

Allington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall
Wednesday 11 July 2007

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

Also present: 6 parishioners

1. **Chairman's remarks**

- 1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked those present for attending. Residents attending wished to:
- a) learn more about the proposed footpath for Peach Lane
 - b) ask whether the passageway from Back Lane to Main Street be re-opened
 - c) comment that Berkleyparks had put a 'Strictly no entrance' sign on the gate on the footpath from the sewerage plant to Allington Gardens

2. **Apologies**

- 2.1 District Councillor Kaberry-Brown and County Councillor Farrar sent their apologies.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

- 3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9 May 2007**

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

5 **Matters Arising**

- 5.1 The recycling bins have now been removed (minute 9.2 refers) but the area needs clearing of broken glass and litter. Dan Cragg will be asked to clear the area and bill the council as necessary. **(Action point: HT)**
- 5.2 The Journal will be running an article on the wind farm on Friday 13 July (minute 14.2 refers). The clerk reported that the company dealing with the scoping report, Royal Haskoning, had been in touch and said that they would keep the council up to date with developments. Cllr Taylor had been to see the turbines at Deeping St Nicholas. The wind farm proposal shall be placed on the agenda for the September meeting. **(Action point: clerk)**

- 5.3 The clerk confirmed that horse and rider warning signs would be placed on Foston Road and Sedgebrook Road in accordance with the Highways' positioning criteria (minute 3.4 refers).

6 Correspondence received since the meeting held on 9 May 2007

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

- a) Letter, 18 May, clerk to Royal Haskoning re: wind farm proposals
- b) Letter, 18 May, clerk to SKDC re: removal of recycling bins
- c) Letters and responses of thanks from all grants and donations except the local Post Office
- d) Calor village of the year. Allington will not proceed to round 2.
- e) Mobile police station visiting: 12/7/07
- f) RoSPA inspection will be in August
- g) Second Town and Parishes Conference – 8 November – ideas for agenda/sessions, if any, to them by end of July
- h) Letter from SKDC re: Allocation of Sites for the LDF - **reply by 20/7/07**
- i) Letter from Highways and clerk's response re: footpath in Peach Lane
- j) Details of Free trees for Parishes scheme
- k) Letter: Martin Clarke is to retire
- l) Letter re: repair of footbridge over Foston beck
- m) Rights of Way improvement plan 2007 – 2012 details to access plan are online

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

- 6.2 It was agreed that the Allocation of Sites for the LDF should be discussed by the Planning Consultation Advisory Group on 16 July. **(Action point: Planning members & clerk)**
- 6.3 Five Field Maples should be ordered from the free trees for parishes scheme. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 6.4 A letter will be sent to Martin Clarke thanking him for his work and wishing him well in retirement. **(Action point: clerk)**

7 Playing Field matters

- 7.1 Cllr McKinlay reported back from the recent Playing Field Committee meetings. Cricket nets were being put together for use at the field as there had been a specific request by a group of village children.
- 7.2 A report, written by a member of the Playing Field committee, on the state of the children's play equipment was read by all councillors (appendix 1). The Council agreed to go ahead with the repairs listed at items 1.1, 4.2 and 4.3 and ask Dan Cragg to quote for the remaining items and action will be taken as soon as possible. It was agreed that an ongoing programme for the gradual replacement of items of play equipment should be budgeted for by the Council.
- 7.3 An estimate to enlarge and resurface the existing car park had been sought; however it was felt that the estimate of £3k was rather expensive. As the car park is part of the overall plan for the field it was thought that its improvement

would be better achieved as part of the development plans. A suggestion regarding the ongoing car parking problem was to remove the gates and erect a fence / bollards around the perimeter of the car park where it abuts onto the field. This would allow cars free access to the car park at any time but still protect the security of the field.

- 7.4 A field maintenance budget is needed for forthcoming years and it was suggested that it be based upon playing field expenditure over the last 12 months.
- 7.5 Cllr McKinlay reported back in depth on the current funding application to SKDC. A bid has been put in, thanks to John Slater's hard work, for £70k. Further meetings are due.
- 7.6 The new bench kindly donated by the Welby Quiz team should be positioned 1/3rd down the avenue of trees on the left hand side. Dan Cragg is to be asked to install it. **(Action point: HT)**
- 7.7 There was a long discussion on the proposed charging policy. The Playing Field Committee will draw up a policy. Village residents would be asked for a donation if they wished to use the field on an exclusive use basis, but this donation would be a set amount agreed by the Playing Field Committee ie a pre-agreed scale of charges depending on the event. Non residents will be charged on an agreed fee system. The school would not be charged for use of the field for their occasional use, eg sports day etc. Ray Heskett the archer would no longer be charged for his sessions, being a villager, but he would be charged a nominal fee for housing his target in the garage.

8 Feedback from the Core Strategy Preferred Options consultations including a report from the Village Plan seminar

- 8.1 Cllrs Bosworth and Hubbard reported back on the two seminars. Cllr Bosworth also produced written feedback which had been circulated in the correspondence box. There followed a long discussion as to whether Allington should produce a Parish Profile / Village Design Statement and it was decided that one was important if the village wanted to have a say in its future development. Cllr Cant said that she would try and arrange for someone to come to the next meeting to talk more on this subject. **(Action point: MC)**

9 Highway matters

- 9.1 The clerk reported that Highways Division were now in the position to install a footway the length of Peach Lane. However, a number of residents from Allington Gardens, that were in attendance at the meeting, stated that they were not in favour of a footpath. They did not wish to see the trees lining the lane removed, they provided a windbreak and had been purchased by the residents. It was thought too that having a footpath could increase the speed of the traffic which is generally courteous to pedestrians using the lane.
- 9.2 The clerk reported that she had written to Berkleyarks asking for the views of their residents, regarding the footpath, but had not yet received a reply. It was decided that the clerk writes to the Chairman of the Residents' Association and asks him to consider the views of all Allington Garden residents. **(Action point: clerk)**

- 9.3** During the recent floods 5 homes had been flooded as well as a number of roads had been made impassable. Foxes Cottages had been severely affected from water running off of the fields. The dike which should have alleviated the problem had been filled in by developers some years ago. It is clear that the dike needs reinstating and it was decided that the clerk write to the current landowner to see if he is able to help out in any way. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 9.4** LCC Highway workmen and Anglian Water had been working to sort the flooding in Bottom Street.
- 9.5** The clerk is to contact LCC Highways to ask whose responsibility it is to clear blocked gullies under the highway. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 9.6** The clerk is to write to Anglian Water to ask for a full assessment of village drains as it would not want poorly functioning drains to be the cause of more flooding. **(Action point: clerk)**

10 New Code of Conduct

- 10.1** The clerk reported on the new Code of Conduct. The new Code has to be formally adopted by October. A model code has been drawn up for Parish Councils to consider. It is recommended that the model code be adopted fully but paragraph 12(2) is optional for Parish Councils. The clerk will place all the information in the correspondence box for councillors' consideration, including information to help Councillors decide whether 12(2) should be adopted as part of the Code. **(Action point: all)**

11 Comments on Shaping Health in Lincolnshire

- 11.1** If Councillors would like to make comments they should do so individually and respond to the NHS directly.

12 Discussion – Travelling expenses for Councillors

- 12.1** The clerk reported that she had made enquiries with LALC and SKDC's remuneration panel. The figure set by the remuneration panel for travelling expenses is 40p p/mile. It was unanimously agreed that this rate be paid to Councillors, for fulfilling their official business, if a claim is made to the clerk.

13 Planning matters

- 13.1** Applications received and determined since the last Parish council meeting on 9 May 07:
- a) Approval – single storey extension, Wayside, Main Road
 - b) Approval – First floor extension – Endcliffe Farm, Bottesford Road
 - c) Approval – Erection of conservatory – 2 Red House Gardens
 - d) Application and approval – conservatory on side of dwelling – 10 Park Ave
 - e) Application – replacement garage, 1 Manor Paddock
 - f) Application – Erection of dwelling The Nurseries, Bottesford Road

- 13.2 The clerk reported that she was awaiting a quote for the base of the new community shelter. It was agreed that the clerk progress with the shelter once the quote is received. **(Action point: clerk)**

14 Financial matters

- 14.1 The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 9 May 07:

Income

- Bank interest - £69.41
- Easter & worm charming events - £212.73
- Caretaker's grant - £280.00

Total £ 562.14

Expenditure

- Various donations as agreed at AGM - £100.00
- Grant to Village Hall – £700.00
- Insurance Allianz Cornhill – £604.97
- Bench for playing field - £546.41
- Electricity at Field - £5.05

Total £ 1956.43

Plus Clerk and Caretaker's salaries & expenses

- 14.2 Councillors unanimously approved the payments retrospectively.
- 14.3 The clerk reported that the audit for 06/07 was ready to be sent to the External Auditor once the inspection period ends on 12 July.
- 14.4 The clerk confirmed that all Councillors have stated that they are content with the appointment of the new internal auditor, Ron Eldridge from Bottom Street. He is a recently retired Sales Manger from Pfizer a pharmaceutical company and he has experience in auditing.
- 14.5 The intermediate audit had highlighted the fact that a risk assessment management is lacking. The clerk spoke about the necessity of having a risk management policy to consider the risks financial and otherwise of the Council. It was agreed that the clerk attend the Finance and Risk Assessment training seminar provided by LALC and a risk assessment policy will be drawn up. Financial risk assessment would be placed on future agendas. **(Action point: clerk)**

15 Any other business

- 15.1 The Council's new web-site is up and running but Cllr Bosworth has to attend a training seminar before he is given administrator status. More details to follow.
- 15.2 It was noted that the signs at the playing field were beginning to split. The clerk will take a look at them. **(Action point: clerk)**

15.3 The Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee reported that the Hall would be decorated during the fortnight starting 20 August.

16 Date of next meeting

16.1 The next meeting will be on Wednesday 12 September 07

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