

KING'S CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13th March 2003 in the Parlour of King's Cliffe Memorial Hall

02/165 Present: Councillors W. Court (Chairman), D. Sharpe, N. Ford, B. Howard, L. Crane, M. Day.
S. Gibson.

Apologies: Councillors J. Dixon, I. Hetherington, A. Howard

02/166 By prior arrangement, Mr. E. Doherty addressed the meeting on the Planning Application/Amendment for Garage at 11 Walkers Field EN/03/00152/FUL/PMHS. Mr. Doherty stated that the present permission was acceptable, but the new location for the garage would be very prominent at the end of the drive and would negate the wider gap between houses which had been created in response to the Inspector's decision on the Appeal. He asked the Parish Council to agree that it would be less obtrusive if the garage was sited as shown on the present approved plan.

02/167 Declarations of Interest

Councillor B. Howard declared an interest in the planning applications for Extension to existing Transport Office Westhay Farm and Change of Use to Nursery at 66 Park Street. The Chairman drew attention to the leaflet from Standards Office entitled "Councillors Behaving Badly?" and will write to Mrs Ding accordingly.

02/168 The minutes of the meeting on 12th February 2003 were accepted and signed.

Proposed: Councillor N. Ford Seconded: Councillor M. Day

02/169 Matters Arising

4.1 Slipe Clay Pit: There have been further recent complaints about mud on the road etc. The Chairman has visited the pit and reported his findings to the Council. The complaints have been passed on to the NCC and will be taken further at the Liaison Meeting soon to be held. With regard to litter in the Hornstocks the Clerk will contact English Nature, as it would appear that, as the owners of the land, they are responsible for litter there. The filling of potholes on the road from the pit to the A47 has not been successful. Councillor S. Gibson reported she had had the exhaust and underside of her car damaged by a piece of metal lying in the road. The NCC have requested that only two Councillors from each Parish should attend, due to lack of space and the security risks. Councillors Court and Gibson were nominated with Cllr Day as reserve.

4.2 The "elephant trap" (silt pit) at the top of Willow Lane has still not been cleared. A reminder will be sent.

4.3 Councillor N. Ford reported that the fallen branches in the Hills and Holes had been cleared.

02/170 Accounts Payable

The following accounts were approved for payment: -

Curators Salary (March 2003)	£ 73.80
Clerks Salary (March 2003)	£ 166.74
Telephone for Parish Council (Argos)	£ 67.38
A.B.B. Lighting repairs	£ 24.43
W.R.Court (December expenses)	£ 10.90
Colemans (Stationery)	£ 86.77
W.R.Court (Etchells – sign for Cemetery)	£ 51.30
NALC Annual Subscription	£ 159.00
Terry Curtis (repairs to mower)	£ 40.59
Crowsons (wreath for Mr. Sansom)	£ 25.00

Proposed : Councillor B. Howard

Seconded : Councillor D.Sharpe

02/171 Planning

Councillor B. Howard left the meeting during the discussion of the first two items.

Extension to existing transport office Westhay Farm EN/03/00153/FUL/MAP

No objections.

Change of use to nursery at 66 Park Street (amended) EN/02/01059/FUL/PMAP

The applicants had been wrongly informed that this is a Listed Building; also that it was an accident 'black spot' although NCC has now stated that no accidents have been reported at this spot for ten years. Councillors agreed that this Nursery would be a very useful service to the village and should be supported in principle. The proposed parking arrangements appeared to be adequate.

No objections and recommended for approval.

Amendment to original application for garage 11 Walkers Field EN/03/00152/FUL/PMHS

The Council agreed that the proposed amendment would be less satisfactory than the garage position previously approved. The garage would be exposed to view and be very prominent because of the sloping site. The position would also interfere with open space and planting. A letter will be sent to ENC outlining the objections and recommending refusal.

Removal of stone wall & erection of fence 16-22 Park Street EN/03/00141/FUL/PMAP

This application was discussed at length as the proposed fence has already been erected and is considered to be totally unsuitable. A stone wall would be more in keeping and would maintain the character of the Conservation Area. Failing this, a style of fencing which is more traditional and

fitting to the conservation area could be considered. Refusal recommended.

**Various alterations and additions 16 West Street
Listed building consent application for the above**

**EN/03/00175/FUL/PMAP
EN/03/00176/LBC/PMAP**

These two items were discussed together. No objections apart from the point that the Planning Authority should check the possibility that the dormer window on the West side may overlook the adjacent properties to an unacceptable degree. Otherwise no objection.

02/172 Standing Orders

The Standing Orders agreed in principle at the last meeting were presented together with a suggested amendment to the order of the agenda for meetings. This amended document was approved and accepted with immediate effect. Additional copies will be required for new Councillors.

Proposed : Councillor M. Day

Seconded : Councillor S. Gibson

02/173 Kings Cliffe Website

This has been discussed at the Resource Centre and some progress has been made. It is now proposed that there will eventually be a Resource Centre website and a Village Website; the two will be separate entities but will have accessible links. More experienced helpers are needed to finalise this project. There will be a page for the Parish Council who will be responsible for the content i.e. agenda, minutes and notices and other organisations will be responsible for keeping their pages up to date.

02/174 Flood Precautions

As reported earlier in these minutes, the elephant trap is still blocked. Councillor D. Sharpe pointed out that some water off the fields bypasses the pit. The Chairman has written to W S Atkins/NCC that the sewers and gulleys should be checked when the pit is emptied.

The road gully on the Stamford side of the railway bridge is blocked; this will be reported to Clarence.

The first stage of the works outside the Memorial Hall is complete, funded by the Resource Centre. Councillor W. Court is hoping to clear up some outstanding aspects with volunteer labour. The aims now are to a) tarmac the surface of the road and b) reinforce the grass area. Atlantic Waste (landfill site) has been approached informally about funds for this project. Councillor Sharpe considered that the Parish Council should accept an earlier offer that the Area Committee could consider an application for funding tarmac provided that the Parish Council signed a legal document that the County Council had no further responsibility for maintenance. The Chairman said that he had refused this proposal when it was first made, and it was pointed out that the Parish Council did not have the power to give such an undertaking which affected the position of various property owners. The Chairman said that he had now traced a plan (dated 1946) in the Records Office which he felt to be significant support for the contention of the Memorial Hall that the County Council had a liability for maintenance.

Councillor B. Howard suggested the Memorial Hall and Resource Centre need better parking facilities and that parking should be provided by surfacing an area of the pocket park. The Chairman said that this was a registered green and that use for motor vehicles was prohibited. It was necessary

to look elsewhere for a solution.

SUB-COMMITTEES

02/175 Burial Board

A new sign has been purchased for the cemetery stating "rubbish to be put in the dustbin please". Arrangements are in hand to remove the spoil heap and Councillor Day said that he would look into this. There have been a number of burials and several plots have been purchased. Mr. Smith will straighten some gravestones in the Cemetery to test the feasibility of this exercise. The mower has been serviced.

02/176 Village Design Group

There has been no meeting of the VDG. Warmington have completed their Village Design Statement, and a display will be held at Warmington Church on Tuesday 18th March; Councillors were asked to inform the Chairman if they will be attending. The Chairman is to write to Mr. Eacott at ENC regarding the ongoing problem of access to the KC1 site and progress with the Planning Application.

02/177 Amenities

New magnetic strips for the notice board at Willow Walk have been supplied free of charge by the manufacturers of the board. Councillor D. Sharpe stated that more litterbins are required in the village and has suggested the old "pump" alcove between 29 & 31 West Street and also at the Wood Road/Willow Lane junction. The Clerk will enquire if these bins need to be purchased, or if they are supplied free of charge and will check the views of neighbours. The proposal to purchase if necessary was approved.

Proposed : Councillor D. Sharpe

Seconded : Councillor N. Ford

The lid on the bin at Colemans Lane/Wood Road is not locked and frequently ends up in a dangerous location. Corys will be asked to repair or replace it.

A meeting will be held at the Resource Centre on 27th March regarding Youth Activities and the proposed Skateboard Park. Notices will be posted. Councillor B. Howard stated that the Parish Council must show support for these projects. While agreeing with this, the Chairman suggested that Councillors should not use the simple phrase that "there is nothing for young people in the village" because this ignored the valuable work done by the K Club for under 14's and the Resource Centre facilities, Community Association activities and other groups.

02/178 Street Lighting

Orders have been placed the street lights discussed at last months' meeting. These will cost £1930.00 plus VAT, less than the limit set by the Parish Council at the last meeting.

02/179 Community Safety & Neighbourhood Watch

The Clerk had ensured the burnt out car on Wansford Road was promptly removed. There have been several more burglaries during the month. Regarding the damage caused at the bottom of Wansford Hill; the replacement direction sign has been ordered by W S Atkins/NCC. They have also been asked to erect a replacement warning sign near the farm entrance.

Councillor B. Howard re-iterated that more volunteers are needed for Neighbourhood Watch and confirmed that he was working upon re-organisation. Leaflets on vehicle crime will be distributed around the village by Councillors.

02/180 Proposed Skateboard Park

Councillor D. Sharpe reported that she has received a very comprehensive 16-page plan which describes 3 pieces of equipment. The planning application has therefore now been completed and sent to ENC. The estimated cost of this project will be £25,600. Fund-raising must start if the project is to come to fruition.

02/181 Topics for the Public Meeting

The Chairman asked for any suggestions for the above to be sent to him within the next two weeks. Prospective Councillors should be made aware of the Declaration of Interest they will need to sign if elected. It would be most unfortunate if new councillors were elected, only to decline office when asked for this information after the election.

02/182 Other Correspondence Received

Highways Agency : Details received regarding alterations to the Carpenters Lodge roundabout on the A1 were handed to Councillor B. Howard.

ENC : The new postal numbers for Walkers Field were noted.

A letter received from Mr. A Pick, regarding mud near the Landfill Site will receive a response.

Environment Agency : The Chairman will respond to a letter regarding Flood Wardens

W S Atkins/NCC : A letter was received asking the PC where the grit bin in Hall Yard should be resited to avoid youngsters climbing over the wall. As the nearby roads are machine gritted a decision was taken to arrange for this to be removed and resited in Daleswood Rise which is not gritted.

A reminder will be sent to Howard Packaging requesting drawings of the proposed new notice boards.

Letters from Councillor Mrs J. Dixon (Tree Warden) and Mrs. B. Wilshaw have been received which confirm that the tree surgery carried out at Kingscliffe House was in accordance with the wishes of the ENC Tree Officer and consistent with good practice. Some of the trees were badly decayed, necessitating the action which was taken.

Mrs. C. Scotney sent a letter to the PC regarding bus service cancellations. A copy of this will be sent to the Rural Transport office at NCC asking if they can provide a better service in school holidays.

A letter will be sent to Mrs. Angie Hurcombe to thank her for her hard work dealing with the Bus Token applications.

ACRE : correspondence noted and Councillor D. Sharpe will complete a questionnaire.

02/183 Any Other Business

The question of litter in the village and surrounding area was again raised. Although Corys have been asked to arrange additional litter picking, they have not yet responded. The Chairman repeated that he considered the basic problem is that responsibility for sweeping and litter is split between NCC and ENC.

Councillor M. Day raised the point that in such a close-knit community was it correct that this Council should discuss any planning decisions whatsoever. A letter will be sent to Barbara Ding at ENC as to ask how this should be handled under the new Code.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.10 pm.

Signed..... Date.....

The next meeting will be a Public Meeting at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall on 10th April 2003.