

KING'S CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Thursday 13th November 2003 in The Parlour, King's Cliffe Memorial Hall.

Before the meeting, Chairman Michael Day welcomed County Councillor Priscilla Padley and Colin Gilder, the Area Maintenance Engineer for W S Atkins (Highways) and two parishioners.

Councillor Padley read a very comprehensive report outlining her work in the area during the past year. This report will be included in the signed minutes and a copy is available from the Clerk upon request.

Councillor Padley then asked for any comments; these were mainly concerning the Landfill Site.

Councillors A. Howard raised the concerns regarding pollution and again asked that there should be independent monitoring of this. Councillor Padley replied that although Wastego had promised to implement this, it was not actually happening. Councillor B. Howard raised the point that the cottages at Westhay were in the front line and that Wastego should be asked to double-glaze these cottages to protect against sound and dust pollution. Councillor Wyles suggested there should be a 30 mph speed limit on the length of road between the A47 and the Landfill site. Parishioner Robert Meadows stated that the road washers themselves were frequently a hazard on this stretch of road.

Mr. Colin Gilder introduced himself to the Council and apologized that Debbie Strong from ENC was unable to attend with him. He then gave a very detailed report on works done in the local vicinity for the past year and a list of costs and charges, which is very helpful for reference. This report will be included in the signed minutes and a copy is available from the Clerk upon request.

Any questions were then invited. A Councillor remarked on the amount of money which had been spent in Yarwell on new pavements etc., Mr. Gilder replied that that work had been scheduled for the last 20 years. The question was also raised regarding resurfacing Kings Cliffe village; this is hopefully scheduled for next year, but safety has to be the main priority. It is hoped that white lines will be painted strategically at the Park Street corner near to Glebe Farm, to stop the dangerous parking in this area.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Padley and Mr. Gilder and opened the meeting.

03/101 Present: - Councillors M.Day (Chairman), D. Sharpe, B.Wyles, B.Wright, B. Howard, T.Isaac, A. Howard, **L.Crane**, K.Howard and B, Wright

Apologies: Councillor N. Ford

03/102 Declarations of Interest: - Councillors B., A. & K. Howard and Councillor J. Dixon declared an interest in a planning item on the agenda.

03/103 Clerks Report

A burned out car had been reported at the Beech Tree and arrangements were made for this to be removed.

The extensive power cut on 5th November was caused initially by a network failure which resulted in several sub-stations automatically closing down; however there was also a "jumper" fault on an overhead wire which had to be identified and replaced.

The sign to Kings Cliffe Industrial Estate has been erected on the Stamford Road as requested.

All other items are included in agenda items

03104 The minutes of the Meetings held on 2nd & 8th October 2003 were accepted and signed

Proposed: Councillor A. Howard

Seconded: Councillor B.Wyles

03/105 Matters arising - none

03/106 Accounts

The following accounts were approved for payment

Curators Salary (Nov 2003)	£ 75.65
Clerks Salary (Nov 2003)	£ 187.50
ABB Lighting charges/repairs	£ 101.95
Royal British Legion*	£ 50.00
*Paid in cash by clerk & repaid by cheque	
British Telecom ¼ to October 03	£ 59.07
KC Community Association (N. Watch)	£ 12.00
Parish Gazette Annual Contribution	£ 75.00
T. Munford repairs to Church wall	£ 348.00

Proposed: Councillor A.Howard

Seconded: Councillor B.Howard

Due to a change in Barclays Bank policy, a new bank mandate must be discussed and signed. This will therefore be an item on next months' agenda.

03/107 Planning

Applications:-

107 Wood Road – Construction of New Conservatory: EN/03/01190/FUL/PRG

No objections

Temporary change of use from Residential to Office: 7 Fineshade Close:
EN/03/01149/TMP/PMAP

Strong objection to this application, as such dwellings are urgently needed to fulfil local housing needs. Various correspondences during the last three months have found the Parish Council very much at odds with the Housing Association over this issue.

Single Storey conservatory Rosary Farmhouse 64 Park Street: EN03/01326/FUL/PRG

No objections provided that the new doorway to the conservatory matches the existing

Variation of Conditions to retain stained wood finish 43B West Street: EN/03/01358/
VAR/PRG

A majority vote of no objection was carried. One councillor objected to this variation of

conditions.

Decisions:-

Four Dwellings, Old Filling Station Bridge Street: EN/02/01072/FUL: Granted: noted

03/108 Housing Association

The matter of the bungalow in Fineshade Close was dealt with under “Planning”.

03/109 Street Lighting

Following a meeting between The Chairman and Gill Corner from ABB Ltd., a quotation was received from ABB to replace the second bulkhead in Eagle Lane with a new bracket and lantern – to be mounted as high as possible and an additional lantern on the wall adjacent to the entrance, again as high as possible to avoid vandalism. This quotation was accepted.

Proposed: Councillor B. Howard

Seconded: Councillor J. Dixon

The cost of supplying low level lighting was discussed but the scheme was considered impractical and estimated cost would be prohibitive. The point was made that the new lamp must be carefully fitted in the respect of the “Broadband” cable in the immediate area; ABB assured the Council this would not be a problem.

It was suggested that the owner of the Leylandii trees in the area of Eagle Lane should be asked to trim these, as they obscure the lighting at the bottom of the lane. A request will be sent.

With regard to the elderly wooden street light in Wood Road, again the cost is prohibitive and will be discussed further in the next financial year.

03/110 Children’s Play Area

Councillor T. Isaac reported that she had not received the conservation study from ENC. They will once again be asked to complete this at their very earliest convenience.

03/111 Highways

The necessary papers have been received to apply for a grant to provide a pedestrian crossing from Wood Lane via Wood Road to West Street. The PC feel there is a definite need for this but have to ascertain that the residents of this area agree with the application. It is thought that a traffic light controlled crossing would be too expensive, but a standard “Zebra” crossing would be affordable and acceptable. A Councillor raised the point that the 30 mph limit sign on Blatherwycke Road would be better sited further out of the village; an application will be made but the process is very long-winded.

03/112 Slipe Clay Pit

There are reports of two more minor fires at the pit. It was also ascertained that the water taken from the hydrant on the Stamford Road is licensed to Wastego and the water used is charged to them.

The Chairman reported on the Clay Pit meeting at the Village Hall on 22nd October which was chaired by Mr. Phil Watson of NCC Planning, but not attended by any representatives from Wastego; the letter from Wastego explaining their reasons for non-attendance was circulated to Councillors.

It was generally agreed that the Parish Council must approach Wastego independently, as Kings Cliffe is the village on the front line of any problems and the Chairman will arrange to visit the Pit and talk to the management; they will also be invited to attend Parish Council meetings. It must be ascertained that it is not Kings Cliffe who invite the Press and TV companies to the meetings; this is an on-going situation and this Parish Council should work exclusively with Wastego to solve the attendant problems. A letter will be sent to NCC and neighbouring Parish Councils informing them of this decision. Mr. Court who attended the meeting expressed the view that NCC are not diligent enough in pursuing the Environment Agency to monitor the pollution problems which exist.

03/113 Kings Cliffe Website

Councillor D. Sharpe attended a meeting at the Resource Centre to discuss a village website. There are grants available to set this up and the maintenance costs would be easily affordable. The Parish Council and any other village organisations so inclined would have a personal web page. As the Freedom of Information Act decrees that PC business must be in the public domain, this would be the ideal vehicle for this.

03/114 Parish Council Meeting: February 04

This meeting will coincide with the Pantomime. Enquiries will be made for alternative venue, but the date will remain as the second Thursday in February

03/115 Sub-Committee Reports:

Burial Board

A meeting of the Burial Board was held on 6 November 2003. Five sub-committee members attended. Apologies were received from B. Wyles

The Curator is cutting back the hedges but they need reducing in height. Nigel Ford knows of some one with the right equipment and will approach them. The Parish Council agreed the sum for this work

Proposed: Councillor D. Sharpe

Seconded: Councillor B. Howard

The pollarding of the Lime Trees will be carried out this autumn by Colin Smith and weedkiller and gravel will be applied to the paths. Huge ant hills are overlapping some graves; the Curator to be asked to deposit them in rabbit holes.

Members of the Board were not wholly satisfied with the work being done in Hall Yard. The colour and quality of the stone on the capping is not satisfactory. It was proposed

that the stone capping should be changed for a better colour. This will be discussed with Mr. Munford.

It was proposed that we should obtain a quote for new gates like for like and also a quote for the replacement of gates in hard wood to avoid the necessity of continual repainting. The Local Planning Authority to be asked if we need planning permission to do this. Repairs to iron gate completed.

It was agreed that Terry Curtis should be asked to service mower in one month's time.

Jenny to pursue Nick Evans over Well Head installation

Wilfred has met Michael Barcroft with reference to tomb stone repairs. A schedule of repairs will be drawn up between them. Wilfred is trying to contact Fenimore's to do the work. The ten worst stones will be selected for repair. The PC approved the suggestion that a quotation for renovating the Law tomb should be obtained.

Memorials

Owen Gordon Woolfe Agreed

Rachel Middleton Obtain confirmation that stone is at head of grave.

The ashes of Edith Wright were interred in her brother's grave (Dennis E Roberts).

It was proposed that it should be made clear, to those concerned, that wooden crosses were only temporary. It was pointed out that after twelve months permission must be obtained for their replacement with something more permanent.

Village Design Group: Nothing to report

Amenities

Sub-committee Chairman B. Wyles reported that the seat in Hall Yard had been completely destroyed by vandals. It was agreed this should be replaced with a wrought iron seat which should be indestructible and quotations will be sought by the Clerk.

The Bottle Bank area at Kingsmead is still littered with rubbish, despite the fact the ENC cleared it completely two weeks ago. The Parish Council again asked parishioners NOT to deposit rubbish in this area.

Allotments: letters will be sent to the tenants of the plots adjacent to the footpath, asking them to move their boundaries back to the original place, to allow a tractor to cut the bottom hedge.

A letter will be sent to Sue Paice, asking that all information regarding Pocket Parks should in future be sent to B. Wyles.

03/116 Community Safety & Neighbourhood Watch

A meeting of Neighbourhood Watch on 12th November divided the village into 22 separate zones for co-ordinators. There will be a meeting of co-ordinators on 24th November. Sub-committee chairman B. Wright stated the costs of running NW, photocopying, hire of halls etc., must be researched and reported to the PC. She suggested a low but practical profile was the best alternative. Councillor B. Howard questioned the Police efficiency, but Councillor K. Howard said their response to the crimes at Kingsmead had been excellent. Councillor B. Wyles stated there had been nine known

crimes committed in the village during the last month and that a letter should be sent to the Police identifying these.

O3/117 Other Correspondence Received

All other correspondence received had been noted and/or circulated to Councillors.

O3/118 Any Other Business: None

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.10.pm.

The next meeting will be held at 7.30.pm. on 4th December 2003 in the Parlour of the Memorial Hall