

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday 12th June 2008 at 7.30.pm. at the Parlour, King's Cliffe Memorial Hall.

08/020 Present : Chairman A. Howard, Councillors L. Crane, C. Williams, B. Howard, , J. Dixon, B. Wyles and N. Ford

08/021 Apologies for Absence : Councillors, P. Lang-Norris, K. Howard, and M. Day

08/022 Declarations of Interest : To be declared prior to item 15:- Vacancy for Parish Councillor

08/023 Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th May 2008 : Approved

Proposed : Councillor N. Ford Seconded : Councillor L. Crane

08/024 Matters Arising : None

08/025 Clerks Report

The bridge closure has caused a few problems, because SATNAV's don't know about road closures, but it is very necessary work and is now completed.

A letter has been sent to ENC complaining about the speed with which the Kingsmead planning application was passed; it was pointed out that many applications in the village have been on-going for months, if not years and that our objections were not addressed. A copy was sent to Councillor Glithero. It was agreed this is not acceptable to the Council.

The resident of 9 Walkers Field has asked if she can use to land to the rear of her garden as an allotment; two other residents of Walkers Field have allotments. The Chairman will contact the lady.

Two letters and several telephone complaints regarding the poor state of the cemetery have been received and this matter has hopefully been resolved. The cost of one or two wheelie bins for depositing old flowers and wreaths will be put to the next meeting.

An accident at the bottom of School Hill (Bridge Street) on Saturday last could have been far more serious. As it was, two cars appear to have been written off and one person received minor injuries.. It is hoped this will be a wake-up call to those who exceed the speed limit in the village.

A complaint regarding the Willow Walk has been sent to ENC and the e-mailed reply said it is unlikely this mess will be resolved until the new units are built. This is not satisfactory; there have been numerous complaints but I have no idea where to go next on this matter.

Problems with an illegally parked motor-home in Kings Forest were resolved once the Police took the complaint seriously; this was dealt with very efficiently by PCSO Paul Webster.

The abandoned car at the top of Wansford Hill was also dealt with by the Police, but took slightly longer.

08/026 Accounts Payable : Approved

Curators Salary (current month)	£ 140.00
Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 200.00
Robert J. Goodson, commercial combined insurance	£ 651.22
Smith Hetherington, grass cutting	£ 205.00
ABB Ltd : Contract charge to June 08	£ 358.99

Proposed : Councillor J. Dixon

Seconded : Councillor N. Ford

08/027 Planning

Applications

99 Wood Road : Two and single storey extension : EN/08/01003/FUL : No objection

BT – proposal to remove payphone in Apethorpe : EN/08/00635/QRV : No comment

72 Park Street : Side extension, detached garage & ass. works : EN/09/00879/FUL

Objection and comments remain the same as made in February 2008 to original plans:-
Whilst having no objections to the extension, the Council would insist this should be roofed, at least to the road frontage, in original Collyweston to match the other houses in this terrace. It is considered the garage should be refused on the grounds that this is total overdevelopment of the site. It should also be noted that the next door resident of 70 Park Street was enforced to remove a garden shed from his front garden.

Rear of 54 West Street : Detached garage & ass. works : EN/08/01051/FUL : No objection

Granted by ENC : Noted

3 Church Walk : First Floor extension : EN/08/00673/FUL

Adj. 66 West Street : Detached dwelling : EN/08/01892/FUL

08/028 Purchase of Cemetery Land : Update

The position appears to be that both sets of solicitors are chasing one another. A nudge will be given from both parties.

08/029 Kings Cliffe Website

A domain name was purchased several years ago and work was started on a Parish Council web-site by a former Councillor. It was investigated if this could be brought up to date and made available.

The Chairman said there were two options, the first being to use the existing domain name, with the former councillor and the originator being the administrators.

The second option was to register a new domain name, ourselves and the Clerk to manage the process of putting information onto the site. The Resource Centre suggested contacting Russell Brown who has been very helpful and offered to host the site free of charge through his business, as he already does for the Resource Centre. A suitable domain name has been secured. The Clerk is happy to be the administrator of the site with help from Russell who has offered to push her in the right direction.

The Council decided unanimously that the second option was the best way forward. It was agreed that a thank you letter will be sent to the current host.

08/030 KCEA & KC Community & Area Sports Project :update

Work is underway on the site, hence the brief electricity failure on last week. The Chairman reported that all was progressing apace, the only issue being the state of the Willow Walk where the added fencing and underpass have been constructed, making the Willow Walk inaccessible.. This was discussed in the Clerks Report above.

08/031 Apethorpe Footpath : update

Additional work has been carried out at the Apethorpe end of this project; the Chairman is still concerned that the promised tarmac path from Kirks Lodge to the Second Drift is still outstanding as a grant was obtained for this work; however County Councillor Smith has been informed this will be completed in July/August.

08/032 Highways Issues

Overgrown verges seem to be the main issue at present. The grass is cut four times each summer free of charge, however it is noted that at some road junctions, the long grass is a hazard to road visibility. The Clerk will ask for a further cut as soon as possible; Mr. Smith will be asked for a quotation to cut some of the areas in the village which are overgrown if NCC cannot do the work. The Council will do that is possible within its' limited power and means to persuade the County Council to keep our village tidy and we are sure all residents will support and help wherever possible with this.

08/033 Gazette Entry for July

Suggestions for this were made and agreed.

08/034 Vacancy for Parish Councillor

There were two candidates for the vacancy. The Chairman said several Councillors, including himself must declare an interest and could not vote in a ballot for this position. It was generally agreed that this issue must be resolved at this meeting as we have operating with only ten councillors since February. Interests were declared and the remaining councillors completed voting slips. The Clerk declared that Veronica Mary Wharton will be invited to join the Council.

08/035 Burial Board

A proposed replacement memorial was approved.

08/036 Neighbourhood Watch

At this point, PCSO Paul Webster joined the meeting. He reported that had been 12 hours of

PCSO Foot Patrols during the last month and several patrol cars in the area. He had spoken to the youths were playing football at a dangerous junction in the village.

The Chairman asked what, if anything, could be done about the numbers of very young children on bikes in the village, who obviously had no knowledge of any safety codes; it was agreed that everyone in the room had had close calls with youngsters, especially riding onto the 'main' thoroughfares from side road. Paul said they will be giving talks in the schools; this will also be mentioned in our Gazette entry.

He also warned that several cars had been stolen and/or broken into when parked at beauty spots and the passengers had gone for long walks. Do not leave anything of value on view in a car left in an isolated place. He asked that any suspicious vehicles must be reported, preferably with a registration number. This can be done anonymously to the Helpdesk on 08453700700 and the validity of the vehicle checked immediately.

Scrap dealers are in local village asking for any scrap metal. He advised that no-one should deal with them and if worried should again contact the Helpdesk, again with registration numbers.

Speeding traffic on the entrances to the village was again mentioned. Paul said he would arrange for more speed checks to take place. The request for more flashing "30mph" signs will be made to Highways, who provide this for short periods. It was agreed that the temporary one in Park Street had made motorist aware of their speed.

08/037 Other Correspondence Received : Various correspondences were discussed or circulated

08/038 Any Other Business

The Chairman explained that the Environment Agency had been in touch regarding an application from Augean which will be made during the summer. This will be aimed at regularising the current permit and should be discussed at either our July or August meeting which will be an open meeting – more news on this when we learn more about it. He suggested we should call an open meeting in August, within the usual monthly meeting and address any concerns. KC WasteWatchers will be made aware of this.

Councillor B. Howard raised many highways issues which will be dealt with as necessary.

Councillor B. Wyles was welcomed back after a period of absence, due to illness for some time. He also raised several issues, including dangerous overhanging branches in the Hornstocks and tall grass at road junctions which will be investigated.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15.pm. The next meeting will be held on 10th July, the venue will be either the Parlour or the Memorial Hall.