

# Allington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall  
Wednesday 9 July 2014

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

Also present: County Councillor Rosemary Kaberry-Brown  
                  Theresa Tanner – Chairman, VHMC  
                  Cathy Green – Treasurer, VHMC  
                  2 villagers

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

- 1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked those present for attending.
- 1.2 One villager suggested that the trees on the village green were in need of pruning back. Councillors said that they would look at the trees and make a decision on them at some point.
- 1.3 Another commented that the 30mph sign on Sedgebrook Road was shrouded by foliage. The clerk will raise this with Highways. **(Action point: clerk)**

## 2. **Apologies**

- 2.1 Cllrs Cant, Cragg and Hubbard sent their apologies. Cllrs Cant and Cragg had other commitments. Cllr Hubbard was abroad.
- 2.2 County Councillor Paul Wood also sent his apologies.

## 3. **Declarations of Interest**

- 3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

## 4. **Minutes of the AGM held on 14 May 2014**

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

## 5. **Correspondence received since the meeting held on 14 May 14**

- 5.1 The clerk reported on some of the correspondence received and sent:
  - a) Email Pete Simpson re: trial bikers
  - b) Village Cross quote
  - c) Highway temporary road closure & cancellation
  - d) Details of LCC Community wildlife grant
  - e) Email from villager re: litter at field
  - f) Email from Sedgebrook PC supporting opposition to the scoping opinion for wind farm

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 to the Council after the agenda had been set.

## **7 Objectives for the forthcoming year**

7.1 After discussion two objectives for the year were set:

- a) To renovate and improve the condition of the village cross
- b) To further develop the Community Wood,

## **8 The Village Cross**

8.1 Cllr Bosworth updated Councillors on the work he had been doing regarding the village cross. He stated that he had obtained quotes for a condition survey and had asked Skillington Workshop Ltd to undertake a site survey. He was awaiting confirmation of a date for this site visit. Cllr Bosworth would update the Parish Council further at the next meeting. **(Action point: AB)**

## **9 Village Hall**

9.1 Cathy Green, Treasurer of the VHMC, updated the Parish Council on village hall matters. The VHMC had appealed to villagers for support through Allington News and had already received some donations. All funds received would go towards improving the hall's energy efficiency following advice in an Energy Audit which had been undertaken recently.

9.2 The committee hopes that work on the roof and installation of curtains would go ahead in the October half term. Meanwhile an application for a grant had been made, but it is not known whether this has been successful. Another application for Lottery money would be made next year for further refurbishment.

9.3 A VHMC representative will update the Parish Council on all of this at its next meeting in September.

## **10 St James' outdoor service**

10.1 Cllr Taylor stated that she had received an invitation for the Parish Council to attend the St James' outdoor service on 20 July. Rev Orridge had asked the Parish Council to suggest a hymn for the occasion. After a short discussion the hymn "All Creatures of our God and King" was agreed upon. Cllr Taylor would reply to Rev Orridge accordingly. **(Action point: HT)**

## **11 Highway matters**

11.1 The clerk reported that the proposed temporary closure of Bottom Street for drainage work had been cancelled.

- 11.2 Councillors again spoke about the extremely poor state of Gonerby Lane. The road has further subsided near the cottages. Recently villagers had made representations to the Parish Council about Gonerby Lane being dangerous for road users. The clerk would write to Highways and ask for action to be taken on this part of the road before a very bad accident occurs.
- 11.3 Councillors discussed various other highway related matters and the clerk was ask to also mention the following when writing to the Division:
- a) There is still no white line defining the middle of the road on the beck bridge
  - b) The horse warning sign on Sedgebrook Road is listing dangerously, the clerk had reported this a while ago but it would appear that it has been forgotten
  - c) The 30mph sign on Sedgebrook Road is covered with foliage
  - d) The last lamppost on the left hand side before Peach Lane is obscuring the lamp post
  - e) Although in a neighbouring parish, the low bridge warning sign in Sedgebrook is no longer visible because hedging has grown over it
  - f) The Lambert Road name sign is in a very poor state
- 11.4 It was noted that the recent works done to kerb the road outside the cottages on Sedgebrook Road was very good and the clerk would thank the Highways for this.  
**(Action point: clerk)**

## **12 Playing field matters**

- 12.1 Cllr McKinlay reported on the recent Playing field advisory group meeting. An article had been put in Allington News asking for volunteers to come forward to oversee the use of the wood and help develop it. Already a couple of villagers had shown an interest in doing this.
- 12.2 The tennis net, which had been put up earlier last month, keeps being moved out of the MUGA area despite a note being put up asking for it to be kept in place. It was thought that this is because others still wished to continue to use the area for football. After debate it was decided that the clerk would ask for a quote for a 5-a-side pitched to be marked out on the ground adjacent to the MUGA. Some Councillors thought that if a pitch was marked out it may encourage footballers to use this area instead, and allow the MUGA to be used for tennis in the summer months. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 12.3 There had been a couple of incidents of vandalism at the field including a fire which had been started underneath one of the portacabins. The police had been informed of this. The Caretaker was thanked for his prompt action. Some Cllrs thought that perhaps the debate about installing CCTV was perhaps necessary again.
- 12.4 The seat in the children's play area needs some attention. The Playing field Caretaker had offered to make a repair.
- 12.5 The RoSPA play equipment is due for inspection in August.

## **13 Planning matters**

- 13.1 Applications received and determined since the last Parish Council meeting on 14 May 2014:
- Approval – Berberene, fell 2 x Cherry trees, 1 x Sycamore tree, 1 x Elder tree, 1 x Hawthorn tree
  - Approval – The Cottage, The Green, Reduction of height of con

- Approval – 1 Bottom Street - demolition and replace dwelling and relocate vehicular access (amendments to S13/0841)
- Application – Ashes Farm, Side Street - erect a detached double garage and a garden shed
- Application - land off of Sewstern Lane - scoping opinion request for 6 x wind turbines

13.2 Parish Councillors considered the scoping opinion request. It concluded that it was concerned that this development has again been proposed especially after the lengthy, wide ranging and detailed planning enquiry/appeal that took place regarding the 'Thackson's Well Wind Farm' (S07/1661) application. A very similar application a few years ago.

13.3 Cllr Bosworth asked District Councillor Kaberry-Brown whether Melton Borough Council will have been informed / consulted about the turbine scoping opinion request as Bottesford would be affected by this application, yet they are in Leicestershire. Cllr Kaberry-Brown said she would make enquiries. **(Action point: R K-B)**

## 14 Financial matters

14.1 The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 14 May 2014:

### Income

- Bank interest – £2.16
- Manor House (Car park hire) - £25.00
- History Society - £93.90
- VAT reclaim (2013/14) - £5253.55

**Total £5373.71**

### Outgoings

- Air Ambulance donation - £50
- PCC donation - £50
- R Asquith, Village Store donation - £25
- Village Hall grants - £1,500
- Insurance - £762.30
- Opus energy – £35.99
- LIVES - £575
- P E Hempstead - £305.18
- Easyprint, Party in the Park advertising and printing - £168
- HMRC - £132.80
- Arboretum, tree services - £480

**Total £4084.27**

Plus Clerk and Caretaker's salaries

14.2 Councillors unanimously approved the payments retrospectively.

14.3 The clerk reported that the Audit had been forwarded to the External Auditors. The clerk stated that when the Audit is formally completed it would be formally posted on the noticeboard as usual.

## 15 Any other business for future meetings

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

- a) Village Cross
- b) Village Hall matters
- c) Results for the 2013/14 Audit
- d) Further information on the next round of the Best Kept Village competition.

**16 Date of next meeting**

16.1 The next meetings will be:

- Wednesday 10 September 2014 at 7.30pm

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