

**Minutes of the North Muskham Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017  
at the Muskham Rural Community Centre commencing at 7pm**

**Present:** Councillor I Harrison in the Chair  
Councillor P Beddoe  
Councillor S Dolby  
Councillor Mrs J Hurry  
Councillor D Saxton

**Also in attendance:** 32 members of the public and Councillor Mrs Saddington

**Apologies:** Councillors N Hutchings  
Councillor P Morris

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that, subject to agreement of Members, he would move agenda item 6(a) regarding the planning application for a development of affordable homes to the first item on the agenda after 'Declarations of Interest' and 'Minutes'.

**1. Declarations of interest**

It was AGREED that any declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting.

**2. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016, were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Planning**

(a) 16/01885/FULM – Land At Main Street, North Muskham, Nottinghamshire – Proposed development of 16 new affordable homes

With the agreement of Members, it was AGREED that agenda item 6(a) on the agenda be brought forward for early consideration.

The Chair advised that significant mistakes had been identified in the planning statement submitted with the application. Nottingham Community Housing Association were going to ask to revise the statement and resubmit it this evening. The Chair had advised NCHA that the Parish Council were meeting this evening and, given the misleading information, subject to the view of Members, it was considered highly unlikely the application would be determined.

The Chair was aware that Councillor Mrs Saddington had also spoken to the applicants.

A further 21 day consultation period would need to be given following the resubmission of the application.

The Chair stated that the Parish Council were most disappointed that the applicant had submitted an incompetent submission and questioned how it had passed the verification process.

It was not the Parish Council's intent to enter in to any further discussion as it would not wish to pre-determine the application.

Councillor Dolby asked if there was a deadline for submission to secure Government funding for the scheme. The Chair advised he did not have that information but was aware that Government funding had changed recently for affordable housing schemes.

It was noted that a revised design statement had been uploaded on to the District Council's website after 6pm this evening, which also recorded the motion passed by the Parish Council.

The Clerk was asked to seek confirmation from the Planning Officer that statutory consultees had been consulted on the correct site, given the inaccuracies in the planning application.

- (b) Decision Notice - 16/01593/FUL – Edgefield House, Vicarage Lane, North Muskham – Proposed new link structure between listed building and timber building, construct extension to the front of the timber building (re-submission of 16/00884/FUL) and continue the use for the storage and distribution of motorcycle parts.

Members received and noted the decision notice granting planning permission.

- (c) Decision Notice – 16/01594/LBC – Edgefield House, Vicarage Lane, North Muskham – Proposed new link building between listed property and storage building and an extension to the front of the storage building (re-submission of 16/00885/LBC)

Members received and noted the decision notice granting planning permission.

- (d) Tree Preservation Application – Thompsons Tree

The Clerk advised that the tree was located on common land, with ownership being shared by the owners of a 'gate', of which there were five.

One of the land owners had been contacted and had confirmed that there was no intention to do anything with the tree, it was on open grazing land. He had confirmed he would speak to the land owners about the Parish Council's desire to protect the tree with a Tree Preservation Order. He had also advised that further historical information on the tree may be forthcoming from Holme residents who had used the ferry to access North Muskham for school.

It was AGREED that the Clerk proceed with submission of the application immediately.

- (e) Submission of Notts Minerals Local Plan

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from the PAGE Planning Consultant that the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan had been submitted to the Secretary of State. The Parish Council would be updated again when the Programme Officer had made

contact.

The Clerk updated Members on information that had been requested in November regarding the Langford Quarry extension, particularly with regard to noise and potential closure of existing footpaths.

It had been confirmed that a noise survey had been done. The closest residential area to the proposed working area was the northern edge of Holme village and the assessments had been made in that context to evidence that the proposed workings can be carried out within acceptable noise limits. The planning application sections relating to noise assessments would be forwarded to the Parish Council.

With regard to the footpaths, the existing public footpaths east of the Trent are not being closed or diverted. However, there was a proposal to create an internal haul road crossing over a footpath for operational access for a duration of two years, commencing in approximately 3 years. Any crossing would be designed and constructed in accordance with the requirements of Nottinghamshire County Council and would be suitably signed/waymarked.

#### **4. Public 10 minute session**

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.14pm to allow questions from members of the public present.

There were no questions and the meeting was reconvened at 7.15pm.

#### **5. District & County Councillor Session**

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.15pm to allow Councillor Mrs Saddington to present her report.

Councillor Mrs Saddington first wished everyone present a Happy New Year.

##### Notts Minerals Local Plan

The plan had been presented to Full Council on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016 and then submitted to the Secretary of State. It was expected that hearings would take place in Spring 2017.

##### East Midlands Ltd

This company had been retained to work on street lighting in the Newark area to clean and change the programming. There would be a move across to LED lights which should last longer and provide more directional light. Work would commence in January.

##### Crime in Rural Areas Consultation

Councillor Mrs Saddington noted that the matter was on the agenda for consideration. The Clerk advised that the closing date for the consultation had been extended to 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

### Christmas Tree Lights

Councillor Mrs Saddington commented on how festive the Christmas tree had looked and extended her thanks to everyone involved in siting and decorating the tree, especially Mr Walley for his kind donation of the tree itself.

The Chair confirmed that two more sets of lights would be purchased for 2017.

The Chair thanked Councillor Mrs Saddington for her report and reconvened the meeting at 7.26pm.

## **6. Parish Council Matters**

### (a) Skate Park

The Clerk advised that the skate park would be inspected with the Village Handyman this coming Thursday with a view to progressing the works identified in the inspection. A copy of the report had been circulated to all Members as requested.

### (b) WREN Application – Extension to Play Area

The Clerk advised that a meeting had been held with the Chairman of the Muskhams Rural Community Centre to discuss the area of land identified to extend the play area offering to a younger age group. The Chairman was in agreement with the area and the proposed pieces of equipment and would raise it with the Committee. He had also enquired whether the bucket swings could be replaced.

Discussions had also been held with the play group leaders who had questioned whether a 'tunnel' type of equipment might be included. The leaders were pleased with the proposals that had been put forward for the two additional pieces.

Proludic had been asked to investigate if there was any 'tunnel' type of equipment available, and had also been asked to provide a quotation to replace the bucket swings. This would be with the Parish Council by the end of the week and would be circulated to Members on receipt

The Clerk advised that the WREN grant application form had to be completed online. The deadline for submission of grants was towards the end of February 2017.

### (c) Transfer of Land – Manor House Drive

The Clerk confirmed that documentation had been issued to the Parish Council's Solicitors regarding the transfer of land at Manor House Drive from the District Council.

No information had been received regarding the transfer of the balance of Section 106 monies to the Parish Council and the Clerk had requested clarification on this matter.

The Chair queried whether the land would be leased or transferred to the Parish Council. The Clerk advised that information was not known but would be included within the documentation sent to the Solicitors.

It was confirmed that the Parish Council had no intention to change the land, it would remain as it was currently.

## **7. Environmental & Community Issues**

### **(a) Footpath Update – Riverside Footpath and Section 130**

The Clerk advised that a meeting had been held with the Parish Council's Solicitors to discuss a Section 130.

The Chair commented that the risks to the Parish Council needed to be identified before a way forward could be determined. It was understood that a Section 130 notice could be applied to one part of the highway regardless of other impediments.

An invitation be extended to the Parish Council's Solicitor to attend a future meeting to explain the risks when known, if that was considered necessary.

The Chair advised that a little while ago the Clerk had sought confirmation from Notts Wildlife Trust on whether they had ownership of the footpath alongside the lakes at Manor House Drive. Confirmation had been received that their ownership stopped at the fence.

It was AGREED that the Clerk would now contact Nottinghamshire County Council to seek to identify ownership and responsibility of the footpath.

### **(b) Emergency Plan**

The Chair confirmed that the laptop would be held in the village so, in the event of an emergency, information would be available as soon as possible.

### **(c) Crime in Rural Areas Consultation**

The Clerk advised that the deadline date for responses had been extended to 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

It was AGREED that Members would review the documentation and advise the Clerk of any views for collation prior to submission.

### **(d) Limit on NHS Prescriptions – drop in events**

It was AGREED that consultations received regarding services provided by the National Health Service be circulated to Members, and details of any public events on those consultations be posted in the village noticeboards and on the Muskham Messenger.

The Chair advised that at a recent meeting of the Newark Consultative Healthcare Group a presentation had been made by the CCG. The CCG were looking at substantial consultation on points of spend that can be reduced.

It was AGREED that the link would be circulated to Members and posted on the Muskham Messenger.

The Chair referred to the proposal to do away with the current free bus service that ran between Newark Hospital and Kings Mill Hospital. Costs were currently £33,000 per annum, a cost of £16.60 per trip. The Consultative Group had been successful in getting the CCG and Health Trust to reconsider removing the service if funding was to come from none NHS quarters. It was intended that letters would be issued to all Parish and Town Councils to seek financial support for the service.

There was currently no charge made for the service, with an average of 9 people a day using it.

(e) Western Power Distribution – Severe Weather Bulletin Subscription Service

It was AGREED that the information to subscribe to the service would be circulated to Members and posted on the Muskham Messenger.

## 8. Highways

(a) Highways Log

Members received and noted the highways log.

It was noted that the street name at Marsh Lane had not yet been replaced. It was AGREED that the Clerk would chase the District Council for an installation date.

Notification had been received that the works to potholes on Vicarage Lane had been completed. However, this was not the case. It was AGREED that the Clerk would make direct contact with the Inspector to ask for a further inspection.

## 9. Financial

(a) Accounts for payment:

It was AGREED unanimously that the following accounts be agreed for payment.

- Village Handyman's hours – December - £135.00
- Clerk's Wages – December - £231.40
- HMRC – December - £57.80
- M Talbot – Wreathes for Remembrance - £34.00
- Lumalite – 2 x sets lights for Christmas Tree – £175.20
- J Saunders – Reimbursement for Renewal of Domain Name - £10.79
- MRCC – Meeting & Refuse (Dec), Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> Nov - £45.70

(b) To note any Receipts:

None

(c) Financial Report –30<sup>th</sup> November 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016

Members received and noted the financial report to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

(d) To set the Precept for the 2017/18 Financial Year

The Chair advised that he had met with the Clerk to discuss the budget preparations for the 2017/18 financial year.

The Clerk had been asked to insert more lines within the financial summary submitted to Members on a monthly basis, notwithstanding that this information was always available

within the backing papers prepared by the Clerk.

The Chair was seeking more transparency in the summary to give Members a better understanding of the Council's budget and financial position.

The Clerk had been asked to undertake some work and bring papers to the next meeting with a suggested budget.

The Clerk circulated an initial draft to Members who were asked by the Chair to look and review and feedback to the Clerk on any additional expenditure they considered was required.

The Clerk advised that the District Council had set a date of 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017 for the return of Precept information. It was AGREED that the Clerk would request an extension of time to submit the required information.

The Chair advised that the position with the monies accumulated for PAGE had not yet been verified. He suggested that, if it had not been established by the next meeting, a sum of £2,000 be retained by North Muskham and the balance shared between the other parished on a %age basis.

(e) Asset Inspection

The Chair confirmed that this would be undertaken prior to the next meeting.

**10. Notts Association of Local Councils**

(a) Election of Notts ALC Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Members noted correspondence from the County Secretary advising that Councillor I Walker, who had served as Chairman since 2009, had stepped down at the Annual General Meeting. He had been replaced by Councillor Briggs as Chairman. The position of Vice-Chairman has been filled by Councillor Senior.

(b) Referendum Principles not extended to Parish Councils 2017/18

Members noted correspondence received from the County Secretary confirming that the government had taken the decision not to extend council tax referendum principles to any size of parish or town council in 2017/18.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

Given that it was expected a revised planning application would be issued for the affordable housing scheme, the Chair proposed that the next meeting be held on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

This was unanimously AGREED and the Clerk was asked to communicate this to the relevant Planning Officer.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm