Minutes of the Weldon Parish Council Monthly Meeting held in the Village Hall Annex, Bridge Street, Weldon on
Tuesday 5th March 2018 at 7.00pm

Present: - Councillors:  Lawerance Gardner (Chair)
                   Dick Priem (Vice Chair)
                   Bridget Watts
                   Rod Pearce
                   Anton Vickers
                   John Walker
                   David Groom
                   Kane Taylor
                   Joannie Perkins

Also in attendance:  Borough Councillor: Kevin Watt
                     County Councillor: Sandra Naden-Horely
                     Clerk: Juliet Lewis

18.042 Apologies for Absence: None

18.043 Members declarations of interest: Cllr Taylor confirmed an interest in the Grant application submitted on behalf of the church.

18.044 Members request for dispensation: None received.

18.045 To approve the Minutes of the Meeting 5th February 2018. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting which took place on 5th February 2018.

18.046 To discuss Matters arising from these minutes only. Cllr Groom stated that he had not received a hard copy of the minutes. Cllr Gardner apologised as he had previously agreed to hand deliver them once he had received them via email however he has been ill. Cllr Vickers re-iterated that he feels email contact is vital so as not to miss out on developments between meetings. Cllr Groom stated that there were borough councillors that don’t receive their correspondence by email.

18.047 Speeding Update: Cllr Vickers stated that there appears to be confusion about what the stakeholders actually want. 2 different schemes have been suggested. We need to establish once and for all what it is the stakeholders are suggesting / which scheme they support and why. Cllr Groom asked if it was just a chicane that was being planned. Cllr Gardner advised that the local residents have put forward an alternative suggestion which they would like to be investigated. Cllr Gardner suggested that we need a meeting between the speed working group and local residents to establish what is the best scheme and how we should proceed. Clerk to organise. Cllr Groom commented that he thought anything other than a chicane wouldn’t work. The discussion carried on into public time. Cllr Vickers stated that we also need to meet with persimmon homes. Clerk advised that the meeting was being arranged and would take place prior to the next monthly meeting.
18.048 Public Time (15 mins): Simon commented that the raised table will remain but it will be in the form of a raised zebra crossing, the current zebra would be raised and repainted. Cllr Vickers questioned if the kerb / pavement would be raised to the same level, Simon confirmed that it would. Cllr Watts asked what would be the NCC view. Simon stated that he had spoken to the engineer who had produced the original design. He advised that if we used NCC to provide the work we are unlikely to get much more than a raised table for our money. We need a section 278 agreement and then go out to tender. NCC will need to sign off the final design and then we can select who we want to build it.

18.049 Police / Neighbourhood warden(a) Police update and monthly statistics: No up to date were available prior to the meeting.

(b) Neighbourhood warden update: The Neighbourhood warden was not available for the meeting however sent the following update which was read out by the clerk:

Manor House Care Home, Bridge Street; received a complaint from a resident about people visiting the home and parking inconconsiderably where they are making it difficult to access/exit their driveway. From speaking with the manager at the care home, they are trying to limit the number of vehicles parking along Bridge Street and assured that most of the vehicles parking there are not belonging to them.

Howitt Yard; area near to the cricket ground, had report of kids playing in an area of debris, I spoke with the owner of the land and this has now been cleared.

Bramble wood Road; had report of black bags of rubbish being left next to the salt bin and footpath. After investigating, no evidence has been found however it looks like it could be a local resident litter picking the area. Will continue to monitor.

18.050 Borough / County councillor update:
Cllr Watt advised that he had received concerns from Priors Hall Park residents about the gasification plant. He stated that he was trying to arrange a visit to a similar facility to allay fears.

Cllr Watt advised that when Gretton had a good turn out for their NDP consultation with over 270 in attendance. They had put up banners and leafleted every house.

Cllr Watts advised that NCC highways had allocated £4m for adrenaline alley roundabout improvements, a crossing is ‘possibly’ in the mix.

Cllr Watt advised that the trees cut down at the side of the cricket pitch had essentially been pollarded down to nothing however they are currently being investigated as this shouldn’t have taken place.

Cllr Naden-Horely advised that she had received complaints about the roads around Weldon Park, mud on the road and flooding. Cllr Vickers asked if there was a Health & Safety rep on the development. Clerk to investigate. Cllr Groom stated that there are 2 cars parked on the corner of the Oundle Road, they are not illegal but causing issues with visibility. Cllr Priem advised that this could be cars displaced by the traffic lights. Cllr Groom suggested that yellow lines may be the best option.

Cllr Groom stated that around Midland Logistic Park the deers had been displaced, he has informed the local press and the police and environmental services have been informed.

Cllr Naden-Horely gave an update on the situation at NCC. In September 2017 leadership asked the LGA to do a peer review which raised concerns about the management of NCC. In
2016 there were concerns that they would not be able to set a legal budget but they were able to find the additional money that they needed. The 2017/2018 budget was insufficient for need, this is a combination of not enough funding from government and an increase in the need for services especially adult social care and child services. KMPG are currently carrying out an audit and have issued an advisory note that additional savings needed to be found. 25 back benchers moved a vote of no confidence in the leader of the council. They are now looking at selling Angel Square to balance the books. The consultants will issue a report on the 16th March at which point we should know more. There is a 4 year plan to take the council forward which they intend to take to the government to appeal for additional funding. Libraries closing across the county has been paused however all mobile library services have been halted. Cllr Watt commented that libraries should be run by the community, they become the hub of that community. Cllr Naden Horley advised that the trading standards budget has been halved. There is also talk of forming a unity authority although she does not think that is a viable option as the areas are too diverse. Cllr Watt stated that a large number of the services are already shared so it makes sense.

18.051 Planning: (a) To discuss the following planning applications:

18/00062/DPA | Proposed porch extension | 32 Woodside Park Oundle Road Weldon: No Objection
18/00050/DPA | Proposed new outbuilding within rear garden of existing property. | 1 High Street Weldon No Objection
18/00051/LBC | Proposed new outbuilding within rear garden of existing property. | 1 High Street Weldon No Objection
18/00039/DPA | The Erection of a single-storey conservatory at the rear of the property. | 12 Deene End Weldon No Objection

(b) Deenethorpe airfield development public meetings: 3 public meetings have been arranged for the 6th, 8th and 9th March. Cllr Walker expressed concerns about the residents of the new village coming through Weldon. Cllr Groom stated that the new village will have a main road to the A43 roundabout and 3 roundabouts between Deenethorpe and Weldon.

(c) Priors Hall Community Governance Review: The following objection will be submitted by the clerk: The Parish Council would like to confirm that they wholeheartedly object to Priors Hall Park forming a new parish for the following reasons:

> The Parish Council have worked hard to ensure that the old village an newer parts of the parish work together
> This proposal also involves splitting Priors Hall in two
> Many residents use the facilities of Weldon Village and in fact are encouraged to do so
> Residents that signed the petition did so as a result of incorrect information such as being promised a huge discount in council tax, being told that PC precept was paying for electricity to light streetlights in Weldon Village. We have had reports of being ‘bullied’ into signing
> Priors Hall Park is well represented on Weldon Parish Council
> There is expected to be a lack of interest in the role of Parish Councillor. Members of the residents association have advised they would not be interested
> They have no real plan to form a Parish Council and seem totally unaware of how to run a Parish Council, none of the ‘ring leaders’ have been seen in the public area at a Weldon Parish Council meeting.

In conclusion, we accept that at some point in the future the size of the Parish may become such that something like this needs to be considered however that is not now. We need to work hard on forging community spirit and not splitting it down the middle. If this proposal is approved it will adversely affect the lives of both those on Priors Hall Park and those in the rest of the Parish.
18.052 **Finance:** To approve monthly Receipts & Payments:

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J Walker</td>
<td>Community Garden expenses</td>
<td>£230.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>J Lewis</td>
<td>Salary &amp; Expenses</td>
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<td>St Mary’s Church</td>
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<td>Underpayment</td>
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<td>Corby Borough Council</td>
<td>Woodland Park Maintenance</td>
<td>£2,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs J Perkins</td>
<td>Key cutting – roundhouse</td>
<td>£12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr R Pearce</td>
<td>Planters</td>
<td>£137.42</td>
</tr>
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**Total:** £4,887.80

*It was Resolved that* the payments be made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 and subsequent amendments. The grant application was discussed and supported by all councillors present prior to approval of payment.

**Grant Application:** St Mary’s church have applied for £1000 to help increase the hours of the Children and Families’ Worker. “Since starting this role in February 2017, the Children and Families’ worker has established a weekly playgroup. Over 20 mothers and 30 children from the parish have attended already since September 2017. With an increase in hours, we would add another group, thus reaching out to more mums, especially those new to this area; encourage family life through parenting and marriage courses and provide emotional support through listening and counselling.

Essentially we want to be a point of contact for advice and support for family life within the parish. This grant would enable us to move closer to this objective.”

All agreed to the provision of the grant to St Mary’s.

**18.053 Neighbourhood Development Plan:** Next meeting to take place on 13th March 2018 7pm to discuss how to proceed to formation of plan document. Data split by geographic area to be provided by Cllr Taylor.

**18.054 Parish Councillor Vacancy:** As a complaint has been received by the clerk that the closing date was unclear. The process will now close Sunday 25th March 2018.

**18.055 HR Committee:** Cllr Walker confirmed that a replacement is required for Cllr Reed on the HR committee. Cllr Taylor is happy to join the committee. Cllr Groom also wished to be part of the committee. Clerks review to take place on Monday 26th at 6pm before the next monthly meeting.

**18.056 Village Planters:** Four planters have been planted, hay planters have been purchased (will be installed shortly), slabs have been cleaned around the war memorial. The fence around the green is next on the list. A meeting of the memorial committee will take place on Sat 21st April at 10am, followed by fence painting.

**18.057 Community Garden:** Planned activities: The first community activity took place as advertised. It was very well attended by an enthusiastic bunch of helpers. The skip was filled by 11am, and the site cleared of rubbish and strimmed by the end of the day. The next stage is to dig and weed before rotovating. The next ‘big dig’ is planned for March 17th 10am – 2pm, tea and biscuits will be provided. Cllr Walker
commented that we may lose the shed, he will keep us informed.

18.058 Woodlands Park – Outdoor Gym: Meeting set for Wednesday 21st March 2018 at 7pm. Cllr Walker to confirm with other attendees.

18.059 Mobile library services: All mobile library services have been cancelled by Northamptonshire County Council until further notice. Regular users of the service have been advised individually by letter.

18.060 Village issues:
- Litter bins: Cllr Vickers has suggested two additional bins. Cllr Perkins suggested that we need a third new bin outside Londis. The bin by the bus stop was taken out and was supposed to be moved to outside Londis but was just taken away. Cllr Pearce advised that they were £425 each, Cllr Watts suggested that they can be purchased through CBC for approximately £200. Cllr Vickers suggested that all councillors considered the need for any additional bins and come back to the clerk if they consider other bins are required by Monday 12th March 2018. Clerk to follow up on emptying of bins once they have been installed.
- Village caretaker: This topic requires in-depth consideration therefore due to time constraints we will postpone the discussion until the next meeting.
- Noticeboard: Cllr Walker has sourced an alternative. The new quote is £1,666 plus VAT. All agreed to accept this quote. Clerk to order on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Walker to arrange installation.

18.061 Correspondence received by the clerk not covered above: Contact has been received from the contractor who has been awarded the work on the trees in the Pocket Park. Planning permission has not yet been received even though it has been more than 6 weeks. Cllr Taylor who submitted the application confirmed that no contact had been received for CBC planning. The clerk confirmed with the council that we are not happy for the work to start until permission has been received.

Finding fitness have contacted the clerk advising that they can provide activity days during the school holidays which can be grant funded. The company concerned also assists in obtaining the funding. Clerk to circulate details, discuss at a later date.

Community Packback have sought permission to carry out work on the lanes from PHP over the A43 – all agreed to grant permission.

Cllr Perkins has noted that the bus shelter is damaged. Clerk to report.

Meeting closed at 21:00

Next Meeting – Monday 26th March 2018 7pm
***** Priors Hall Park Community Centre*****