

Allington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall
Wednesday 12 March 2014

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

Also present: County Councillor Rosemary Kaberry-Brown
 6 Villagers

1. **Chairman's remarks**

- 1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked those present for attending. There was nothing specific that villagers wished to raise.

2. **Apologies**

- 2.1 Cllrs Cant and Jackson were absent. Cllr Cant sent her apologies she had work commitments.
- 2.2 District Councillor Rosemary Kaberry-Brown and Sharon Andrews, LIVES co-ordinator, also sent their apologies.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

- 3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Minutes of the AGM held on 8 January 2014**

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

5. **Correspondence received since the meeting held on 8 January 14**

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

- a) Email from Cathy Green re: Lime tree in Park Road / Park Ave
- b) Various quotes re: trees
- c) Quotes for new Parish Council noticeboard
- d) Licence for copse from Brown & Co and landowner
- e) Letter to Network Rail re; Sewstern Lane level crossing
- f) Letter and response from Centrebus re; bus services
- g) Viking Square Dance Club invitation – 30th anniversary
- h) Email Rosemary KB re: non material amendments
- i) Letter re: library van provision
- j) Letter and reply re; Low bridge sign

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

5.2 Re: point f). A resident had surveyed villagers living in Allington Gardens about bus services and 34 people had responded. All of these respondents all stated that they would use a bus service which provides the opportunity of spending some time in Grantham. The majority of respondents (24) would favour a service which allowed them to spend 3 hours in Grantham.

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

6.1 A couple of issues had been raised in the last week. These were:

- a) The deterioration of the village cross and what could be taken to help this situation. Cllr Bosworth said that he would look into the matter. It seems that any work to the cross has to be agreed by English Heritage **(Action point: AB)**
- b) An update on the village's broadband provision. This is something that Cllr Cant would probably know more about but she was absent from the meeting. This matter would be aired at a future meeting. **(Action point: MC)**

7 Objectives for the forthcoming year

7.1 The clerk reminded everyone of the objectives for this year:

- a) To make safe the pavement from the property South Lodge to the church
- b) To create a list of poor road conditions within the village in order to keep Highways updated on roads and paths that need attention
- c) To liaise with Allington News to try and get the Call Connect bus service better advertised.

The clerk and Councillors are actioning these points.

8 Parish Council noticeboard

8.1 Cllr Bosworth and the clerk reported that they had been researching options to replace the damaged noticeboard. Prior to the meeting Cllr Bosworth had provided Cllrs with two quotes to provide for a similar sized board to the present board which were of a style in keeping with the centre of the village, one made of oak and one of a recycled plastic with an imitation wood effect. The order deliver time on this option is 4-6 weeks. There was also a possibility of part funding the noticeboard with a LCC grant.

8.2 During discussion, an option of a metal noticeboard, made locally, was suggested. Cllr Cllr Wood would provide the clerk with contact details for the person who makes and designs them. The clerk would enquire further about this option and inform councillors before the next meeting. **(Action point: clerk)**

9 Village clean up

9.1 Cllr Hubbard stated that he and some other villagers had cleared the verge along Foston Lane to the bottom of the hill. As many as 112 wine bottles, along with empty cans of Cola had been found in this relatively short stretch. Thanks to those who had kindly done this work.

9.2 Cllr Cragg said that he would organise a team of volunteers to do the verges on the other roads leaving the village. **(Action point: DC)**

10 Trees in Park Road / Park Avenue

- 10.1 The clerk explained that a resident had concerns about one of the Lime trees in the open area behind her property. She believes it to be unstable and in danger of falling in high winds.
- 10.2 Cllrs were reminded that the trees in this area belong to the land owner. The Parish Council does not own this land. The clerk had nevertheless approached some tree surgeons for their opinions on these trees. She had also spoken to an official at SKDC who had advised that all the trees in this area are subject to Tree Protection Orders and therefore any work undertaken on them needs permission.
- 10.3 The clerk would seek advice from SKDC to look at the situation and advise how planning can be sought on these TPO protected trees if the owner is unknown.
(Action point: clerk)

11 LIVES

- 11.1 The LIVES co-ordinator was intending to attend the meeting to update the Parish Council on the LIVES responders group. Unfortunately, at the last minute, she was unable to make the meeting.
- 11.2 The clerk reported on LIVES behalf saying that the group are still up and running and answering call-outs, but call-outs are few. The group, as always, is keen to hear from anyone that may be interested in joining. A fuller update from the co-ordinator will update Councillors at a future meeting.

12 Annual Parish Meeting – 9 April

- 12.1 It was decided that there would be three presentations at the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 9th April:
- The village hall and its future
 - Well Dressing celebrations
 - Community Wood
- 12.2 The clerk would get letters of invitation out to the village's groups and societies soon,
(Action point: clerk)
- 12.3 Refreshments will be served during the evening. Cllr Hubbard would bring the wine to be served. **(Action point: AH)**

13 Highway matters

- 13.1 The clerk reported that she had received a response from Highways Division about the possibility of a 'low bridge' warning sign notifying drivers as they come off of the A1 that there is a low bridge in Sedgebrook Lane.
- 13.2 The LCC official advised that the road from the A1 is not designated as a County road so LCC are therefore unable to consider a sign at this point. The official had suggested putting on Sedgebrook Lane near to Peach Lane, but this was not considered an option as there would be no turning point for a large lorry.

- 13.3 A 'horse' warning sign in Sedgebrook Lane had been uprooted by a vehicle. The clerk will contact LCC informing them. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 13.4 There seemed to be an increase in dog mess in and around the village roads. The clerk will ask SKDC if there are any signs that can be put up on lamp posts reminding villagers of their obligations to pick up after their dog. It was also thought that perhaps Allington News could highlight the matter again to prick irresponsible dog-owner's consciences. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 13.5 The state of Gonerby Lane was discussed. The road is in such a poor state that Councillors agreed that it is dangerous. County Cllr Paul Wood stated that he would liaise with Cllr Hubbard and arrange to get a site meeting with a Highway officer arranged before the next Parish Council meeting in May, to see what action can be taken to improve the road. **(Action point: Cty Cllr Paul Wood & AH)**

14 Playing field matters

- 14.1 Cllr McKinlay informed Councillors that the copse at the end of the field was officially under licence to the Parish Council by the Land Owner. Already a number of volunteers had started work in the wood planting 120 saplings. Thank you to all those involved in the planting. It was thought that an entrance to the wood should be created from the playing field. The Hempsteads would be asked for their advice. **(Action point: PF advisory group & clerk)**
- 14.2 The refurbishment of the existing play equipment had been started. Thanks to the playing field caretaker who has been painting the climbing frame as weather allows.
- 14.3 The fundraising group have confirmed that the date for this year's Party in the Part is 26th July. The bands and the marquee have been booked. The lead band will be 'The Kommitments' supported by 'The Atlantics'.

15 Planning matters

- 15.1 Applications received and determined since the last Parish Council meeting on 8 January 2014:
- Approval & approval – Corner House, The Green – new pitched roof over side extension to an outbuilding and insertion of new windows and doors including internal alterations
 - Approval – Berberene, Main Street – construction detached double garage
 - Approval – Woodbine Cottage, Side Street - Works to Chestnut, Ash, Oak and Walnut trees
 - Approval – The Mullions, The Green - Erection of two storey extension
 - Notification – Photovoltaic Farm – Copley Farm, Doddington Lane,
 - Claypole
 - Application – 66 Park Road, reduce Horse Chestnut and two Lime trees
 - Application - 46 Park Road, erection of pitched roof over existing front projection
- 15.2 The enforcement officer has informed Cllr Bosworth that the container which has been in the front garden of a property in Park Avenue will be removed soon.

16 Financial matters

16.1 The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 8 January 2014:

Income

- Bank interest – £3.09

Total £ 3.09

Expenditure

- PE Hempstead (MUGA, play area hedge, play area entrance) - £369.91
- Tim Cullington (portacabin roof) - £170
- Electricity - £21.11
- Mudfords Marquee deposit - £390
- Sue Jackson (planters) - £60
- LALC subscription - £261.32
- Simon Phillips (playing field hedge cutting) - £231

Total £ 1503.34

Plus Clerk and Caretaker's salaries

16.2 Councillors unanimously approved the payments retrospectively.

17 Any other business for future meetings

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

- a) Gonerby Lane – road improvements

18 Date of next meeting

18.1 The next meetings will be:

- Wednesday 9 April 2014 at 7.30pm – Annual Parish meeting
- Wednesday 14 May 2014 at 7.30pm – Parish Council AGM.

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