

## KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Kings Cliffe Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October , 2005.

By prior arrangement, Mr. Summer from Wood Road addressed with meeting regarding problems caused by one of the speed humps, which “dams” the road drains, causing water to flood into his driveway. He presented photographs to illustrate the problem. This will be reported to Highways who will hopefully provide a solution to this problem.

**05/080 Present:** Chairman M. Day, Councillors B. Wyles, D. Sharpe, J. Dixon, L. Crane, B. Howard, K. Howard and N.Ford, T.Isaac and B. Wright.

**05/081 Apologies for Absence:** Councillor A. Howard

**05/082 Declarations of Interest:** None

**05/083 Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September were read, amended and approved.

Proposed : Councillor B. Wyles

Seconded : Councillor B.Wright

### **05/084 Matters Arising**

**Hills & Holes Pit :** There had been no action on this item due to a further development (see item 05/094 correspondence) which will be discussed the next meeting.

**Proposed purchase of land at the Cemetery :** Due to holidays, there has been no progress on this matter at present.

**Proposed playing fields :** This matter is now in the hands of the solicitors of both parties.

### **Clerks Report**

Pit Liaison Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> September : Councillor Day, Councillor Sharpe and I attended a meeting at the Resource Centre. Augean really seem to be on top of the job; following the meeting we went on a tour of the site – which was interesting and edifying.

If Councillors or parishioners notice bins have not been emptied, please report it to me; we seem to have a good relationship with ENC at the moment and they are very prompt in following up complaints.

This also applies to street lights; ABB are most efficient; there was a hiccup this month with a light out in Kings Forest, but this was Central Networks. After one of their employees was extremely rude to me on the phone, a gentleman from Stamford, Ian Jarvie, telephoned an apology, made sure the employee was reprimanded, inspected the problem. and the power supply was reconnected on Friday evening last. He did say however, that the old concrete lamps standards in Kings Forest should be replaced in the not too far distant future.

Councillor Sharpe and I carried out a detailed pavement inspection, prior to my meeting with two representatives from NCC Highways. They were very helpful, but do not hold out much hope for a full re-surfacing – a few blackspots will hopefully be dealt with and they agreed that the whole of the north side of Park Street from the Rosary to the Primary school needs fairly urgent attention.

I have again reminded the Enforcement Officer we are still awaiting information regarding the Portakabin in Forest Approach.

I have given all Councillors forms for an annual update to the Register of Interests to be signed and return to me.

**05/085 Accounts** : The following accounts were approved for payment

Curators Salary (current month)	£ 140.00
Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 200.00
Smith Hetherington : Grass cutting & various	£ 221.00
ABB Ltd. : Lighting maintenance	£ 69.97
Resource at Kings Cliffe : YC invoice	£ 36.00
Memorial Hall : Hire of rooms	£ 86.00
Anglian Water : cemetery ½ year	£ 26.22

Proposed : Councillor B.Wyles

Seconded : Councillor J.Dixon

### **05/086 Planning**

#### **75 West Street :Extension to single storey garage : EN05/01737/FUL**

This application caused a lively debate between councillors; two of whom objected to this application. The Chairman called for a show of hands; a vote for no objection was carried 7 for, 2 against.

**55 Bridge Street : Erection of timber shed : EN/05/01576/FUL : Granted : Noted**

**TPO's : Old Garage site, Bridge Street : EN/05/01350/1/TPO : Consent given : Noted**

**Lagoon Pond : Industrial Estate Wansford Road : EN/05/01216/FUL : Granted : Noted**

**Replacement window : 9 West Street : EN/05/1221/LBC : Granted : Noted**

#### **05/086 Youth Club funding**

It was agreed to continue to fund the rental for the Resource Centre for the Youth Club for a further six months when it will be reviewed again. The Chairman has suggested to Youth Worker Nikki Allen that it would be prudent to apply for the various grants available to fund this venture in the long term.

#### **05/087 Wood Lane seat**

The Chairman reported that the new seat had arrived but needed to be assembled and secured which will cost in the region of £100. This was approved.

#### **PC Mark Hillyer-Smith joined the meeting at this point**

The Chairman welcomed him and invited him to speak to the Council. He reported that crime figures for April to September 2005 were down by 15% i.e. down by 5 criminal acts on the previous 6 months. The particularly nasty burglary in Wood Lane was discussed at length.

There have been a spate of garage thefts in Easton-on-the-Hill, 3 garages broken into and 2 vehicles stolen in one night and residents should be warned to be aware of this, Kings Cliffe could be the next target. The thieves appear to have been on foot.

PC Hillyer-Smith discussed the proposed amalgamation of forces. Nothing has been decided at present but the two options appear to be that Northamptonshire will be amalgamated with either Leicestershire and Lincolnshire or Nottinghamshire, and Derbyshire. In the future no force will

have less than 4,000 officers. The object is to cut down administration costs, but officers and the style of policing will undoubtedly change. There may also be PCSO's to ease the load of fully qualified officers. It is a case of wait and see what is decided.

Councillor B. Howard raised the point of distraction burglaries; PC Hillyer-Smith said he would like to be able to send warning flyers to all residents aged over 70, but due to the Freedom of Information Act, he could not officially obtain names and addresses to do this. Addresses could be provided by the Clerk – but she has no record of the age of parishioners.

The Youth Club was discussed and it was suggested that they should apply to the Community Safety Fund for monies. The Club is proving to be a very worthwhile project.

Councillor B. Howard again complained about poachers. The police do patrol the area but due to Police policy, at week-ends they is expected to be available to patrol the towns where there are problems; poachers are not considered as high priority.

Diesel thefts have increased locally, the culprits travel in vehicles with tanks in the back; the culprits are known to the police, but as yet they have not found the proof to convict them.

The Chairman thanked PC Hillyer Smith for his time and continued the meeting.

#### **05/088 Wood Road : Traffic calming and speed check report**

NCC had carried out speed checks on Wood Road and Bridge Street during the last month. There was little evidence of speeding, although the checkpoint in Bridge Street (opposite the old garage site) was considered to have been a pointless exercise, as it is almost impossible to break the speed limit at that point and the Clerks has asked for a re-run closer to the 30 sign.

The Clerk and Chairman will complete the application for traffic calming measures; it was felt that the flashing signs are very effective, but these are normally only considered by NCC for accident black spots. The example of Collyweston was raised but this is a truck road and therefore rated as more important. Unfortunately the lack of evidence of high speeds will lower the likelihood of any action being taken.

#### **05/089 Annual Audit**

The Audit papers have been checked by Stephenson Smart & Sons of Peterborough and it was agreed these would be signed and sent to the auditor.

Proposed : Councillor B. Howard

Seconded : Councillor J. Dixon

#### **05/090 Green Waste Collection**

MP Phil Hope has circulated a petition for the resumption of Green Waste collection and there is a copy in the Post Office and the Club. The Chairman reported that this was discussed at length at a meeting of District and Parish Chairmen recently but the facts are that if it is re-instated it will be capped therefore dustbin collections would be fortnightly instead of weekly with green waste being collected on the second week. It would be interesting to know just how many residents actually used the Green Waste service. EU rules cause a problem, all green waste has to be composted and no one wants to buy the resulting compost. It was suggested there might be someone locally who would be prepared to collect the waste for a small fee and compost it. A list of reasonably priced composters available from NCC will be printed in the Gazette.

### **05/091 Memorial Hall : Trustee nomination and lane repairs**

Mr. Court has asked the Council to approve the nomination of Mrs. Margaret Knights as a Trustee for the Hall. This was agreed unanimously. There will be various repairs to Church Walk outside the Resource Centre which may result in the lanes being temporarily closed.

### **05/092 Sub-Committee Reports**

**Burial Board :** Nothing to report

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

Councillor B. Wright reported that there had been a meeting and it is felt there is no need for another meeting until Spring 2006 – but more enthusiasm is needed from parishioners. She will provide a list of area co-ordinators. A further warning was issued regarding distraction burglaries; everyone must be on their guard against these crimes. The matter of asking the Housing Associations for door bolts was raised.

### **05/093 Other Correspondence Received**

Various correspondences were noted or circulated.

### **05/094 Any Other Business**

Councillor B. Wyles complained about the overgrown path to the right of the Horsewater in Hall Yard.

The Chairman instructed the Council that under the Freedom of Information Act, if any members are given a request for PC information in writing or by e-mail, they must give it to the Clerk and not respond to it personally. The Clerk must reply to this within 20 days of receipt.

The Chairman reported the business of the Hills and Holes Pit would be raised again at the next meeting as a parishioner had made an offer to buy the land. The same gentleman had also enquired about renting the Pitchell.

The meeting of Chairmen : The Chairman reported that ENC Planning have deemed that Kings Cliffe will be allowed to build 10 new houses per annum. The application for the proposed new houses behind Wood Road is progressing but the Planning Department at ENC are very busy. For information, the new Chief Executive at ENC is Mr. David Oliver.

Councillor D. Sharpe reported that the website design is complete, there is no timescale for completion but it is progressing.

Councillor N. Ford reported that lorries from the Industrial Estate on the Wansford Road are causing a great deal of mud on the road and that the vehicles are disregarding the planning section which states that vehicles for the estate should only enter and leave the site via Wansford and should not come into Kings Cliffe. A letter will be sent to Apex.

Councillor B. Howard again complained that the pipe barrier at the bottom of Wansford Hill has not been repaired despite numerous requests. Also, local signs are in need of cleaning, this will be requested.

The ENC collection charge for bulky items is £17.90 for 7 items The telephone number for this service is 01832 742043.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15.pm. The next meeting will be on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2005