

MINUTES OF THE WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE WANSFORD
COMMUNITY HALL ON THE 5TH NOVEMBER 2007

Present:	Cllr T Pearson Cllr F Aspin Cllr D Stuart-Mogg Cllr G Ward Cllr D Johnson	Chairman Secretary
In Attendance:	Cllr D Lamb Mr J Biggadike Mr G Garner Mr J Lenton	City Councillor City Council Representative Member of the Public Member of the Public
Apologies:	Cllr R Clarke Cllr P Rudd Clk to the Council Derek Lea	In transit to Bunei Domestic Firework duties Family illness

Item 1 Condolences

- 1.1 The Chairman asked for this additional item to be inserted and that Cllr Lamb carried the Parish Council's condolences to the Mayor, Cllr Todd, on the loss of her husband. Cllr Lamb

Item 2 Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 There were no Councillors present who felt the need to declare any financial or prejudicial interest in the Agenda Items.

Item 3 Wansford Conservation Area Appraisal

- 3.1 To facilitate a robust discussion, the Chairman distributed copies of the PCC document to the Members of the Public attending.
- 3.2 Mr Biggadike summarised the PCC's activities in producing the document and advised that the document was available on the PCC website. It was intended to allow 6 weeks for consultation and submit the document for adoption by March 2008. Stibbington, Huntingdon and East Northants Councils would also be consulted as close neighbours to the Village. PCC Rep
- 3.3 Mr Biggadike advised that some of the observations already received had been included within the latest document, but agreed to consider the following as well: PCC Rep
- a. HGV traffic was considered a major detriment to the Conservation Area and should be far better managed.
 - b. Road signage was inadequate to advise HGV drivers of the Bridge and Peterborough weight restrictions until it was too late for the vehicle to recover.
 - c. The demarcation line appeared to miss out one house that perhaps should be included.

Item 4 Planning

- 4.1 The Council considered the Planning Application for a new roadside café and rest site at the Anglia Water site on the A47. The Council supported the application but wished to advise that the exit from the site, to include the exit from the picnic area, should be a “no right turn” directing traffic to the A47/A1 round-a-bout to achieve an Eastbound passage. Clerk

Item 5 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- 5.1 The Minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting, with the exception of a correction to 053 047.04. The last line should read: Clerk

The riverbank has now been cleared “*of the large concrete block spoil*”

- 5.2 The Council wished to be advised of all letters sent on behalf of the Council and charged the Clerk to e-mail such letters to all Councillors. Clerk

Item 6 Matters Arising

- 6.1 Street Lighting. The Chairman had written to the PCC over the in-action regarding a number of unserviceable street lights with some positive results in that those lights are now functioning again.

- 6.2 Village Green Lighting. The PCC had provided some pictures of lights considered suitable for the Village Green. The Council considered that the “Abbey” was the most appropriate style. Chairman

- 6.3 Bridge Lighting. The Council remained concerned over the lack of repairs to the pedestrian lighting on the bridge. It was agreed that the Chairman should resume discussions with the PCC’s Mr Medlock regarding lighting the bridge in a manner similar to the Stamford bridge. Chairman

- 6.4 Vandalism. The Clerk had been requested to seek a Police presence at the Council meeting to discuss the issue. As nothing had materialised, Cllr Lamb offered to pursue the matter with the Police on the Council’s behalf. Cllr Lamb

- 6.5 Wansford/Sibson. The Chairman advised that he and the Vice chair of Sibson were continuing their discussions regarding local traffic management. This is believed to be essential to protect the bridge from HGVs when the A1 is restricted because of road works or accident.

- 6.6 Community Hall. The Chairman advised the Council that he had been made aware that:

- a. One of the windows is in need of replacement
 - b. The BT gate is nailed shut effectively block the Fire Exit.
 - c. One of the tables is missing after being out on loan. It was agreed that a deposit should be mandatory for any future such loans.
 - d. And apparently, the Oddfellows are in default of their rental monies.
- Chairman

- 6.7 Christie Hall. It was agreed that no Council Representative was required for the Committee as the Council intended to withdraw its support from the Hall. Chairman

6.8 Planning. There was confusion over the planning matter for 27 Old North Road and the Chairman undertook to discuss this with the Clerk. Chairman

Item 7 Finance.

7.1 Grant. Cllr Lamb advised that she and Cllr Holditch had again received a grant from the PCC to be used for the benefit of the villages and invited the Council to bid for funding for a suitable Village benefit. All

7.2 Maintenance. A replacement lock had been funded by the Council when it was the Hall Management Committee's responsibility. It was agreed to reduce the Management Committee's grant accordingly. Chairman

7.3 Street Warden. The Chairman advised that he had received a complaint that Mr Wingrove had not been paid for his Village cleaning duties. The Chairman organised the payment of the outstanding monies and requested Mr Wingrove to advise if this was not correct.

7.4 Budget. The Council was unable to consider the Budget as presented as it was incomplete. Chairman

7.5 Precept. Without the Budget it was impossible to set the Precept and this was deferred whilst the Chairman sought the relevant information from the Clerk. Chairman

7.6 Grants. Without the Budget it was impossible to consider any Grants and this was deferred whilst the Chairman sought the relevant information from the Clerk. Chairman

Item 8 Correspondence Received

8.1 Website. There had been no action regarding the Village Web site and the Chairman again undertook to seek the status from the Clerk. The Chairman was able to advise that the WebMaster had found a new host that would host our site at no cost. Chairman

8.2 PCC Parking. The 2 PCC parking permits were to be distributed to the Chairman and Clerk. Clerk

8.3 Wildlife Trust. The wildlife trust had asked to present an outline of its work to the Council. The Chairman would respond positively. Chairman

8.4 Wheely Bin Tags. The Chairman advised that the electronic tags on some wheely bins were irrelevant as the current collection trucks had no reading mechanism.

8.5 Surgery Car Park. The Council had no adverse comments regarding the intention to extend the Doctor's Surgery Car Park. Clerk

8.6 Churchyard Committee. It was agreed that the Chairman and Cllr Stuart-Mogg should represent the Council on the Churchyard Committee. Chairman & DSM

8.7 Fraudulent Activity. It was noted that there have been several attempts to steal from residents of local villages by:

- a. non delivery of parcels with a phone number that costs many pounds but there is no parcel.

- b. request for clothing for charity – possible diversion whilst robbery take place.
- c. Bogus Water board staff wishing to gain access to turn off the water and thus rob the occupant

8.8 Travellers. The PCC had suggested that the Council might wish to recommend suitable sites within the Village for Travelling Peoples. It was agreed to take no action at this time.

8.9 New Homes. The PCC had circulated its plan for up to 26000 new homes of which the Council considered Option 3 to be the most practical.

8.10 East of England Plan. The East of England Planners had requested comments on their proposed changes. As the Council had no knowledge of these changes it was unable to comment.

The Chairman would seek guidance from Mr T Camp.

Item 9 Matters for Consideration

9.1 Cllr Aspin requested that the matter of the Contractors, building the new houses in Swanhill, destroying the road should be included on the next meeting's agenda.

9.2 In order for the footpath from the Village to the Pump House corner to be repaired it was necessary for the owner of the adjacent property to cut back the overgrowing trees and shrubs. The Chairman undertook to ask Mr Seed to so do.

Item 10 Date of Next Meeting

10.1 The next meeting was scheduled to be held in the Community Hall on the 3rd December 2008.