

DEEPING ST JAMES PARISH COUNCIL

The Institute, 38 Church Street, Deeping St James, Peterborough PE6 8HD

e-mail: clerk@dsjpc.org.uk Tel/Fax: (01778) 343266 www.dsjpc.org.uk

Parish Clerk: Mrs Sheila Kostyrka

DEEPING ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

27th November 2008 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present

Cllrs: Auger, Baxter, Blessett (Chairman), Dilks, Helyar, Lindfors-Windsor, Neal, Parr, Stevens, PCSO Chris Clarke and the Clerk, Mrs Sheila Kostyrka.

Open Forum

Two members of the public attended, but did not address the Council.

AGENDA

108. To receive apologies for absence.

Cllrs Pelling (holiday) Barber (personal) Moore (business) Wallis (personal) Shinkins (business) Broughton (personal)

109. To receive declarations of interest, if any.

None.

110. To adopt the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 30th October 2008.

It was proposed by Cllr Lindfors-Windsor seconded by Cllr Neal and carried unanimously that the minutes be approved and they were signed by the Chairman.

111. To receive the Clerks Report.

Community

Following complaints, Colin Harrison from Peterborough Homes has now confirmed that subject to planning approval, the aerials on the Bridge Street development will be re-located to the shop side of the flats away from the adjacent residential properties. Cllr Auger had also been involved in complaints and Peterborough Homes will now be submitting a planning application to SKDC for approval.

I have been involved with various queries from our residents including blocked drains, fly tipping, an abandoned tyre, the un-maintained footpath next to 54 Frazer Close, concerns about a tree in the church yard, pot holes in Manor Court, problems at the playing area at Churchfield Close, and street lights not working.

Mr Prentice from the recycling centre has confirmed that he is now being charged for the disposal of paper and cardboard, plastics, and garden waste. Therefore in the absence of recycling credits he has to pass these costs on by making a small charge. The only items he can now dispose of free of charge are clothes and metals. Mr Prentice has suggested that the council may like to match people who are unable to manage their own gardens up with people you want to grow produce, which they then share. The specifications for mowing the riverbank have now been received from the contractors, and the Finance Committee have made their recommendations in their report. I have had various visits from residents/contractors needing the services of the United Charities and the Men's Group and have referred these on.

Transport

Lincs Road Safety Partnership will be placing a VAS in Linchfield Road shortly to remind drivers of the speed due to a recent survey confirming a problem in this area. A speed survey has been programmed in Spalding Road for the new year. Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership will also be arranging for the probation service to place 30mph repeater signs

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along the Spalding Road under their Parish Calm Scheme. A new school safety officer has been appointed and will be looking at our request for 20mph signs in Spalding and Park Roads.

I have met with the district engineer at Ryecroft Avenue shops and agreed a new dropped kerb and road markings. At the request of LCC, I have written to the resident at 60A Broadgate Lane regarding this hedge which is now a good meter overgrowing the foot path, and causing visibility problems.

Finance

The second half of the precept has now been received. The bank is balanced to the end of October.

The quotes for bookkeeping have now been received and the recommendations have been made by the Finance Committee

The waste transfer note has been completed and returned.

Allotments

A further £10 has been paid towards a replacement padlock for the allotment gate.

It has been confirmed by the AA that there are rabbit burrows on the allotment site; there is just not a warren. I have told the man who asked if he could catch the rabbits on site that we do not need his services.

It has been confirmed that the footpath we have had recent complaints about between Thacker's and Frazer Way is un-adopted and therefore not maintained by either SKDC or LCC. This has therefore been put on the maintenance mans weekly schedule.

Youth & Community

The Clerk confirmed that the monies in the budget for projects that could be rolled over into 2009-10 are just over £16,500.00. It was agreed that the Clerk submit an application to the Welland Community Grant Pot for funding of £5000.00, and to Awards for All for £10,000.00 to enable the MAGA to be ordered under a phased project in this financial year using these monies as matched funding. The Clerk would contact Wicksteed Leisure to confirm that they would honour their latest quotes, and store equipment until installation in the new financial year. We would then also qualify for bins, benches and picnic tables under a current initiative.

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

Cllr Stevens is organising the Newsletter, and it was unanimously agreed that a fee of £50 be paid to the type setter.

I am still trying to set up a meeting with our web manager to enable Cllr Barber to take over the web site management.

NALC has been unable to agree a % raise for staff, and this has gone to arbitration. It has therefore been recommended that a 2.45% cost of living increase be backdated to April 1st and this was unanimously agreed.

The tenant who had her produce removed in error earlier in the year has asked that the fee is waived as compensation, and this was unanimously agreed. We will be re-allocating 6 half plots to new tenants at a site meeting on 2nd December.

I am still waiting for the third quote for bus shelter hard standings from John Mills.

Paul Hanson from the Youth Centre has won the Princes Trust Award for Community Leadership and work with young people. Cllr Stevens asked for further details to include this item in the newsletter, and the Clerk was asked to send congratulations. The United Charities will be unable to help fund an additional Youth Leader to enable the Youth Centre to open on an extra night as they feel this should be funded by LCC.

I have had an email from the Manor Court Project Officer to confirm that she is back at work part time and will be taking the project forward.

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Cllr Stevens had received further complaints regarding the Leisure Centre and was involved with ongoing issues. Holiday Activities at the Leisure Centre are still to be confirmed and this will be mentioned in a letter inviting the new Trustees to attend our January meeting and the Clerk will write to confirm attendance. The Leisure Centre will be an Agenda item for the December meeting.

A meeting would take place at Woody Heights on Wednesday 3rd December at 9.30am to confirm the location of the MAGA, play equipment, and trees.

The head teacher at Linchfield School has acknowledged our concerns about the tree, and has invited a representative of the Parish Council to join their Every Child Matters Committee which has been given the responsibility for building a consensus for development at the front of the school. The next meeting is to be held on 11th December at 2pm at Linchfield, when the traffic, parking and the area in front of the school building will be discussed. Cllrs Dilks and Neal would attend. Cllr Baxter confirmed that he already attends this group as a parent. Melvyn Crooks has confirmed that the trees are listed.

Cllr Baxter has organised a meeting with a presentation by "Commonwheels" at the Deepings Community Centre on Tuesday 2nd December at 7.15pm.

PC Capp confirmed that archive data is not as clear as live data and as some police funds are available, he would like to improve the lighting at Manor Court and would like sensors to be placed underneath the canopy. He would like to take this forward with the Council's support and has provided a list to enable me to contact the landlords, and contacts to obtain quotes from electrical contractors. However, at the recent visit to the CCTV Control room it was confirmed that vision is actually very clear, and a small lamp standard in the middle where the lighting is poor as previously discussed would be of more benefit, although both suggestions would cost more than the available funds. Rob Hughes has suggested that subject to survey the existing light could be replaced with a white light head which would only cost about £250.00. Concerns were expressed that a white light head would cause problems for the residents. Cllr Baxter asked if this would be dark sky compliant. It was then proposed by Cllr Blessett and unanimously agreed that no further action be taken. Cllr Baxter abstained.

An application has been received today to do remedial works to trees on the land opposite 82 Church Street which has been overgrown for sometime. Proposed works have been accessed with the conservation officer and five ash trees and two cherry trees that are dead or diseased have been identified for removal. There were no objections to essential works, and the Council were pleased that vegetation would at last be cut back to the boundary on the public highway side.

113. To receive a report from PCSO Chris Clarke.

PCSO Clarke reported that there had been an improvement in anti-social behaviour, and no major issues had been reported on Halloween or Firework events. He encouraged everyone to be vigilant about security as vehicle crime and burglaries were still an issue. An arrest had been made for criminal damage in Manor Way. Cllr Baxter expressed his concerns about traffic offences in the village, and it was confirmed that traffic patrols were attending. It was agreed that attendance would be made on a Sunday morning as pavement obstruction continued to be a problem in Linchfield Road. Cllr Neal asked about neighbour Watch and would contact the Police coordinator Sally Picker.

Cllr Auger reported that PC Capp had changed his shifts recently to deal with the ongoing problems at Manor Court. It was requested that the thanks of the residents and the Council be passed onto him.

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

Cllr Auger reported that he had written to the new Chief Constable regarding the increase

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in POSO powers and was hopeful for the future. It was confirmed that SKDC were reducing car parking charges in their owned car parks during December.

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

Items 1 - Cllr Blessett agreed to make recommendations to Council on 18.12.08.

Items 2 & 3 – Cllr Blessett would consider and respond on behalf of the Council.

Item 5 – Cllr Stevens would include an article on energy efficiency in the newsletter.

Item 13 – It was unanimously agreed that the Council would abide by their previous decision and the container on Plot 32 would be moved to the north east corner of the car park as soon as possible.

Items 14, 15, 17, 19 and 22 recommendations agreed.

Item 18 - Cllrs Baxter, Blessett, Dilks, Helyar, Lindfors-Windsor, Neal, Parr, and Stevens showed an interest in attending the Mayors Christmas drinks evening on 10th December.

116. To consider planning related issues:

A planning meeting was not held.

1. To consider planning applications received since:

SO8/1196/25	Mr M Bessent 28 Bridge Street Deeping St James	Erection of single storey rear extension to dwelling APPROVED
SO8/1233/25	Mr M Farrington 14 Frognall Deeping St James	Installation of dormer windows, erection of front porch & alterations to roof. APPROVED
SO8/1284/25	Branch Bros 106 Bridge Street Deeping St James	Erection of Storage Racking APPROVED
SO8/1223/25	Mr T Cheeseman 53 Manor Way Deeping St James	Erection of single storey extension to side elevation APPROVED

117. To consider financial matters:

1. To approve Accounts for Payment as per the attached schedule attached at Appendix 2 to this document.

It was noted that Item 122 to the United Charities was for £1354.38, being £750.00 for rent from October 2008 – March 2009, two thirds of the electricity bill for the period 04.10.07-27.09.08 being £570.25, and our share of the PAT testing being £34.13.

It was proposed by Cllr Baxter, seconded by Cllr Lindfors-Windsor and unanimously agreed that the accounts be paid.

118. To receive the following reports, and resolve upon the recommendations contained therein:

1. To receive the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 13th November 2008 as per the attached schedule at

Appendix 3 to this document and to set the Precept for 2009-10.

It was then unanimously agreed to accept the recommendations contained therein, and it was agreed to appoint Ctax Management to assist with the accounts and Hoppers

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Landscapes on a three year contract to cut the riverbank. The Council then considered the recommendations made by the Finance Committee for the 2009-10 budget estimates. It was then proposed by Cllr Baxter, seconded by Cllr Lindfors Windsor and unanimously agreed to set the precept for 2009-10 at £85,198.00. Cllr Dilks agreed to write an article of 150 words for the newsletter.

119. To receive and agree the proposed meeting dates for 2009 as per the attached schedule at Appendix 4.

It was then unanimously agreed to accept the recommendations contained therein and the dates for 2009-10 were agreed.

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

1. To agree to contact BT regarding the restricted Broadband provision due to the exchange still not being upgraded. (Cllr Stevens)

Cllr Stevens agreed to ask the complainant to email the Clerk specific information to allow this matter to be taken forward. Cllr Auger agreed to talk to SK IT for advice.

2. To report on the "Citizens Awards" Working Party, agree the recommendations and refer the matter to Youth & Community Committee. (Min 50.08.3 - Cllrs Baxter, Stevens, Neal & Shinkins).

It was agreed that this initiative would be called "Make a Difference Awards". There would be three categories and a nomination form would be included in the Spring newsletter. In 2009 the award ceremony will be made at the Annual Parish Meeting. It is hoped that it will become a stand alone annual event.

3. To report on the "Deeping St James in Bloom" Working Party and agree the recommendations and refer the matter to Allotments, Footpaths, and Open Spaces Committee. (Min 105.3 – Cllrs Baxter, Neal & Stevens)

It was agreed to hold an initial meeting on Tuesday 13th January 2009 in the meeting room at the Institute at 7.30pm for interested parties to attend and confirm their interest. The object would be to extend the steering group, take forward some initiatives for 2009, and build on a full scale event from 2010.

4. To report on the Footpaths Working Party. (Cllrs Parr and Neal)

A report was not available.

5. To report back on the Remembrance Services Ceremonies. (Cllrs Blessett, Stevens and Baxter)

The services were very well attended and it was acknowledged as an excellent event and thanks was to be passed onto MDTC.

6. To report back on the PCC Planning & Site Allocations Development Policies. (Cllr Baxter)

Cllr Baxter circulated a paper which identified land at Market Deeping bridge in Peterborough as being a potential mixed development area within the plan. Cllr Auger confirmed that SLDC have previously objected as it would have a big effect on local services and schools. It was agreed that Cllr Baxter would comment on behalf of the Council, and Councillors would make their own individual objections.
http://consult.peterborough.gov.uk/portal/planning/peterborough/site_allocs_io_dpd/site_all

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7. To report back on the Communities and Local Government enforcement of byelaws consultation. (Cllr Pelling)

Deferred to the next meeting.

8. To report back on the East Midlands Regional Plan. (Cllr Neal)

This was reported at the last meeting.

9. To report on the Parishes Conference on 26.11.08 (Cllrs Stevens, Neal & Baxter)

It was reported as being an interesting and informing conference and thanks would be sent to SKDC. Reports were made on the White Paper, Empowering Local Communities. The Clerk was asked to order ten copies of this document. The Clerk was asked to confirm our interest with SKDC to participate in the electronic communications trial. Other presentations included a successful bid to the Big Lottery Fund, the Local Development Framework, Local Strategic Partnership, and Parish Clusters. A presentation on the Emergency Plan was well received, and the Councillors agreed to make this an agenda item for the January meeting for further discussion. A template had been provided to gather all the required local information. There is also a link to the full conference report on the SK web site at www.southkesteven.gov.uk

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

It was confirmed that the CAB would now be using the Institute as a meeting place.

It was reported the Blec had gone into receivership.

The Clerk informed the Council of the Deepings Lions Club Santa Sleigh Routes for 2009.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday 18th December 2008 Mince Pies and Coffee will be served at 7pm and the Council Meeting will commence at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room.

The meeting finished at 10.50pm