

Minutes of the Clarborough & Welham Parish Council extra meeting held 7th February 2017 at 7.00pm in the Clarborough Village Hall, Main Street, Clarborough

Present: Cllr Gibson (Chair), Cllr Baines, Cllr George, Cllr F Robinson, Cllr B Robinson, Cllr Avery & Cllr Willcock

Others present: Mrs Davies (Clerk) District Councillor Kath Sutton

604/17 To receive apologies for absence

No apologies received.

605/17 To receive any Declarations of Interest in any items on the agenda

No Declarations of Interest received.

606/17 Open session for members of the public to speak

District Councillor Sutton congratulated the Steering Group and Parish Council on the fantastic turn out for the referendum and the 'yes' vote.

607/17 To approve payment for the grass cutting on the field £720.00 (1954) from N.P grant

Cllr George proposed to approve the above payment; this was seconded by Cllr Willcock and resolved by the Council. The payment is part of the Neighbourhood Plan grant.

At this point Cllr Bowler attended the meeting.

608/17 To operation of the licence for working the land

Cllr Willcock gave the following Referendum results:

Yes	318	87.8%
No	43	11.8%
Spoilt	1	0.3%

Total votes cast 362 - 41.99% of 862 on the electoral role. This is the highest turnout in Bassetlaw which has average of 23% on 5 other ballots.

Cllr Willcock thanked all those in the Parish who have in some way on the Plan, former SG members, the pubs and shop, Scouts etc. etc. In addition thank you to the Parish Council which has had the confidence to let the Steering Group do its work – there are many Parish Councils who do not let that happen!

609/17 Operation of Licence

The 'Yes' vote at the Referendum ensures that the 'Public Open Space and Amenity' land (as

defined in the Licence Clause 2) and as outlined in the NP Policy 1 will be gifted to the Parish Council. This was part of the original decision on 14 July 2016 by BDC Cabinet Meeting.

This gives the Parish Council the right to occupy the land & was signed by the Parish Council Chairman on 19th January 2017.

The Licence will be replaced by a full agreement to transfer the land to the PC. This document will be very similar to the Licence in wording. This was sent to the BDC legal department on 20 January 2017.

610/17 Developing the Residential Site

The residential land has been put on the market subject to tender. A brochure has been produced and 'For Sale' boards should go up this week. The relevant section of Policy 1 of the NP is included in the brochure.

611/17 To consider a name for the land

The Councillors discussed some ideas for naming the site; it was agreed to speak with residents who may know of some local history associated with the site, which could be incorporated into the name.

612/17 To consider options for the management of the open green space

Cllr Willcock discussed the two elements of the site; which are

- Allotments
- Wildflower meadow

The Council needs to decide where the allotments should go. After looking on the map where the existing hedge is and concluding that this would be an ideal area as the hedgerow is already a natural screen. Cllr Willcock proposed that some of the land behind the hedge nearest the southern extension of Broad Gores would be the ideal location for the allotments; this was approved by the Council

The rest of the area would then be wildflowers, trees, seating etc.; details of which would be sorted out at a later date.

613/17 Management of the Wildflower Meadow

Cllr Willcock reported that most of the work on the wildflower meadow would be more mechanical, e.g. spraying, ploughing etc., this all needs organising and there are other issues such as hedge planting and tree planting.

Cllr Willcock proposed to set up a Working Group, Friends of Group etc., and work in a similar style to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group; giving regular reports to the Parish Council; this was seconded by Cllr George and resolved by the Council.

It was agreed that this group needs establishing urgently as there is a seasonal cycle of work, which we can catch to try to sow our wildflowers by the end of 2017. This is feasible according to advice from Notts Wildlife Trust and it gives a 'palette' for more detailed design of this area.

It was agreed to put an article in the newsletter and organise a meeting to try to establish this group.

614/17 To consider options for the management of the allotments

There are two options for the management of the allotments. The first one would be direct management by the Parish Council; the second one would be to set up an allotment association, which are common place.

An Allotment Association takes on the full management of the Allotments with a Parish Council representative on their committee. Cllr Willcock has copies of documents from an Allotment Association near Newark which was established in 2012, with their Parish Council's backing. Cllr Willcock proposed to establish an Allotment Association to manage the allotments; this was seconded by Cllr Bowler and resolved by the Council.

It was agreed to agenda an item for the next Parish Council meeting to consider that the council has to approve the development of the allotments to ensure that certain standards are kept; this was agreed.

Cllr Willock reported that 17 residents suggested that they would be interested in an allotment during the consultation on the BDC land in September 2015; he has contact details for them all.

Cllr Willcock proposed that the Parish Council becomes a member of the National Allotment Society, which gives the Parish Council access to their advice, expertise and legal services. Also, that the Allotment Association is required to become a member of the National Allotment Society itself. The cost is £55.10 per year. Cllr Avery seconded the proposal, which was the resolved by the Council.

615/17 To consider finance for the land prior to any grants

Cllr Willock reported that there are many grant funding bodies available; but there may be some immediate costs to the Parish Council. However Cllr Willcock suggested that the two bodies be allowed to take on the business of funding applications and utilisation obviously in liaison with each other. The land management group could work through the Parish Council in exactly the same way as the N. Plan has done. The Allotment Association should possibly be more independent but we would need advice for this from the National Allotment Association.

Early management of all the land should be unified and grant funded as far as possible. Once this has taken place the two management elements can separate.

616/17 To discuss having public meetings in relation to the management of land and allotments

Cllr Willcock circulated leaflets advertising public meetings for each of the two elements of the land; these will go out to residents with the results leaflet next week.

➤ *Wildflower Meadow* – 2 March 7.30 at The Gate Inn as this is most urgent.

➤ *Allotments* – 7 March 7.30 at the King's Arms

617/17 To consider what help and advice for management and other expertise is required

We need advice on:

Wildflower Meadow - Notts Wildlife Trust has already been consulted and are keen to have a continuing interest in the meadow. They have many contacts and can give much advice – and it is free! I have already had a couple of offers of large trees – probably free and have enquiries out for more. The Woodland Trust also provide a variety of trees and hedging shrubs free.

Allotments – I have already suggested membership of NAS to tap into their expertise. We could try to get someone up to our first meeting with residents. Once the land is prepared then most of the cost will be incurred in establishing allotments.

618/17 Finance – we have a contact that has a reputation in Bassetlaw for being able to give excellent advice on funding. She would be very happy to work with us.

619/17 To consider what immediate action is required on the land

Cllr Willcock pointed out three immediate points for action for the open green space land.

a. Demarcating the boundary – stakes etc. Cllr Willcock explained the progress of spraying, raking and ploughing the land to kill off the weeds etc. the Chair suggested aiming for the

working group to be established by the end March to look at the preparation of the land and funding.

b. Interpretation Boards - to show the land and to explain what is happening each month or so. As a temporary display we could make two of these ourselves. The Chair proposed to set a £300 budget for the displays; this was seconded by Cllr Bowler and resolved by the Council. Cllr Willock offered to make the displays. One could be placed at each end of the existing footpath

c. Notices for dog fouling and rubbish dumping. After discussion of where, if any, to site dog fouling notices and /bins; it was agreed to agenda this item for the next Parish Council meeting.

620/17 To discuss the Parish Council's representation

Cllr Willcock is prepared to be involved in both of the above groups but thought that there should be at least two Councillors on the Wildflower Meadow land group. Cllr Avery offered to join the wildflower group and the Chair offered to join the allotment group.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.29pm.