

Allington Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall
Wednesday 10 September 2014

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

Also present: County Councillor Paul Wood
Theresa Tanner – Chairman, VHMC
Cathy Green – Treasurer, VHMC
Jannette Mole – member of recently dissolved History Society
6 villagers

1. Chairman's remarks

1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked those present for attending. Attendees spoke about the following:

- a) County Councillor Wood stated that he had recently been at a Highways liaison meeting and he had noted that in the draft 2015/16 programme the only work on the highway planned was to repair a collapsed drain on Bottom Street. Councillors were very disappointed that the school safety zone was not mentioned, neither was Marston Lane or Gonerby Lane, roads which Parish Councillors deemed to be priority areas within the village in need of repair. Last week there was an accident when a car came off the road having hit a pothole in Gonerby Lane. The clerk would write to Highways asking about these areas, copying in Cllr Wood. **(Action point: clerk)**
- b) Cllr Wood encouraged villagers to write individually to Highways as well. Rather than relying upon the Parish Council to raise the issues.
- c) Mrs Mole raised the matter of copyright of the historic documents which were now stored in the Lincoln Archives. She suggested that the copyright should sit with the person in the position of Clerk to the Parish Council. All agreed that it seemed a sensible option.
- d) Mrs Mole also raised her concerns about some documents which had been removed from the village archive a while ago and still hadn't been returned. Others knew of the documents whereabouts and made assurances that they would be returned shortly. Archive documents would be put on the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting in November. **(Action point: clerk)**

2. Apologies

2.1 All Parish Councillors were present.

2.2 District Councillor Kaberry-Brown sent her apologies.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2014**

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

5 **Correspondence received since the meeting held on 9 July 14**

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

- a) Email from villagers re: financial support for the village hall
- b) Email correspondence from District Cllr Kaberry-Brown re: proposed windfarm of Sewstern Lane
- c) Email information re: Review of polling districts and polling places
- d) Information from Lincs Road Safety Partnership re; Community Speed Watch scheme
- e) Best Kept Village round 2 report - into finals!
- f) Email from SKDC – are Cllrs content to receive online applications
- g) RoSPA report for playing field
- h) Information on Rural Gain Grant
- i) Message from a Parish Councillor in Sleaford re: advice on stand alone defibrillators
- j) Email from Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group in Bottesford, re: Neighbourhood plan working group
- k) Email message from Jannette Mole re: archiving of historic documents
- l) Sewstern Lane railway crossing – reduction in status

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

Re point (e) Best Kept Village. The final judging of the finalist was in August. No information about which village has won has since been received.

Re point (j). Cllr Bosworth agreed to contact the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group in Bottesford. The clerk would forward Cllr Bosworth the contact details. **(Action point: clerk)**

6 **Representations made to the Parish Council since the agenda has been set**

6.1 There were no representations made to the Council after the agenda had been set.

7 **Objectives for the forthcoming year**

7.1 Work was underway on the two objectives set for the forthcoming year:

- a) To renovate and improve the condition of the village cross
- b) To further develop the Community Wood,

8 **Amendment of Standing Orders**

8.1 Following a change in the law it is necessary to remove any paragraphs in the Parish Council's Standing Orders that places restrictions on the filming and recording of council meetings. The clerk will amend the Standing Orders and send a revised copy to all Councillors. **(Action point: clerk)**

9 Freedom of Information and publication scheme

9.1 Cllr Bosworth reported that legislation requires Councils to have a publication scheme for freedom of information enquiries. He explained to Councillors the requirements of such a scheme. He would circulate such a scheme for Councillor's approval. **(Action point: AB)**

9.2 To provide information under the Freedom of Information legislation it was agreed unanimously that a nominal fee for copying information would be 10p per sheet.

10 The Village Cross

9.3 Cllr Bosworth updated on the village cross. Skillington Workshop Ltd had undertaken an inspection of the cross. The report of their findings was awaited. Cllr Bosworth would update the Parish Council further at the next meeting. **(Action point: AB)**

11 Village Hall

11.1 The matter of whether the village hall should be supported by the Parish Council was discussed. Following the article in Allington News a few villagers had written to the clerk supporting the idea that an element of the annual precept could go towards supporting the village hall, in a similar way that it supported the playing field.

11.2 The village hall is a registered charity and the Chairman of the Village Hall Management committee said that the Parish Council could become a "holding trustee". The question of the implication of becoming a holding trustee would be looked into as well as the VAT implications should the Parish Council become more involved in its financing. The clerk and the VHMC Chairman would look into the matter and report back. **(Action point: clerk and VHMC Chairman)**

11.3 It was agreed unanimously that, in principle, the village hall should have some financial support through the annual precept. The matter would be on the agenda for the November Parish Council meeting.

12 Highway matters

12.2 The clerk reported on Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership's Community Speed Watch scheme that had been circulated to Councillors by email. The initiative is designed to empower communities to help themselves tackle speeding issues. To participate in the initiative the Parish Council must pay for an inspection of the village by an official of the LRSP. This inspection costs £40. It was agreed that this payment be made. **(Action point: clerk)**

12.3 It was reported that Marston Lane's potholes had only been patched and the road had not been resurfaced as hoped. The clerk would write to Highways to ask when Marston Lane would be improved. **(Action point: clerk)**

12.4 Despite work done on the subsidence on Gonerby Lane near the cottages the lane was still in a state. There are deep channels where the road meets the verge and last week there had been an accident when a car hit one of the channel and ended up in the dyke. The clerk would write to Highways to report this and ask that these potholes be repaired. **(Action point: clerk)**

13 Playing field matters

13.2 Cllr McKinlay reported on the recent Playing field advisory group meeting. The Party in the Park had few numbers in attendance this year and consequently profits from the event were lower than in previous years. It was suggested that this was partly due to the fact that schools had broken up and families were on holiday. Next year the event would be held earlier on 4 July 2015 to avoid this. The band for next year had already been booked. It will be a Madness tribute band 'Badness'.

13.3 There is concern that the chemical that is being used to white line the football pitch is burning the grass and in the longer term may cause ruts in the ground. GYFC haven't had a representative at the Playing field advisory group meeting for a while so it has not been possible to discuss this with them. However, the clerk is making enquiries about alternative white lining options and this will be discussed with GYFC. **(Action point: clerk)**

14 Planning matters

14.2 Applications received and determined since the last Parish Council meeting on 9 July 2014:

- Approval – 1 Bottom Street, Demolition and replace dwelling and alter vehicular access
- Approval – Ashes Farm, erect a detached double garage and a garden shed
- Application – Top Farm, Back Lane, Foston – single turbine with a hub height of 60m
- Application – Copley Farm, Doddington Lane, Claypole – Solar photovoltaic farm and associated works
- Application – Tap Barn, Bottom Street – Removal of occupancy condition
- Application – 1 Bottom Street – Erection and replacement of dwelling and outbuildings

15 Financial matters

15.2 The clerk reported on the income and outgoings since the last meeting on 9 July 2014:

Income

- Bank interest – £3.24
- Tickets for Party in the Park - £2270
- Party in the Park income – 931.99

Total £3204.15

Outgoings

- HMRC - £132
- Opus energy – £40.34

- Greenbarnes (noticeboard) - £1045.85
- P E Hempstead - £370.17
- Arboretum - £480
- Audit fees - £240
- Wine for internal auditor - £9.98

Total £2318.34

Plus Clerk and Caretaker's salaries

15.3 Councillors unanimously approved the payments retrospectively.

15.4 The clerk reported that minimum wage would be increased to £6.50 on 1 October and an increase would be made at an appropriate rate for the two village caretakers employed. (Action point: clerk)

16 Any other business for future meetings

16.2 The agenda for the next Parish Council meeting will include:

- a) Village Cross
- b) Village Hall matters
- c) Village archiving
- d) Precept requirement for submitting to SKDC in January

17 Date of next meeting

17.2 The next meeting will be:

- Wednesday 12 November 2014 at 7.30pm

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