

Allington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall
Wednesday 14 November 2007

Present: Councillor Taylor Councillor Bosworth
 Councillor Hubbard Councillor McKinlay
 Councillor Cant Councillor Jackson
 Sharon Milne (clerk)

Also present: 10+ parishioners

1. Chairman's remarks

1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked those present for attending. Villagers spoke on the following during the public forum:

- a) Mr David Bailey, Mrs Sharon Connors and Mrs Pandora Mawer gave a short address to the Council outlining why they believed they would be suitable candidates for co-option (re: agenda item 6)
- b) Mr Jamie Millar gave a presentation about the proposed wind farm at Thackson's Well Farm (re: agenda item 10b)
- c) Mrs Tanner thanked the Parish Council for providing funding to purchase the recently installed doors for the village hall.
- d) Villagers complained regarding the disturbance that was caused by Arena UK's tannoy during a recent event and about the amount of horse related traffic that uses the village roads
- e) A villager complained about the amount of light pollution emitted from Roseland Industrial Park.

1.2 The clerk would write to Arena UK regarding the noise from their tannoy and the amount of their visitors' traffic travelling through the village. **(Action point: clerk)**

1.4 District Councillor Kaberry-Brown would enquire with SKDC officials regarding information on light pollution generally.

2. Apologies

2.1 County Councillor Farrar sent his apologies.

3. Declarations of Interest

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12 September 2007

4.1 The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5 Matters Arising

5.1 There were no specific matters arising.

6 Co-option of a new Councillor

6.1 The public forum at the beginning of the meeting heard from three prospective co-option candidates. It was proposed to by Cllr Bosworth and seconded by Cllr McKinlay that the meeting go into closed session to vote on the candidates.

6.2 Following the vote it was resolved that Sharon Connors be invited to be co-opted onto the Council, this was proposed by Cllr Cant and seconded by Cllr McKinlay.

7 Correspondence received since the meeting held on 12 September 2007

7.1 The clerk reported on some of the correspondence received and sent:

- a) Letter and responses from Douglas Hogg re: windfarm and Post Office closures
- b) Email correspondence from clerk at Sedgebrook re: contributing to a speed sign. Are we interested?
- c) Letter from South Lincs Blind Society asking to be considered for a donation
- d) Letter from GIFTS asking to be considered for a donation
- e) Letter from SKDC would we like free sandbags?
- f) Education for Councillors 'New Code of Conduct' Monday 26 November 7.00 - 8.30pm Marston Village Hall
- g) Letter from clerk and response re: affordable housing allocation of tenants
- h) Letter re: new collection day for village bins
- i) Letter re: Peach Lane footpath cancelled
- j) Notice of Level Crossing road closure 27 - 28/11/07
- k) Letter re: replacement of footbridge over Foston Beck
- l) Map showing salting routes from LCC
- m) Foston Parish Plan

This and all other correspondence will be circulated to Councillors in the box as usual.

8 Post Office closures

8.1 It is proposed that Allington Post Office, which currently operates out of the village shop, becomes an outreach service 3 times a week in the village hall.

8.2 The Parish Council discussed the matter and concluded that although any reduction in service is regrettable the return from the Post Office in the shop is poor. The Parish Council therefore decided that it will not challenge the decision for the Post Office within the shop to close in favour of an outreach service in the village hall. The main concern however is whether this outreach service is sustainable in the longer term.

9 Playing Field matters

- 9.1** There was no report from the Playing Field committee. Although the playing field committee and fund raising sub-committee have been busy with 'Lark in the Park' and Bonfire night a feedback meeting had not yet occurred. Cllr McKinlay will give a full report and update at the next Parish Council meeting.
- 9.2** The Playing Field committee were reminded that any work at the Playing Field which incurs expenditure, be it maintenance or otherwise, MUST be brought to the attention of, and agreed by the Parish Council, before work commences.
- 9.3** A Secretary is still needed for the Playing Field Committee anyone wishing to undertake this role should contact a member of the Committee.

10 Highway matters

- 10.1** The clerk confirmed that the survey, presented to the Parish Council at its last meeting, which had been undertaken by Allington Garden residents regarding the proposed footpath in Peach Lane had been sent to Lincolnshire County Council's Highways Division. Highways are satisfied that the survey shows that the majority of residents are not in favour of a footpath and accordingly the work has been cancelled.

11 Proposed Windfarm at Thackson's Well Farm

- 11.1** The Parish Council discussed the matter of the proposed windfarm at length. A member of BLOT ("Belvoir Locals Opposing Turbines"), as well other villagers, spoke to the Council outlining their concerns during the public forum. The concerns were wide ranging including the windfarms appearance, the possible effect on villagers' health caused by the noise and the flicker and strobe effect of sunlight on the blades. Many people are concerned about the impact on house prices in the village and, of course, the wider ecological impact.
- 11.2** It was proposed by Cllr Jackson and seconded by Cllr Cant that the meeting go into closed session to vote whether the Parish Council supports the development of a windfarm on this site. There was a vote and it was resolved, by a majority, that the Parish Council would support BLOT in its campaign to stop this windfarm being developed on this site. When the formal planning application is received the Parish Council will make its comments and representation to SKDC accordingly.

12 Planning matters

- 12.1** Applications received and determined since the last Parish council meeting on 12 September 07:
- Approval – Change of use from agricultural to garden, 16-26 Park Road
 - Application and refusal – Extension to garage, Darrington House, Lambert Road
 - Application (and amendments) – Plot 4, Berts Way
 - Application - Old Manor House, increase duration of wedding ceremonies
 - Application – Demolition of dwelling and erection of house, The Nurseries

- Application – Single storey extension, Wellington House, Bottom Street

12.2 The Parish Council will not make representation to SKDC regarding the proposed increase in the duration of wedding ceremonies at the Old Manor House; however, there is still an issue with regard to car parking on wedding days. The Parish Council requests a site meeting with SKDC officials to ensure that the ongoing problem of inconsiderate parking is overcome. **(Action point: clerk)**

12.3 The new Community Shelter for The Green will be installed on 16 November.

13 Financial matters

13.1 The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 12 September 07:

Income

- Bank interest - £64.03
- Caretaker's grant - £290
- Inland revenue credit - £407.37

Total £ 761.40

Expenditure

- Electric at Playing field - £4.33
- Election costs - £31
- Wicksteed climbing frame repairs - £200
- Pavilion repairs - £270
- Funeral flowers - £20
- Plumbing repairs to toilets at field - £541.44
- Hempsteads grass cutting season - £1797.75
- Village Hall grant - £3000

Total £ 5864.52

Plus Caretaker's salary

13.2 Councillors unanimously approved the payments retrospectively.

13.3 The clerk presented the preliminary version of the budget 2008/09. After discussion it was decided unanimously to request a precept of £15,000. The budget figures need not be finalised until after the next meeting so any further thoughts regarding the amount requested can be discussed at the January meeting.

14 Any other business

14.1 After discussion it was agreed that notices could be placed on the railings at the village cross contrary to what was stated at the last meeting.

15 Date of next meeting

15.1 The next meeting will be on Wednesday 9 January 08 at 7.30pm.

Signed: ----- (Chairman). Date: -----