

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREETWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 11TH JULY 2016 IN THE SPORTS PAVILION, MULANNE PARK, NETTLEHAM**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Rosemary Seal (Chair), Mrs Sarah Bates (Vice Chair),
Tony Melrose, Chris Thatcher, Mike Taylor, Keith Johnson, John Taylor
County Councillor Mrs Jackie Brockway,
District Councillor Chris Darcel (until 8.30pm)

32 – 16/17 PARISHIONERS ITEMS

A resident of Cherry Willingham had raised concerns about issues when visiting Greetwell Church, however it had been confirmed that these were being addressed. The Clerk was asked to write to the resident to acknowledge that this had been brought to the attention of the Parish Council and noted.

33 – 16/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

District Councillor Mrs Anne Welburn had sent apologies due to attendance at another meeting.

34 – 16/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None declared at this point.

35 – 16/17 POLICE MATTERS

a) Statistics for June 2016 for Greetwell

FRAUD	1
THEFT	1
DOMESTIC	1
SUSPICIOUS	2
TRANSPORT	
HAZARD	1
RTC	2
TRAFFIC OFFENCE	1
Total	9

- b) **Simple SID** – It was noted that this machine had been moved by an unknown person from the A158 onto Westfield Drive.
- c) **Cars turning right into Westfield Drive** – It was noted that vehicles were turning right from the A158 into Westfield Drive and the local PCSO had prepared an article for the next Greetwell News regarding this.

Initialled.....(Chair)
Date

36 – 16/17 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

CC Mrs Jackie Brockway informed the meeting that extensive discussions were taking place with the Fire Brigade Union regarding changes to the fire service in Lincolnshire.

37 – 16/17 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

District Councillors Mrs Anne Welburn had sent the following report:-

What is devolution and how will it affect West Lindsey?

Devolution is the redistribution of power and funding from national to local government. Combined authorities (CAs) were introduced under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 ('2009 Act') to enable councils to integrate economic development and transport functions across a functional economic area. The Lincolnshire Combined Authority would include all the 10 Lincolnshire Authorities 7 District Councils, LCC and the 2 Unitaries from the north, there will be 1 councillor from each of the 10 councils plus the Mayor elected by the public on the Lincolnshire Combined Authority Board.

All services will remain as they are now but the combined authority board would have responsibility for the new devolved areas of work undertaken at the moment by Central Government. A combined authority (CA) operates as a public body with its own legal personality, can impose a levy on constituent authorities and borrow for transport purposes.

The Bill also provides for a number of other flexibilities, including:

- *Enabling (but not requiring) a CA to have a directly-elected Mayor,*
- *Providing for the Mayor of a CA to exercise the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for the area (and where that occurs, allow the current PCC term of office to be extended until the mayor is in place.)*
- *Enabling the Secretary of State to remove a council from the boundaries of a combined authority, if it is the only one that does not consent to establishing an elected Mayor.*
- *Allowing a mayoral combined authority to levy council tax as a major precepting authority, similar to county councils or the Greater London Authority.*
- *Enabling the Secretary of State to change local government structures for an area, provided that all constituent councils consent, e.g. mergers of councils, moves to unitary structures, or changing the democratic representation of the area. The explanatory notes for the Bill elaborate that these changes are meant to be considered for the purposes of devolution.*
- *Establishing a scrutiny function for combined authorities as well as an overview and scrutiny function to cover the mayoral office.*

Initialed..... (Chair)

Date

The offer on the table at the moment is £15 million per annum for 30 years as an investment fund for Skills, Education and Employment and this would be available without a mayor as part of the makeup. Potentially the combined authority is also looking to secure (up to a maximum of £23 million per annum still to be confirmed) for new funding for transport but this cannot be secured without a mayor as part of the package.

Other items on the list of potential areas for devolution of powers are

- housing
- water management
- health
- public protection

The cost of setting up the authority would equate to at least £1.00 per household per year and for that we would control our own budgets for the above items.

There are three real area of contention:

- the elected Mayor
- the qualifications of an elected Mayor
- another layer of Government
- each authority having the ability to control their own destiny.

1. A Mayor doesn't sit well in a rural area but this is not a mayor in the civic sense. The Mayor would have control of the Transport budget and be eligible to become the Police & Crime Commissioner combining another role. They would sit on the Lincolnshire Combined Authority Board but would only carry 1 vote the same as the rest of the members. There is concern that there may be a power struggle between the Mayor (perhaps influenced by Government) and the combined authority. The Mayor would also have the authority to precept up to 2% for infrastructure schemes. The government want a mayor for governance reasons, the idea being that the people will vote for the Mayor and hold them accountable, it is also 1 voice to speak for the 10 authorities.
2. Being an elected office means that it could be a populist vote as opposed to the most qualified candidate, ideally it needs to be a skilled businessman with good negotiating skills.
3. Another layer of government will be a cost and will only deal with the new work taken over from government, it is also possible that it is the beginning of further change in how local government functions and changes so whilst responsibility is local in Lincolnshire it may not be local in West Lindsey and we are such a large and diverse county that one size does not fit all. The question is; is responsibility better in Lincolnshire or London but without a mayor transport powers and powers carrying large monetary responsibility will not be devolved.
4. There is also concern that even though each member only has one vote it would be possible for several members to vote against the interests of one member. Rules are being included to ensure that no member can have actions taken in their area without their consent.

38 – 16/17 CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

- a) **Next Get Together** - Arranged for Wednesday 3rd August 2016, a speaker from Golding, Young, Mawer, Auctioneers had agreed to attend.

Initialed.....(Chair)

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Due to the booking availability of speakers and the Reepham and Cherry Willingham village hall it was agreed that it would be necessary to book dates one year in advance.

Wednesday 30th November 2016 had been booked when it was hoped that the Police Commissioner for Lincolnshire would be able to attend.

- b) Produce Show – 14th August – update** - Cllr Mrs Rosemary Seal had pursued Tesco Community Champion for assistance with the supply of a gazebo as previously promised by Tesco, resulting in one being donated by the company.

Councillor Mrs Sarah Bates outlined arrangements to date and sought assistance from members for setting up on the weekend of the event.

- c) Grants/donations** - The Clerk reported that the District Councillors Initiative fund of £200 each from Councillors Mrs Anne Welburn and Chris Darcel had been applied for. DC Darcel offered a further £100 as a contribution to the Greetwell Events Budget from the fund.

A donation of £30 had been received from Pennell's Nurseries for sponsorship of the event.

- d) Consideration of donation to 25th Lincoln (Scothern) Scout Group for loaning and erecting marquee for the event** – Unanimously **Resolved** that a donation of £50 be made to this organisation.

- e) Request by Royal Horticultural Society to sell gardening items** – *The Chair Mrs Rosemary Seal declared an interest in this item as a relative of a member of the society.*

Members unanimously **Resolved** that Councillor Mrs Sarah Bates negotiate with the RHS a small percentage of any profits made from the sale of items at the event.

- f) Footway, Westfield Approach – use by heavy vehicles** – Reply from LCC Highways stated that there did not appear to be any damage which would warrant any intervention at present

- g) Street lighting changes** – Notification received that LCC had revised plans to turn off street lights at 10.00pm and leave all 'part night' lights on until midnight.

- h) Invitation to join Campaign for the Protection of Rural England at a cost of £35.00 per year** – Following discussion a vote was taken as follows:-

For – 6 Against – 1

Resolved that Greetwell Parish Council join CPRE.

- i) Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Plan – notification of adoption 1 June 2016** – this had been copied to all Councillors.

Initialed(Chair)

Date

- j) **Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations consultation** – copied to all Councillors – District Councillor Chris Darcel explained the consultation in more detail.
- k) **Notification of National Joint Council for Local Government Services agreement on 2016 – 2018 national salary award** – to be discussed under confidential item.
- l) **Notification of Funding and information market place, 9th November 2016 Welton Village Hall** – The Clerk and Chair hoped to attend this event.

38 – 16/17 REPEAT REQUEST TO LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS FOR CROSSING OVER THE A158

Councillor Mrs Rosemary Seal proposed that the request for a crossing over the A158 be repeated due to difficulty by residents wanting to cross over the road when visiting the shop at the petrol station and when catching buses. The traffic will increase with the construction of the Lincoln eastern bypass as traffic travelling from Fiskerton, Bardney north Cherry Willingham wanting to travel north would likely use Kennel Lane and the A158, passing through North Greetwell.

Resolved unanimously that a further request be made to the Head of Highways, LCC and seeking support from the local MP.

39 – 16/17 FINANCE

- a) **Bank reconciliation to 30th June 2016** - The bank statement had not yet been received from the bank and the reconciliation would therefore be prepared for the next meeting of the Council.
- b) **Budget/spend to date** – This had been circulated to all Councillors and noted that spending was currently within budget.
- c) **Expenditure/Receipts – Payments:-**

Mrs R Seal – compost for tubs = £6.95
 Mrs C Myers – reimbursement of payment to Inks Direct for cartridges = £32.30
 Continental Landscapes – grass cutting at The Chase = £60.00
 Reepham and Cherry Willingham Village Hall – booking fee for Get Together
 3rd August 2016 = £34.00

Initialled(Chair)
 Date

Payments to be made –

Mrs C Myers – Clerk’s expenses = £61.22
Nettleham Parish Council – room hire = £9.50
North Lincoln Horticultural Society – table hire for Produce Show = £14.00
Cherry Willingham Parish Council – hire of gazebo for Produce Show = £20.00
25th Lincoln (Scothern) Scout Group – donation = £50.00
Reepham and Cherry Willingham Village Hall – booking fee for Get Together
30th November 2016 - £34.00.

Receipts - Pennell’s Garden Centres – contribution to Produce Show = £30.00

Resolved unanimously that the items be paid if not already done so.

40 – 16/17 PLANNING

a) Riseholme Neighbourhood Plan – consultation 24th June 2016 – 5th August 2016 –
Circulated to Councillors and noted.

b) Planning applications received:-

134423 – 54 Wragby Road East – single storey detached annexe – No comments/objections
134525 – 23a Westfield Avenue – erect annexe – comments as follows:-

‘Greetwell Parish Council has viewed this application and point out the following:

- The plans submitted do not show all the structures on the property
- It is understood that the construction of this annexe has already commenced.’

134627 – 56 Wragby Road East – demolition of existing bungalow and replacement of single storey dwelling – No objections

134405 – 2 Stocking Way – single storey side extension – No objections.

41 – 16/17 CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS

The Chair reported that complaints had been received from residents of Hawthorn Chase regarding the poor quality of the cutting of The Chase play area. The contractor had been notified and had returned to again cut the grass.

It was hoped that a newsletter could be printed within the next week.

42 – 16/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 8th August 2016, Small Hall, Old School, Nettleham.

Initialed.....(Chair)

Date

43 – 16/17 TO RESOLVE TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS STAFFING MATTERS

This was agreed. County Councillor Mrs Jackie Brockway left the meeting.

Resolved the appointment of a new Play Equipment Inspector.

Resolved that the new agreed pay scales for Clerks and other employees be implemented.

Signed.....(Chair)

Date