

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 13th May 2004 at 7.30.pm. at the Parlour of the Memorial Hall.

04/1 Election of Chairman

Councillor B. Wyles proposed that Councillor Michael Day was elected chairman and this was seconded by Councillor N. Ford

04/02 Election of Vice-Chairman

Councillor M. Day proposed that Councillor A. Howard was elected and this was seconded by Councillor L. Crane

04/03 Present

Councillors M.Day, A. Howard, L.Crane, B. Wyles, T. Isaac, J. Dixon, B. Wright, B. Howard, D. Sharpe and N.Ford.

04/04 Apologies : Councillor K.Howard

04/05 Declarations of Interest : Chairman M. Day declared an interest in agenda item 15

04/06 Formation of Sub-Committees

The Council decided that existing Sub-Committees should be adopted en-bloc; any alteration of officers would be made at sub-committee meetings.

With regard to the Village Design Group which had been dormant for some time, Parishioner W. Court said he is willing to reactivate this; Councillors B.Howard, J. Dixon and B. Wright expressed an interest in joining the group. The point was raised that this group should be mainly members of the PC.

Proposed : Councillor A. Howard

Seconded : Councillor B. Howard

04/07 Appointment of Wardens

Current appointments were noted as follows: -

Footpaths: John Paige

Trees: Cllr. Dixon

Bus Warden: Mrs Wade

04/08 Nominations to other bodies and List of Assets

No new nominations to other bodies have been asked. The list of assets was tabled.

04/09 Dates of meetings

Meetings for the coming year will be on the 2nd Thursday of each month and will all be held at the Memorial Hall usually in the Parlour. A list has been given to Councillors and venue booked.

04/10 Minutes : The minutes of the Meeting on 8th April were accepted

Proposed : Councillor D. Sharpe

Seconded : Councillor B. Wyles

04/11 Clerks Report and Matters Arising

Three letter from Highways have been received (enclosed)

- 1) Blatherwycke Road – request from Mrs. Haseler for signs – forwarded to Debbie Strong
- 2) Reply from Debbie to say signing of private accesses is not permitted within current Traffic Signs Regulations; but she will carry out a site visit to ascertain the situation
- 3) After I reported yet again standing water at the top of Forest Approach and in the lay-by with the Post Box in Park Street this reply answered both questions as both Wood Road and Park Street are scheduled to be re-surfaced during the summer

After a complaint by a Parishioner regarding the temporary “Keep Left” bollard in Royces Lane obstructing access, I contacted Colin Gilder and the same day an engineer replaced it with a more suitable one. A new bollard has now been erected.

The notice board opposite the surgery had swollen in the rain and the door wouldn’t shut. Councillor Kevin Howard very kindly dropped everything and planed it back to size.

A sign in Wood Lane warning walkers of dangerous conditions was reported to the NCC Highways; Bob Birkett the By-Ways Officer contacted me to say he was inspecting this and would report back to NCC and to the Parish Council. Mr. Hakes requested yesterday to speak to the PC at this meeting, but as it was not on the agenda it was suggested he might like to come next month, if he lets us know in time for it to be on the agenda.

As you all probably know, there was a Public Meeting in the Village Hall on 6th May to discuss the Draft Village Framework. I shall reply to ENC that the majority opinion was that more houses are needed in the village, as the object of the exercise was to gauge local opinion, but the boundary issues need further discussion.

A verbal complaint was received from the residents of the house in Morehay Lane regarding Dog Fouling. I will let them know when the new Dog Fouling Plan is received and if this is a designated area we will request a dog bin in the lane.

ENC will be holding a Public Meeting in the Village Hall on 27th May to deal with Landfill site issues; they are arranging advertising and publicity for this.

Matters arising:-

The new seat has not yet been placed in Hall Yard; several requests for help have not materialised and Chairman M. Day says he will fix it personally.

Councillor B. Howard said he has not yet received a satisfactory answer regarding the re-painting of mail boxes.

Councillor B. Wyles said Highways had not correctly identified all road repairs in the village; a further request will be sent to them.

04/12 Accounts

There was a query from Councillor B. Wyles regarding payments for petrol and grass cutting in Wood Lane and other areas which should have been ENC's responsibility; Chairman M. Day reminded him that the PC had agreed that Mr. Smith should cut the miscellaneous areas which ENC ignore and that one of the petrol receipts went back to December 2003.

The following accounts then were approved for payment:-

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| Curators Salary (May 2004) | £ 135.80 |
| Clerks Salary (May 2004) | £ 187.50 |
| Smith Hetherington –Grass & Hedge trimming | £ 321.00 |
| W.R.Court – petrol for mowers | £ 15.00 |
| Crowsons – refund for overpaid headstone fee | £ 50.00 |
| J. Dixon – pump & fittings for wellhead | £ 72.39 |
| Bullimores Ltd : Gravel for cemetery driveway | £ 161.72 |
| BT : Telephone for ¼ to April 2004 | £ 55.19 |
| N. Ford – petrol for mowers | £ 18.50 |
| Allianz Cornhill – Insurance | £ 302.40 |
| D & M. McKnight – hedge cutting in cemetery | £ 234.00 |
| ABB Ltd : Street lighting repairs | £ 44.70 |
| Colemans of Stamford – stationery items | £ 53.79 |

Proposed : Councillor D. Sharpe

Seconded : Councillor T. Isaac

The first half year payment of the precept - £6300 - was received on 23/04/04

04/13 Planning

Applications:-

Entertainment Licence : Community Centre : 04/00146/COMPEC : No objection

Attic Extension over garage : 8 Bridge Street : EN/04/00746/FUL

No objection, provided materials to be used match the existing

Change of paintwork colours : 2 Bridge Street : EN/04/00669/FUL : No objection

To fell a conifer at Rosary Farmhouse, 64 Park Street : EN/04/00818/TCA : No objection

Withdrawn:-

Erection of single dwelling : Adjacent to 48 Bridge Street : EN/04/00247/FUL : Noted

04/14 Village Framework : Public Meeting

The minutes of this meeting were given to Councillors and a lengthy discussion followed. Councillor A. Howard said that regarding the KC1 site, DC R. Glithero gave the impression that it was going to happen. Chairman M. Day stated that housing must be built and if not at KC1 then elsewhere. Councillor B. Wyles said every other village locally seemed to be building apart from this one. The query was made as to how long the option bought on this land lasted and if the owners then decided not to sell what would happen? The literature promised by Mr. Begley has not yet been received for the Clerk to distribute to interested parties. The overwhelming opinion of the meetings was that Kings Cliffe is in desperate need of affordable housing.

04/15 Landfill Site

The minutes of the meeting of the Liaison Group held at the Haycock Hotel on 12th May 2004 were given to Councillors.

Chairman M. Day considered that the meeting had gone very well. Councillor A. Howard said a letter must be sent urgently to Highways regarding road signs. A letter will be sent to Wastego to remind them of the pledge they made at the meeting to keep the PC informed of any incidents. There have allegedly been several cases of sore throats caused by the odour from the site and local doctors and one as far away as Uppingham were aware that this was the source of the problem. Environmental Health has stated that none of the odours reach the European Union limits. One Councillor felt very strongly that the meeting should have been at the Landfill site and not at the Haycock; a compromise could be to have an official site visit before future meetings and letters will go to NCC and Environmental Health representatives suggesting this. However Wastego have said they are always pleased to show anyone around the site upon request.

04/16 Kings Cliffe Environmental Association

As the Chairman had declared an interest and took no part in the discussion, Vice-Chairman A. Howard took the chair. He said he was sure everyone was aware that there was a meeting on 22nd May for the public to voice their opinions and learn more about the Association. However, he had serious concerns. This was a Government Scheme the taxes collected were paid to the Environmental Association and 6 – 8% comes back to the local community. Can these be viewed as recompense for the inconvenience of the landfill site? We would sooner not have the nuisance. The PC must be seen to represent the village views, is it possible to criticize the landfill site on one hand and take money on the other. The PC knows nothing about the KC Environmental Association. The web-site of the Government body Entrust, does not list them, so who is monitoring them? They must be clear on their constitution; there was no referendum to choose the 6 members of the group. A draft constitution should say there must be an elected PC member and no-one has been nominated. There are many questions to be answered. Monitoring procedures should be in place. Councillor D. Sharpe said everyone would learn more after their open meeting. Councillor A. Howard replied that pressure should be put on the group to see how they envisage spending any monies. Councillor D. Sharpe replied that the Resource Centre as seeking funds, but as she was involved in that, who else in the village needed money? She hoped that all Councillors would go to the meeting. Councillor B. Howard said we must not lose this money. A long discussion took place. Councillor D. Sharpe said in her opinion the PC should not be actively involved; any-one can apply for the money. Alms-houses, the village hall and numerous other village organisations

should benefit. The suggestion was made that the PC should write to Gary Lang Norris, the chairman of KCEA and this was carried on a vote 7 to 2 for.

04/17 Sub-Committee Reports

Neighbourhood Watch

Chairman B. Wright said there are now only 3 areas in the village not covered; these gaps must be filled or the telephone tree etc. would be very difficult to maintain. Each zone should be self-regulation. She requested money for signs to go on lamp post; Councillor N. Ford said there were some from the last campaign. Councillor B. Howard said there had been more burglaries and the community must support Neighbourhood Watch.

Burial Board

Minutes of the meeting held on 26th April 2004 attended by Chairman N. Ford, W. Court, N. Embleton, T. Peacey and J. Dixon : Apologies : B. Wyles

The Memorial for Mr. J. Compton was passed with some revisions

The Horn graves : relatives will be asked to reconsider decorations on the graves. Mr. Court will complete a set of rules for memorials to assist relatives in choosing appropriate memorials.

Mr. Smith has cleared all the rubbish from hedge cutting. The Curator and Mr. Smith will be asked to barrow the spoil heap into the adjoining pit.

The matter of price for dowelling broken tombstones has not been resolved satisfactorily. Mr. Court will ascertain the insurance situation.

It was proposed that the building of the ramp between the Church Yard and New Cemetery should be put in hand and that the opening of another gate into Church Walk was not viable.

Chairman N. Ford said more gravel had been ordered for the cemetery driveway. Two quotes had been obtained for repair to the churchyard gates, but the PC felt further quotes should be sought. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mr. Smith will be asked to clear the overgrown ivy on the church walls.

Amenities

Councillor T. Isaac report on the sad lack of progress on the play area and the less than helpful letter received from ENC on this subject. It was suggested that land-owners in the village be approach in an attempt to find a suitable area if the Wood Lane project proves unviable when the report is received in the autumn.

04/18 Correspondence received – various correspondences were discussed and/or circulated.

04/19 Any Other Business

Councillor N. Ford had received complaints of skateboard nuisance in Willow Lane; he asked if signs

could be erected, but the Clerk had ascertained last year that such signs are not allowed by ENC.

Councillor B. Howard asked that enquiries be made into what was happening at the old Bomb Dump on Stamford Road, but this is outside the village boundary. However the Clerk will ask ENC what the situation is.

Councillor D. Sharpe suggested there should be a change of priorities at the Kings Cliffe road junction into Wansford at the cattery. The Clerk will write to the Peterborough Unitary Authority who is responsible for this.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15.pm.

The next meeting will be on 10th June 2004.