

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

26th March 2009 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present

Cllrs: Auger, Barber, Baxter, Blessett (Chairman) Broughton, Dilks, Helyar, Lindfors-Windsor, Moore, Parr, Pelling, (Vice Chairman) Shinkins, Stevens, Wallis and the Clerk Mrs S Kostyrka.

Open Forum

Two members of the public attended and PCSO Chris Clarke who gave his update first as he had to attend another meeting. A full report was given on the criminal damage and public order offences experienced by the Wicksteed contractors on site at Woody Heights on 24.03.09. An arrest was made, and the contractors are back on site. The Police are giving more support with surveillance during the construction period. The vandalism and anti social behaviour problems have continued at the Manor Court site. It was agreed that preventive measures were not having much impact on the problems, and this would be discussed at the forthcoming meeting with A1 Security. It was suggested that further consultation takes place with the residents including the church. PCSO Clarke also confirmed that the 30mph campaign had been very successful, together with the security marking of bikes.

AA members then told the Council that there would be a meeting on Sunday 19th April 2009 at 7.30pm in the Priory Church Hall to discuss Deeping St James in Bloom and members were invited to attend and Cllrs Dilks and Helyar agreed to attend. The members of the public and the PCSO then all left the meeting.

166. To receive apologies for absence.

Cllr Neal (personal) Cllr Auger apologised that he would have to leave by 9.30pm

167. To receive declarations of interest, if any.

The Chairman explained the advice received from the Head of Legal Services from NALC that in their opinion, Councillors who were allotment tenants, or associated with allotment tenants, should declare a prejudicial interest in Item 176, leave the room, and not take part in the discussion.

Cllr Broughton Item 176, allotment tenant, personal

Cllr Baxter Item 176, spouse of allotment tenant, personal

Cllr Pelling Item 175, Accounts, personal and Item 176 spouse of allotment tenant, personal

Cllr Blessett Item 174, Planning SO9/0424, known to neighbour, personal

Cllr Wallis Item 175, Community Pay Back, Employee of National Probation Service personal

168. To adopt the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 26th February 2009. It was proposed by Cllr Shinkins, seconded by Cllr Barber and carried unanimously that the minutes are approved, and they were signed by the Vice Chairman.

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169. To receive the Clerks Report.

Community

Maurice was off last week. After complaints about dog dirt Dog Order signs have been damaged and replaced twice in Wade Park Avenue and the SK Ranger has written to local residents regarding the problems, the law, and the threat of fixed penalty notices. Vandalism to the play equipment in the cemetery play ground has been reported to SKDC. Pot holes in Station Road have been reported and two damaged road signs. All the paperwork and agreements are now in order for the BT box to be passed to us. Contact has been made with Castle Cleaners to maintain it. Mr Hopper has mowed the river bank and LCC have agreed to 50% fund the cost for the forthcoming year.

Cemetery

We have had three burials this month and have had further searches for graves not on the existing plans. A volunteer is currently detailing the cemetery plots onto an excel plan with a search facility. The hedge has been cut and the area seeded under the hedgerow ready for the bench to be located in the corner, although concerns have been expressed about loitering of undesirable people. The Probation Service has asked if a new team can attend on Tuesdays to continue with the cementing of kerb work Peter was doing last year. They have asked if it is possible to ask for funds towards their expenses, which would amount to £40 per day. Consideration will be given to this request during the grants allocation, as this has not been included within the next financial year.

Allotments, Footpaths and Open Spaces

The United Charities have enquired if we would still like to provide a bench in memory of Derek Able for their Church Street Riverside Garden and the Clerk was asked to confirm the cost and report back at the next meeting.

Transport

30mph signs on the Spalding Road very effective. Following further complaints from residents it has been confirmed that Linchfield Road speeding investigations are still ongoing. Letters have been sent to the transport providers regarding timetable provision and possible sponsorship of future bus shelters.

Youth & Community

Wicksteed have provided all of the required documents and as reported have started on site and the installation of the MAGA is expected to take four weeks. The working party have met on site and agreed the location for the flying saucer. It is recommended that the Spring Mobile is located at another site due to concerns about possible damage. All of the documents to the Welland Fund and LCC for funding have been completed and returned.

A meeting has taken place to discuss the forthcoming play scheme with Sue Bell and the Clerk will be meeting with the head teacher on 31.03.09.

The Youth Worker project is to be organised.

Finance

The internal audit is progressing well and it is hoped it will be complete on 2nd April. The Clerk has arranged to meet with the book keepers on 6th April to discuss and set up the new accounts system. The Tax and National Insurance has been paid for the last quarter in this financial year. The bank and budgets are now balanced to the end of February and on target for a quick return of the end of year accounts.

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

At the last meeting the council resolved that a complaint would be made against one of our councillors. The Clerk has no standing to take forward a complaint on behalf of the council as I have to remain impartial. The Clerk is therefore unable to give evidence or act as a witness.

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A site meeting took place at Manor Court to clarify the project details. It was agreed not to refurbish the two areas of land not owned by SKDC. Another site meeting would take place when the Tenders have been returned. It was also agreed to tidy up the under stairs areas due to ongoing problems. Cllr Auger agreed to confirm the details of the land lord.

Emergency Planning is ongoing.

SKDC Disposal of dog waste policy is now outstanding for three months, and Councillor Auger agreed to chase this issue for the third time.

171. To receive a report from PCSO Chris Clarke.

This item was held in the public forum.

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

Cllr Auger reported on the launch of the LCC campaign "Really Useful Stuff" he had attended and the Clerk was given a memory stick which contained all the details.

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

Item 3 Correspondence to be sent onto LCC to pursue the complaint.

Item 4 & 23 Discussed at meeting 12.02.09

Item 11 Request for mobile police station venue to be at Manor Court

Item 13 Cllr Barber agreed to comment on the PCC Planning Document

Item 20 Agree to support Duck Race event

Item 26 Clerk asked to contact SK Street Scene re Deeping St James in Bloom

174. To consider planning related issues:

To receive the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held Thursday 19th March 2009. Cllr Blessett gave an overview of the very positive consultation with the planning officer. It was then proposed by Cllr Stevens, seconded by Cllr Pelling and unanimously agreed to accept the recommendations contained therein. The Minutes are attached at Appendix 2 to this document.

1. To consider planning applications received:

None received.

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2. To receive a letter from SKDC and to agree to consider suitable suggestions for the road name/s of the Ampy site, Spalding Road,

Cllr Neal had sent an email suggesting names of English Apples; Pippin, Russett, Dumelow or Pearmain. Cllr Stevens suggested names of prominent Deeping St James residents. Herbert Tooley lived in Frognall and was killed in the first world war. Derek Abel had recently died and had been involved in the community for over 30 years, and was also a much respected artist. It was then proposed by Cllr Barber, seconded by Cllr Shinkins and agreed unanimously to suggest to the developer Tooley Way and Abel Close as suitable names.

175. To consider financial matters:

1. To approve Accounts for Payment as per the schedule attached at Appendix 3.

It was proposed by Cllr Lindfors-Windsor, seconded by Cllr Parr and carried that the accounts be paid.

2. To resolve to carry over further funding into the 2009-10 Financial year for ongoing projects as follows:

(Min 53.08.2) North of Peterborough Rural Footpath & Bridleway Group £50

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It was agreed that £50 be carried over into the new financial year.

3. To consider and agree Grant Applications as attached at Appendix 4 to this document.

It was agreed to allocate £250 to Deepings Arts, £100 to Lincolnshire Playing Fields and £250 to the Priory Church Social Committee. It was also agreed to allocate £200 to the Community Pay Back Team within this allocation on receipt of their application. It was then proposed by Cllr Pelling, seconded by Cllr Baxter and unanimously agreed to carry over the remaining £1000 into the new financial year making the Grant Pot £4000.

176. To receive the minutes of the Allotments, Footpaths and Open Spaces Committee held on 12th March and to agree the recommendation made therein which area attached at Appendix 5 to this document.

In view of the confidential nature of the following items of business to be transacted, it was proposed by Cllr Blessett, seconded by Cllr Barber and carried that Standing Order 62 be implemented and that the press and public be temporarily excluded for the committee meeting in the public interest.

Cllrs Baxter, Broughton and Pelling did not leave the room as in their opinion they only had a personal interest in this matter.

Cllr Blessett explained the legal advice received from NALC that the "Licence to Occupy" rules should apply, and we can legally revoke occupation, and ask the AA to remove all equipment from our land on plot 32 immediately. Failure to do so, would involve the Parish Council taking the AA to the county court to insist upon its removal. It was agreed that in view of the recent survey conducted by the AA Chairman, most tenants were happy for the hut to stay in situ. The Council did not consider the cost of expensive litigation justifiable. It was agreed that the hut should be allowed to stay on half of Plot 32. Concerns were expressed that the Plot is used as a community facility, and not just by a few AA members. Also, that this should not set a precedent for other large huts to be erected on allotment plots. It was agreed that the Allotments Footpaths and Open Spaces Committee should meet to consider the content of a Licence to Occupy for the hut to legally remain on our land. Cllr Stevens stated that a lot of time, money and valuable staff resources has been spent on endless correspondence and having to continually take legal advice on this, and she regretted supporting an expensive project which provided a hobby for 68 people. At this point, Cllr Broughton said he was not going to sit and listen to Cllr Stevens any longer, and that he had told us about grants, and we didn't want it, and he walked out of the meeting.

Cllr Dilks said that we should be proud of our allotments and we now need to move on. Cllr Pelling said that although his wife has an allotment plot, she really does not care about the hut or where it is since it was painted green, and this has been a lot of hassle.

It was then proposed by Cllr Blessett that: The Committee would consider a legal "Licence to Occupy" for the site hut to remain on Plot 32 taking the above comments into consideration and this was agreed by eleven in favour with two exemptions.

It was confirmed by Cllr Blessett that in the circumstances, the committee did not consider it appropriate that the AA should be considered to manage the allotments at this time.

It was then proposed by Cllr Blessett, seconded by Cllr Stevens and unanimously agreed to accept the recommendations contained therein It was then **recommended** to Council that the Deeping St James walks will take place on 3rd June leaving from the Rose in Frognall at 6.30pm (footpaths 9-13) and returning to the Rose for refreshments, and the 11th June leaving from Woody Heights at 6.30pm (footpaths 2-5) and returning to The Goat for refreshments. That a Family Parish Walk and Teddy Bears Picnic will take place at the Nature Reserve on Sunday 28th June starting at 3pm (footpath 909). Participants will be encouraged to bring a picnic to enjoy after the event. Soft liquid refreshments will be provided together with a treasure hunt with small prizes for the children. Children must be accompanied by their parents. Cllr Baxter will make arrangements with the Open Door

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Church to use their venue in case of wet weather. Cllr Stevens suggested a Heritage Walk around the village, and it was recommended to Council that this could take place on the Heritage Open Days weekend on Thursday 10th – Sunday 13th September 2009. It was **recommended** to Council that the dog bins be located in two of the recognised problem areas being the corner of Back Lane with Broadgate and Park Road near the school. The Clerk will meet with the highways engineer to agree a suitable location. It was **recommended** to Council that Cllr Barber and the maintenance operative construct the Insect Tower in the Millennium Wood at a suitable discrete location.

It was also **recommended** to Council that number 11 footpath by The Rose is reported to LCC as hazardous as it is subsiding. Maintenance is also needed on the Spalding Road footpath to clear vegetation and number 10 footpath from the Spalding Road to Frognall has again been damaged.

177. **To receive the minutes of the Youth & Community Committee held on 19th March and to agree the recommendations made therein as attached at Appendix 6 to this document.** It was then proposed by Cllr Blessett, seconded by Cllr Stevens and unanimously agreed to accept the recommendations contained therein:

That Sue Bell organises the forthcoming Summer Play Scheme which will take place at the Deeping St James Primary School weeks 10-14 and 17-21 August 9.30-12.00. That we work together with MDTC to share resources and advertising costs, and to advertise the forthcoming summer play schemes on the front of The Advertiser at a joint cost of £109.00. That allocation will be shared across both parishes to ensure the play schemes will be full. It is retrospectively agreed to pay an agreed fee of £650 for the relocation of the earth bund adjacent to the existing bund. The committee considered the location of the spring mobile and the flying saucer and another site meeting will be held on 23.03.09 for further consultation with the contractor.

It was also agreed that £26,233.27 from the 2008-9 financial years be rolled over into the 2009-10 financial year to allow for the installation of the MAGA, scramble bike and flying saucer and to allow £650.00 for the removal of the earth bank with a small amount remaining for contingencies.

178. **To consider the “Quiet Lanes Initiative” for Back Lane (Min 143.2 Cllr Neal)**
Deferred to next meeting.
179. **To consider the following matters in order upon which notice of resolution or recommendation has been given:**
1. **To report on the progress of the Deepings in Bloom initiative. The minutes of the meeting held on 4th March 2009 are attached at Appendix 7.**

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

Cllr Dilks suggested that we considered the recycling issue again as Mr Prentice still had not heard from LCC.

Cllr Stevens said that in her opinion, Councillors should come to the meetings and stay to the end. It was agreed that Standing Orders would be an Agenda item as usual at the May meeting.

Cllr Stevens also asked each Councillor to ask five people to nominate residents for the

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Making a Difference Awards. Cllr Barber was asked to put the nomination on the web site. Cllr Stevens asked that the Rose and Sweet Pea show be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Cllr Baxter commented that 40 car surveys had been received.

Cllr Moore asked if the dog bin could be placed near Bell Lane/Park Road and also a Dog Order sign.

Cllr Pelling apologised that he would not be at the April meeting, and would also be away June and September. He said that he would be happy to be considered as the next Chairman, but would not be able to attend all the meetings.

Cllr Shinkins said she found Thursday nights difficult, and could we consider a Monday? This was referred to the May meeting.

Cllrs Lindfors-Windsor, Dilks, Stevens and Neal agreed to attend the allotments event at DSJPC on Thursday 2nd April.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday 1st April 2009 9.30am Working Party to discuss A1 Security.

Thursday 9th April 2009 Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting 7pm in the Clerk's Office at the Institute.

Wednesday 22nd April 2009 7pm Village Design Statement meeting at the Town Hall in Market Deeping

Thursday 23rd April 2009 Planning Committee Meeting 7pm in the Clerk's Office at the Institute.

Thursday 24th April 2009 8.30am meeting with LCC re Quiet Lanes, Dog Bin location and Church Walk

Thursday 30th April 2009 Council Meeting at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at The Institute.

The meeting finished at 9.40pm