

Allington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall
Wednesday 10 July 2013

Present: Councillor Taylor Councillor Jackson
 Councillor McKinlay Councillor Cragg
 Sharon Milne (clerk)

Also present: Theresa Tanner – VHMC Chairman
 Kathy Green – Village plan steering group
 County Councillor, Paul Wood

1. **Chairman's remarks**

1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked those present for attending. Attendees spoke about the following:

- a) County Councillor Wood spoke briefly about the formation of the County Council since the May election and offered to help the Parish Council on matters to do with the County Council. He said that the poor state of the highways and potholes was a common theme amongst the Parish Councils he had visited recently.
- b) Kathy Green said that an open meeting would be held in the village next Monday evening for villagers to attend, to talk about the village plan and ask questions they may have and to hear more details of the findings of the village survey.

2. **Apologies**

2.1 Cllrs Bosworth, Cant and Hubbard had sent their apologies. They had other commitments.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Minutes of the AGM held on 8 May 2013**

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

5. **Correspondence received since the meeting held on 8 May 13**

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

- a) Offer from Pete Fox & Terry Green to refurbish the Gonerby Lane bus shelter
- b) Email from Mr & Mrs Reeves re: use of area in the middle of Park Rd / Ave
- c) Email from Pam Jackson re: area in the middle of Park Rd / Ave
- d) Land registry details

- e) Email from Jannette Mole re: Old deed documents to Lincoln Archive
- f) Email from Mike Sewell re: Conservation area appraisal
- g) Email from Mrs Ashby re: Conservation area appraisal
- h) Thank you letter from Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance for donation
- i) Thank you from PCC for donation
- j) Thank you from VHMC re: donation

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

6 Representations made to the Parish Council since the agenda has been set

6.1 There were no representations made since the agenda.

7 Objectives for the forthcoming year

7.1 The clerk reminded Councillors of the agreed objectives:

- a) The play area refurbishment
- b) Setting up a wildlife/nature area
- c) Consider the village 'wish list' which has resulted from the Village plan survey
- d) Repairing the playing field drains.

7.2 Action had been undertaken on all objectives since the last meeting. The repairing of the playing field drains had been achieved and the agent for the landowner of the wildlife/nature area had been contacted so it is hoped that the nature area would now progress.

8 Land in the middle of Park Road / Park Avenue

8.1 Last month some residents in Park Road used the grass area in the middle of Park Road and Park Avenue for parties. At the time this caused a certain amount of consternation amongst other residents as to whether this type of use was allowed and whether it was appropriate. The clerk researched the area's legal status and ownership

8.2 It seems that this area is classified as a Public Open Space and was created as part of the conditions for development of the Park Road / Park Avenue housing 35+ years ago. At the time of the development no formal arrangement was made regarding the upkeep of this area, but since then, the Parish Council has maintained the land but has no official ownership of it.

8.3 After discussion the Parish Council concluded that having no legal ownership of this area it is not able to set any rules as to how the area may be used. However, the Parish Council hopes that any use of the area is done in a courteous and neighbourly manner and should the area be used for specific events users remain respectful with regard to noise and privacy of the neighbours whose properties adjoin the area. If the area is used it should be left litter free and in a good condition.

8.4 The Parish Council is content to continue to pay for the area's upkeep.

8.5 The clerk would write to inform those residents who had spoken to the clerk or Councillors about this matter. **(Action point: clerk)**

9 Gonerby Lane bus shelter

- 9.1** Cllr Taylor had placed a survey in the Gonerby Lane bus shelter to ascertain whether villagers still wanted the shelter or not. The survey showed that an overwhelming majority of users wanted it retained.
- 9.2** Mr Fox and Mr Green, of Park Road, have since volunteered to refurbish it. They estimated that the cost of materials would be around £200-£300. It was agreed unanimously to take them up on their kind offer. The clerk would inform them of the Parish Council's decision. **(Action point: clerk)**

10 Main Street bench

- 10.1** The clerk reported that Mr Fox had installed the new bench on the corner of Main Street and Bottom Street. She would write a letter of thanks to him. **(Action point: clerk)**

11 Documents to Lincoln Archive

- 11.1** The History Society has asked whether the Parish Council had any objection to send some of the village's historic documents to the Lincoln Archive for safe keeping. The documents, some dating back to 1636, have been photographed by the History Society and are available on a disk.
- 11.2** Parish Councillors agreed that this was the best place for these documents providing that electronic images are available for villagers who are interested in seeing them. The clerk would inform the History Society's archivist. **(Action point: clerk)**

12 Library van service

- 12.1** Due to budget reductions Lincolnshire County Council proposes to make changes to Library provision in the County. It is proposed that Allington village loses its Library van service with effect from May 2014. However, the statistic in the letter, regarding the number of households within the village, is inaccurate. The clerk has written to the County Council to point out that the village actually has 433 households, according to the Register of Electors not less than 100 as stated in the letter. A response is awaited.
- 12.2** County Councillor Wood would also make enquiries on our behalf.

13 National Personal Security day – 14 October

- 13.1** Cllr Taylor stated that National Personal Security day, promoted by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, will be on 14 October. Little is known about this day at the moment. More details will be sought to see whether it is an event that the village could support. Cllr Taylor and the clerk would try and find out more. **(Action point: HT & clerk)**

14 Open Air Service St James' churchyard

14.1 There will be an open air service in St James churchyard on 21st July. All Parish Councillors are invited.

15 Hedges on public ways leading to and within St James' church yard

15.1 Cllr Taylor reported that Reverend Orridge is very keen to preserve the hedge which surrounds the old St James' church yard. Cllrs agreed that this is an important hedge in an historic part of the village.

16 Christmas tree festival

16.1 Cllr Taylor reported that Holy Trinity Church has invited the Parish Council to participate in its Christmas tree festival over the weekend of 30 November. Councillors agreed that the Parish Council would provide a tree which would be decorated with a (as yet undecided) theme. Cllrs Cragg and Jackson would get hold of a tree on behalf of the Council. **(Action point: DC & GJ)**

17 Playing field matters

17.1 Cllr Taylor reported, in Cllr McKinlay's absence, that the Playing Field Committee had met recently. She stated that the grant application to the Lottery had been unsuccessful so the Committee had now decided that it would go ahead and develop the play area with its own funds. Presently members of the committee were looking into what equipment could be purchased and another playing field meeting would be held shortly.

17.2 It was agreed that the Parish Council would also contribute a sum of money towards the play area development project.

17.3 The Party in the Park had been a huge success again this year with around 400 people attending to watch the lead act 'Mercury' a Queen tribute band. Thanks to the fundraising group for their hard work and organisation. At this early stage it is not clear what profit has been made - this will be reported at the next meeting. **(Action point: clerk)**

17.4 The clerk had received confirmation that the playing field is now a QEII Field in Trust. She would start the process to get the field formally registered with the Land Registry. An official plaque had also been received which needs to be installed. **(Action point: clerk)**

17.5 Since the last meeting two more bollards have been installed at the playing field as, on a couple of occasions recently, a car has accessed the field between the toilet block and the muga. Also there have been unwelcome incidents of revellers in the car park causing noise and disruption throughout the night. It was decided that the gates to the car park should be locked from dusk until dawn to avoid this situation. Thanks will be sent to those villagers that have agreed to lock and unlock the gate. **(Action point: clerk)**

17.6 It was reported that some weeds are beginning to grow up through the muga surface. The clerk will make the Hempsteads aware of this. **(Action point: clerk)**

18 Planning matters

18.1 Applications received and determined since the last Parish Council meeting on 8 May 2013:

- Approval – Eastleigh, The Green - Underpinning Listed building
- Approval – The Old Barn, Main Street - Demolition of existing dwelling/outbuildings and proposed detached chalet bungalow with integral garage
- Approval – 1 Bottom Street, Demolition and replace dwelling and relocate vehicular access
- Application & approval – The Small House, Side Street – To fell Silver birch
- Application & approval – Woodpigeon Cottage, Bottesford Road – Reduce height of 2 Hawthorn trees
- Application – Berberene, Main Road - Demolition of existing and erection of replacement dwelling
- Application – Rookery Cottage, The Green – Works to Eucalyptus tree

19 Financial matters

19.1 The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 8 May 2013:

Income

- Bank interest – £3.36
- GYFC pitch hire - £156.00

Total £ 159.36

Expenditure

- HMRC - £132.80
- PE Hempstead (MUGA) - £129.98
- Party in the Park float - £500.00
- Stuart Ashley (P/field expenses) - £37.45
- Eazy Print banners for Party in the Park- £163.20
- Veolia (pitch markings) - £30.12
- Came & Co Insurane - £741.95
- Tim Cullington - £180.00
- Land Registry - £4.00
- Donations
- Village Hall Management Committee - £1000.00
- Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance- £50.00
- Parochial Church Council - £50.00
- Ray Asquith - £25.00

Total £ 3044.50

Plus Clerk and Caretakers' salaries.

19.2 Councillors unanimously approved the payments retrospectively.

20 Any other business for future meetings

20.1 The agenda for the next Parish Council meeting will include:

- a) Development of the Play area at the field, including the installation of the QEII Field in Trust plaque
- b) Objectives for 2013/14
- c) Development of woodland / nature area
- d) Village plan

21 Date of next meeting

21.1 The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 11 September 2013 at 7.30pm.

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