

Allington Parish Council

Notes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall
Wednesday 9 September 2009

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

Also present: 12+ villagers

1. Chairman's remarks

1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked those present for attending. Prior to the formal Parish Council meeting there was a public session for the Parish Council and villagers to hear information from East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) and from LIVES / First responders, about what emergency aid initiatives Allington may wish to consider along side the Belvoir Heatbeat initiative discussed at previous meetings.

- a) Andy Moss (Service Delivery Manager), Phil Abbis (Community Defibrillator officer) spoke representing EMAS and Neil Chadwick spoke representing LIVES. All gave information about the LIVES and First responder schemes. The following points were made.
- b) All speakers emphasised that any initiative taken by the village would not replace the 999 emergency services, it would support it.
- c) First Responders volunteers are alerted by the ambulance service to attend patients when a 999 call is received. A First responder would attend in the case of:
 - Cardiac arrest
 - An unconscious patient
 - Convulsion and fitting
 - Chest pain
 - Diabetes
 - Asthma and breathing difficulties
 - Anaphylaxis attack and severe allergic reactions

In these instances a volunteer will have with them:

- First Aid kit
 - Defibrillator
 - Oxygen
 - Nebuliser
 - Epi-pen
- d) All First Responders are volunteers, trained by the NHS. They work on call within a 3 mile radius. As well as caring for the patient they are able to

provide pastoral care for the family and provide the appropriate medical details for the ambulance staff when they arrive.

- e) There is plenty of training, help and support provided by the NHS and other LIVES schemes.
- f) First responders are NHS trained. All responders attend a 4 day training course.
- g) Funding for the various NHS initiatives vary. A 'stand alone' defibrillator in a secure box placed in the village by EMAS would cost around £1,300. A First responder unit within the village, working as a satellite to a LIVES unit in a nearby village, would cost around £200 p/volunteer. A full LIVES unit with 4-5 responder volunteers would cost £3k to set up initially, with around £1450 p/year thereafter. *(All costs quoted are subject to confirmation with EMAS).*

2. Apologies

- 2.1 Apologies were received from Cllr McKinlay she had another engagement.
- 2.2 District Councillor Kaberry-Brown also sent her apologies, along with villagers Theresa Tanner and Ian and Anne Blake.

3. Declarations of Interest

- 3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2009

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

5 Matters arising

- 5.1 The clerk had not yet received quotes to slab the area around the shelter (minute 5.1 refers).
- 5.2 PE Hempstead & Sons were contracted to maintain the MUGA surface. The clerk had gained Councillors approval by email since the last Parish Council meeting (minute 11.4 refers).

6 Correspondence received since the meeting held on 8 July 09

- 6.1 The clerk reported on some of the correspondence received and sent:
 - a) Hemsteads quote for MUGA – agreed by email
 - b) email correspondence – re: footpath 4
 - c) email correspondence – re: road repairs needed behind the Green
 - d) Best Kept Village competition correspondence
 - e) Letter of resignation by Caretaker
 - f) Letters to new caretakers and applicants

- g) Audit correspondence and fees
- h) Letter re: housing strategy workshop – 1st Oct
- i) Free trees for Parishes
- j) Temporary road closure: Allington Lane w/c 21/9/09

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

7 Best Kept Village

- 7.1 The Chairman congratulated everyone for their efforts as Allington had won its class in Lincolnshire's Best Kept Village competition.
- 7.2 The clerk reported that the village had been awarded a tree donated by Pennells Nurseries and would receive a plaque and certificate. The plaque would be presented at a ceremony on 18th November at Osbournby Village Hall. More details to follow.
- 7.3 Lincolnshire County council had also agreed to put signs on the outskirts of the village to recognise this achievement. The clerk would contact Pennells and LCC Highways. **(Action point: clerk)**

8 Village Caretaker

- 8.1 Following the resignation of the Caretaker in July the post had been advertised and there had been a healthy response.
- 8.2 Cllr Taylor and the clerk interviewed four very able and willing candidates on 25th August. It was decided to employ two people by splitting the present role and the hours and creating a dedicated playing field caretaker. It was felt that the playing field, MUGA and portacabins were deserving of its own caretaker.
- 8.3 Ian Blake, from Allington Gardens was offered and accepted the role as Village Caretaker (excluding Bottesford Road) for 5 hours a week and Stuart Ashley, from Bottesford Road, was offered and accepted the role as Playing Field Caretaker with additional responsibility for Bottesford Road and the Park Road jitty for 3 hours a week. The clerk has issued both caretakers with litter picking sticks, a high-viz tabard and bin bags.

9 Village Plan

- 9.1 Councillor Cant reported that she had heard from 10 volunteers that had expressed an interest in getting together to produce a Village Plan. It was hoped that all volunteers and Cllr Cant would meet soon and report back at the next Parish Council meeting. **(Action point: MC)**

10 Emergency Aid for the village

- 10.1 Councillors reflected upon the information that was presented in the public session at the beginning of the meeting and considered the options, including

the Belvoir Heartbeat initiative, which had been discussed at meetings earlier in the year.

- 10.2 After discussion it was decided unanimously that a First Responder unit would better serve the village rather than a 'stand alone' public access defibrillator.
- 10.3 It seemed that there was enough interest within the village to set up a First Responders unit. These volunteers would be alerted by the ambulance service, after a 999 call, to attend patients with breathing difficulties, suspected cardiac arrest, collapse or chest pain within the immediate community and these volunteers would carry a defibrillator as part of their kit.
- 10.4 More information would be sought from EMAS as to how this project should be developed and what initial funding is necessary to get it up and running. Sharon Andrews was asked to look into the matter on behalf of the Parish Council and liaise with the clerk. Further information would be available at the November meeting. **(Action point: clerk)**

11 Playing Field matters

- 11.1 The Playing field committee Councillors reported that the next fund raising event for the field would be an 'Abba Night' on 17th October in the Village Hall. Publicity for this event would be due out shortly.
- 11.2 The annual Bonfire night celebrations would be on Thursday, 5th November.
- 11.3 The contract for the ongoing maintenance of the MUGA will be done by the Hempsteads.
- 11.4 The Hempstead would also be asked to mow the mound to keep the weeds down. They would also be asked to cut the hedge around the children's play area. **(Action point: clerk)**
- 11.5 It was agreed that this year the Council would request 150 Hawthorn, 50 Blackthorn hedge plants and 5 Field Maple trees from the County Council free trees scheme to border the far end of the field and continue the avenue on the field. **(Action point; clerk)**

12 Planning matters

- 12.1 Applications received and determined since the last Parish council meeting on 8 July 09:
 - Application – erection of dwelling with attached double garage, Plot 4, Bert's Way
 - Appeal - Ridgewind, Palmers Hollow Windfarm applicants, had gone to appeal because of the "failure of the Local Planning Authority to determine the application within the statutory period".

13 Financial matters

- 13.1 The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 8 July 09

Income

- Bank interest - £3.07
- Arts Centre Party in the Park ticket sales - £40.50

Total £ 43.62

Expenditure

- Padlock and keys for MUGA equipment - £17.58
- Payment for the band 'The Thieves' (Party in the Park) - £100
- Clement Keys Audit fees - £460

Total £ 577.58

Plus Clerk's and Caretaker's salary

13.2 Councillors unanimously approved the payments retrospectively.

13.3 The clerk reported that the audit for 08/09 is formally closed and the statutory notice is on the noticeboard. The fees had increased this year to £460 from £158 as the Lottery money for the MUGA had taken the income/expenditure into another fees bracket. Negotiations by the clerk to reduce these extortionate fees had failed.

14 Any other business

14.1 The hedging around the play area was over grown. The clerk would contact Hempsteads to get it cut back. **(Action point: clerk)**

14.2 Some of the trees on the Green are in need of attention to cut out the lower branches that are dead etc. The clerk will ask Hempsteads for a quote. **(Action point: clerk)**

14.3 Cllr Connors reported that she had moved out of the village and asked whether she was still eligible to be a Parish Councillor. The clerk had taken advice on this matter with Electoral Services at SKDC and determined that she was entitled to stay if she wished. Cllr Connors said that she was happy to continue. All other Councillors present agreed.

14.4 Cllr Bosworth commented that the base of the village cross was getting badly weathered. The clerk would contact a stonemason to seek advice and a quote for its repair. **(Action point: clerk)**

15 Date of next meeting

15.1 The next meeting will be on Wednesday 11 November at 7.30pm.

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