

# KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council took place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at 7.30.pm. in the Parlour at Memorial Hall.

**11/142 Present :** Vice-Chairman M. Day, Councillors G. Caddick, L. Crane, G. Kingston, C. Leuchars, R. Meadows, C. Williams, N. Ford, R. Brown and J. Atkinson.

**11/143 Apologies for Absence :** Chairman A. Howard.

**11/144 Declarations of Interest:** None

**11/145 Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2011 :** Approved

Proposed : Councillor Ford                      Seconded : Councillor Kingston

Councillors Day, chairing the meeting suggested that the agenda should be altered to have the Clerks report before Matters Arising, as many of these would be addressed in her report. This was agreed

## **11/146 Clerks report**

Rubbish outside the village shopper : the fact that this matter appeared in the November minutes and in the Stamford Mercury has unfortunately upset both Underground and the Memorial Hall committee. I have spoken with Joe Bailey at ENC again and he is hopefully pouring oil on troubled waters.

Recycling bins at Kingsmead : these have not been emptied for week, despite my requests to ENC; however ENC Waste Management have informed me they will be emptied this week, and have ordered two more large wheelie bins for this area; the amount of rubbish dumped there was not anticipated by them, or indeed by us, once wheelie bins came into household use.

An e-mail this afternoon from David Hellard giving an update on the Sports Project; I have forwarded a copy to everyone; this will be an agenda item in January.

Following a report of a small dog at Westhay causing chaos on the Stamford Road, Councillor Meadows very kindly had a quiet word with the owner and hopefully the problem has been resolved.

## **11/147 Matters arising :** None

Councillor Atkinson, despite reading the Pathfinder Project report which was forwarded to everyone, thinks that we should have a Parish Plan, She will investigate this for the Council; Councillor Leuchars agreed to look into it with her. She feels we need to decide whether we want more building in the village; with no plan in place, we would have to accept further development with no evidence to oppose this. This had been discussed at the Infrastructure Meeting at Thrapston.

Councillor Leuchars raised doubts as to whether a Parish Plan would offer any protection against over-development in the village. This will be an item on the next agenda.

With reference to monies received by ENC for each new house; funds at ENC are very limited. The PC will have to apply for these funds with a specific project in mind. This money is not paid to the PC gratuitously.

## **11/148 Accounts payable :** approved

Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 240.00
Richard Brown : Cemetery & Churchyard	£ 320.00
HMRC : Clerks PAYE	£ 60.00
ENC : Contested Election Charges 5 May 2011	£ 1,049.77

Mrs. Blunt – in lieu of cash to RBL for poppy wreath	£	30.00
Bruce Marks : Vermin control in cemetery	£	120.00
E-on : Lighting service maintenance ¼ to December	£	314.88
ACRE : Annual subscription	£	34.00

Proposed : Councillor Ford

Seconded : Councillor Kingston

### **11/149 Financial Position**

Bank balances:- Current account £ 9,068.23; Deposit account £6 ,134.19, Bequest account; £ 7,023.46.

### **11/150 Planning**

#### **Applications**

**13 Bridge Street : 4 bed dwelling with integral garage : EN/11/01876/FUL**

**13 Bridge Street : As above, Conservation Area consent required : EN/11/01932/CAC**

These applications was discussed at great length, together with the CAC application. The following comments will be sent to ENC objecting to this proposal:-

Several Councillors objected strongly to this application. The general opinion was that the proposed house is far too high and too large for the site; 13 Bridge Street (Tudor House) is allegedly the oldest house in King's Cliffe and if allowed, this house would completely dwarf this beautiful old building. The Parish Council recommend refusal of this application.

**13 Bridge Street : Removal of existing stone wall to form access : EN/11/01883/LBC**

The Parish Council felt that the part removal of this stone wall would alter the street scene in Bridge Street in an unacceptable manner and recommend this application be refused

**Sovereign Grange : Proposed Lighting Plan : EN/11/01719/CND**

The lighting plan was accepted in principal, but the Clerk will ask for illustrations of the lamp standards to be used; it must be agreed that these lights will be energy saving and low maintenance LED lights and that they will be fitted with solar regulators to ensure they are only on during the hours of darkness.

**Hall Farm : Erection of barns : EN/11/01346/PNA : Permission not required**

The Clerk had in error, omitted this planning item from the September agenda and it was raised under AOB at the last meeting. The Chairman contacted Sue Scott, Enforcement Officer at ENC asking for an inspection of these barns. Sue Scott has notified the Council that she is satisfied that no regulations will be violated.

**Granted by ENC : 23 Park Street : Two Storey side and rear extensions : EN/11/01359/FUL**

Councillors raised a query regarding the apparent withdrawal of this application, reported at the last meeting and the subsequent approval with no notification to the PC. The Clerk will investigate this with the Planning Officer.

### **11/151 Precept Request 2011/2013**

This will be decided at the January meeting, after the Chairman has prepared at budget forecast for 2012/13.

**11/152 Report from Councillors attending ENC Infrastructure meeting : 29.11.11.**

Councillors Kingston, Leuchars and Atkinson attended the above meeting at Thrapston. They all agreed it had been an interesting meeting, but was directed more towards the towns in the area.

Some of their comments are reported under “Matters Arising” above. The Vice-Chairman thanked the Councillors for attending the meeting.

### **11/153 Traffic Calming & crossing : Wood Road : update**

The traffic calming measures will consist of two chicanes only; there will be no crossing between Willow Lane and Forest Approach. We are assured the chicanes will be constructed within the time constraints set out in the 106 Agreement.

### **11/154 Willow Lane : hedge removal**

The Clerk has contacted George Russell, Enforcement Officer and the Tree Officer Tamsin Dennis at ENC. We are assured a hedge will be replanted with indigenous hedging and the width of Willow Lane will be unaffected. The Clerk has also contacted Persimmon Homes and asked for a regular litter pick of builders rubbish in the lane; the amount of litter from the site is not acceptable.

### **11/155 PPC : King's Cliffe Surgery : update**

A letter has been sent to the Surgery, stating that although we are unable to offer any financial help towards a new surgery, we are willing to discuss any proposals with the Doctors.

### **11/156 Augean : Letter to Louise Mensch M.P.**

A letter has been sent to Ms. Mensch; to date, no reply has been received.

### **11/157 KC1 : 106 Agreement : Response from ENC**

The plans for the Play Area are on the ENC web-site, but the Clerk will request a large copy of the agreed plans for the equipment to be supplied and fitted by the developers. ENC will ensure that all the time limits on the agreement are adhered to.

### **11/158 Willow Walk : report on meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December**

At the request of Brian Laney of the Local Amphibian and Reptile Group, who had offered to carry out some much needed work in Willow Walk, free of charge, a meeting was arranged for Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December with Rose Little, NCC Pocket Parks Coordinator, Alan Smith, Wildlife Trust and attended by Councillors Crane, Williams and Caddick. This proved to be a very productive meeting and Brian has offered to work to clear some self-seeded trees etc., to provide a better habitat for fauna and flora. This has been gratefully accepted by both the PC and NCC PP. However, Councillors queried whether the group would be covered by insurance to carry out this work with chain saws. The Clerk will check with NCC and our Employers Liability insurance providers that cover will be in place.

### **11/159 Gazette entry for January 2012 : Discussed and agreed**

### **11/160 Burial Board**

SWEET has been contacted regarding applying for a grant to finish the works in the cemetery. The necessary forms have been received, and quotes will be requested for the works, three are needed for the second path, the edging of the burial areas and we already have the quotes for the hedge and tree planting. SWEET has confirmed that we will be able to use money from the bequest account for the 10% third party contribution, as this is not precept money. Once quotes are received the forms will be sent to KCEA to be discussed at their January meeting.

Report on Work Party for Church Yard on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November : Burial Board Chairman Laura Crane said this had been very successful, despite lack of volunteers! The ivy had been removed from the churchyard wall and carted away.

Councillor Crane and the Clerk, with help from Harvey Blunt, will measure the cemetery extension in detail, to enable a database to be drawn up for grave and cremation spaces.

**11/161 Police : Monthly Crime Statistics :** These are e-mailed to all Councillors; there are still concerns regarding scrap dealers touting their business in the village. Once again, the Council would suggest any worries are related to the Police on 03000 111 222.

**11/162 Other Correspondence Received :** As most bulk correspondence is now e-mailed to the Clerk this is circulated to all Councillors, as is other important correspondence. Any hard copy is circulated at the meeting.

**11/163 Any Other Business**

Councillor Atkinson reported the concerns of residents living adjacent to the Sovereign Grange site. The Clerk was aware of this and had asked the contractors to abide by the ENC Constructor guidelines, but this apparently has been ignored.

The same Councillor was also concerned about the length of time the lighting at the Sports Area is on in the evening; she feels this is causing light pollution. However, Councillor Day said that the MUGA was in use most evenings and lights were turned off as soon as possible after use.

Councillor Ford and others referred to the excessive mud on the Wood Road from the Sovereign Grange site which is an increasing problem; all parties will be contacted again to try to resolve this on-going problem. A letter had been received from Mr. Bob Wyles re this problem. The Clerk would ask, please, that residents do not call her, she is well aware of the problems.

Councillor Meadows asked if footpaths could please be included in the next agenda.

Vice-Chairman Day wished all Councillors a Happy Christmas and New Year.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.pm. The next meeting will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2012 in the Parlour at 7.30.pm.