

DEEPING ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
28th August 2008 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present

Cllrs: Auger, Barber, Baxter, Blessett (Chairman), Broughton, Dilks, Lindfors-Windsor, Neal, Parr, Shinkins, Stevens, Wallis, and the Clerk, Mrs Sheila Kostyrka.

Open Forum

Three members of the public attended with PC Capp. A Church Street resident complained again about the footpath opposite 84 Church Street that was so overgrown now, pedestrians had to cross the road on the blind bend which was very dangerous. There was also a broken hanging branch. The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to LCC twice about the problem, and they were trying to confirm ownership to resolve the problem. The Clerk was asked to see if the maintenance worker could clear the footway and to contact LCC again. One resident left during the public forum session, and two others left the meeting at 9.30pm.

AGENDA

55. To receive apologies for absence.

Cllr Shinkins sent apologies that she would be late, and arrived at 7.50pm. Cllr Pelling (holiday) Cllr Helyar (work) Cllr Auger left the meeting at 9.10pm.

56. To receive declarations of interest, if any.

Cllrs Barber and Shinkins 63.1 Planning – known to applicant.

57. To adopt the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 31st July 2008

An amendment was made at 54.08 to amend Cllr Neal to Cllr Parr.

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

58. To receive the Clerks Report.

Community

The maintenance worker returned to work after three days sickness. Complaints have continued to be received from residents regarding the problems at Manor Court. A meeting was held with representatives from SKDC regarding the CCTV surveillance and ongoing anti-social behaviour problems. Various SKDC and LCC officers together with police representatives continue to visit the Parish Office and good communication systems are in place. Enquiries from residents this month have included the requirements for dropped kerbs, and thanks for the improved condition of the river bank.

Finance and General Purposes

Clement Keys the Auditor has requested a copy of our Asset Register, and an explanation of our increase in the precept, and this information has been provided. The tax codes and new salary rates have been amended. The appraisals have taken place and will be reported to the next Finance Committee.

Transport

The maintenance worker is carrying out identified routine maintenance and repairs to some of the bus shelters. LCC have confirmed that the outstanding cycle/footpath at Linchfield Road should be part of a S106 agreement. Rev Warrick has conducted an audit of dropped kerb requirements which has been re-confirmed by LCC. Arrangements are in place to meet with the contractor in September to take the

Spalding Road cycle/footpath forward.

Cemetery

The probation team have a new supervisor, Micky McNoughty who will continue to work in the cemetery every three weeks. Cllr Barber has volunteered to prune the overhanging tree on Saturday. The dead hedge has now been replanted, and the Church Walk footpath has also been slurred. Three burials have taken place this month. The Burial records and Deeds of Grant are now all up to date.

Youth and Community

Building works at Linchfield School had caused some initial concerns but these were soon resolved and a very successful two week well planned and run Play Scheme has taken place and thank you to the Councillors who participated in the Press Call. I have called in several times taken photographs of the children and staff and was able to see all the fantastic activities that have taken place. The two primary schools have been able to mix together at the Linchfield venue, and a lot of new friendships have been made.

I also mingled with about 50 parents/grand parents/minders as they collected the children to ask them what they thought, and they were all so delighted, and said the children had had the most fantastic time. Not one negative comment!! They thanked the Parish Council for sponsoring the event, and hoped it would be repeated next year.

I will be meeting with the head teacher when the new term commences to get a date in the diary for August 2009. The kissing gate and skate park ramps have been repaired. A meeting took place on site with PC Capp to discuss ongoing problems. Met on site with contractor regarding quotes to move some of the earth to give the police better vision, and also to raise the height on one of the banks to 350 to allow consideration to be given for a slide and climbing ramp. A meeting was also held with a representative from a CCTV company. John Winslow from WREN contacted us regarding our application and asked why the PC was not investing more funds to take the project forward. A small survey for use of the new skate park equipment has taken place and the comments returned to SKDC to forward to the Big Lottery Fund.

Allotments, Footpaths and Open Spaces

The half plots have been renumbered to avoid any confusion in the future. The Hall Meadow Estate Annual Return has been submitted. A site meeting has also been held at Manor Court regarding the ongoing project. Sarah Bailey will be contacting the CCTV control centre regarding an improvement to the lighting. The allotment roadway will be laid as soon as possible.

59. To receive the report of progress in relation to matters arising from these Minutes not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

The application to request that the red telephone box in Church Street is ongoing. Cllr Halyer had obtained a quote for the repositioning of the container and this would be moved next month. Rev Warrick has been approached regarding accommodating a 4 meter by 4 meter market stall type stand at the next Rose & Sweet Pea Show. When confirmed, quotes would be obtained for the advertising banners. Confirmation of the name of the payee is outstanding regarding the £50 contribution to the Footpaths Working Party. The Clerk was asked to contact SKDC to ensure the burnt out bin at the Broadgate Bus shelter was replaced.

60. To receive a report from PC Capp including the Community Panel meetings management and forthcoming schedule. (Min 45.08)

PC Capp gave an overview of the ongoing anti social behaviour problems being experienced in the village and actions that had been taken independently and in partnership with the SK anti-social behaviour team. The Market Deeping Neighbourhood Policing Group was explained, and PC Capp agreed to change the name of the group to The Deepings to make it more representative of the area. The group was set up to make sure that the police respond to the concerns of the public at a local level, and that the problems that matter to the local community are identified and responded to. In future,

the information sheet, advertising the date of the next meeting and responses to problems addressed would be emailed to the Clerk for circulation and for posting on the web site. The PC requested that representatives from local schools be asked to attend to enable them to be aware of local issues. Any unsolved problems from the Neighbourhood Policing Team meeting are however taken to the Joint Advisory Group which has all agency representation. PC Capp confirmed that he had changed his duties to be able to address some of the problems being experienced at later times. They have been short of PCSO's over the last few months and PCSO Luke Sheperton had now been appointed. The situation would also improve once the Youth Centre re-opened. It was confirmed that there had been a decrease in anti social behaviour in other areas which was now centred at Manor Way. As the problem is moving on rather than being solved, the PC discussed the possibility of providing more youth activities during the holiday period and the Clerk was asked to contact SKDC for a partnership approach through the Leisure Centre for the fourteen plus age group. The holiday cinema was thought to be an excellent idea, but had not been well attended due to the poor advertising. PC Capp was thanked for attending, and he then left the meeting.

61. To receive a report from Cllr Auger on SKDC issues.

Cllr Auger confirmed that the re-adjustment of the domestic rate regarding the police contribution would be made in September.

Cllr Baxter then asked if he could ask a question and it was clarified that the item was usually only to 'receive a report' on forthcoming SKDC issues, and the question was allowed. Cllr Baxter asked Cllr Auger to confirm if the report in the local paper which stated that Cllr Auger supported the development on Charities Orchard in the Spalding Road was true. This was confirmed, and Cllr Baxter commented that he felt undermined in this matter as the PC had agreed to object to the development due to the lack of provision for a public open space. Cllr Auger stated that he had a right to his own personal opinion, just like anyone else, and would certainly represent the views of any resident who approached him. It was confirmed that both of the dual hatted members do not make any comments at Parish Council meetings regarding planning matters. Cllr Stevens commented that Cllr Auger has problems representing local issues, and as we do not have enough open spaces in the local community, she would like this to be supported at every opportunity. Cllr Auger confirmed that he was only able to do this on an individual application if approached. Cllr Baxter then asked for it to be minuted that Cllr Auger had said "I cannot represent your views". This was denied, and Cllr Baxter said that that was what was said because he had written it down. He then gave Cllr Auger a personal letter from him, asking for his personal views to be represented.

62. To receive and agree the Council's response to correspondence received since the last meeting as per the attached schedule attached at Appendix 1 to this document.

Item 4. It was agreed that it was a positive move to 'tidy up' the footpath network to correct the definitive map.

Item 7. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of congratulations to Julie Holman for being a great ambassador for Athletics in the recent Olympics.

Item 9. The Clerk was asked to send apologies.

Item 11. Cllr Neal agreed to look at the proposed changes for the East Midland Regional Plan and report back.

63. To consider planning related issues:

A Planning Meeting had not been held.

1. To consider planning applications received since 31.07.08:

S08/0884/25	Mr S Pearce 73 Thackers Way Deeping St James	Erection of two storey rear extension to dwelling APPROVAL RECOMMENDED
S08/0906/25	Mr R Goodson Primrose Cottage Frognall	Erection of double garage with accommodation over; single storey rear extension and porch APPROVAL RECOMMENDED
S08/0915/25	Miss A Harris 39 Cowslip Drive Deeping St James	Erection of Conservatory to rear of dwelling APPROVAL RECOMMENDED

64. **To consider financial matters:**
- 1. To approve Accounts for Payment as per the attached schedule attached at Appendix 2 to this document.**
- It was confirmed that Item 80 was £150.99. Cllr Barber proposed that the accounts be paid; this was seconded by Cllr Lindfors-Windsor and agreed unanimously.
- 2. To approve the purchase of a Sit on Spring Mobile Scramble Bike at a cost of £692.00. (£481 being lottery monies outstanding, and the remaining £211 to come from the Youth and Community Projects Budget.**
- It was proposed by Cllr Dilks, seconded by Cllr Shinkins and carried to approve funding for the purchase of the equipment. It was noted that there would be an additional cost for installation.
- Cllr Shinkins left the meeting for one minute at this point to take a telephone call.
65. **To receive the following reports and resolve upon the recommendations contained therein:**
- 1. To receive the minutes of the Transport Committee held on 14th August 2008 as per the attached schedule at Appendix 3 to this document.**
- It was unanimously agreed to accept the recommendations contained therein, and It was agreed that the suggested maintenance items in the Bus Stop Audit Report be processed as soon as possible within the agreed budgets, and quotes would be obtained prior to consideration for other items. It was also agreed to set up a "Car Clubs Working Party". Cllrs Baxter and Wallis would agree to meet and report back. It was also agreed to ask LCC for 30mph repeater signs on the Spalding Road as a matter of urgency. Some budget allocation was agreed, and another meeting would take place on 2nd October to finalise the estimates for 2009-10.
- 2. To receive the minutes of the Cemetery Committee held on 14th August 2008 as per the attached schedule at Appendix 4 to this document.**
- Item 04.08 was amended from Baxter to Barber and it was then unanimously agreed to accept the recommendations contained therein, and It was agreed that the following additions be made to the Cemetery Specification:
1. As from 28.08.08 a burial plot can only be purchased for a burial and not for the interment of ashes exclusively.
 2. In the event of a single monument spanning two grave spaces, the footstone must span both burial plots and be a minimum of 6 feet wide
 3. To charge an administration fee of £10 for any searches or investigations undertaken on behalf of the client.
- The recommendation to put forward costs of £6000 for 2009-10 was agreed.
66. **To agree to set up a "Citizens Awards" Working Party. (Min 50.08.3 - Cllrs Baxter and Stevens)**
- Cllrs Baxter, Shinkins and Stevens agreed to set up a Citizens Awards Working Party and report back to a future Council meeting.
67. **To report on the Casual Vacancy progress to co-opt a Parish Councillor.**

After a lengthy discussion it was agreed by the majority to invite interested parties to meet the Councillors informally at 7pm on Thursday 15th September for refreshments prior to the Extraordinary Council Meeting at 8.00pm when the vote would take place in closed session. The Clerk circulated copies of the applications and it was noted that the correspondence was Private and Confidential, and would be returned for shredding. Cllr Auger then left the meeting (9.10pm)

68. To receive the CCTV Working Party report. (52.08 deferred - Cllr Blessett)

The issues and options were discussed and it was agreed to reconvene the CCTV Working Party which would now also address Anti-Social Behaviour and look at ways to improve police presence. Cllr Blessett will organise the meeting with Cllrs Wallis, Shinkins, Pelling, Broughton and Neal. The Clerk was asked to organise a visit to the CCTV Control Centre in Grantham on a Monday evening and the following Councillors would attend: Blessett, Barber, Broughton, Dilks, Stevens, Shinkins, Lindfors-Windsor and Wallis. It was suggested that a visit could also be arranged to attend the South Holland CCTV Centre in Spalding.

69. To consider the quarterly Newsletter.

It was proposed by Cllr Blessett, seconded by Cllr Shinkins and agreed that Cllr Stevens would collate the newsletter as in the past, with contributions from Councillors. Quotes would be obtained for design and layout of the quarterly newsletter. A new flyer would be introduced to advertise and promote events and other agreed items, and quotes would also be obtained for this. Partnership work with Market Deeping for events like the Summer Play Scheme and the Local Walks were supported. Cllr Stevens and the Clerk would meet on 04.09.08 to agree a working programme.

70. To consider to “opt in” to the Sustainable Communities Act. (Cllr Blessett)

As copies of the Broadsheet ordered on 07.08.08 had not yet been received, this item was deferred to the next meeting.

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

1. To report on the Draft Market Survey CD (Min 47.08.5 - Cllr Barber)

This had not been possible within the required deadline of 04.08.08.

2. To report on the Parish Paths Walk on 23.07.08. (Cllr Baxter)

It was agreed to refer the recommendations of a family walk to take place on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon, and to advertise the walks with other parishes to the Allotments, Footpaths and Open Spaces Committee for further consideration.

3. To report on the Footpaths Working Party 12.08.08. (Cllrs Neal & Parr)

The group is still expanding and evolving and the structure of the group is still being considered. The Bridge over the River Welland will still be considered. Confirmation of the name of the payee for the agreed donation of £50 is yet to be confirmed.

4. To report on the Deepings Management Partnership meeting 14.08.08

The meeting was to consider events, and there was nothing to report.

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

The Clerk reported that Deeping St James Level Crossing would be closed again on 21.10.08 – 22.10.08 and 22.10.08 to 23.10.08 between 20.30 hours to 6.30 hours to allow essential maintenance to take place.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday 18th September 2008 6.30pm Planning Committee

Thursday 18th September 2008 8.00pm Extraordinary Council Meeting

Thursday 25th September 2008 7.30 Council Meeting in the Meeting Room

The meeting finished at 10pm

