

MARTIN WITH MARTIN DALES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21 September 2009 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of absence were received from Cllr J Evans and Cllr L Sanby. Those present Cllr MJ Stephens MBE, Cllr J Evans, Cllr WK Busby, Cllr B Downing, Cllr C vickers Cllr S Phillip and Cllrs L & H Whittle. Also present County Cllr P Bradwell, District Cllr F Ambridge and Mrs K Stephens, Parish Clerk.

2. Declaration of interest (if any).

In accordance with the Local Code of Conduct any personal or prejudicial interest must be declared and if personal interest the nature of that interest must be given. Note that declaration of interest must be made as soon as it becomes apparent to a member. A member can declare the interest when the item is first discussed. None were declared at this time.

3. Minutes

To receive and approve for accuracy purposes the minutes of the meeting held 27 July 2009. The minutes were accepted as a true record, proposed by Cllr S Phillip and seconded by Cllr H Whittle and agreed by all and duly signed by the Chair.

4 Reports from Outside Bodies

- a. Mrs Sharon Bark North Kesteven District Council – Playing Field update. Apologies for non attendance at the previous meeting were made. Unfortunately little progress has been achieved since the last meeting. The District Council's land agent it transpires was also the agent for the landowner and delay resulted from the need to find an alternative. Negotiations continue as does project planning. It was confirmed that once land purchase is resolved the next step will be a consultation exercise involving local young people. Cllr MJ Stephens MBE asked what would be the impact on the funding situation as a result of these delays? Mrs S Bark responded that the district council purchase monies were not at risk since they are earmarked against a recognised obligation. However, the monies intended for the development work could be at risk since their expenditure is time limited, but this time frame extends into the next financial year.
- b. County Cllr P Bradwell. It was confirmed that action has been taken in respect of weed growth on the paths by West Grove. It is anticipated that these paths will be resurfaced next year. Similarly, action has been taken to remove the tree and undergrowth adjacent to the Kirkstead Bridge junction. However, Cllr WK Busby advised that this had only been of limited success since the main problem is the tree growth by the bridge itself and that these had not been touched; County Cllr P Bradwell responded that she would review this situation and initiate further action. The work to improve the parking situation by Mrs Mary King's School has commenced and will be completed shortly.
- c. District Cllr F Ambridge. It is anticipated that construction work on the environmentally friendly houses by West Grove would start shortly. The proposed development behind Pound Road has been subjected to some changes in layout but similarly is expected to commence soon. Concern has registered in respect of the condition of some of the garden areas at West Grove and the Council is addressing these issues.

5. Public Question Time - None

6. Clerks Report

- a. Blankney Public Bridleway No 10 – I have received a response from Carl Abram and apparently the bridleway is affected at its northern end by a building which means that there is no access onto the highway at this point. This will in time be resolved by their Definitive Map Section in Lincoln.
- b. Missing Road Sign – referred to County Cllr P Bradwell to chase.
- c. Response from Inspector Head – data collection speed monitoring device found to be an emotive issue. The Lincolnshire police will not allow the necessary software to be installed on any of it's' computers. The problem has been solved in part at Ruskington Parish cluster by the beat office using his own computer and on the south of Sleaford Parish Cluster by a third party using their computer. He will seek a similar solution for the Billingham Parish Cluster.
- d. Burial Ground – actioned by Chair, email received and read on 25/08/09, as of yet no response.
- e. Traffic Calming Poster – I have received no further detail on this, awaiting a response from Mr R Slaney when the posters are available for judging.
- f. Further request made to NKDC for an extra bin for the cemetery. (After note – this bin has now been supplied).

7. Correspondence:

For Information

- a. NKDC – Invitation to residents to join a Viewpoint Panel so that they can have their say and get involved in developing services at the District Council and other organisations in the area. A poster has been placed on the notice board.
- b. NBV – is a not for profit company tasked with delivering different project across the whole of the East Midlands. The most well known project currently being delivered by NBV is Business Link. Mandy Morris is involved with the project call Enterprise Outreach – UpSkill Me. It is co-funded by LCC and the European Social Fund and runs until December 2010. The project will offer one-to-one support and advice to individuals who are employed or unemployed, or embarking on running their own business. The minimum age is 19 with no upper age limit but must live in Lincolnshire. Poster placed on notice board.
- c. LALC – Association's Annual Report for 2008/2009, together with a booking form in respect of this year's AGM and conference, which will take place on Saturday November from 10.00am to 4.00pm at Horncastle College, £18.50 per delegate Also enclosed training events for Autumn 2009 and LALC News.
- d. Mrs Sharon Bark NKDC – Older Peoples Advice Days during October. Friday 2 October – North Kesteven District Council Offices, Sleaford and Thursday 8 October – Memorial Hall, North Hykeham. In the past the focus has been on health and social care, and other needs such as information about volunteering, job opportunities, keeping fit and leisure time etc. A poster will be placed on the notice board.
- e. The Hub – What's on August 2009?
- f. The R. Hon. Douglas Hogg, QC, MP, Viscount Hailsham – Confirms that the Post Office will re-open on 28 September 2009
- g. Community Lincs – parish plans. Cllr H Whittle suggested that these are a valuable tool for developing the Parish. The Chair responded that such an activity has been explored by the Parish Council on several occasions in the past but that it had been resolved not to follow this route and a short discussion demonstrated that this remains the view of the Council.

- h. NKDC Sleaford Arts Festival – experience an explosion of light 26 Sept 2009 commencing at 7pm – 10.pm, starting at the Hub National Centre for Craft & Design, Sleaford
- i. Rural Services Network – state of Rural Services in England review.

For Action

- a. Policy on donations and Grant – formal adoption. This document was circulated after the last meeting. Proposed by Cllr WK Busby, seconded by Cllr H Whittle that this Policy on Donations and Grants as drafted be adopted and implemented forthwith. All were in favour. The Parish Clerk confirmed that all organisations that are anticipated to seek donations have been made aware of the likely changes and will now be provided with a copy of the policy document and the necessary request form. All such requests to be considered at the January Meeting.
- b. Allotment Agreements. The Parish Clerk advised that a specimen allotment has been obtained as suggested from Billingham Parish Council but that this does not appear to be an appropriate one since it is clearly “Garden Allotments”. Cllrs WK Busby and C Vickers confirmed that is indeed the case. Further discussion then took place as a result of which it was resolved that the current agreements should be reviewed at the next meeting and that since the main concern is a belief that subletting may be taking place in contravention of these agreements the Clerk is to write all allotment holders to remind tenants of the conditions. Cllr H Whittle noted that other than the individual agreements, the Council does not have a formal policy for the allocation and use of these allotments.
- c. Allotments by West Grove - Cllr H Whittle requested clarification these allotments. The chair responded that to the north east of West Grove there are a number of garden allotments administered by NKDC. During a recent review of these it was noted that all but one would appear not to be in use. Enquiries by parishioners as to the availability of an allotment have been referred to NKDC.

8. Planning Applications

- a. NKDC – Sleaford Southgate Regeneration and Supplementary Planning Document – North Kesteven wish to encourage regeneration in Sleaford to ensure the town centre offers improved retail facilities and an attractive welcoming environment to meet the needs of the population of Sleaford and surrounding areas. An exhibition outlining the Council’s approach to the regeneration is currently on display at the Council offices. Further information on the exhibitions please visit www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/southgate.
- b. 85 High Street Martin Lincoln - Erection of attached single garage to side of dwelling and construction of bow window to front of dwelling. Noted.
- c. Erection of first floor extension over existing ground floor to rear of dwelling, Dormer House Martin Fen, LN4 3RF. Noted.
- d. Stephen Priestly Housing Strategy Manager – The District council has been allocated funds for 19 units across six sites. Martin has been allocated 2 properties – construction straw and planning permission granted. Any comments or questions at this stage to be directed to him. – see earlier report from District Cllr F Ambridge.

9. Financial Matters

- a. Conclusion of Audit – copies sent to all Councillors.

Payment requests:

- Clement Keys - audit fee £138.00

- Witham First District Internal Drainage Board – Drainage Rates £260.52
- Marshall-East Pest control – mole Control Aug/Sep £30.00.
- CommuniCorp - Clerk & Councils Direct £10.00
- Mrs K Stephens Wages £487.82 + Expenses £17.80 = £505.62
- Mr G Smith – Grass cutting and hedge rubbish clearance £170.00.

The chair declared an interest in Clerk's payment

It was noted that the account in respect of grass/hedge cutting reflected additional costs resulting from the clearance of a build up of rubbish; the Council accepted that these costs were both appropriate and reasonable. Proposed by Cllr WK Busby and Seconded by Cllr C Vickers and agreed by all.

Bank Reconciliation 21 Sep 2009

Balance B/Fwd	7446.96	
Plus Receipts	3528.81	
sub total	10975.77	
Less payments	2168.56	
	£8,807.21	
Represented by:		
Current Account Statement 27 Aug 2009	£2,043.13	
Reserve Account statement 26Jun 2009	£6,764.08	
	£8,807.21	

10. Remaining Dates of Meetings to be held in 2009

30 November 2009