

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Kings Cliffe Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 14th July 2005.

05/033 Present: Chairman M. Day, Councillors B. Wyles, D. Sharpe, J. Dixon, T. Isaac, N. Ford, L. Crane and K Howard and one parishioner.

05/034 Apologies for Absence: Councillors A. & B. Howard and B. Wright

05/035 Declarations of Interest: None

05/036 Minutes: Minutes of the meeting held on 9th June were read and approved.

Note : Some of the minutes references in the above were printed incorrectly but have been altered as follows : **05/018 & 5/019 Correct : 05/120 should be 05/020 and so on to 05/132 which should be 05/032**

Proposed : Councillor L.Crane

Seconded : Councillor T.Isaac

05/037 Matters Arising – these are dealt with in this instance in the Clerks report below.

At this point PC Mark Hillyer-Smith and a colleague joined the meeting. He presented the meeting with the latest crime figures, which showed an 11% decrease on the same period last year. He asked for parishioners to report problems to the police; the Chairman invited the parishioner present to speak as it was known there had been problems with rowdy youths on Maltings Green; the gentleman replied that they had responded to his request to quieten down; the police were aware of the problems in the area and had also spoken to them. At this point, one of the youth workers report an immediate problem on Maltings Green and the police officers left the meeting to deal with it.

05/038 Clerks Report

Information on Youth Shelters was gratefully received from Mrs. Penny Taylor; possibly as result of fears that the Youth Club might be closed. The Chairman feels this is unlikely to be a considered at present but could become a possibility if the new development of the KC1 site goes ahead.

Can Councillors (or parishioners) please offer ideas for a suitable new name for the proposed new site? KC1 was the old site and something more appropriate would be helpful.

Mrs. Wilshaw has volunteered to be village representative for Age Concern but feels she would like to be nominated by the PC. This was unanimously agreed.

Following a letter to the Police regarding lack of information following heavy presence of Police in the village and a road blockage some weeks ago; they have replied saying this is being investigated.

A representative ENVA has asked to speak at the next meeting (August). This has been agreed and details sent.

Both Spires Housing (the new name for ENHA) and Rockingham Forest Housing Trust have replied to a letter asking that applicants with village associations should be given priority on the housing list. RFHT replied that they try to do this, but they only have four applications from 'Cliffe and houses offered are not always suitable for the applicants. Spires would not reveal how many applicants they had, but implied there were not many and both have sent application forms for me which are available upon request. This issue will be raised in the Gazette again; if there are no local applicants it is inevitable houses will go to non-locals.

A householder in Fineshade Close was asked to trim a hedge, which was encroaching on the footpath. This has been done and the gentleman has been thanked

NCC Highways have written again on the proposal to reinstate the footpath to Apethorpe saying the request is in the system and will be considered if funds should be available.

With regard to the speeding concerns on Wood Road, NCC Highways have been informed of residents' concerns and Mr. Kirk has been assured that he has the PC's support. He has kindly supplied a copy of the petition for the records and we await a response from Highways.

05/039 Accounts: The following accounts were approved for payment:-

Curators Salary (current month)	£ 140.00
Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 200.00
ABB Ltd : Street Lighting June quarter	£ 325.85
Smith Hetherington : Grass cutting & expenses	£ 238.00
Powergen : ¼ to March 2005	£ 423.48
ABB Ltd : Street light repairs	£ 98.70
Resource Centre (for Youth Club)	£ 48.00

Amendments to Insurance details : refund of £30.03 : Noted

Proposed : Councillor D.Sharpe

Seconded : Councillor N. Ford

05/040 Planning

Replacement of bay window : 9 West Street : EN/05/01221/LBC : No objection
Renewal of Premises Licence : Cross Key : MILRCI62112-00001: No objection
Amendments : Land adjacent to 48 Bridge Street : EN/05/00653/FUL : Granted - noted
Extension to Warehouse : Westhay : EN/05/00023/FUL : Granted - noted
Three terraced dwellings 79/81 West Street : EN/04/01580/FUL : Appeal dismissed : noted

The Council asked the Clerk to follow up the enquiries being made by the EN Enforcement Officer regarding the Portakabin in Forest Approach

05/041 Hills and Holes Pit

Two quotations had been received to clear and reinstate fences and gates at the pit; the Council unanimously agreed they could not sanction spending nearly £1000 and the obvious on-going expenses on this area. The future of this land will be discussed with Howard Farms and Kelham and Sons (Solicitors) will be asked for their advice on this matter.

Proposed : Councillor L. Crane

Seconded : Councillor D. Sharpe

05/042 Wood Lane Seat

The seat on the corner of Wood Lane is in need of repair as is the one on Wood Road by Browns Buildings. The Chairman will arrange for both to be mended.

05/043 Rural Strategy : Discussion of proposals.

Councillors had received copies of the draft statement and were asked to bring comments to this meeting. Answers to the questions raised in the draft were agreed and the Clerk will send the response to ENC.

05/044 Road Closure notifications

Work has begun to resurface several roads within and without the village during July and August. Highways have been asked to ensure all householders know the dates to enable parked cars to be removed.

05/045 Walkers Field : Highways

The Highways Clerk of Works, Paul MacGrath contacted the Clerk regarding the roads in Walkers Field after receiving complaints of deterioration of the road surfaces and blocked drains. These roads have not been adopted by NCC and until they are repaired to their satisfaction, adoption will not take place. This matter can only be resolved by the residents.

However whilst discussing the subject Councillors raised the question as to whether other “new” roads in the village had been adopted. The Clerk will research this.

05/046 Proposed New Village Web Site

Councillor D. Sharpe has a contact who is willing to help her to organize a new village web-site as the original one is no longer active.

The domain name kings-cliffe.org.uk has been purchased by Councillor Sharpe and work will begin on this new site. She is hoping to be able to obtain the information used for the old site to avoid starting completely from scratch. The Chairman proposed that the PC pay for the domain name and initially fund the site.

05/047 Sub-Committee Reports

Burial Board

A meeting of the Burial Board was held on 27th June 2005.

The site of the new cemetery was visited. Various comments and suggestions were noted for future planning.

The curator has recommended that the mower is scrapped as the gearbox has now failed. The trimmer is 11 years old and the curator has reported that it is unreliable and at present not in working order. He is using his own equipment in the cemetery at present.

Bridge Street Cemetery : A quotation for timber path edging was accepted by the Parish Council. The work has been ordered. The hedge alongside the path behind the bungalows requires trimming. The Parish Council will be asked to seek a quotation for this work at the same time as the allotment hedge trimming. Rabbits are a problem. The spoil heap will be removed later this year.

The work in the Churchyard to reset the repaired headstones is still outstanding. The accumulated rubbish has now been removed.

Two quotations for fencing on the boundary between the Pitchell and the private allotment have been received. Bob Dixon has revised drawings for the ramp and paths. He will be meeting with a structural engineer soon. Anglian Water has been asked for a quotation to connect a water supply.

Next meeting will be on Monday 1st August at 8pm.

The above minutes were discussed and approved. The general opinion on the “rabbit” problem was that apart from complete rabbit proofing the whole area, the cost of which would be prohibitive, there was nothing to be done as the surrounding areas were peppered with warrens.

The Clerk will contact a contractor for a quotation for hedge trimming. This can only be done during the winter months.

A Councillor reported minor vandalism to a grave; the Chairman will inspect this.

Neighbourhood Watch & Community Safety : Nothing to report

05/048 Correspondence received

Various correspondences were noted and will receive replies where necessary.

A letter will be sent to ENC to ask that the collection of Green Waste should not be discontinued.

Kings Cliffe Heritage will be given permission to use the cemetery records for their archives.

05/049 Any Other Business

Councillor B. Wyles asked the Clerk to write to Spires Homes asking them to re-instate the fence between a house on Blatherwycke Road and the allotments as their dog was regularly fouling the allotments. The allotments are private property, the footpath is at the bottom of the plots.

It was requested that the trunks of lime trees in the cemetery are pruned to avoid unsightly outgrowth. The Chairman will speak to the curator.

Councillor T. Isaac asked if it is mandatory for a Parish Councillor to be on the Schools Boards of Governors. The Clerk will investigate this.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.00.pm. The next meeting will be on Thursday 11th August at 7.30.pm.