

Winterton Town Council

Date: February 2011
Pam Dudson – Town Clerk
Phone: 01724 732647

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON 15 FEBRUARY 2011 AT 7.15 PM IN THE OLD
SCHOOL HALL COMMUNITY CENTRE, WINTERTON.

Present

Cllr Fran Fletcher – Chair (Mayor)	Cllr Francesca Marritt (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr Robert Bridge	Cllr Darren Hawley
Cllr Linda Cawsey	Cllr Gordon Leitch
Cllr Lesley Langton	Cllr Alan Smith

Apologies for absence:

Cllr Sylvia Hotchin; Cllr Matt Buckley, Cllr Marilyn Harrison, Cllr Lucinda Hopkins, Cllr Don Johnson, Cllr Allan Smith, Cllr Kim Powell, Cllr Pat Smith, Cllr Mick Foster and Cllr Bernard Regan.

Declarations of interests by councillors present as standing issues.

23/11 TO CONSIDER MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 21ST December FOR APPROVAL.

The minutes were approved.

24/11 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES.

There were no matters arising to be considered.

3/11 TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE.

1. **Wii Project.** The Council agreed to support the Wii Project.
2. **Winterton C of E INFANTS SCHOOL** - Thank you letter was received in relation to the £1500.00 contribution made in respect of the cost of repairs to the shared drive.
3. **DJ Youth Award.** Nominations are to be considered by the council in committee.

4/11 TO CONSIDER PROGRESS REPORTS.

1. **Winterton Rangers.** Considered at Appendix 1.
2. **Travellers** – Winterton. The Travellers have moved now. Site has been cleared of very extensive rubbish. **Action** – a letter be sent to NLC thanking them for their help.
3. **RBS Accts Package.** £295 for the package. £225 Training. £95 per year for license. A quote is awaited.
4. **Winterton Agricultural Society.** Considered at Item No. 176/10

5. **Infants School.** Have written a thank you letter to the council for the generous funding.
6. **Scouts Group.** Have now acknowledged and also thanked the council for the £400.
7. **Illuminations.** The illuminations are still to be removed. Action: Clerk is chasing this up.
8. **Wind Turbines Exhibition.** Is to be held Thursday 20 January 1 – 8 pm.
9. **Marmion Drive Playing Field.** Containers are on site and work is commencing.
10. **Pie and Pea Supper with Quiz** - 80 odd tickets sold to date.
11. **NDPF.** The Funding Committee will update the Council on progress and planning. **Action:** Protocol to be considered on this. .
12. **Bus Provision.** Considered on Agenda Item 166/10
13. **CIVIC SERVICE.** Sunday 23rd Councillors are invited to join the Mayor at 2.15 pm at the Old School Hall. Seating will be reserved at the front of the Church for Civic Dignitaries and the Council.
14. **Furniture for the Ark.** Two office chairs and two filing cabinets have been obtained. Consideration to the purchase of a small second hand fridge being made.
15. **Newsletter** – Item considered as Item No. 173/10
16. **Election.** The Council are raising awareness of forthcoming elections and of the benefit of ensuring a ready supply of prospective candidates.
17. **Nassau House.** It was reported that all residents of the home are to be re-housed in accordance with their wishes.

5/11 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

- APPLICATION NO: PA/2010/1374 – Mr & Mrs M Drinkall - Granted with conditions.
- APPLICATION NO: PA/2010/ 1365 – Mr D Muldoon - Refused

6/11 TO CONSIDER WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

There were no Ward Councillors in attendance. However Cllr Cawsey had sent information via Cllr Hopkins for the Council.

7/11 TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF ACCOUNTS PAID BY THE TOWN CLERK UNDER DEVOLVED AUTHORITY.

Resolved: Accounts were approved for payment for January 2011 (See Appendix I)

Although approved, a query as to the benefit of a water meter was registered against the account submitted by AWA in respect of the provision of Water Services to the Ark.

8/11 TO RECEIVE POLICE AND NAT REPORTS

No meeting had been held.

9/11 TO CONSIDER ISSUES ARISING FROM THE OLD SCHOOL HALL AND THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE (ARK).

It was reported that in relation to setting up the office at the Ark that the only matters outstanding relate to the installation of Fire Extinguishers and obtaining a Fire Certificate.

10/11 TO RECEIVE DAVE HEY AND SEAN BRENNAN'S REPORT WITH REFERENCE TO THE COMMUNITY HUB.

In addressing the Council, Mr Brennan of NLC provided an update. Councillors were advised of the Hub being located in a building which was currently being renovated near the Winterton Junior School. It is scheduled to be opened in May, Mr. Brennan reported on an expectation that the Hub would be used to house other NLC services which would include a Local Link, but possibly a Registrar of Deaths, Citizen's Advice Bureau and North Lincs Homes. Responding to a query on the likely opening hours, Mr Brennan reported on current thinking which was to plan for 14 hours per week rising to 9 to 5 Monday to Friday with possibly Saturday am and one evening.

Councillors were encouraged at the proposed enhancement of facilities in Winterton but were concerned at the possibility of being responsible for the building and on costs in the event NLC budget considerations meant that it was unable to continue with the service. Mr Brennan endeavoured to assuage concerns by indicating that any such consideration was a long way off and in any event, would be managed to ensure that the Council (or anyone else able) would not find themselves in an untenable position.

11/11 TO CONSIDER A MINI BUS CONTRACT TO BRIGG OR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT.

During discussion, Councillors identified a number of areas which required clarification in advance of any decision. These included a determination of the benefits of buying a new Bus at approx £28,000.00, second hand one at approx £10,000.00 or opting for contract hire where at the end of the hire period, there is no residual value to the vehicle. Also considered was the need for a Risk Assessment, as although the vehicle may be owned by a "Co-operative", there would need to be someone or some organisation with overall responsibility. Mention was also made of a scheme being operated in a neighbouring village.

Resolved that Cllr Matt Buckley obtain further information on how a Mini Bus could be operated together with information on the Risk Assessment involved.

12/11 TO CONSIDER ISSUES AROUND WIND TURBINES.

Bearing in mind the meeting is scheduled for the 20th January, it was agreed to delay any further discussion on this topic until the next Town Council meeting.

13/11 TO CONSIDER NOMINATIONS FOR THE DON JOHNSON YOUTH AWARD AND THE BURGON CIVIC AWARD.

It was reported that although some names had been received, there were others in the community who could perhaps be recognized if greater publicity was given to these two awards. It was therefore agreed that these would all be presented at the Annual Town Meeting to be held in May.

14/11 OPERATION WATERMARK – CLLR M BUCKLEY.

Cllr Buckley spoke of an idea to deal with any potential flooding in Winterton, which could possibly involve a joint exercise with a neighbouring village. The plan would see an involvement by the Fire Brigade and respective Town Councils in order to test the community response to a flood.

15/11 TO CONSIDER CHANGING STANDING ORDERS FOR MEETING TO COMMENCE AT 7.15PM

Councillors discussed a revision to the start and conclusion time for meetings as detailed in Standing Orders.

RESOLVED – That the meetings now commence at 7.15pm and that the end time of 9.30pm remain unchanged.

16/11 TO CONSIDER A SMALL CONTAINER FOR PETER PARKER.

The Clerk appraised Councillors of the difficulty being experienced by the Park Keeper in housing and transporting materials and equipment he needed to store for the Park. Discussion revealed that a couple of locations existed but were dependent on the Library and other matters being completed before any firm decision could be made. In the meantime it was agreed that as a temporary measure, the Clerk would discuss the possibility of taking up the offer of the Winterton Playing Field that the Park Keeper use a container to be located on the Playing Field.

17/11 TO CONSIDER WINTERTON A FAIR TRADE TOWN.

It was agreed to defer consideration of this matter to a future meeting.

18/11 TO CONSIDER COUNCILLOR AND PRESS ISSUES.

- Exchange Visits - Cllr Don Johnson advised colleagues of an exchange visit idea with the Winterton Country Junior school which would involve a forum being held at the school and which would be followed by a visit of schoolchildren to the Old School Hall to experience a meeting of the Town Council.
- Community Newsletter – Cllr Marilyn Harrison highlighted some delivery problems associated with the Newsletter and of the fact that some of the items included had reached the ‘sell by’ date. It was agreed that articles for inclusion would take account of publishing dates and that more members of the Town Council would consider helping with the delivery. Those who can help to get in touch with Mrs N Mumby. Contact details can be obtained from the Clerk.
- The Clerk reported the resignation of Mrs V Mumby.

Issues raised in Committee

19/11 TO CONSIDER THE COSTINGS PUT FORWARD BY THE ARCHITECT FOR FUNDING FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL TO ENABLE THEM TO MOVE FORWARD ON NEWPORT DRIVE AND TO CONSIDER A PROTOCOL FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE WINTERTON PF COMMITTEE.

Approval was given for payment in the sum of £2575.00 plus VAT from the MDPF fund in respect of foundation work in respect of the new Winterton Club House.

20/11 TO CONSIDER A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO WREN TO ENABLE WINTERTON RANGERS TO REPLACE THEIR ROOF, AND TO APPROVE A £500 GRANT TOWARDS THE WINTERTON RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB.

In considering the Grant request, Councillors were advised that Winterton Rangers has now changed its Status such that they are now a ‘Not for Profit Community Interest Company’ and as such have acquired valuable safeguards; amongst which are “Security of Assets”. Registered at Companies House, this provides safeguards for all of the assets managed by the Club and includes ensuring that in the event the Club folds, the grounds, buildings and any cash would be protected against a property developer wishing to use the land for development.

Resolved: That a grant of £500.00 be approved.

21/11 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE WINTERTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR FINANCIAL HELP TOWARDS THE COST OF WORK ON THE SHOW GROUND.

The Agricultural Society request concerned an infrastructure improvement application in respect of toilet and car park access, signage and 'Astra turf' in front of the Visitors Office. They are looking for 5% - 10% of the likely cost of £12,500.00 (in the order of £600.00 to £1200.00). Precept provision has not been made for this expense. The £500 balance of the £1000 precept for the Rangers Budget exists which could be utilized.

Prior to the discussion Cllr D Johnson is the Chair of the Society and Cllr M Harrison declared their Interests, left the meeting and took no part in discussion.

Resolved: That a grant of £625.00 be approved.

22/11 TO CONSIDER ANY UPDATES ON MARMION DRIVE PLAYING FIELD AND WEST STREET PARK.

After Councillors were advised of an apparent confusion over the styles of fencing required, the Mayor advised that her previously submitted quote on behalf of Fletcher's in respect of the provision of fencing was now not viable and clarification was sought on the style of fencing to be used on the various boundaries. Further discussion to determine the outcome proved inconclusive and it was agreed to give authority to the Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk to make the decision on the fencing.

Meeting closed 9.30 pm

Signed: _____ Town Mayor

APPENDIX 1

TO CONSIDER A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO WREN TO ENABLE WINTERTON RANGERS TO REPLACE THE ROOF AND TO APPROVE A £500 GRANT TOWARDS THE WINTERTON RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB.

Prior to consideration of the Grant request, Mr Dave Crowder advised Councillors of recent developments and explained how these affected the present position. Mr Crowder first advised that the Grant for the Roof had been received and that the commencement of work on site was imminent. He then went on to give an outline of developments since 2002. A brief chronology indicated that during the last 7 year period, WRFC had obtained £500,000.00 in grants in order to address the dire structural and financial position of the Club. In 2008, they took stock to assess the current situation. Bearing in mind that the Club had received offers from property developers to buy the premises, the Club took legal advice and discovered that the Club was vulnerable to such an approach.

The answer lay in the adoption of an alternative status, that of a 'Not for Profit Community Interest Company'. This provides protection from any speculative approach by property developers by the acquisition of valuable safeguards; notably the "Security of Assets". Registered at Companies House, this provides safeguards for all of the assets managed by the Club and includes ensuring that in the event the Club folds, the grounds, buildings and any cash would be protected against a speculative property developer wishing to use the land for development. This ensures that the facility remains in Winterton in perpetuity.

Achieving 'Not for Profit Community Interest Company' and the associated Locking of Assets status also permits the ability to apply for differing Grant opportunities which are not normally available.