

Allington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall
Wednesday 11 January 2006

Present: Councillor Taylor Councillor North
 Councillor McKinlay Councillor Hubbard
 Councillor Cutting Councillor Jackson
 Sharon Milne (clerk)

Also present: District Councillor Mrs Kaberry-Brown
 3 parishioners.

1. **Chairman's remarks**

- 1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked the members of the public for their attendance. There was nothing in particular that parishioners wished to raise.

2. **Apologies**

- 2.1 Councillor Sewell sent his apologies; he was unwell.
- 2.2 Mrs Theresa Tanner and Mr Oley, the new owner of Arena UK also sent their apologies.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

- 3.1 No declarations of interest were made.

4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9 November 2005**

- 4.1 Cllr Cutting attended the meeting on 9 November, but her name was omitted as present on the minutes. Otherwise the minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5 **Matters Arising**

- 5.1 The clerk reported that Mr Oley, the new owner of Arena UK, was unable to attend the meeting as he was away on business (minute 6.1(m) refers).
- 5.2 Cllr Cutting stated that the new organisations 'Consumer Direct' and the dry stonewall business had been included in Allington News (minute 6.1(c) & (d) refers).

6. Correspondence received since the meeting held on 9 November 05

6.1 The following correspondence has been received and/or sent and will be circulated in the correspondence box:

- a) Letters from Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership, regarding road safety particularly in relation to Sedgebrook Road. The letter suggests that the Parish Council may wish to consider asking for a 40 mph buffer to be introduced before the 30 mph limit to slow traffic. The Council agreed that this should be pursued. **(Action point: clerk)**
- b) The bid for a grant for Christmas lights and decorations from Central Networks has been unsuccessful.
- c) District Councillor Kaberry-Brown had written to apologise for not attending the last Parish Council meeting and the Trafalgar Weekend celebrations.
- d) Hempstead & Sons have submitted a quote for next year's grass cutting. The quote is within the budget allocated for 06/07. **(Action point: clerk)**
- e) Foston Parish Council had written to say that they are looking at putting together a parish plan. It asks whether Allington Parish Council, as a neighbouring parish, had any ideas or issues that it wished their working group to be aware of. There was also an invitation for the clerk to attend their next meeting. The clerk agreed to be present at Foston's next meeting and report back to the Council. **(Action point: clerk)**
- f) SKDC have asked that the final precept requirement be submitted by 27 January.
- g) The Parish Council have received a copy of the Village Hall Management Committee's letter to a SKDC Councillor, regarding rate relief for village halls. A letter of support from the Parish Council backing the VHMC's letter has been sent.
- h) A letter from Leicestershire County Council states that it anticipates that the proposed 7.5 tonnes gross weight restriction order should be operational from 20 March 06.

7 Planning matters

7.1 Applications received and determined since the last Parish council meeting on 9 November 2005:

- a) Application and approval – 3 bungalows at the rear of Vine Cottage.
- b) Application and approval – increase in height for the extension at Hawthorn Lodge, Bottom Street.
- c) Approval – Toilet block extensions to the Village Hall
- d) Proposal to call the new development behind Vine Cottage 'TRINITY CLOSE'.

- 7.2 There was a discussion about SKDC's planning policy. The Parish Council's planning advisory group stated that it felt that its comments and observations on planning issues are seemingly ignored by the District Council, when decisions are made. Another particular frustration is when approved plans are not adhered to when the building work commences. It seems that the legal department of SKDC are unwilling to force builders to stick to the approved conditions.
- 7.3 More specific cases were cited as examples. In one example it is known that at least two objections had been put in writing to the District Council's planning department, yet when Mrs Kaberry-Brown had asked Planning Officers specifically about the case she was told no objections had been made. Cllr Kaberry-Brown stated that she would look into this matter. The Council agreed that a letter should be written to the Planning Department outlining its views and asking that a Planning Officer be invited to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss certain aspects of planning policy. **(Action point: clerk)**

8 Financial matters

- 8.1 The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 9 November 05 and the quarterly summary of accounts.
- 8.2 The only income since the last meeting had been:
- £10.35 - bank interest
 - £348.00 - Gonerby Youth FC for hiring the field to date.
- 8.3 The only expenditure was the clerk and the caretaker's salaries and an income tax payment.
- 8.4 The clerk presented the proposed budget for the financial year 2006/07, including the impact of the precept for properties in all bands A to H. After discussion it was agreed unanimously that the precept request to SKDC should be £11,000. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 8.5 It was agreed unanimously that if the Village Hall were to lose their rate relief from SKDC the Parish Council would consider a grant to help support them on this matter. A letter is to be sent to the VHMC stating that the Parish Council would consider offering financial support to help meet the rates payable. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 8.6 It was unanimously agreed to increase the clerk's hours to 26 hours a month from 20. This increase is a truer reflection of the hours worked.
- 8.5 Cllr North thanked the clerk for the work she had done regarding the budget, precept and accounts.

9 Report form the Playing Field Committee.

- 9.1 Cllrs McKinlay reported back from the last Playing Field Committee meeting.

- 9.2 The Playing Field Committee along with the fund raising group are organising a presentation for groups, societies and individuals within the village, to show what is being considered for the playing field. The idea, at this stage, is to develop part of the field with a multi-sports surface. The evening would be an opportunity for the community to share their views and offer suggestions. The evening is planned for Wednesday 29th March 06. The Playing Field Committee thanked John Slater for the work he has done so far helping with this project.
- 11.2 It was agreed by the Parish Council to waive the fee for the use of the field for the after school football club. The Council agreed that the school should be allowed free use of the field for this activity. It was decided, however, that if an organisation wanted exclusive use of the field for a particular activity on a regular basis a fee for hire would be payable to the Parish Council.
- 11.4 The five maple trees were ready for planting at the field. The caretaker and fund raising group would plant them on Saturday 14th January.
- 11.5 Will Cragg has kindly cut the hedge of the field and the old church yard again this year. A letter of thanks shall be sent from the Parish Council. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 11.6 The verge the length of the playing field along Bottesford Lane is in a bad way. LCC Highways should be asked to look at it. **(Action point: clerk)**

12 Any other business

- 12.1 The caretaker will be asked to site the new dog waste bin near the bus shelter on Sedgebrook Road. **(Action point: HT)**
- 12.2 The verge where the recycling bins are sited is extremely muddy again, and it will begin to deter villagers from using the bins. SKDC did say that they would move the bins nearer to the car park to help with this problem. The clerk stated that she had already reminded the district council of this.
- 12.3 The clerk reported that she had had complaints about the mud on the road caused by contractors developing the site at the rear of Vine Cottage. Following LCC Highways advise this was reported to the police and is now in their hands.
- 12.4 Cllr North stated that he had met two Community Support Officers in the village and they had told him that Allington was now on their patch.
- 12.5 It was reported that Allington Gardens is for sale by Avondale. No other information is available yet.
- 12.6 Sedgebrook Road is not gritted in bad weather. The Council agreed that as Sedgebrook Road is a bus route and used by school children it ought to be gritted as well as Gonerby Lane. LCC Highways should be asked to include Sedgebrook Road on their gritting route. **(Action point: clerk)**

13 **Date of next meeting**

13.1 The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 8 March 06.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Signed: ----- (Chairman). Date: -----