

DEEPING ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
27th April 2006 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present

Cllrs: Barber, Blessett (Vice Chairman), Fisk, Lincoln, Lindfors-Windsor, Pelling, Shinkins, Stevens, Thomas, Warrick (Chairman), and the Clerk, Mrs Sheila Kostyrka. Cllr Warrick arrived at 9.15pm having sent apologies that he would be late due to a prior work commitment. Cllr Blessett chaired the meeting.

Open Forum

No members of the public attended, two members of the press attended. Anthony Hardy and Philip Swinton from SKDC Highways made a presentation on the support given in the village with grass cutting, contractor inspection, litter picking, fly and commercial tipping, dumped cars, graffiti and other associated enforcement now possible since the introduction of the Cleaner Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. This was very well received, and the Council were please with the good communication systems in place to enable prompt response to any problems. Leisure Centre concerns were also expressed.

056/06 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Auger, (District Council meeting) Cllr Dilks (Working away).Cllr Helyer did not attend.

057/06 Members declaration of Interest for items on the agenda

Cllr Pelling 13.1 (83), Item1, Personal

058/06 It was proposed by Cllr Blessett, seconded by Cllr Shinkins and carried that under Standing Order 23d, the order of business be changed to permit Agenda Item 10 to be discussed at 2.3 due to the sensitive nature.

To resolve under Standing Order 61 whether, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act) 1960, the public and press should be temporarily excluded from the meeting in the public interest due to the confidential nature of the following items of business:

1. **Staff Matters**
2. **Co-option of new Councillor**
3. **To consider the valuation of the BP site for possible purchase**

The press left the meeting at this stage to enable matters to be considered in private.

Private and Confidential Reports are attached at **Appendix 1** to this document.

059/06 Approval of minutes of the last meeting held on 30.03.06

It was proposed by Cllr Fisk, seconded by Cllr Lincoln and carried unanimously that the minutes of the last meeting be adopted, and the Vice Chairman duly signed them.

**060/06 Report of Matters Arising from the meeting of 30.03.06 (not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda)
C/F from 26.01.06**

C/F (Cllr Dilks Min 021/06) Speeding Traffic on Spalding Road

C/F (Cllr Dilks Min 023/06) Deeping Recycling Centre/funding

042/06 – Skate Park Arrangements had to be made for Huddlestone Landscapes to delay the landscaping and to widen the gap between the earth banks to enable the contractor to have access to the skateboard site to fit the soundproofing with the aid of lifting equipment. This has incurred an additional cost. The soundproofing will be fitted on 3rd May and the landscaping is due to commence with immediate effect. **It was proposed by Cllr Shinkins, seconded by Cllr Fisk and carried that the eight foot gap remain to give vehicular access, and the paving slabs be laid to the side of the path, with gravel in the middle.**

031/06 Play Leadership Scheme

Andy Allen from SKDC has agreed to support the suggested voucher scheme for 2006 as a short-term measure. **It was proposed by Cllr Lincoln that the Working Party reconvene (Cllrs Shinkins, Helyer, and Lincoln) to consider the 2007/8 scheme. SKDC is to be approached for support and advice as the recent changes in legislation have made this very difficult.**

ACTION WORKING PARTY AND CLERK

033/06 – Financial Matters

Bank details are still outstanding from Cllr Dilks

ACTION CLLR DILKS

035/06.1 Enhancement of Manor Court

SKDC Planning has asked the Enforcement Officer to investigate the parking problems. The contractor has also been asked to contact us regarding enhancement of the open space. **Cllr Blessett reported that the cars are once again parking in the car park. The Clerk was asked to discuss this item with Cllr Auger who was organising a site meeting.**

ACTION CLLR AUGER AND CLERK

045/06 Correspondence

The appeal against the business valuation has been submitted to the valuation office. The bill for 2005/6 will be approx. £875.65 and £898.48 for 2006/7. As a precepting authority we are not entitled to rate relief. We legally have to pay the bills, but could be entitled to small business relief, which we have to apply for annually. We may then get a refund.

Cllr Blessett agreed to look at the application criteria for Aggregates Levy Sustainability Funding. **Cllr Blessett confirmed that we do fit the required criteria for funds.**

061/06 To receive the Clerk's Report

Requests had been made for more 30mph in DSJ car stickers. **The Clerk was advised to talk to Cllr Warrick who was believed to have a further supply.**

The gates for the Millennium Wood and the Skate Board Park are due to be installed week commencing 29/04/06. The No Dog Signs have been received and will be fitted at the skate park after the gate is installed.

Enquiries have been received regarding overhanging trees on East Gate and the resident was put in touch with LCC as the landowner. The Rugby Club enquired about Brown Signs and was referred to LCC.

We have received a further complaint about the dog bins in Thacker's Way, the overspill, and concerns have been raised about children playing with the dog bags. **It was hoped that the new arrangements would solve this problem.**

PCSO Helen Morris and David Vines have called in. PC James Capp has visited and I have been in email contact with Sergeant Higgins from Bourne. A new PCSO has been appointed to DSJ. His name is Chris Brown; he will start on 8th May and undergo 5 weeks training. The home office has just issued the PCSO with mobile telephones, so communication should improve considerably.

Financial Matters

The Broadband connection went live on the 24th April, and my thanks to Cllr Warrick for getting it up and running. The P60's have been prepared for the staff wages for the last financial year. Barclays Bank agreed to refund the £40 commission charged to us when we went overdrawn in February, as we did not receive a bank statement. The quarterly VAT return has been submitted. Staff pension arrangements are now in place. The P14s and P60 returns for the end of year are now reconciled. On receipt of the new pass word, submission will be made on line as we get a £250.00 refund. The new 2006 CD Rom for wages has been installed. The computer files have been defragmented and the computer is now working more efficiently. Systems are all backed up. The accounts balance to the end of March. Accruals, Debtors and Prepayments have been identified for the Income and Expenditure Accounts preparation.

Cemetery

We received a complaint regarding the rubbish in the cemetery. This had not been cleared the previous week as Maurice was on holiday, and will be cleared prior to any holidays in the future to prevent any further build up. There have been further enquiries regarding burials in the cemetery, and reservations. Permission has been granted to place a headstone on a recent grave and another burial has taken place. There is a new system in place to mark grave spaces.

Transport Committee

I have to obtain a third quote for the hard standing for new bus shelter in Spalding Road as previous contractors have not been interested.

Allotments

The last outstanding payment has been received, and agreement signed. The pipes are now laid, and the existing troughs will be installed once the ground has settled.

062/06 To receive and agree the Council's response to correspondence received since the last meeting as per the attached schedule attached at Appendix 2 to this report.

063/06 To consider representation at a County Assembly on 24.05.06 to discuss the future of Town and Parish Councils. A Position Statement was circulated, and Cllr Blessett agreed to attend.

ACTION CLERK & CLLR BLESSETT

064/06 To consider a request for our web site to be linked to The Local Channel.

It was unanimously agreed that this would not be necessary as all information is offered on our own web sites.

065/06 To consider the confirmed proposals for the Annual Parish Meeting on 11th May 2006

The proposals were agreed, and the confirmed Agenda is attached at **Appendix 3** to this report. Cllr Stevens asked that as many Councillors attend as possible, and encourage others to do so, to make this a successful event.

ACTION CLLR STEVENS AND THE CLERK

066/06 1. To receive the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Thursday 20th April 2006 and resolve upon the recommendations contained therein, which were agreed. The minutes are attached at Appendix 4.

S06/0375/25

Mr & Mrs Winkless

110 Eastgate,

Deeping St James

Two storey extension to side, first floor extension to garage & creation of porch

Approval recommended.

S06/0427/25

Mr & Mrs Anthony

65 Manor Way

Deeping St James

Change of use to fish and chip shop

Approval recommended.

S06/0438/25

W A Fisher

Adj. Redroofs

Spalding Road

Deeping St James

Erection of Dwelling

Approval recommended.

067/06 To consider financial matters:

1. To approve accounts for payment.

Cllr Pelling declared an interest in item (85) for payment.

All were in favour of approving the accounts and they are attached to **Appendix 5** of this report.

2. To approve expenditure for CCTV security monitor for Parish Office.

Three quotes had been received and are attached as A Private and Confidential Document at **Appendix 6** to this report. It was proposed by Cllr Warrick, seconded by Cllr Fisk and carried that Able Protection be asked to provide the equipment.

3. To approve purchase of new addition of Charles Arnold Barker Local Government Law.

It was proposed by Cllr Fisk, seconded by Cllr Warwick and carried that the Clerk orders the publication at a maximum cost of £60.00.

4. To approve funding for contractor maintenance of the old cemetery.

It was proposed by Cllr Fisk, seconded by Cllr Warwick and carried that the contract to cut the whole cemetery area be continued at an agreed cost of £240.00 per month.

068/06

1. To receive a verbal report from the Playing Fields Committee, which was not held on 6th April 2006 as a quorum, was not present.

Cllr Lincoln made a verbal report to Council. Apologies were received from Cllrs Pelling, Shinkins and Warrick. Cllr Helyer did not attend. Cllrs Blessett and Lincoln were unable to continue as a quorum was not present. The minutes of the meeting of 22.12.06 were approved and signed by Cllr Shinkins as a true record. The maintenance and management for the Jubilee Field was considered and it was suggested to re concrete the bins in with postcrete. If they are vandalised again, we will look at other ways of fixing. The Committee Budget for the current financial year is £13,000. The date of the next meeting is Thursday 12th October 2006, when CCTV will be an agenda item.

ACTION CLERK

2. To receive a verbal report from the Allotment Committee, which was not held on 6th April 2006 as a quorum, was not present.

Cllr Fisk made a verbal report to Council. Apologies were received from Cllr Warrick. Cllr Helyer did not attend. Cllr Thomas sent belated apologies due to unexpected circumstances. Cllrs Blessett and Fisk were unable to continue as a quorum was not present. The minutes of the meeting on 13.12.05 were approved as a true record and signed by the Committee Chairman. It was confirmed that the budget for the forthcoming year is £3,000. It was proposed by Cllr Fisk, seconded by Cllr Thomas and carried that the allotment fees for the financial year 01.10.07 – 30.09.08 be increased to £25.00 per year fixed for a period of 5 years due to the laying of the roads, the water supply and the ongoing maintenance costs. A year's notice needs to be given for any increase in rent.

It was Proposed by Cllr Fisk and carried unanimously that a letter of thanks be sent to Eve and Ward at Swinesmeadow Farm to thank them for allowing the water main to go across their land and to offer a sign or flyer to be put up in the allotment – "Water supplied by kind co-operation of..." Cllr Chambers declared a prejudicial interest and left the room at 9.35 for a few minutes. It was then proposed by Cllr Fisk; seconded by Cllr Stevens and carried that Mr Chambers be asked to Invoice the Council to cover some of the many hours he had spent in organising the water supply which was greatly appreciated. Cllr Fisk proposed that a Member of the Allotments Association be co-opted to the Allotments Committee to liaise and advice, and this was agreed. The date of the next meeting will be 12th October 2006.

ACTION CLERK

3. To receive feedback from the Deepings Leisure Centre meeting 05.04.06

Cllr Lincoln gave an overview of the meeting, and the ongoing problems that remained unresolved. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Nick Craft to enquire when the first Working Party meeting would be held. This was referred to the May meeting for further information.

ACTION CLERK

4. To receive a report from the United Charities Meeting 6th April 2006

Cllr Stevens reported that an interim meeting had been held to discuss the investment of monies from the recent sale of land. Cllr Stevens reconfirmed to the Council that monies were still available for any community or educational needs of residents, and referrals were recommended.

5. To receive a report from the Doorstep Crime Meeting 23rd March 2006 (Cllr Warwick)

Referred to the May meeting.

6. To receive a report from the Churchfield Development meeting held on 31st March 2006

Cllr Blessett gave a very comprehensive report confirming the positive arrangements for the boundaries, entrance, public open space and planting of trees, and the suggestion that this was converted into a landscaped park. The Council were very supportive with the response of the developer, and the Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks confirming these matters. It was confirmed that the three storey flats would remain, that 30 units would be released as a shared equity and the remainder would be rented giving priority to DSJ residents. This would now be advertised locally on the DSJ exchange and in the next newsletter.

ACTION CLERK & CLLRS

7. To receive a report from the Deepings Local Area Assembly meeting 24.04.06

Cllr Shinkins reported on her disappointment with the lack of any consultation at the meeting and the ten minute window allocated for any representation from the public. It was proposed by Cllr Stevens, seconded by Cllr Chambers and carried that the Clerk write to SKDC expressing concerns that this is not a consultation forum and the public are certainly not encouraged to attend. You are told what is happening, not consulted.

ACTION CLERK

At this point, it was proposed by Cllr Blessett, seconded by Cllr Pelling and carried that Standing Order 1d be implemented to extend the duration of the meeting to 10.10 to conclude business. This was agreed.

069/06

To consider the following matters in the order upon which notice of resolution or recommendation has been given:

1. To consider the future venue of Deepings Rugby Club

Cllr Shinkins informed the Council that the Rugby Club venue is now a short term arrangement. The United Charities are looking at the possibility of an alternative site for them.

ACTION CLLR SHINKINS

2. To consider the need for more dog bins in the village

Cllr Lindfors-Windsor expressed her concerns with the concentration of dog bins in Thackers Way in the village. It was proposed by Cllr Fisk and supported by the Council that Cllr Lindfors-Windsor and Fisk give some thought to the possible locations of future bins. This will be reported to Council in the autumn for consideration at the precept meeting.

ACTION CLLRS LINDFORS-WINDSOR AND FISK

3. To discuss The Deepings Management Partnership proposal to change their constitution.

Cllr Shinkins shared her concerns with the Council regarding the proposal to change the constitution of The Deepings Management Partnership to enable any funds to be directed to the Market Deeping Town Centre. It was proposed by Cllr Stevens, seconded by Cllr Lincoln and carried unanimously that this would be an unacceptable situation as it would exclude businesses in nearby and other locations.

ACTION CLLR SHINKINS

070/06 Parish-pump: Report of urgent information and notice of agenda items for the next meeting.

Dates of forthcoming meetings:

Cllr Lindfors-Windsor expressed her concerns regarding the rushing through of agenda items and suggested that the meeting should start earlier. This would be difficult for some members, and Cllr Warrick urged members to keep matters short and to the point.

Cllr Pelling asked members to consider items for the June newsletter to bring to the May meeting.

Future Meetings:

Annual meeting of the Electorate – Thursday 11th May 7pm in the Priory Church Hall

Planning Committee – Thursday 25th May 7pm in the Clerks Office

Council – Thursday 25th May 7.30 in The Institute Meeting Room

The meeting ended at 22.10 hours.

Signed Cllr Mark Warrick
Chairman

25th May 2006