

## KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Kings Cliffe Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

**07/072 Present :** Chairman A.Howard, Councillors M. Day, L. Crane, B. Wyles, P. Lang Norris, J. Dixon, B. Wright, B.Howard, N. Ford and C.Williams

**07/073 Apologies for Absence :** Councillor K.Howard

**07/074 Declarations of Interest :** Councillors M. Day and Councillors P. Lang Norris Agenda item 9

By prior arrangement, Mr. David Hellard addressed the Council as Trustees representative to update them on the progress of the Sports Project (KC&ACSP):-

It is a long time since early 'twinkle in the eye' in late 2004. Despite large scale public consultation in 05, 06 & 07 and regular updates in Gazette it is hard to keep pace and close contact. The Trustees who met on Sept 6<sup>th</sup> thought an update for KCPC would be useful. So I am here.

We all know that Planning Permission was gained in the name of KCPC early in 2006 and funds pledged during the next year of some £750K, which led to the land purchase, in mid-2007 now in beneficial ownership of KCPC. All the time the Trustees have a) been working up designs and b) seeking to raise funds to support the actual development of the Project. No mean task.

The project was always planned in phases – matching the availability of funds. The current state of play is that we have sufficient funds, after all professional fees and land purchase costs are met, to secure a usable public space with key initial facilities for the community – 2 full size football pitches, basic changing rooms, a 2 acre + Young People's Recreation area with bike, skate board, foot ball, basket ball and other facilities in a fully serviced and secured site, with proper access and properly landscaped and planted. This might be termed Phase I of the development proper. Incidentally, it provides resources to cover maintenance, insurance, security, health and safety etc.

Subject to achieving the planned 50 year lease from KCPC to KC&ACSP – the Trustees unanimously agreed all the KCPC stipulations, and will indeed welcome your chosen Observer when appointed at future meetings – we have agreed final designs and are out to tender for the necessary works for action by the end of the year or early next. The next trustees' meeting is planned later in the year to see the final designs and timetable for works.

Recently, urgent action had to be taken on one of the major planning conditions – relating to wildlife. This meant that work had to be done before October to safeguard reptiles before hibernation and provide improved habitat. Otherwise the Project would have been delayed a full year. I met on site with the Pocket Park Warden, who was in favour of enhancements, especially in the pocket park. All costs are being borne by Trustees.

One last bit of exciting news – we have been short listed for People's Millions – in relation to our planned Young Peoples Recreation Area – Ourspace – led by Sheila Grout and in close association with Claire Ogden Deputy Head in charge of Middle School in Kings Cliffe. This should provide long needed facilities and perhaps help redress problems which have been reported with youngsters around the village. It will also create valuable publicity to encourage future fund raising. It will require formal Parish Council notes of authorisation in due course.

I hope that brings you up to date. I will answer any questions you may have.

Councillor B. Howard : Regarding security; why was no caretaker's house planned?

D..Hellard: The conditions of the land purchase state there will be no residential building on this site, for obvious reasons. Although the site will initially be open, in time access will be limited to daylight hours only. In conjunction with Police advice, it is thought the best security will be that the youngsters will consider it is their space and vandalism is unlikely. It will be designed with rising

bollards and other safety measures to stop joy-riding etc. The village must start somewhere, an area for youngsters was first raised after World War II and it has taken 60 years to get to this stage!

Councillor J Dixon: Who will organise grass cutting and ground keeping.?

D.Hellard : This will all be undertaken by KC&ACSP. Eventually the various clubs will fund their own facilities.

Chairman A. Howard : When will the work actually start?

D. Hellard : Towards the end of this year the earthworks will start and will be seeded for use in 2008.

The Chairman thanks Mr. Hellard for his very helpful update.

### **07/075 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2007 : Approved**

Proposed : Councillor M.Day

Seconded : Councillor A.Howard

### **07/076 Matters arising**

A letter will be sent to the owner of the land on Stamford Road where the hedge is badly impairing driving vision when approaching Westhay Lodge. ENC will be asked to trim the hedge below the Bottle Banks, which is impinging on the pavement.

### **07/077 Clerks Report**

Mrs. Barke reported that she had a bad fall, damaging her spine, over the stile at the far end of the allotments as a slip rail at the top had been dislodged and gave way when she climbed over. I have reported this to the Footpaths manager at NCC but have had no reply. This will be followed up.

The PC has received many comments on the condition of the War Memorial on Wansford Road, but Councillor B. Howard assures me that the repairs are in hand.

There will be a meeting of the Local Liaison Group on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 2.pm. at the Resource Centre. The Chairman hopes to attend along with the Clerk.

The Pocket Parks lady, Ruth Douglas, has offered us free bird boxes; the offer has been accepted. When we get them we can decide where they should be placed.

The caravan and goat on land adjacent to Kirks Lodge. This has been reported to the Enforcement Officer as an eyesore but they can do nothing about it as the owner says he is starting a goat farm. Although neglected by the owner, the RSPCA can do nothing about the goat as a parishioner has taken pity on it and cares for it.

The repointing of several Listed Buildings in the village in the wrong cement mix has also been reported to the Enforcement Officer and they are to inspect and advise the contractors accordingly.

All the lights in Eagle Lane have been replaced and repaired.

The Traffic Commissioner has written to say the application for a Goods Licence at Leeds Gate Farm, Wansford has been withdrawn.

A group of men were seen going into the Bomb Dump a couple of weeks ago; this was reported to the Police who attended, but everyone must still be on "Rave" watch at all times.

NCC have trimmed the brambles back in Wood Lane, but in the opinion of many, not far enough. Councillor M. Day will cut these back more thoroughly in the near future.

### **07/078 Accounts Payable**

Curators Salary (current month)	£ 140.00
Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 200.00
Smith Hetherington – grass cutting	£ 196.00
ABB Ltd : Maintenance :1/4 to September	£ 354.97



### **07/083 ENC : Improving Communications with Parish Councils : Meeting report**

Councillor M. Day attended the meeting at Duddington and reported it was most constructive . District Councillor R. Glithero will be asked to speak to the Council at the next meeting about this and other issues.

### **07/084 Memorial Hall : New representative to replace Mrs. Knights (retiring)**

Councillor P. Lang Norris has volunteered to be the PC Trustee for the Memorial Hall.

### **07/085 Burial Board**

Minutes of a meeting of the Burial Board held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2007

Present :- Councillors M. Day, N. Ford, C. Williams and L. Crane. Apologies : Councillor B. Wyles

Nominations for Chairman were requested

Councillor Ford proposed Councillor Day; this was seconded by Councillor Williams.

The Chairman will ask the Clerk to write to the P.C.C. to enquire if they would like to nominate one of their members to the Burial Board.

A memorial application for the Munford family was approved

CEMETERY : The Chairman will ask the Clerk for an update on the cemetery extension.

It is noted that the "Howard Bench" is missing from the cemetery; this has been taken away for repairs.

The Burial Board would like to suggest to the full Council that for a limited period of time the gates to the cemetery are left unlocked to allow disabled access.

The Curator will be asked to give a quotation for fully pollarding the lime trees in the avenue. He will also be asked to spray all gravelled areas with weed killer which will be paid for by the Parish Council.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45.pm. The next meeting to be arranged for November 2007.

Copies of these minutes were given to Councillors and discussed as below:-

With regard to the PCC representative, a letter will be sent to Mr. J. Barratt who was formerly on the Burial Board committee asking if he is still willing to represent them.

Visitors wishing to drive into the cemetery are advised to call the Clerk on 01780470799 to ensure the gates are unlocked

Quotations will be sought to completely pollard the lime trees during the winter. The existing boundary hedge will not be removed when the new land is acquired, but will be gradually trimmed back to a manageable size.

### **07/086 Neighbourhood Watch**

Councillor P.Lang Norris attended a meeting in Oundle which she found very interesting. However only four other parishes out of 35 had sent representatives. The Police assured her that Kings Cliffe is receiving additional policing following recent crimes in the area. CSPC Paul Webster is spending considerable time in the village. She has asked for a regular police presence in Wood Road to explain the dangers to children who use the road as a playground after school in the afternoons.

Councillor B. Wright will liaise with Councillor Lang Norris regarding NW. NALC will be asked for advice on the position of councillors within NW.

**07/087 Other Correspondence Received :** Various correspondences were circulated or discussed.

**07/088 Any Other Business**

The Chairman has a helpful meeting with Mike Kings of the Rural Pathfinder Project.

Councillor B Wyles asked if ENC or NCC could be approached regarding the removal of graffiti in the village.

Councillor L. Crane reported that the residents at Huskissons Lodge had asked if it was possible for the 30 mph signs could be moved to the bottom of Wansford Hill. Apparently this was discussed at the NW meeting in Oundle, so this will be followed up with an additional request that the Blatherwycke Road sign is also moved.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20.pm. The next meeting will be on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2007.