

PAPPLEWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held at Papplewick & Linby Village Hall, Linby Lane, Papplewick on Wednesday 14th March 2018

Present

Cllrs: S Roberts (Chairman), C Hesketh (Vice-Chairman), J Salmons, H McNish, N Penlington and the Clerk

Parishioners & Visitors: Mr & Mrs Kerr

Meeting commenced at 7:25pm

Minute No.	
75/18	<p><u>Apologies</u></p> <p>Cllr's S Walker and T Savage Cllr's C Powell and C Barnfather Parishioner – M Else</p>
76/18	<p><u>Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 9th March 2016</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 8th March 2017 were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Hesketh, seconded by Cllr Penlington and signed by the Chairman Cllr Roberts</p>
77/18	<p><u>Chairman's Report</u></p> <p>Cllr Roberts presented the following report:</p> <p>Yet again another busy year for the Parish Council. Thank you to all the Councillors for their work on the various projects within the Parish. Since the last APA, Terry Savage has had a short while away from the Council but we are pleased to welcome him back refreshed and ready to go! I would also like to welcome Helen McNish to the Parish Council. It is always good to get young blood although some of us 'old hands' are really young at heart. When there was the vacancy for two councillors we were 'lucky enough' to have a few people interested including some from outside the Parish. Councillors met with these interested parties and they were also invited to a Council meeting to explain their interest. This enabled the Councillors to decide who they felt was the best to represent the parishioners and a secret ballot was taken resulting in Terry Savage and Helen McNish being co-opted.</p> <p>Planning in various forms has been a big part of the Council's work in the last year. The Neighbourhood Plan has been completed, in draft form, consulted upon within the Parish, revised slightly and submitted to GBC and at the present time is out to consultation again in its completed version. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Sherwin for the use of the Tea Rooms for meetings of the working party.</p>

At the same time there is a consultation taking place on the much overdue Conversation Area Appraisal. I attended with Cllr Walker some of the hearings with the Inspector on the Gedling Local Plan. This has become a very long and drawn out process and at the time of speaking has not been completed. There has been a small number of applications for work in the Parish but very little to get too concerned about. One point of concern is the now refused applications for stables etc. on land off the Mansfield Road. This lies next to a large plot where a bungalow is to be demolished. There has been an application in the past to use this land as a Travellers' site but this was turned down by GBC as there was sufficient provision already in the Borough. I am concerned about how long GBC's enforcement team take to get action where planning etc. has been refused and work of some sort or other has already started. The specific action to which I refer is to remove the caravans being stored at the house on the A60 near Burntstump traffic lights.

The road network around the Parish continues to cause concerns. The Council has been in touch with Notts CC Highways/Via on a number of occasions about the state of the roads whether that be potholes, mud or flooding. We are very unhappy with the responses that we have received and an invitation is going to Adrian Smith Corporate Director for Place at Notts CC to arrange for someone to speak with the Council on these matters. There was no suitable person 'resource' available to speak with parishioners during the consultation on the draft Neighbourhood Plan which I find very frustrating and a little short sighted of the County Council. There has been much toing and froing about the proposed dropped kerb on Moor Road and this is still not resolved. The mud still collects in the lay-by at the end of Forest Lane. The roundabout at the end of Papplewick Lane is still not completed and has been referred back to the developers for a 'new idea'.

The parish has been cleaned up by volunteers, both councillors and parishioners, in preparation for the Best Kept Village Competition. We didn't make the short list but the village centre looked much better and we will be entering again in 2018. Unfortunately a litter-pick planned for last weekend (10th March) had to be postponed because of the bad weather and as I speak there is no new date available. Planters have been tended throughout the village and new ones have been added underneath the Papplewick signs. These have really made the entrances to the village far more interesting. Thank you to our GBC Councillors for their support with these. Thank you also to the PLLEG for their donation to various things in the Parish, particularly in this last year but also over a number of years. The decision has been made to close this group as it is felt it has run its course; I'm sure many of the events that they actioned will continue in one form or another.

The annual Play Day was beset with problems. The usual parking in the field at the back of the Griffin's Head wasn't available this year despite appeals from both me and our Gedling Councillors. The Play Day went ahead but bad weather meant most of it had to take place within the Village Hall. As the turnout was that much lower, the parking situation wasn't a problem. Following parking not being made available for Play Day it transpired that it would not be available for Bonfire either.

As a result of this the decision was made to cancel the Bonfire event for 2017 with plans to hold the event once again in 2018 with a new planning committee (the PLLEG having disbanded) and alternative parking having been made available. GBC has advised the Council that there is no plan to hold a Play Day in the Parish in 2018 although they will think again for 2019 pending suitable car parking.

A very big thank you to Richard Hull for all his work on behalf of the Parish Council on these great events over a number of years.

Members of the Council have been in conversation with the Marshall family about how best to utilise their donations to the Parish Council from the Turbine at Barracks Farm. These conversations will continue in 2018. In November the Parish Council agreed the Walking and Cycling Strategy. Following this Cllr Walker was contacted by the Chairman of the 'Put Things Right' Charity about a possible donation to the Parish Council to improve safe cycling provision in the parish. In December Cllr Hesketh and I attended the Christmas Ball of the 'Put Things Right' Charity to accept a cheque for £10,000. We are in the very early stages of discussions about a possible cycle path down Moor Road; more on this to come in 2018.

The Playing field continues to be well used and regularly inspected by Councillors and the litter bins emptied by the Lengthsman. We have a new Lengthsman, Andy Sharpe and he seems very enthusiastic about the role with early plans to 'sort out' the sensory raised beds on the Playing Field.

2018 marks the centenary of the Armistice on 11th November 1918 and the end of WW1. Cllr Walker has been in discussion for a little while with the home owners at what was formerly the Papplewick Methodist Church on Papplewick Lane about the war memorial in the garage of their property. The Council has been looking at ways of moving this onto a suitable safe but public place on the Playing Field with a planned dedication on 11th November 2018. At the end of 2017 a suggestion was made that this should perhaps be in Linby because the former Methodist Church stands in Linby. Papplewick Parish Council has agreed that if this is the wish of the home owner then it is perhaps the correct place. I thank Cllr Walker for his work on this and I personally am disappointed that it won't be on the Playing Field but I am happy it will be in public view. Last November a number of Councillors spent a couple of hours fastening large plastic poppies to lamp posts across the Parish. These looked lovely and were very well received and it is planned that even more will be on display for the centenary of the Armistice this year.

During 2017 and 2018 the parishioners have been kept up to date with regular Newsletters very well edited by Cllr Walker (thank you) and distributed by a small and not always too available band of councillors and parishioners. We will continue to keep people informed about what is happening in the Parish in this way and if anyone wishes to be added to the list of distributors please contact either the Clerk or me.

A busy year and on to the next one; thank you to our 'regular' meeting attenders, your support is greatly appreciated.

78/18

Financial Controller's Report

The Clerk produced the following report which was presented to the Council by Cllr Roberts:

Precept and Budget

The Precept for 2018/19 has been set at £11,880.00, a rise of 18% on last year's. The budget was reviewed at the Finance Committee Meeting in October and ratified at the November meeting.

The Grant Aid for 2018/19 is £170.00; a reduction of £86.00 on last years, and this again is thought to continue to reduce over the next few years.

Donations

The Parish Council has received the following donations for 2017/18:

GBC – C Barnfather / C Powell / B Andrews	Donation towards Planters	£300.00
NALC	Transparency Claim	£115.00
Donation from Playday	Ice Cream man & drinks	£66.02
Groundwork UK	Neighbourhood Plan Grant	£3,820.00
Residents	Poppies Donations	£42.00
PLLEG	Donation	£5,000.00
Put Things Right	Donation towards cycle paths	£10,000.00
	TOTAL	£19,343.02

Other Income

HMRC	VAT Reclaim	£218.25
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Banking

The Parish Council continue to bank with the Yorkshire Bank and continue to make payments by electronically where possible.

Last year the bank advised that only 3 users were permitted on the PC's internet banking package and it was agreed at the November meeting that they would be Cllr Roberts, Cllr Hesketh and the Clerk, Liz Gretton.

Audit

It was resolved at the Finance Meeting to appoint Barrie Woodcock as Internal Auditor for a further term of one year. The Accounts for 2017/18 will be prepared after 31st March 2018 and sent to Mr Woodcock.

This year the Parish Council accounts for 2017/18 will be submitted to PKF LittleJohn.

The Parish Council continues to comply with the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities. All accounts notices and documentation are available to view on the website.

79/18

Representative's Reports

a) Moor Pond Woods

Prior to the meeting Cllr Walker produced the following report which was presented to the Council by Cllr Roberts:

It has been my privilege to be the PPC representative to the group, and group Chairman this year. The Steering Group and the Friends of Moor Pond Woods have made continued progress with the project. Thanks must be given to Nottinghamshire County Council for their continued support. There were two highlights in terms of projects completed.

In April the group celebrated the successful completion of the archaeology project funded by the Heritage Lottery. The stonework of the Grange Cottages sluice has been conserved and ramped access paths have been constructed. Work was carried out around the leat bordering Papplewick Lane. Interpretation panels have been installed at several key locations and 'Welcome Boards' erected at the major 'gateways' to the project area. HLF contributed £29,200 of funding to the project, matched by 985 days of volunteer time, costed at £85,700.

In October we celebrated the completion of an accessibility project, supported in part by a Veolia Landfill grant, Tesco 'bags-of-help' grant a grant from the Peoples Postcode Lottery and a donation from the Gray Trust. A dropped kerb has been installed at the layby on Linby Lane, and ramped access has been created through Papplewick Dam Woods. This has coincided with work to stabilise the riverbank and improve habitats. The group have installed sculptural wicker fences to try to keep dogs out of the water – hopefully encouraging water voles to recolonise the riverbanks.

Elsewhere, the group website has been relaunched, and now gives access to more detailed information about the project, whilst providing up-to-date notices and reports for visitors and volunteers. Partnership with Notts Wildlife Trust has permitted a five-year management plan to be agreed.

b) Julian Cahn Trust

Cllr Roberts reported the following:

The homes are fully occupied and in good condition. The proposed handover to the Nottingham Community Almshouse Association is still progressing albeit slowly. The residents have been consulted on the proposals and are happy with the plans. The Trustees continue to meet every 2-3 months and have funds available for any problems that may arise before the handover.

c) Village Hall

Cllr Penlington reported the following:

The Village Hall continues with management chaired by Bob Brothwell. They are reviewing all policies including health & safety and are seeking a new fire officer due to Mr Hull standing down from a lot of his duties. Thanks to Mr Hull for all his hard work, maintenance and commitment to the Hall. Bookings are looking OK. They continue to reinvest and upgrade the hall to remain competitive. They are proposing upgrades to the fire alarms and emergency lighting to ensure they meet current specifications. Chairs have been covered. Water heater has been replaced and work done to the floor. The PLLEG have donated money which will hopefully go towards repairing/replacing the stage curtains. Work has been carried out to drain the carpark. There have been discussions to extend the carpark and potentially allowing a second access around the back. Discussions now being held with Via/NCC re: access. It was considered whether a suitable location for the war memorial would be in the village hall, however after discussions at a Village Hall Meeting it was decided that Linby would be a more suitable location. Draft option plans have been drawn up for an extension of the hall in the future, to take out onto the patio and extend the corridor. This will allow the preschool to operate alongside other groups at the same time. They will put in a bid for the CIL funding from Linby PC to assist with funding.

80/17

Councillor Reports

None

The meeting ended at 7:39pm

Signed Chairman:

Date: