

# Allington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall  
Wednesday 13 January 2010

Present:       Councillor Taylor               Councillor Jackson  
                  Councillor Bosworth       Councillor Hubbard  
                  Councillor McKinlay           Councillor Cant  
                  Sharon Milne (clerk)

Also present: Theresa Tanner

## 1. **Chairman's remarks**

- 1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked those present for attending.

## 2. **Apologies**

- 2.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Connors and District Councillor Kaberry-Brown neither of whom could travel to the meeting due to the icy roads.

## 3. **Declarations of Interest**

- 3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

## 4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2009**

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

## 5 **Matters arising**

- 5.1 The path around the shelter has been completed (minute 10.1 refers).
- 5.2 The cost of installing bollards around the end of the Green cannot be met by LCC (minute 10.2 refers). The Highways division stated that if the Parish Council chooses to install bollards itself then it could be found liable should an incident occur. Highways therefore suggested plastic marker posts. It was decided to leave the matter for the meantime.
- 5.3 Regarding the strip of land that runs between Chestnut Farm and the property 'Conifers' (minute 12.3 refers), various maps including a copy of the 1904 OS map had been forwarded to Browns; they are looking into the matter.
- 5.4 Three builders had been asked for a quote to put bollards at the playing field car park. No written quotes had been received but one builder had stated

verbally that he would be happy to do the work and would be submitting a quote shortly (minute 13.4 refers).

- 5.5 Cllr Bosworth reported that he was still awaiting a response from the stone mason (minute 14.4 refers).
- 5.6 Theresa Tanner representing the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) spoke about the new signs at the village hall, (minute 14.1 refers). She explained that the committee had decided to install entry and exit signs for the car park for safety reasons. She said that the committee had received numerous complaints regarding village hall users safety and it was decided that signs, tall enough to be seen by a motorist, were preferable to a nasty incident. Alternative options like marking the car park surface were not viable as the condition of the surface was too poor. The VHMC have plans to improve the car park facilities but substantial funds were needed. It was thought that these signs would very likely be made redundant when the new car park is realised as surface markings showing parking bays and traffic flow directions would be sufficient.

## **6 Correspondence received since the meeting held on 11 November 09**

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

- a) All contributors to the Defibrillator project are happy for their donations to be given to LIVES – Allington.
- b) Hempstead grass cutting quote for forthcoming season
- c) Chestnut Farm jitty correspondence with Brown & Co
- d) Email from Fiona Evans re Parish Activities
- e) Email re: Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill
- f) Publicity re: GACT Grantham Area Community Transport
- g) Email correspondence re: Football Training at field
- h)** Highways letter re: Best Kept village signs
- i)** Highways letter re: bollards for the Green
- j)** Highways: Sedgebrook Road gritting letter
- k)** Allington Level crossing temporary road closure
- l) Consultation on proposed Academy in Grantham

Regarding point (j) the clerk would write again to Highways with another strong request for Sedgebrook Road to be salted. **(Action point: clerk)**

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

## **7 Best Kept Village**

- 7.1** An enjoyable award ceremony was held on 18<sup>th</sup> November at Osbournby Village Hall. Cllrs Taylor, Bosworth and Cant attended along with Tom Cant and Ted Berth-Jones, Chairman of Allington Gardens Residents' Association. The village received a certificate and a sign showing the achievement. The certificate would be displayed in the village hall and the sign had been put up on one of the panels of the shelter on the Green.

- 7.2 A tree 'Liquidamber Styraciflua' donated by Pennells Garden Centre had also been planted on the Green by the two youngest children at the school.
- 7.3 The clerk reported that Lincolnshire County Council had agreed to put two free signs on the outskirts of the village saying 'Best Kept Village 2009' and an extra sign would be purchased for the third access road into the village.

## 8 Emergency Aid

- 8.1 The clerk reported that Sharon Andrews had held an information meeting for anyone who wished to know more about the Lives project. As a result of that evening 7 volunteers had agreed to become a responder. The necessary paperwork was currently being completed and it was hoped that the unit would go 'live' this Spring.
- 8.2 Sharon Andrews had also received a cheque raised by the Karate Club for around £400 towards the initiative. Sharon would keep in touch with the clerk regarding how the project develops.

## 9 Village Plan update

- 9.1 Cllr Cant stated that a meeting, with the representative from Community Lincs, would be held once the bad weather had cleared up. This meeting would be rearranged soon. **(Action point: MC)**

## 10 Suggestions for Annual Parish meeting - 14<sup>th</sup> April

- 10.1 Suggestions were sought for a theme for the Annual Parish meeting in April. It was thought that the meeting could be an ideal chance:
- a) for the Village Plan committee members to gather villagers' thoughts and opinions for the Village Plan
  - b) to float the idea of village groups sponsoring flower boxes around the village shelter and the village sign posts
  - c) updating villagers on the new 'Lives – Allington' project.
- 10.2 These ideas will be discussed further at the March Parish Council meeting.

## 11 Playing Field matters

- 11.1 The Christmas tree lighting event had gone well and raised £32.96. The lights had been connected to the new power supply box installed by E-on but the lighting cable had not been fed out through the underground conduit. Cllr Bosworth would contact the builder to arrange for the necessary work to be done to rectify this. **(Action point: AB)**
- 11.2 The clerk was awaiting quotes for installing bollards at the Playing Field car park. It was also agreed that the doors and on the toilet blocks need replacing and the windows also need some attention.

- 11.3** The fundraising group are currently deciding on a new project and they are looking to see what grants may be available. One possibility was to develop the copse at the end of the field into a nature conservation area. Enquiries would be made by the clerk as to who owns the land to determine whether this was a feasible project. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 11.4** Dog mess at the field was still a problem. It was suggested that another article in Allington News may be needed to remind dog walkers to keep to the avenue of trees along the length of the field. The clerk would contact the Allington News committee. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 11.5** Cllrs McKinlay reported that she and Cllr Bosworth had met and looked at the points raised in the 2009 RoSPA report on the play equipment. Cllr Bosworth stated that he had had an onsite meeting with a representative from Wicksteed to discuss various options. Cllr Bosworth will report back to the Council once all the options and necessary quotes had been gathered. **(Action point: AB)**
- 11.6** Cllr Taylor informed the Council that she would be collecting the hedging plants and 5 small trees for planting at the field. A working group of volunteers was needed to get the planting done.
- 11.7** The clerk reported that GYFC had been in touch to say that the cheque for the hire of the field covering the period August to December would be received shortly. The clerk would send an invoice to The Football Coaching Company for the sessions that they had used the field between 21/4/09 and 8/9/09. **(Action point: clerk)**

## **12 Planning matters**

- 12.1** Applications received and determined since the last Parish council meeting on 11 November 09:
- Application – E-on, replace power lines Sedgebrook Road and to the east of the village
  - Approval – Home Farm House, Bottesford Lane - construction of single storey arts studio, conversion to stores to prep room etc
  - Approval – Glebe Farm, Bottesford Road – Single storey rear extension (garden room)
- 12.2** The application for Plot 4, Bert's Way was raised. The clerk was asked to find out the latest position from SKDC's Planning Department as a decision had still not been determined. **(Action point: clerk)**

## **13 Financial matters**

- 13.1** The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 11 November 09
- Income**
- Abba night - £177.25
  - Bonfire night - £1152.97
  - Caretaker's grant - £301.60
  - Bank interest – £3.03

- Christmas lighting - £32.96

**Total £ 1667.81**

### **Expenditure**

- Hempstead (hedge at field, pruning trees on Green, MUGA) £296.86
- E-on lamp and installation - £1369.88
- MUGA maintenance - £145.22 (Nov & Dec)
- Lights for tree - £94.95
- BKV tree sign - £49.45
- The Belvoir Estate - Christmas tree - £155.25
- Paving around the shelter - £2047.00

**Total £ 4158.61**

Plus Clerk and Caretaker's salaries and taxation.

- 13.2 Councillors unanimously approved the payments retrospectively.
- 13.3 The clerk presented the quote from P E Hempstead & Sons for grass cutting for the 2010 season (£1710) and the maintenance of the MUGA (£630 plus lines) and this was accepted unanimously. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 13.4 The clerk stated that she had received a decision to allow building work to be done at the school, but the Parish Council had not been consulted at the initial application stage. The clerk would make enquiries with LCC Planning as to the reason for this. **(Action point: clerk)**

### **14 Any other business**

- 14.2 Cllr Bosworth reported back on a Core Development Plan meeting that he had attended at SKDC. One point that had been discussed at this meeting was the introduction of electronic planning applications. The Parish Council would only be happy to received electronic applications provided the quality of the plans were sufficiently good, in the meantime paper copies would still be sent.

### **15 Date of next meeting**

- 15.2 The next meeting will be on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

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