**WOOD DALLING PARISH COUNCIL**

 ***Draft minutes of the Meeting of the Council Held on Tuesday 12th January 2016, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Wood Dalling.***

**Present:** Kerry Oldfield (Chairman) (KO), Jonathan Rodwell (JRod), John Rawlinson (JRaw), Alex Clark-Rudd (ACR) Helen Dixon (HD), John Child (JC), Rory Harrold (RH), Kirsty Cotgrove (Clerk) (KC)

30 members of the public

**16/01. Apologies for Absence**

KO welcomed everyone and apologies were accepted for Stephen Bridges (PCSO).

**16/02. An informal presentation by Mr & Mrs Williams (TW & SW) regarding the possibility of a residential home application**

KO welcomed Mr & Mrs Williams and expressed thanks to them for coming to speak to the village before any application was registered. SW outlined their plans for an 84 bed residential home which would cater for residents with a variety of needs, with 24 hour care. SW advised that there is a shortage of rural care homes, and should the application go ahead, it would provide a choice to potential residents. A bus service would help to bring some staff to and from the site, and they would also offer a service to take residents who want to go into local towns for access to services. For residents who are unable to, or choose not to, these services would be brought in. All external lighting would be kept at as low a level as possible, with PIR lighting where appropriate. Plans for the facility were out on display for villagers to look at, and questions were welcomed. KO asked if any Councillors had any questions. JRod asked how many staff would be required. SW advised there would be 50-60. JC asked if there is a need for a rural care home, as a home nearby has still not opened. SW said that it has not opened due to the owner’s circumstances, not a lack of need. JC asked where the staff will come from, and expressed concern that when the weather is bad, staff may have difficulty in getting in, along with a lack of public transport. SW advised that provision will be made to ensure staff can get in. JC also asked if they have consulted the Ambulance and Fire services, as the home will be very rural. SW advised that there is no data that there is any more need for an ambulance or fire engine in a residential care home than anywhere else. A Parishioner who had a care home for 20 residents for 15 years confirmed that an ambulance was only called for twice in that period. HD asked about the extra traffic movement, from staff, services and visitors. TW stated that they currently have a company producing a demographic report to estimate this, but it is estimated to be 60 movements per day. Catering and laundry will be done in house. TW has been in discussions with Sanders Coaches who would be prepared to run a bus service to work in conjunction with shift turnover times. Villagers would also be able to use this service to travel to local towns, which would provide a much needed bus service to the village. JRod asked if they have received confirmation from a doctors who would be prepared to take on the large number of patients, as Holt Surgery have recently turned people away. SW confirmed that this would be dealt with, and they were planning that a large number of the staff would be fully qualified nurses. KO advised that the PC have received a number of letters of objection, expressing concern mainly about the traffic. TW stated that when the chicken farm was open, there were HGVs travelling along the road, and if the residential home does not proceed, they will likely re-open the chicken farm and expand, as there is planning permission already for a further two chicken sheds. This will create a lot more heavy traffic to and from the site. SW confirmed that if the residential home goes ahead, they are prepared to pay the County Council extra to maintain the road, from the site to Heydon Road. TW stated that currently the road is in a bad state of repair, with flooding, potholes and mud all causing problems. They would also pay for additional passing bays along the stretch of road, with some large enough for HGVs as there are none at the moment. A parishioner said that not all vehicles would enter the village on that

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road. TW confirmed that all services and staff would come in on the agreed route and when potential residents and visitors contact regarding a visit, they would be advised that this would be the best route to take. A parishioner asked if the current road would stand the weight of the required building materials. TW confirmed that HGVs and agricultural vehicles currently use the road with no issues. The improvements to the road would likely happen after the build but before the home opens, but this would need to be confirmed with the Highways department. A parishioner asked about the Williams’ background. SW confirmed that the site is currently a chicken farm with five units and planning permission for a further two. TW confirmed that if they return to farming, they would also be seeking further expansion. A parishioner queried the scale of the plans. TW advised that this is the size of the structure already there, so the concrete and steel could likely be reused in the building. JC asked if they would be able to reuse and TW confirmed that the steel there now is industrial grade. There would be new drainage. A parishioner asked about timescales. TW stated that if all went smoothly it would be 2 years, but probably longer. A parishioner made the observation that Mr & Mrs Williams would be more likely to gain permission for a smaller venture. JRod asked what the benefit would be to the village. SW advised that the home would create new jobs in the area and should they open, they would require a good broadband system, so would approach WiSpire or Thinking Wisp for a service, and the village would benefit from this. Electricity would be provided from renewable sources, and less water would be required than the farm has used previously. There would be less light pollution than the enlarged farm would create and the road system to Red Pits would be improved. Attendances to the Church would possibly increase and there would be more customers for the local shop. A parishioner queried the bandstand. SW confirmed this would be small and, along with a barbeque and play area, would create a family friendly area outside for residents and visitors. A Parishioner queried the drainage. TW confirmed that a new treatment plant would be created. There would be no additional surface water, and rainwater will be used for toilets etc. KO asked what would happen to the existing wind turbines. SW said they may be reused in the build but would be moved from their current location. KO advised that there were concerns in letters received about light pollution. TW stated that the potential farm expansion would create more light pollution than a home would. He also reminded everyone that when the existing farm was in operation, there was lighting then, and there were no complaints from villagers at that time. KO queried the planting in the plans, as the trees and hedges around the farm currently screen it well. SW advised that the architect’s drawings detailing the planting are not set in stone and they would seek to maintain the majority of the hedging and trees to screen the site. There being no further comments, KO requested a show of hands, resulting in six in favour, six opposed, and the remainder being undecided. KO thanked TW & SW for coming, and TW advised that if anyone has any further questions, that they are welcome to visit.

At 8:20pm, 24 parishioners left the meeting

**16/03. Declarations of Interest**

JRaw – Village Hall.

JRod - Church

**16/04. Minutes of the Meetings held on Tuesday 10th November 2015.**

The minutes were altered to correct a payment amount to the ICO (£35, instead of £80). They were subsequently signed as a true record of the meeting. All agreed.

**16/05. Members of the public register a desire to speak**

None

**16/06. Matters arising from the meetings**

(i) The defibrillator has been ordered and should be delivered soon. Training will be arranged at the next meeting. The Clan trust have offered a donation of £500, and once this is received a letter of thanks will be sent to them. KO’s electrician has offered to install the defibrillator at a highly discounted cost of £50, as it is for community use.

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(ii) ACR has received a quote from Mr R Howes who can remove the bench, replace the wood, paint and reinstall it for £80. All agreed this was very good value, and ACR was asked to proceed.

(iii) KO and JRaw attended a meeting about CIL payments. These are changing so individuals will not have to pay a CIL if their self build is lived in for a minimum of at least four years, only larger developments will have to. This means that Wood Dalling are unlikely to receive further payments. JRaw will circulate the information he has to Councillors. **Action: JRaw**

**16/07. Committee reports and recommendations**:

**Police**

PCSO Bridges was unable to attend the meeting, but had emailed a report to the Clerk: From 1st Nov to 31st Dec 2015 there was one recorded crime of a burglary to a dwelling, and 3 calls were made to the police. Norfolk Crimestoppers are looking for volunteers and the report outlined how the charity works. The email of volunteering@crimestoppers-uk.org. was provided for anyone interested in volunteering. The next SNAP meeting is Tuesday 5th April at 7pm in the Bircham Centre, Reepham.

**James Joyce, County Councillor**

JJ reported that the Budget meetings are currently happening at the Council. There will be an increase in Council Tax, probably between 3.2% & 3.9%. There is a budget consultation open now, which closes at midnight on Thursday 14th January. 80% of Norfolk schools are now good or outstanding. Key stages one and four are performing well, but key stage two still has issues.

**Greg Peck, District Councillor**

GP reported that BDC are also setting their budget at the moment and do not intend to raise their portion of Council Tax. He hopes to have more information regarding improvements in broadband at the next meeting, as an announcement is due soon.

**Jeff Topp, Newsletter**

Nothing to report.

**JRod, Church**

JRod reported that the carol service was successful and raised £140 for the Children’s Society. WiSpire have carried out a survey on the church and raised a minor improvement issue to the tower which would be necessary. Hopefully they should be in contact soon. The war memorial has been listed at grade 2 by Historic England. The chancel roof is leaking badly, and an estimate two years ago indicated it would cost approximately £80-120,000 to repair. There is an institute responsible for chancel repair, so an application has been made to them for assistance. Some cleaning volunteers have left, and there has been difficulty in recruiting more volunteers. The time commitment is just one day a month. JRod will send a plea for help to JT to include in the newsletter.

**JRaw, Village Hall**

Northing to report.

**16/08. Matters for report**

None.

**16/09. Highways** **/ potholes/ hedgecutting**

The pothole on Heydon Road between Crabgate Farm and Prospect Lane has opened up again. At the end of Crow Hill, near Reepham Road there is a 100-200 metre stretch of road which is in very bad condition. The Crow Hill, Church Hill & Redpits Lane road signs are all missing. The Clerk reported that she has put notices up to ask parishioners to report Parish Ranger jobs to her **Action: Clerk**

**16/10. Correspondence**

(i) JT has invoices to present to the PC in the region of £100 for newsletter printing. As this is within the budgeted amount, it was agreed that they could be paid once presented to the Clerk.

(ii) The Clerk has received correspondence regarding changes to auditing procedures. An internal audit will take place as usual, but an external audit will only be required if a member

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of the public requests it. The National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks have sourced a group deal for an accountancy firm to do external audits if required, which would be more transparent and cost effective than the PC appointing their own. To use the NALC & SLCC recommended firm, the PC needs to take no action, as it is on an opt-out basis. It was agreed to use the recommended firm.

**16/11. Grass cutting**

There is no date yet for HD, KO & JRaw to meet with Mow and Grow. J Raw has sent a map of the Village Hall grounds to HD, but will need to mark the exact area that will need to be added to the cut. HD will liaise with JRaw. JRaw queried if there was a possibility of the PC contributing to the cost of grass cutting at the Village Hall, as they have done in the past. KO advised that as there is no money in the budget for this at the moment, it will not be possible for the PC to contribute. If the Village Hall apply before the next budget is prepared, it will be discussed at that stage. **Action: JRaw/HD**

**16/12. To agree a date for the annual village litter pick.**

HD reported that there is a national initiative this year called ‘Clean for the Queen’, which is due to take place in March. HD is happy to co-ordinate again. A date of 12th March was agreed for the pick. HD will send the info to JT to put in the newsletter. **Action: HD**

**16/13. Planning**

None.

**16/14. Finance and Payments**

(i) Copies of the current financial position were given to all councillors.

(ii) Payments were approved and cheques were signed by KO & ACR for-

1. K Cotgrove – clerk’s salary Dec & Jan (chq 100600) - £206.33.
2. Mow & Grow – grass cutting (chq 100601) - £571.92.
3. Heat Norfolk – Town House boiler service (chq 100602) - £115.92.
4. Wood Dalling Village Hall – hall hire (chq 100603) - £40.00
5. Wel Medical – defibrillator and cabinet (chq 100599) - £1482.00
6. Broadland District Council – election costs (chq 100597) - £164.96 (retrospective)
7. SM Pigott Builder – Town House roof (chq 100598) - £7788.00 (retrospective)

**16/15. Matters for further discussion**

None.

**16/17. Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 8th March 2016, at 7:30pm.

**There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:58pm**

**Approved as a correct record Date**

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