior School informing us about their forthcoming Arts Week Festival. Parents are welcome to attend the various events. It was proposed by Councillor Gillian Greenwood and seconded by Councillor Ruth Crompton that we again donate £200 towards this event, providing we have enough money in our accounts. All were in favour of this.

We have been sent a leaflet from Glasdon with prices of Dog Waste bins.

There was a notice regarding the Legal responsibilities for maintaining Church Burial Grounds. This was read out.

The top of Tram Tracks at Cottontree will be resurfaced with tarmac in an attempt to alleviate water damage problems.

The Air Ambulance Association has written asking us for a donation. Councillor Gillian Greenwood proposed that we donate £100. Councillor Barry Hodgson thought that this was too much. Councillor Beverley Robinson proposed that we look into the state of our finances before we make a decision. This was agreed.

We have had an e-mail from the residents of Hollin Cottage to say that the 'No Footpath' sign has disappeared from Hollin Hall and could it be reinstated. Councillor Barry Hodgson reports that it is on the ground Near White Lee Head Farm. We will ask Pendle Council to restore it.

We will write to L.C.C. to ask them to grit the road from the Clarion towards Nelson, or failing this to provide a sign to say that the road has not been gritted. All of the roads round about are gritted and it is dangerous when going from gritted roads to non gritted ones.

We will write to Pendle Council Footpaths Officer to ask if he can do anything about the stile at the Lodge Holme entrance to the Recreation ground, footpath number 230. There is a large puddle there which makes entrance to the grounds difficult.

Allotments

A dangerous tree was due to be inspected. We are not sure if this has been done or what the outcome was. Councillor Barry Hodgson is to look into this.

Any Other Business

Mark Gardener representing the Trawden Community told us a little of the groups aims. Some of the group are going for training. They are hoping to get funding to benefit the village. They will draw up a Parish Plan and consult the villagers about it. They would like to liaise with the Parish Council about this.

Jubilee Garden

Work has begun on the Jubilee Garden site, (formerly Cottontree Garage).

Appointment of Secretary

Councillor John Edmondson left the meeting as one of the applicants is his sister. All the applicants were thanked for their attendance. They then left the meeting.

After a short discussion it was decided unanimously by the remaining Councillors, with the exception of Councillor Gillian Greenwood, who abstained, that the post be offered to Mrs Alison Clay as the most suitable candidate. Letters will be sent informing the applicants.

Councillors

We are two Councillors short. Villagers will be informed of this in the Colne Times and asked if anyone would like to join us.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm.