

Allington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall
Wednesday 12 January 2005

Present: Councillor Taylor Councillor North
 Councillor Cutting Councillor McKinlay
 Councillor Sewell Councillor Hubbard
 Councillor Jackson Sharon Milne (clerk)

Also present: District Councillor, Mrs Kaberry-Brown

1. Chairman's remarks

1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting, formally introduced the new clerk and thanked members of the public for their attendance.

1.2 The chairman stated that the agenda had returned to a previous format and that it now included agenda items 'matters arising' and 'any other business'. This would allow councillors to raise up to date information, rather than having to wait for the next scheduled meeting in two months time.

1.3 Cllr Hubbard requested that the correspondence box be circulated more promptly, as some matters in the box needed fairly urgent attention.

2. Apologies

2.1 No apologies. All Parish Councillors were present.

3. Declarations of Interest

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 November 2004

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

5. Matters Arising

5.1 Cllr North referred to the recycling container intended for Allington Gardens. He said that although the container was not yet installed, the matter was still ongoing and he hoped that the problem regarding where it would be sited could soon be resolved.

5.2 Cllr Taylor reported that she had spoken to PC Martin Green. PC Green had stated that he had received no more complaints of harassment from the public. He stated that he had invited the gentleman, about whom the

complaints had been made, to speak to him but as yet no contact had been made. Further action will be taken if more complaints are received.

5.3 The street light in Foston Road has now been installed.

5.4 Cllr Taylor reported that the village caretaker had told her that he is no longer prepared to empty dog litter from the bins. Cllr Taylor told him that the Parish Council would fully support him in this matter. It was agreed that notices would be put on the waste bins asking people not to discard dog litter in them. **(Action point: HT and clerk)**

5.5 The clerk reported that Linnells the stone masons has provided an initial quote. See minute 6.4 for further details.

5.6 Cllr Taylor reported that she had collected 5 free trees provided by LCC for the playing field. Support posts and the wire caging to protect the trees, had also been supplied. The caretaker shall plant them.

6. Correspondence received since Parish Council meeting on 10 November 2004.

6.1 The clerk reported that the majority of the correspondence over the last two months had been about the crisis of the withdrawn bus service. The current position was that Mass were in contravention of legislation that states that the Traffic Commissioner must be given notice of changes, or withdrawal of a local bus service at least 56 days in advance. A decision is awaited as to what actions the Commissioner intends to take against the company.

6.2 Correspondence had been received from a resident of Allington Gardens and from Allington Gardens Residents' Association regarding speeding traffic on the Sedgebrook Road and on Peach Lane. Cllr Taylor confirmed that she had replied by phone to the resident. Clerk to respond to the letter to the Chairman of the Residents' Association stating that the council shall continue to request for speed limit enforcement. **(Action point: clerk)**

6.3 Quote received from P E Hempstead & Sons for the grass-cutting season 2005 (£1370), and to cut down the hedge around the play area (£185). Cllr Sewell stated that a villager had offered to lay the hedge, rather than to allow it to be cut down. It was therefore agreed that the clerk would accept the quote for the grass cutting, but in view of the offer on the hedge the clerk should write and explain the situation to the Hempstead's leaving the hedge cutting quote for now. **(Action point: clerk)**

6.4 Quote received from Linnells regarding the saltwell. Initial quote to dig out the soil and check the drain outlet pipe and re-point as necessary - £188 inc. VAT. Linnells would then be able to provide a second quote for the full restoration. **Councillor Taylor proposed that Linnells should be instructed to carry out this initial work, Cllr Hubbard seconded, unanimously adopted.** Clerk to confirm work with Linnells. **(Action point: clerk)** Cllr Taylor said that once the work had been done it would be nice if a small plaque were sited at the well, providing information about it.

6.5 Letter received from Park Road resident regarding the grass verge outside his property. He asks that as he is no longer in a position to maintain the

verge, could the Parish Council make alternative arrangements. Clerk to reply stating that the verge is not the responsibility of the Parish. **(Action point: clerk)**

6.6 Cllr Taylor spoke about the telegraph pole that had been installed on The Green outside The White House. Cllr Sewell stated that at the time it was installed he had remonstrated with the contractor and the surveyor on the grounds that The Green belongs to the village, and not the highway. The council agreed that the contractor should be informed that The Green belongs to the village and request that the cable system be buried. **(Action point: clerk)**

6.7 Cllr Taylor reported that the resident of Vine Cottage had spoken to Cllr Sewell and stated that he would hate to see concrete kerbs and offered to assist with the provision of granite one. The council were reminded that the decision had been made to kerb all corners of the small green and cut back the Bottesford Road corner and install high kerbs to the side opposite the Post Office. A letter would be sent to Vine Cottage thanking him for his kind offer but stating that the decision had already been agreed and ratified at the last Parish Council meeting. **(Action point: clerk)**

6.8 Letter from SKDC asking for Precept for 2005/06 be returned to them by 31 January. (See minute 10.2 for discussion on precept.)

6.9 Letter from Environment Agency re: Lincs safety and security fair, 13 February. No councillors are able to attend. **(Action point: clerk)**

6.10 New register of electors is on file.

7. Public Transport in Allington

7.1 Cllr Kaberry-Brown stated that the Translinc service would continue until April and confirmed that Lincolnshire County Council were in discussion with another contractor, who would, hopefully, continue the service that Mass had abandoned. She stated that there would likely be a decision on this by the end of the week.

7.2 Cllr North reported that discussions had taken place and that there was a possibility that Avondale may be able to help in some way. It was generally acknowledged, however, that this would probably result in an increase in fares.

7.3 The Chairman expressed her thanks to the editor of Allington News, and to Cllr North for their efforts and the support they have shown towards the campaign regarding the buses.

8. Council Housing in Allington

8.1 Cllr Taylor reported back to the council on the discussion group she attended on 3rd December, which outlined the Housing Stock Options and explained what the Decent Housing Standard process is about.

8.2 The District Council is looking at the various options to it for the future ownership or management of council tenant's homes. This process must be

completed by July 2005 and it is called the Stock Options Appraisal. SKDC then has until 2010 prove that they are giving best value to meet the decent homes standard. It is thought that in the village there are approximately 10-15 houses owned by SKDC.

9. Planning matters

9.1 Applications received since the last Parish council meeting on 10 November 2004:

- (a) Hawthorne Lodge, Bottom Street, demolition and erection of 2 dwellings– Conditionally approved.
- (b) Old Walled Gardens, Bottesford Road, raising garage roof – no decision to date.
- (c) Glebe Farm, Bottesford Lane, erection of wind turbine – Approved.
- (d) Adj Lambert Farm, Bottom Street, erection of dwelling – Withdrawn.
- (e) 13 Park Road, extension to dwelling – no decision to date.
- (f) Gembira, Burton's Lane, wooden office in front garden – no decision to date. District Councillor Kaberry-Brown reported that she had received a letter objecting to this application from the residents of Burton House, opposite.

9.2 Cllr Taylor reported back on a meeting she had had with a planning officer at SKDC. At the meeting Cllr Taylor voiced the concerns of the Parish Council that there were still no smaller affordable homes being built in the village. She reported that affordable housing is a factor for developments with at least 10 homes.

9.3 Cllr Taylor stated that she was told that Allington is classified as a 'major' village as it has the infrastructures (eg. a village hall, church, Post Office, shop, pub etc) to take in homes. Cllr Kaberry-Brown made reference to a planning application at Hunter's Lodge, Gonerby Lane, which is in the Gonerby Parish. There seems to be confusion at SKDC regarding the boundaries, as Cllr Kaberry-Brown attended a site meeting at Hunter's Lodge which should have been for the Gonerby District Councillor. Cllr Kaberry-Brown said she would report back and clarify the matter.

9.4 Cllr Taylor confirmed that SKDC has said that there would be no green field development in Allington.

10. Financial matters

10.1 The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 10 November 2004.

10.2 The budgets and estimates for the current year and forthcoming year were discussed at length. Cllr Jackson stated that the Parish was not accruing money for village developments as it stood, and with the additional housing now in the village an increase in the amount of precept would, he believed, be absorbed without considerable increases in the community charge for residents. **Cllr Jackson proposed that the precept bid be set at £9,000 for the year 2005-06, seconded by Cllr Sewell, and unanimously adopted. (Action point: clerk)**

11. Report form the Playing Field Committee.

11.1 Cllr McKinlay reported on an enthusiastic meeting on 10 January 05. She reported that the Playing Field Committee had concluded that their meeting needed to be more frequent than bi-monthly and would meet every month. The fund raising members of the group would meet more often, as they felt necessary.

11.2 Main events this year would be:

- (a) Easter event
- (b) Party in the Park in the summer
- (c) Bonfire night
- (d) Christmas tree lighting on the village green.

11.3 A notice was needed for regarding Do's and Don'ts for users of the field.
(Action point: MS)

11.4 Arrangements were being made to get the play equipment rubbed down and painted.

11.5 Discussions were being made with Gonerby Youth Football Club (GYFC) to re-lay the two pitches longways down the field and making space for a third mini pitch for non-league boys and girls under 11's.

11.6 Cllr Taylor formally thanked Cllr Jackson and all those involved for the Christmas tree on The Green.

12. Annual Parish meeting on 13 April 05

12.1 Cllr Taylor suggested that all village societies and groups are invited to have a small table-top display of their individual subject at the annual parish meeting. This will promote and encourage interest in all societies within the village. Councillors agreed to this idea in principle. To be an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting. **(Action point: HT and clerk)**

13. Any other business

13.1 Cllr Hubbard stated that the dyke on Gonerby Lane was posing a hazard for motorist on the other side of the bend at the gauging station. He proposed that the Highways Division are asked to extend the crash barrier on the right had side. **Unanimously adopted. (Action point: clerk)**

13.2 Cllr North reported two faulty lampposts on Sedgebrook Road, near to the Peach Lane turning. **(Action point: clerk)**

13.3 The clerk reported that a request would be made for the pavement along Sedgebrook Road, to be extended to carry on down Peach Lane. There may be funding for this within LCC Highway Division's capital improvement budget. **(Action point: clerk)**

13.4 The clerk stated that a request for re-surfacing the pavement outside the Lambert Road houses would be made. **(Action point: clerk)**

13.5 The clerk reported that LCC had stated that the tidying of the verges etc, now that the West Meadows development had been finished, would be done after the Nursery development had finished, to avoid any work being spoilt again.

13.6 The clerk reported that LCC had stated that they do not intend to spend money on the bottom end of Gonerby Lane as the development of the A1 and its diversion through the bottom of the lane would be happening "soon".

13.7 The caretaker had reported asbestos topped in Foston Lane. SKDC had been asked to remove it. Clerk to ensure that this had happened. **(Action point: clerk)**

13.8 The bottle bank was again overflowing and a further call had been made requesting that it be emptied.

14. Date of next meeting

14.1 The next Parish Council meeting would be held in the village hall on Wednesday 9th March 2005. The formal public session would be dispensed with.

The meeting closed at 10.20pm.

Signed: ----- (Chairman)

Date: _____