

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 04 NOVEMBER 2008 AT 7.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER STANHOPE AVENUE

PRESENT

Councillors: D Clarke (Chairman), D Robinson, P Franklin, A Midgley, E Mace, G Baker, J Nelstrop, D Hill, E Pickavance

5571 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Reasons for absence were accepted from Cllr Pestell, Cllr Storey and Cllr Saunders

5572 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Midgley declared a personal interest in the two agenda items relating to Jubilee Park, as she is a nearby resident.

5573 NOTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 7 AND 21 OCTOBER TO BE APPROVED AS THE MINUTES

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to accept the minutes as being a true record of the meetings.

5574 JUBILEE PARK END OF SEASON REVIEW FROM ELDC

Darren Cutler Manager of Jubilee Park gave a presentation to the Council informing them of the number of admissions, season ticket sales, private bookings, maintenance work, marketing strategy and special events that were held at the park during the 2008 season. He answered questions from Councillors and a couple of suggestions were made to him on ways to improve the park for next season.

The Chair asked Darren for a copy of his presentation so a copy could be put on the village website.

5575 UPDATE ON REFURBISHMENT OF JUBILEE PARK SWIMMING POOL

District Cllr Adam Grist told the Parish Council that due to the recent Icelandic Bank situation the £1.5million investment project on the park may be delayed. ELDC had decided that until money invested in the Icelandic Bank had been investigated and resolved by the Local Government Association which may not be a quick process, all capital projects that had not been started were to be put on hold, but this didn't mean that the refurbishment wouldn't take place. The project couldn't go out to tender and appoint a contractor until the investigation had taken place and due to this delay it would be very difficult to get the refurbishment done in time for 2009 season, so a 12 month delay was suggested. This delay would give ELDC more time to work with FOJP and assess the scheme and it would also enable work on the park to begin immediately when the 2009 season had finished. Cllr Hill told the Council that he felt that a delay would be welcomed as he felt that the refurbishment proposal was going in the wrong direction as far too much focus had been made on the changing rooms and not enough on the pool basin.

The Council agreed that the news was disappointing but were glad for the extra time so that the refurbishment decisions would not be rushed. They emphasised that they felt the pool must be the priority in the refurbishment project.

District Cllr Adam Grist told the Parish Council that they will know within a couple of weeks where the project is going and if it is necessary to delay it then every aspect of the scheme will be revisited (café, changing rooms and swimming pool).

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that a meeting between ELDC, FOJP and the Parish Council would take place at the end of the month to confirm the decision made by ELDC and to discuss the future of the park. It was felt that this was very important as up to now the decisions for the refurbishment of the park had been very one sided with the plans being what ELDC want and not taking into account the feelings of the community.

5576 CLERKS REPORT AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

5570 ELDC had declined the Parish Councils request for the Stixwould Road Caravan Park application to have a full Environmental Impact Assessment carried out.

5516 Permission had been granted to Sovereign Homes for the proposed details of particulars relating to the land east of 18 St Leonards Close and land south of Brookside, Tattershall Road. They stated that there were insufficient grounds to refuse as outline planning permission still exists.

5527 Tattershall with Thorpe Parish Council had arranged the meeting with the national probation service for Tuesday 18th November which was the date for the Councils planning meeting. Therefore no councillors would be able to attend. The Clerk would contact Tattershall with Thorpe PC to let them know.

5547 Cllr Pickavance had agreed to be the Councils representative on the Britain in Bloom Committee

5521a) ELDC have asked the Council to confirm the location of the requested litter bin down Mill Lane and mentioned that if there is not a pole or post for the bin to be fixed then there will be an extra charge for the District Council to provide one. The Clerk had not yet been able to find the cost for this, but would report back to the Council at the next meeting.

5564 Arrangements for Remembrance Day parade were sorted, but it was agreed that this item should be put on Julys agenda next year to give the Parish Council more time to liaise with the British Legion and confirm arrangements in good time.

5406 The hearing into the appeal for the E Skinns, Witham Road planning application will be taking place on 6th January 2009 at Tedder Hall, Manby.

5577 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- S/215/03073/08 – It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to support the application for Boots Alliance to display an internally illuminated sign

5578 TO RECEIVE REPORTS:

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

A meeting had taken place with the Collusion Manager of LCC and discussions had taken place to bring the mobile library into a more central location within the village. There were five types of mobile library available with only one type visiting the village at present. The friends of the library would be engaging with the residential homes in the village to see if there is a need for the mobile library specific to their needs to visit them regularly.

SPA BATHS

Cllr Hill agreed to send a letter to ELDC asking for a more in depth response to a letter from a visitor to the village complaining about the state of the Spa Baths.

TREE GROUP

Cllr Robinson reported that everything was ready for Tree planting day on 29th November. St Andrews School children would be planting trees on Thursday and there would be a competition for children and press coverage had been arranged for the planting and competition winners.

FINANCE GROUP

The Chairman mentioned that the Anglian Water bill was still being investigated. The budget / current financial position spreadsheet had been changed and the financial position of the Council would be reported at next months meeting, so that every councillor was kept up to date. The group had scheduled two meetings in December to discuss next year's budget and a draft 2009/10 budget would be presented to the Council in December to comment on.

It was also mentioned that the Clerks contract needed updating and her appraisal would be carried out in April/May next year.

CORONATION HALL

Cllr Robinson reported that Coronation Hall was now a charity. They had managed to get some extra bookings and the open day which took place on Monday 3rd November was fantastic and it attracted many people who went to have a look at the newly refurbished hall, which was now a vibrant venue that was not in competition with the other halls in the village, but an alternative choice for people to use.

Cllr Robinson also thanked the Parish Council and District Councillors on behalf of the Trustees for the grant money that they had received.

Cllr Hill asked for special thanks to be given to Cllr Robinson and her husband for all the hard work that they had put in.

BRITAIN IN BLOOM

Cllr Pickavance read out an e-mail from Graham Keegan which summarised what had been done this year and plans for next year. Graham Keegan had mentioned in his e-mail that he would be applying for a grant from the Council for next years projects and it was agreed that the Clerk would send him a grant application form.

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

Due to Cllr Storey not being present at the meeting there was nothing to report. The Chair said he would speak to Cllr Storey to see if he felt that he still had time to continue with this.

5579 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

District Cllr Harness reported that it had been highlighted that there was a lack of training in standards by Parish Councils and there was currently a vacancy for an independent member of the Standards Board. He acknowledged that Cllr Pestell was on the Committee already, but felt that there could be more than one representative from each Parish Council as it was the quality of the person that was important not where they were from.

It was reported that the Woodhall Estates application would be decided by the Planning Committee as requested.

5580 FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY PANEL REVIEW ON LIBRARY

The Chairman told the Council that those people who had sent in petitions about the reduction in hours of their libraries had been invited to speak at this meeting. The meeting had highlighted that there had been a lack of consultation with Parish Councils and a lack of explanation for LCC's decisions to alter the libraries hours. The Chair told the Council that he felt they were well placed because they had formed a 'Friends of the Library' group.

5581 PARISH COUNCIL SURGERIES

The Chairman told the Council that the library had offered them use of the library conference room for surgeries. He asked the Council if they thought that they should start holding surgeries and it was agreed that they should do this, but more information would be gathered about them before final arrangements were made.

5582 TRAFFIC ISSUES ON WITHAM ROAD AND AT MINI ROUNDABOUT

The Clerk read out a letter that had been received from Highways. The Chairman told the Council that he had spoken with County Cllr Hoyes and there may be an opportunity to use mobile traffic recording equipment on Witham Road between the roundabout and the 40mph sign. It was suggested that the accidents that had happened at the mini roundabout were caused not only by speed but by lack of knowledge of drivers. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the Clerk would contact the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership and ask them to carry out a survey and once the results of the survey had been received then the Council would arrange a site visit with the Highways department to discuss what could be done at this section of road.

5583 CAR PARKING IN VILLAGE

Each Cllr had been given a copy of a draft car parking policy document that had been produced by the Car Parking Working Group.

ELDC had given the Parish Council two options for the Broadway Car Park and it was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to accept option 2:

- A general tidy up would be carried out by ELDC around the car parking area and at the back of the shops on the Broadway at no cost to the Parish Council.
- The cost of supply and installation of the cycle rack would be passed on to the Parish Council.
- The recycle bins would be relocated opposite the entrance to the car park so making way for 2 extra car park spaces.
- The cycle racks would be installed inside the entrance to the car park on the right hand side. The bushes in this area may need to be reduced/removed to facilitate the racks.

Cllr Robinson told the Council that Budgens had expressed a keen interest in having the recycle facilities relocated to their car park which would allow room for more cycle racks to be installed in the future. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that a letter would be written to Budgens asking them to write and confirm their interest in having the recycling facilities, a meeting would then be arranged with ELDC to ask them to move the recycling bins and informing them that the Parish Council had chosen option 2 of their proposal.

5584 NEW WORKING PRACTICES/PROCEDURES

The Chair asked the Council for more comments. He would then collate all the comments and revise the draft document.

5585 TO ADOPT POLICY ON CARAVAN SITES

Members of the working group explained that they wanted a policy which could be used now which is why there is no reference to the Local Development Framework in it.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to adopt the document subject to an amendment to policy 7 to read 'Oppose static caravans.....' rather than discourage.

The policy would be reviewed annually.

5586 REVIEW OF BURIAL FEES AT CEMETERY

The Finance Group would be progressing with this issue and would bring a proposal back to the Council to consider in the next financial year.

5587 TO ACCEPT QUOTATION FOR NEW BENCH AT CORNER OF TOR-O-MOOR ROAD AND STANHOPE AVENUE

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to purchase the bench from Ecofurn at a cost of £255. The finance group recommended that the bench should be anchored down to a concrete base and it was agreed that the Clerk would get quotes for this and bring them back to the Council at their next meeting.

Cllr Pickavance asked the Council if they would consider making the concrete base long enough for a bin to be sited along side the bench. It was agreed that the bench would be located first and a bin considered at a later date.

5588 TO DONATE £30 FOR REFRESHMENTS FOR VOLUNTEERS ON TREE PLANTING DAY

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to donate £30 for refreshments on 29th November.

5589 ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS FAYRE AND CAROL SERVICE

The Chair read out the programme from the previous years carol service and it was agreed that the service should be kept the same. The Chair agreed to speak to the vicar about the carol service.

It was agreed that Councillors would get the collection boxes from the Clerk at the Council meeting on 2nd December and the collection would go to The Nomad Trust.

5590 TO RETROSPECTIVELY APPROVE COMPLETION OF CLERKS 13 WEEK PROBATIONARY PERIOD

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to approve the completion of the Clerks probationary period.

5591 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk made the Council aware that the following items had been received:

- E-mail from Tor-O-Moor Road resident regarding state of Pavements, roads overhanging trees.
Clerk has Contacted Highways

- Copy of letter to ELDC Planning Enforcement complaining about a Witham Road resident still selling furniture outside his house, even though an enforcement notice has been sent for the resident to stop this.

- East Midlands Regional Assembly: East Midlands Regional Plan partial review. Documents are contained on a disk or available to view at www.emra.gov.uk. – Closing dates for comments is Friday 12th December.

- LCC: Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Issues and Options statutory consultation. This document is available to view at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk. Closing date for comments is 5th December.

- LCC: Planning application Validation Checklist Consultation. (The Checklist introduces clear guidance about what information is expected to be submitted to make a planning application). The local lists requirements document can be viewed at <https://consult.lincolnshire.gov.uk/portal>. Closing date for comments is 12th December.

- Communities and Local Government - Communities in control: Real people, real power Codes of conduct for local authority members and employees Consultation. Closing date for comments is 24th December.

It was agreed that Councillors would view the consultation documents that were available on-line and respond individually unless they felt that a corporate viewpoint would be better, if this was the case they would contact the Clerk who would put it on the agenda to be discussed by full committee.

5592 a) PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the following accounts be paid:

£205 (M Hare); £13 (Mrs Johnson); £18.51 (E-on); £325 (Piper & Trumpeter for Remembrance Day parade); £87.48 (Business Gas); £19.40 (St Peters Hall); £152.75 (Bates Sound Service); £89.90 (Croquet Club Grant); £600 (Citizens Advice Bureau)

b) ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WREATHS

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to pay £60 to the Royal British Legion. (£33 for the cost of the wreaths and a donation of £27).

5593 DATES AND TIMES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Planning meeting: Tuesday 18 Nov at 7pm
Citizen Advice Bureau AGM: Thursday 20 Nov at 7pm
Finance Group Meeting: Tuesday 2 Dec at 2.30pm
Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday 2 Dec at 7.30pm
Finance Group Meeting: Tuesday 16 Dec at 2.30pm

5594 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- Cemex Lorries
- Meeting with FOJP and ELDC about refurbishment of Jubilee Park
- Ben Booth to present plans for proposed caravan site

The Chair closed the meeting at 10.05pm.