

Allington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall
Wednesday 9 March 2011

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

Also present: 9 villagers

1. **Chairman's remarks**

1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked those present for attending. Prior to the formal Parish Council meeting there was a public session for villagers to raise issues. The following points were raised:

- a) There was a rumour that there were plans afoot for a number of dwellings to be built on the plot next to Ashes Farm on Bottom Street. The Chairman stated that the Parish Council was not aware of any application being made. He pointed out that if an application were to be made then villagers would be aware of it by SKDC placing a yellow notice at the site. The Parish Council would be notified by SKDC at the same time.
- b) Residents from Allington Gardens had been told that the Translinc bus which travels from Allington Garden to Grantham on a Friday was being phased out in April. The Parish Council were not aware of this so the clerk would write to Translinc to find out more information. **(Action point: clerk)**
- c) The state of the roads in and around the village was criticised. The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council was in frequent contact with Highways about the roads and it was hoped that some work would be done to improve matters soon.

2. **Apologies**

2.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Jackson who was working.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2011**

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

5. **Correspondence received since the meeting held on 12 January 2011**

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

- a) Emails to and from a villager re: Arena Music Festival
- b) Arena Music Festival notice by Parish Council
- c) Copy of letter from Sedgebrook PC re: gritting Sedgebrook Rd
- d) Emails to and from a resident re: bonfires
- e) Response from Energy Ombudsman
- f) Email from VHMC Treasurer re: funding
- g) CPRE subscription and BKV entry form for 2011
- h) Email from SKDC re: elections
- i) Example invite letter for Annual Parish Meeting
- j) Extract from: "A Parish Council's guide to environmental enforcement"
- k) Responses from Mark Williets SKDC planning

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

5.2 Re: point (h), the closing date for election candidate nominations is noon on 4th April.

6 Music Festival at Arena UK – 8 to 10 July 2011

6.1 Arena UK will be hosting a 3 day music festival from 8th to 10th July 2011. The Parish Council understands that the festival will be held in their indoor arenas plus one outdoor marquee. Any music in the marquee will be acoustic music and not amplified. There will be no music played after midnight.

6.2 The police and District Council are also aware of this festival and they will be closely monitoring the situation with regards to traffic and the potential of disturbance and noise levels. The Parish Council has been told that the organisers at Arena UK are in the process of printing some flyers to inform residents who may be affected during this weekend. The clerk will try and find out more about when the flyer will be circulated. **(Action point: clerk)**

6.3 It would appear that Arena UK are doing everything necessary and behaving responsibly in the organisation of this event. The Parish Council accepts that there is bound to be local disruption to some degree due to heavy traffic and potential noise levels but hopefully this will be kept to a minimum. The local authorities will closely monitor this event. The Parish Council knows that Arena UK is sufficiently aware of its neighbours' likely concerns and will take all possible steps to minimise the disruption.

6.4 A notice has been placed on the Parish Council notice board to this affect.

7 Grit bins

7.1 The clerk reported back following her enquiry with Highways about providing grit bins for future winters.

7.2 Last year 50 grit bins were available to be installed in Lincolnshire's 380+ parishes. There was therefore a slim chance that Allington would be considered for one bearing in mind that the centre of the village and two out of the three access roads are gritted. Any application made to Highways for a bin would have to include the reasons why the village was in need of one and where it should be sited.

7.3 After discussion it was decided that the clerk would request a grit bin to be placed at the junction of Peach Lane with Sedgebrook Road as it is a dangerous junction on an ungritted road. **(Action point: clerk)**

8 Using the Community Shelter

- 8.1** Cllr Taylor spoke about an idea to have a social event, for all villagers, on the Green. She had had discussions with a couple of residents from village groups and they had concluded that it would be a nice idea if, one afternoon in the summer, a small band played in the community shelter whilst light refreshments and other entertainment were provided. It was thought that if this event was successful a similar one could be arranged for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 2012.
- 8.2** Councillors thought it was a good idea and it was agreed that the Parish Council would consider helping fund the event. Cllr Taylor would consider the matter further. **(Action point: HT)**

9 Annual Parish meeting – Wednesday 13th April

- 9.1** The clerk confirmed that letters had been distributed to all the various village groups and societies inviting them to the Annual Parish meeting on 13th April. The topics for this year's meeting would be:
- The Community Lead Plan
 - The proposed village website
 - The 2012 diamond jubilee celebrations
- 9.2** Cllr Hubbard would arrange the refreshments again this year. **(Action point: AH)**

10 Bus Shelter (Gonerby Lane) refurbishment / replacement

- 10.1** Cllr Cant reported on the work she had done to consider replacing Gonerby Lane's bus shelter. She stated that prices she had located to replace the shelter were coming in around £2.5k. She would continue to look at other possibilities and report back at the next meeting. **(Action point: MC)**

11 Update on the complaint to the Energy Ombudsman

- 11.1** The clerk reported that she had finally received a response from the Energy Ombudsman following the appeal to the decision given in August 2010. The ombudsman, though appreciating the Parish Council's comments, had upheld his decision.
- 11.2** As part of the Ombudsman's decision the Parish Council would receive a written apology from British Gas and a credit of £50 to the account.

12 Update on the Community Led Plan

- 12.1** Cllr Cant reported that villagers had received the Community Led Plan questionnaires in their edition of Allington News. A number of boxes were currently positioned around the village to collect responses. There would be a presentation at the Annual Parish meeting updating residents about the plan and there would also be a meeting during May for villagers to share ideas. More details will follow. **(Action point: MC)**

13 Playing field matters

- 13.1** The clerk reported back on the procedure that would have to be taken by the Parish Council if it chose to get an order to restrict dogs from the playing field. The process would take a minimum of 3 months to enforce and would involve consultation with various authorities as well as villagers. The intention of the order and the results would also have to be formally advertised in the Grantham Journal. However, according to DEFRA a Parish Council would have to have the resources to effectively police the order and have a nominated trained person licensed to issue fixed penalty notices to those disregarding the order. Councillors accepted that policing an order would not be possible and therefore this option could not be pursued.
- 13.2** The field maples brought with the Community Wildlife Grant had been planted by volunteers and the avenue around the perimeter of the playing field was now complete. The Parish Council thanked those volunteers for their hard work.
- 13.3** The next scheduled event being organised by the Playing Field Fundraising group will be the Easter Egg hunt. Looking ahead to the summer there will be the annual Party in the Park but the fundraisers are yet to finalise a date and arrangements.

14 Planning matters

- 14.1** Applications received and determined since the last Parish Council meeting on 12 January 2011:
- Application and approval – 36 Park Rd, single storey rear extension
 - Application – G W Padley, 3 x poultry units, feed bins and a general purpose building, Gonerby Lane
 - Application – Eastways, extension to rear and side of dwelling
 - Application – The Courtyard, Bottom Street, to fell Blue Cedar tree
 - Application – Dodo, Gonerby Lane, rear extension
- 14.2** The application for poultry units has been returned to the applicant by SKDC for further information. When this additional information has been received it will be resubmitted to the Parish Council for further consideration.

15 Financial matters

- 15.1** The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 12 January 2011:

Income

- Interest - £3.34
- Party in the Park - £1565.41
- Ashes to Ashes – £252.96
- Bonfire Night - £571.93
- Sue & Mel raffle - £90.00
- Quiz night donation - £12.00
- Xmas tree lighting - £44.52
- GYFC pitch hire - £221.00
- Murder Mystery LIVES donation - £310.00
- Community Wildlife Grant - £189.60

Total £ 3260.76

Expenditure

- Hempstead (muga) - £126.00
- Double Yew Nurseries - £299.40
- LALC - £250.70
- PFC events – 144.88
- Mike Leech - £2340.00

Total £ 3160.98

Plus Clerk and Caretakers' salaries.

15.2 Councillors unanimously approved the payments retrospectively.

15.3 As reported at minute 5.1(f) the Treasurer of the village hall management committee had written to the Parish Council to ask whether there was a possibility of the Parish Council helping with funding toward the cost of repairing / replacing the car park. Councillors were happy to support this cause but it was decided to leave a fuller discussion to the next meeting after Parish Council elections in a few weeks. The clerk meanwhile would ringfence an amount in the accounts for this project. **(Action point: clerk)**

15.4 The clerk reported that Mrs Jan Fox has volunteered to become the Council's new Internal Auditor. Councillors voted unanimously to appoint her. The clerk would write to thank her and officially appoint her to the post. **(Action point: clerk)**

16 Any other business for future meetings

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

- a) Feedback from the Annual Parish meeting
- b) Litter beyond the village name signs.

17 Date of next meetings

17.1 The Annual Parish meeting will be on Wednesday 13 April at 7.30pm and the Parish Council AGM will be on 11 May 2011.

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