

## D R A F T

### MINUTES OF SOUTH WILLINGAM

#### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2014

##### **Present:**

Councillor Cutts      Chair

Councillor Doughty

Councillor Edmundson

Councillor Harris

Councillor Spencer

District Councillor D Simpson (ELDC)

Visitors: Stephen Brookes, Lincolnshire Broadband Programme Manager (LCC); two residents; Mrs Edwina Scott and Dick Seaward.

The Chairman welcomed Councillors and visitors to the meeting. Steve Brookes had attended the meeting to talk about the current position regarding superfast broadband in the village. The Government had available £40.4m of funding which had been obtained from various sources. It was considered that it was better to have the whole County covered with an acceptable speed rather than some areas having particularly high speed. The work was progressing ahead of schedule and 240 roadside cabinets had already been dealt with. The cabinet at Burgh-on-Bain (which supplies South Willingham) was due to be enabled between April and September 2015. This cabinet feeds to a secondary cabinet at Hainton (near the Heneage Arms). It is the distance from the cabinet to the end user that affects the speed, the optimum distance being 2 km or less. It was anticipated that residents should receive an improvement in speed next year. It may be possible in the future to provide a secondary box in the village itself but this was subject to funding and use of the required technology being accepted by the Government. Steve Brookes would be having a meeting with BT in January to discuss these issues and further information would be available then. There was also some funding (for broadband) available from the European Regional Development Fund for people working from home (self-employed rather than employed by another organisation) – but not in agriculture. If you are self-employed and work from home, please contact Steve Brookes direct on [stephen.brookes@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.brookes@lincolnshire.gov.uk) so that he can establish the position locally. **Action: Councillor Spencer would contact Steve Brooks in January.**

**1 Apologies for absence:**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor D Nutten.

**2 Declarations of interest in any items on this Agenda:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 To agree the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 September 2014:**

The Minutes were agreed and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

**4 Matters arising from the Minutes:**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

**5 Financial Matters:**

The Clerk informed Councillors that the bill for refurbishing the bus shelter had been paid. Councillors were able to view the latest bank and budget statements. The Clerk had circulated a draft budget for the year 2015/16. Councillors discussed the various budget headings and agreed that the precept should remain at £600.00.

**6 Co-option to the Parish Council Vacancy:**

Mrs Edwina Scott had attended the meeting and confirmed that she would be interested in joining the Council. All Councillors present agreed the appointment and Mrs Scott was duly co-opted. **Action: Clerk would ask Mrs Scott to complete the required documents.**

**7 Footpaths Update:**

Councillor Cutts had circulated emails from LCC and the Fieldpaths Association. Councillor Cutts was still awaiting a response from LCC as to how they wished to proceed and whether an informal hearing was an option.

**8 Planning Matters:**

Hillcrest Cottage, Barkwith Road: Details of a planning application for a rear extension and alterations to an existing annexe and extension to raise the roof height to provide first floor office, wc and store on the site of part of the existing annexe which is to be demolished had been circulated and full planning permission had been granted by ELDC.

Biscathorpe: The Clerk had received a large package of documents from LCC relating to temporary planning permission for the construction of a new access track, temporary well site, with associated portable cabins, the drilling of an exploratory

borehole, undertaking of production tests for conventional hydrocarbons and retaining the site and well head valve assembly gear for evaluation on land off High Street, Biscathorpe. Observations were required by LCC by 3 December 2014. Councillors agreed to hold an additional meeting on Wednesday 19 November at 8.00 pm in order to discuss the application fully. **Action: Clerk to book the Parish Hall for the meeting.**

#### **9 Weeds in Gutters and on Pavements:**

Councillors discussed the poor state of pavements on Hainton Road and Barkwith Road and weeds and leaves in gutters on all roads in the village. **Action: Councillor Doughty to contact ELDC regard road sweeping and LCC regarding clearing the pavements.** Post meeting note: Councillor Doughty confirmed that both issues had been reported to the Councils.

#### **10 Correspondence:**

No correspondence had been received.

#### **11 To Agree Meeting Dates for 2015:**

The following dates were agreed: 8 January, 12 March, 14 May, 9 July, 10 September, 12 November. **Action: Clerk to book the Parish Hall.**

#### **12 Items for the Next Agenda:**

Superfast Broadband; Village Tidy Up; Footpaths

#### **13 Date of Next Meeting: 8 January 2015 (to be confirmed)**

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Signed:

Chairman

Date: