

CLARBOROUGH AND WELHAM PARISH **COUNCIL**

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Village Hall on Monday, 15th April, 2013 at 7.00 p.m.

Present were: Councillor P. Gibson (Chairman); Councillors Mrs. L. S. Baines, Mrs. A. Codling, B. Codling, B. Grice, B. W. Robinson and Mrs. F. M. P. Robinson; , District Councillor Mrs. K. Sutton, County Councillor Mrs. E. Yates (up to item 5), D. Airey (PCSO), J. E. Salmon (Clerk) and seven members of the public.

1 Apologies for Absence

Nil

2. Declarations of Interest

Wheatley Energy Forum: B.Grice

3. Minutes of previous meeting held on Monday, 2nd April, 2012

Upon a proposal by B. Codling which was seconded by B. Grice, the meeting agreed that the minutes of the previous annual public meeting held on Monday, 2nd April, 2012 be accepted as a true and correct record.

4. Matters Arising

The new Post Office facility was reported to be up and running in the Village Hall as from Thursday, 11th April.

The current position in respect of the old school site remained unclear. Councillor Yates agreed to make enquiries.

The skate park had opened during the year; noise issues were being addressed.

It was noted that Village Ventures had done a good job on behalf of the Parish Council for the Diamond Jubilee.

Alan Birt, now retired from the County Council, had taken up various issues for the Parish Council including the requested 30mph speed limit at Welham. The new County Council contact was noted to be Ian Parker.

5. Village or Neighbourhood Plan

SIGNED.....CHAIRMAN

Paul Willcock reported on a meeting held 7th March 2013 - see attached notes. In respect of the Bassetlaw District Council Development framework, paperwork had been received during the year but the current position was not clear. Paul Willcock proposed and Greg Herdman seconded a proposal that the meeting should recommend the Parish Council to support the group wishing to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan; this was agreed nem con.

6. PCSO's Report

It was noted that the PCSO would be returning to be working full-time in this area in the near future.

101 crimes in his beat area had been reported in the previous year 2011-12, which had reduced to 77 in 2012-13. Of these, the numbers in Clarborough & Welham Parish were 22 in 2011-12 and 17 in 2012-13.

The equivalent numbers for 'ASBO' type incidents were 112 (2011-12) and 71 (2012-13) of which 29 and 28 respectively were in the area of the parish.

Trading Standards had reported that doorstep crime tends to increase at this time of year and they urged the public to be alert.

7. Reports from Village Organisations

IT Group including Village Newsletter and Website (G. Herdman)
Village Ventures (G. Herdman)
Women's Institute (Mrs. L. S. Baines)
Gardening Club (B. Grice)
Parish Council (P. Gibson)
District Councillor (Mrs. K. Sutton)

8. Other matters raised by members of the public

Greg Herdman referred to ongoing work at the school.
The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20 p.m.

Presentation to Clarborough & Welham Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting
Monday 15 April 14, 2013
Clarborough Village Hall

Introduction

On 7 March 2013 a Village Meeting was held in the King's Arms at which 10 residents were present. The subject of the meeting was billed as "A Village Plan".

The meeting was given an outline of 2 different possibilities:

- i) A Neighbourhood Plan by Natalie Cockrell, Planning Officer for Bassetlaw District Council
- ii) A Community Led Plan by Karen Tarburton, Rural Officer for Bassetlaw for the charity Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN)

Following these presentations the group decided that they would like to look at the feasibility of producing a Neighbourhood Plan.

Why come to the Parish Council?

The one thing preventing this being put into immediate effect was the necessity to have the agreement of the Parish Council. The Council, being the legal representative of the community, is the only body which can sanction the establishment of a Neighbourhood Plan for the village. The Councillors can then ask others to carry out the process of developing the Plan.

So what is a Neighbourhood Plan?

Firstly, it is made possible by the Localism Act, which came into force in April 2012.

It is a legal document which allows a community to establish a framework for how it sees its community developing for the following 15 years.

It cannot reverse existing decisions within the community.

It is required to be positive and, if approved the Plan sits alongside the District Council's Core Strategy to ensure that the community develops as the community has decided.

How is it drawn up?

There are 5 stages in the development of a Neighbourhood Plan, all of which have to be followed in order to establish the legality of the plan.

- Stage 1: *Agree a neighbourhood*, establish a group to write the plan and present the issues to be included. This has to be approved by Bassetlaw District Council and is open to public view for a period of 6 weeks. A Plan can be rejected at this stage if BDC do not think it meets criteria such as having a reason!!! Are there issues of reasonable depth to justify the expense.
- Stage 2: *Preparing and writing the NP* must include community involvement by survey, meetings or other means to find out the views of the local residents, businesses and organisations.
- Stage 3: *Examination* of the Plan by an independent inspector appointed by BDC. The inspector can approve it as written, ask for changes or reject it. This is to determine if the proposals are legal and feasible.
- Stage 4: *Referendum* of the local community to accept or reject the plan. This would be organized by BDC.
- Stage 5: *Adoption* by BDC as part of their Core Strategy for the District if approval is given by the majority of those voting in the Referendum.

The time scale for this is from 18-24 months ie 2 years! It is a marathon, not a sprint!

Are there any other villages doing this?

Yes – Hayton has started; N & S Wheatley, Sturton and Leverton Parish Councils have combined to develop one plan for all their villages and are in Stage 2; Shireoaks; Harworth and Elkesley are all at various stages.

Finance

There are a number of grants available via National Government and other sources to help the Group (via the Parish Council) pay for the various expenses involved in developing the Plan. This is in the region of £7500 from the government with other possible sources also available eg CPRE.

This is a limited pot for 2 years and BDC decide on its allocation to specific communities. To date not many applications have been made but the impetus is increasing and as I have outlined several BDC area communities are starting out – much like us. So if we want the chance of finance we have to get going now!

There is also help to BDC of up to £25000 so that the council can provide support to those developing a Plan.

What help is available?

BDC has a Planning Officer, Natalie Cockrell, who works with groups to advise and support the process. So far she has been very helpful. (This is where some of the £25000 goes!). Various websites have background documents for both Councillors and those doing the work.

Who can take part?

Anyone in the community. At present 12 people have shown a direct interest. The BDC representative at the meeting stated that this was a very good number for a first meeting! Anyone else interested can get involved. All the community will be asked to give their views at Stage 2 of the process.

What are the advantages of a Plan?

It allows a community to have a say in future development in the village. I quote from a document giving advice to councillors, “do communities want planning *done for them rather than to them*”. That is, development takes place according to how the community wishes it to take place not how an outside group, developer, council etc may wish it to be. This protection lasts for 15-20 years.

Where are we now in the process?

We need the approval of the Parish Council to proceed with this. The PC is the only conduit through which a Neighbourhood Plan can be implemented and the only body in the village in whose name an application can be made. Ideally, there would be a least 1 Councillor on the group.

Without that approval the process stops right now!

The importance is held in the quote I mentioned earlier, namely:

Do we want planning done for us or to us??

SIGNED.....CHAIRMAN

Thank you for your time.

Some suggested issues:

- 1 Old school site
- 2 BDC land between St John's and Celery Cottages
- 3 Welham by-pass
- 4 Other parcels of land around the 2 villages

Let me take, perhaps a silly example:

There is land on Church Lane next to the vicarage – I only take this because as far as I am aware it is completely uncontroversial and there are no plans for this in any form. What if a developer comes along and wants to build a factory? An estate? A zoo? A shop? A filling station? In the present circumstance there is nothing to stop any of these eventually going through. If, however, it had been included in the Plan with a specific outline of possible future

BDC and even the Planning Inspectorate should appeals be undertaken. use then that is the limitation placed on that land and heavily influences