

Allington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall
Wednesday 14 January 2009

Present: Councillor Taylor Councillor Hubbard
 Councillor Connors Councillor Jackson
 Sharon Milne (clerk)

Also present: 2 villagers

1. **Chairman's remarks**

1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked those for attending. There was nothing specific that villagers wished to raise.

2. **Apologies**

2.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Cant and Cllr Bosworth as they were both working and Cllr McKinlay who had another commitment.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2008**

4.1 The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5 **Matters arising**

5.1 Cllr Hubbard said that he had finished the repairs to the toilet block at the field. (minute 5.1 refers)

5.2 The Thackson's Well windfarm appeal has been upheld. There will be no windfarm on this site. (Minute 12.4 refers)

5.3 An article was in the recent Allington News asking for volunteers to help set up the tennis net for specific tennis times. Willing villagers are asked to contact John Slater. (Minute 9.2 refers)

6 **Correspondence received since the meeting held on 12 November 08**

6.1 The clerk reported on some of the correspondence received and sent:

- a) Letter from clerk to Anglian Water re: low pressure
- b) Letter from clerk to Asquith's re: bulbs

- c) Letter from Harold Derry re: Arena entrance
- d) Letter from Green Grass Contracting service
- e) Quote for Grass cutting from Hempsteads (see minute 13.4)
- f) Letter from National Probation Service re: free presentation (visit from magistrate and probation officer interactive presentation, fictional crime discussed – 1hour+)
- g) Letter from CPSO Karla Bullimore re: meeting 15 January at 7.30pm
- h) CD re: Parish Resilience
- i) Letter re: Local Development Framework
- j) Clerks letter and response re: Sedgebrook Road & salting routes
- k) Mobile police unit visiting – 5 February
- l) Lincs Playing Field Assoc re: donations
- m) LALC training events 09

Cllr Taylor agreed to attend the Community Police meeting (point g).

This and all other correspondence will be circulated to Councillors in the box as usual.

7 Salting of Sedgebrook

- 7.1 The clerk confirmed that she had received a reply from Highways and it was unlikely that Sedgebrook Road would be salted. Again the low bridge was given as a reason as to why this road would not be treated, along with financial considerations.
- 7.2 The clerk will post a copy of the recent correspondence between the Parish Council and Highways on the notice board. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 7.3 It was thought that if Highways were not prepared to salt the road then 'Icy road' warning signs should be provided.

8 Lighting on the Green

- 8.1 Despite being assured that there would be an electricity supply on the green in time for the lighting of the Christmas tree E-on failed to install power on time. They had overlooked the Parish Council's application. The lighting therefore was supplied very generously by a resident on the green. It was agreed unanimously that this resident should be reimbursed financially for the expense incurred. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 8.2 E-on have apologised to the Parish Council for failing to supply the equipment and connection. They have told the clerk that the lamp had now been ordered and they would make the necessary connections as soon as possible.

9 Dog mess in the village

- 9.1 The clerk reported that she had had complaints from residents about the amount of dog mess on footpaths in the Bottesford Road area. The caretaker picks up mess as part of her duties and confirms that Bottesford Road is more of a problem than elsewhere in the village. It was noted that one dog in particular has been seen roaming on its own on a number of occasions and is known to be one of the offending dogs. It was decided that the clerk would

send a letter to its owner asking that the dog be prevented from wandering around alone. **(Action point: clerk)**

- 9.2 It was also suggested that an article be put in the Allington News to highlight this problem and asking all dog owners to take responsibility for their dogs.

10 Feedback form Town and Parish Council conference

10.1 The 3rd Annual Town and Parish Conference had taken place in November. Cllr Taylor was unable to attend so John Slater had attended alone representing the Parish Council. John gave a presentation on how the MUGA have developed from an idea, raising the funding, bidding for Lottery money and finally realising the project. Feedback had been very good. John has had a number of people asking him question and he has been advising others. The clerk will forward a copy of John's powerpoint presentation to councillors for their information. **(Action point: clerk)**

10.2 A CD entitled 'Emergency Planning - Parish resilience' had been handed out at the conference. Every parish is advised to have an action plan in the event of an emergency. The clerk will circulate the CD in the box for councillors to look at and the clerk will draw up a draft plan for consideration at a future meeting. **(Action point: clerk)**

11 Playing Field matters

11.1 Cllr Taylor has collected the five free trees for the Playing field. Dan Cragg will be asked whether he can plant them. **(Action point: HT)**

11.2 The end of the field, where the bonfire is positioned, needs tidying up and the far boundary hedge also needs attention. Cllrs Connor and Jackson said that they would organise a clear up in the springtime once the weather and ground conditions have improved. **(Action point: SC & GJ)**

11.3 The Christmas tree lighting event had taken place on Sunday 7 December. Fewer people had attended this year probably due to the freezing temperature that evening. New lights had been purchased, which are considerably more economical than the old set. Due to the electricity connections not being ready in time (minute 8 refers) the electricity was supplied again by a resident on the Green. Many thanks to the organisers and Mr Swallow for allowing the Playing Field committee to use his electricity again this year.

11.4 Regarding the organisation of the use of the MUGA. An article has been put in the Allington News, as planned, asking for volunteers who may be prepared to organise specific sports, like tennis. Allington News has only just gone out so it is too early to hear whether volunteers have stepped forward.

12 Planning matters

12.1 Applications received and determined since the last Parish council meeting on 12 November 08:

- Approval – internal structural alterations to kitchen and storeroom, Red House Farm, The Green

- Approval – internal alterations, replacement windows and doors and raising of garage roof, Corner House, The Green
- Approval – removal of the Silver Birch tree at South Lodge, Bottesford Road
- Application – change of use redundant agricultural buildings to live-work accommodation

12.2 The Parish Council will be consulted about the Palmer's Hollow windfarm application which is due to be sent out by Melton Borough Council very soon. The clerk has confirmed that the Parish Council is definitely on the list of consultees as we are a neighbouring village to Bottesford.

13 Financial matters

13.1 The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 12 November 08.

Income

- Bank interest - £15.11
- Raffle - £158.51
- GYFC pitch hire - £327

Total £ 500.62

Expenditure

- Delta-simons (Marquee) - £470.00
- Belvoir Estates (Christmas tree) - £125.55
- Christmas lights - £211.90
- Toilet block repairs - £28.55

Total £ 836.00

Plus Clerk's and Caretaker's salary

13.2 Councillors unanimously approved the payments retrospectively.

13.3 It was agreed unanimously that the precept request for 2009/10 should remain at the current amount, £15,000. The clerk will inform SKDC accordingly
(Action point: clerk)

13.4 A quote had been received from Hempstead & Sons for £1680 to cut the village's grass for the forthcoming season. It was agreed unanimously to accept the quote. **(Action point: clerk)**

14 Any other business

14.1 No response had been received from Highways regarding the weight limit signs being repositioned near to the beck. The clerk will chase this response.
(Action point: clerk)

14.2 A local publication had contained an article about the Arrhythmia Alliance, a heart charity, and its campaign to place an 'automated external defibrillator'

(AED) in every local community. It was suggested that Allington village should become involved and local residents trained to use the equipment. The clerk will enquire further. **(Action point: clerk)**

14.3 Back Lane is being used by 4x4 vehicles and ruining the path and disturbing residents. The clerk will speak to an enforcement officer at LCC's footpaths section. **(Action point: clerk)**

14.4 Gonerby Lane, in particular the part of the lane from the beck to the A1, is in a very poor state. Highways have been asked by the Parish Council to improve the road but it had been deemed not a priority for repair. After discussion it was decided that the clerk should write to Arena UK, Kestrel, G Wade & Son who have businesses on Gonerby Lane and to Great Gonerby Parish Council, whose parish this part of the lane is in, to suggest a meeting to petition Highways collectively. **(Action point: clerk)**

14.5 A vehicle is churning up the grass on the small green outside the shop. The clerk shall make some discreet enquiries as to who may be doing this in the hope that it is not continued. **(Action point: clerk)**

15 Date of next meeting

15.1 The next meeting will be on Wednesday 11 March 09 at 7.30pm.

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