

# MARTIN WITH MARTIN DALES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26 January 2009 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

## 1. Apologies for absence

Councillor J Evans and Councillor C Vickers made their apologies at the last meeting that they are unable to attend this time. Those present County Cllr P Bradwell, District Cllr F Ambridge, Cllr MJ Stephens MBE, Cllr WK Busby, Cllr B Downing, Cllr S Phillip, Cllr L Whittle and Mrs Karen Stephens, Parish Clerk. Cllr H Whittle arrived at 20.00hrs due late meeting in London.

## 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 made at this time.

## 3. Minutes

To receive and approve for accuracy purposes the minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2008. Cllr WK Busby drew attention that the recognised of the Parish is Martin with Martin Dales, not as recorded Martin with Kirkstead. The Chair in responding advised that the latter style is the one used throughout both District Council and Central Government correspondence but directed the Clerk to take note of this observation. Item 6a should be amended to reflect that Cllr S Phillip had agreed to make the approach, not Cllr H Whittle as recorded. The Chair made the necessary amendments and it was proposed by Cllr B Downing and seconded by Cllr WK Busby that the minutes be accepted, all were in favour.

## 4 Reports from Outside Bodies

- a. County Cllr P Bradwell – advised that she had spoken with the relevant officers with regards to concerns about speed limits in the area of Kirkstead Bridge and the implications of the school bus services stopping here. The matter has been passed to the Road Safety Partnership for consideration. However, it should be noted that a full review of speed limits across the County is to be undertaken in the coming year and it is anticipated that these concerns will be addressed as part of this review. Cllr WK Busby in responding pointed out that the question of insufficient domestic properties in this area to warrant a 40mph speed limit did not appear reasonable given that other locations in the District have such speed limits, but are even smaller. The Chair suggested that since the new speed monitoring equipment is now available, the local Police Team should be asked to undertake a formal monitoring activity in this area and report their findings.  
County Cllr P Bradwell reported that the County Council Tax is to be set at a limit of 2.5%. She also advised that work was to be undertaken at Mrs Mary King's School to improve parking provision; precise details have yet to be finalised through discussion with the school authorities.
- b. District Cllr F Ambridge – began by apologising that once more the visit by a senior officer of the District Council to account for the ongoing delays in resolving the Playing Field dilemma had not occurred. The matter remains under consideration and he continues to be hopeful that a resolution will be achieved shortly. The Council

discussed yet again this unhappy situation and were agreed that it is not acceptable, that this situation was now such as to warrant a formal complaint but resolved that the Chair should endeavour to meet with the District Council Chair urgently in order both to express their displeasure and to move this matter along. It was noted that the provision and value of such facilities is reflected in the recent District Council's Strategic and other plans and that there reserves would seem to be able to meet this expenditure.

#### 5. Chairman's Report

- a. NKDC Response in answer to his letter regarding the Playing Field – nothing further was added to the above report. Information resulting from attending the viewing of the Plans for Affordable Social Housing on Tuesday 13 January 2009. He reported that the display had set out proposals for the construction of 11 affordable housing properties in the area behind Pound Road. These would be a mix of flats, terraced and detached properties. The proposal indicated that access to this development would be off Pound Road and the layout takes account of the need for access to existing dwellings should be maintained. It is anticipated that formal planning application will follow shortly. The properties proposed are of a modern design, with garden areas and adequate parking provision.

#### 6. Election of Councillors

It was proposed by Cllr MJ Stephens and seconded by Cllr S Phillip that since the District Council had confirmed that co-option by the Council to fill existing vacancies is appropriate Mr L Sanby should be so co-opted. This proposal was unanimously agreed and the Chair welcomed him to the council.

#### 7. Public Question Time

To receive questions from members of the public notified to the Chairman before the start of the meeting.

- a. A matter was raised in relation to an individual who regularly allows his dog to foul the corner of Wyatt Close and Timberland Road. It was resolved that a direct approach would be made to the family concerned. In parallel it was requested, that since this area is a main access point to the village for dog walkers, that a dog waste bin be positioned in this area. The matter was discussed at some length and the inability of the Council to employ both a litter and dog warden was again explored. The cost of providing a further bin and the consequent collection costs was gone into given that the latter have again raised. It was resolved that since the Council finances were such as not to have been able to meet an earlier request for a bin on the High Street, the implications of this further request and the budget to be discussed later these requests could not presently be afforded.

#### 8. Clerks Report

- a. NKDC – Notification of pot holes developing on the southern side of the B1191 to the west of the junction of Moor Lane and Timberland Road and remedial action will be taken.
- b. Rachel Mantel – local Crime, Community Sentence Presentation, requested for Annual Public Meeting. It has been advised that this presentation and the public participation will take 90 minutes Cllr H Whittle suggested that they be to reduce this but should this not be possible an alternative be found.
- c. New Burial Ground – with regard to using the old playing field. The Chair advised that following on from this suggestion at the last meeting representation has been

made that this would not be an appropriate use and in addition further research into the Health and Safety implications indicate this would not be a viable option. The Council discussed this further and accepted that use as a burial ground should not be pursued and that the alternative of seeking to extend the existing burial ground should be undertaken.

- d. Litter Timberland Road – reported and actioned, area cleared.

## 9. Correspondence:

### For Information

- a. EMDA News – noted.
- b. Salting Routes – copies distributed.
- c. LALC News – noted.
- d. LCC – Travel & Transport Briefing – noted.
- e. LCC – School Admission consultation. The Government has introduced a new regulation that enables parents and groups to comment on school’s admission policies, which we are being informed of in case we wish to make comment. To view [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/admissionsconsultation](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/admissionsconsultation) comments must be received by 28 February 2009 – The Council indicated no wish to comment at this time.
- f. Communities and Local government – Communities in Control – noted.
- g. Victoria Burt – Youth Shelter project – copies were circulated in advance of the meeting of this notification and as a majority were in favour at a previous meeting, the Chair had accordingly responded supporting this activity.
- h. Local Councils Update – December 2008 noted.
- i. Pelican Trust – available services – noted.
- j. Cluster News – Copy distributed.
- k. Hub – What is on January 2009 – distributed to Cllrs and placed on notice board.
- l. LCC – Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue, your chance to shape the future – noted.
- m. Rural Services Community – noted.
- n. North Kesteven Local Strategic Partnership – the Chair drew to attention that this document has significant bearing on the Playing Field situation and reinforces both the need and the responsibility for the provision of such facilities.
- o. Clerk & Councils Direct – January 2009- noted.
- p. The Clerk – January edition – noted.
- q. SLCC 2009 Conference Programme - noted.
- r. Chief Constable Richard Crompton – Review of first six months in post - noted
- s. Sarah Attrill – Cluster Notes from meeting on 12 Jan 2009. It was noted that the longed for speed monitoring equipment has now been supplied and is now available and that monies allocated to the Cluster will be utilized to support the Billinghay Swimming Pool.

### For Action

- a. Freedom of Information – Fulfilling your obligation to disclose information. The Council accepted the detail of the Model Publication Scheme as drafted by the Chair and Parish Clerk. Proposed by Cllr MJ Stephens MBE and seconded by Cllr S Phillip that these be adopted, all were in favour. The Clerk was directed to ensure publication as required by the scheme.
- b. LALC – Electoral Survey to establish problems in filling seats on Town & Parish Councils completed and Clerk to submit.
- c. Local Code of Conduct – Deciphering the Code: Training on the Code of Conduct details taken by interested Councillors.
- d. NKDC – During recent Estate audit of Martin an issue was raised that the area at the bottom of Pound Road was quite dark are we able to help. After a short discussion it

was resolved that whilst the standard of lighting in this area is much the same as elsewhere in the Parish, the proposed development of a new access road in this area it is anticipated will have implications for lighting and accordingly no action should be taken at this time.

- e. NKDC – Asset Management Plan and Capital Strategy- noted.
- f. NKDC – Climatic Change Strategy - noted
- g. NKDC Housing Revenue Account Business Plan – Consultation Draft, working to provide quality housing services to meet the needs of NK customers?. Consultation result form to be completed and returned by 20 Feb 2009 – the Chair outlined the content of this document and it was agreed that the priorities as suggested for housing improvements should be changed since it is felt that environmental improvements that would reduce tenant costs should be afforded the higher priority over cosmetic to kitchen areas. This response duly made.
- h. William Kent Memorials Ltd – Council approval sought for memorial stone, Mrs Doris Bothamley. Proposed by Cllr B Downing after confirming from the plan that Health and Safety considerations were met that this should be agreed seconded by Cllr WK Busby with all in favour.

#### 10. Planning Applications

- a. Planning Permission – Insertion of new door to front elevation at Royal Oak Public House granted - noted
- b. Planning Application – Removal of conditions 7 & 11 to allow grain store building for use as domestic storage for the Granary – noted with no comments offered.

#### 11. Financial Matters

- a. Budget Forecast – The Council considered the forecast distributed at the previous meeting, the current financial situation and the anticipated future needs of the Council and resolved that the Precept for the coming Financial Year should be set at 3.5% increase over the previous year, thus reflecting the wishes of Central Government for restraint as opposed to the anticipated costs that will result from extending the Burial Ground. Resolution proposed by Chair that the budget forecast is accepted as presented and that the precept to reflect 3.5% increase; seconded by Cllr B Downing with all in favour.
- b. Strategic Department Lincolnshire Police – C.P.R For Lives 1 June 2009 Cops Pyrean Ride. It has been requested that the Council support this initiative by a donation of £100.00, but the Council opined that the finances are such that this can not be supported.
- c. Lincolnshire Playing Fields Association – Request for Financial Support.2009, this was also discussed and it was unanimously agreed that no support could be given at this time.
- d. LALC Annual Training Scheme – proposed by the Chair since this training scheme is of direct benefit to the Council and that Cllrs will be participating over the coming year the Annual Subscription of £65.00 should be met. Seconded by Cllr S Phillips with all in favour.
- e. Mencap – Request for donation discussion deferred to next meeting.

f.

**Bank  
Reconciliation as at 26 Jan 2009**

Balance b/fwd	£7,400.96
Plus Receipts	£6,040.13
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>£13,441.09</b>
Less expenses	£5,177.69
<b>Total</b>	<b>£8,263.40</b>

**Represented by**

Current a/c	£1,895.13
Reserve a/c	£6,737.34
<b>Total</b>	<b>£8,632.47</b>

Plus receipt not on statement	£260.00
	<b>£8,892.47</b>

Less cheques for payment

698	£60.00	Mr G Smith	
699	507.07	K Stephens	
	£567.07		£567.07
			<b>£8,325.40</b>

Less cheques not yet cleared	697	£62.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£8,263.40</b>

The above account was accepted as presented, subject to audit and in addition the following payments were authorised to be paid:

NKDC Emptying of Dog Waste Bins £247.50  
Mr RJ Beever Roadside Grass/Hedge cutting £129.25

Proposed Cllr S Phillip seconded Cllr B Downing with all in favour.

11. Date of next meeting 30 March 2009