

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Kings Cliffe Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 2nd February, 2006.

05/127 Present: Chairman M. Day, Councillors B. Wyles, D. Sharpe, B. Howard, N.Ford, and B. Wright, K.Howard and A.Howard

05/128 Apologies for Absence: Councillor L. Crane, T. Isaac and J.Dixon

05/129 Declarations of Interest: The Chairman declared an interest in Planning item No. EN/05/02344/FUL and Councillors A., B. & K. Howard and N. Ford declared an interest in Agenda Item 7. (05/134)

05/130 Minutes: Minutes of the meetings held on 8th December were read and approved

Proposed : Councillor A.Howard Seconded : Councillor D.Sharpe

Minutes of the Interim Planning meeting held on 29th December were read and approved

Proposed : Councillor B.Wyles Seconded : Councillor A.Howard

05/131 Matters arising

The proposed walkabout to check lights has not happened yet but it was reported that the light outside Messrs. Wooding was faulty; it was decided that ABB will be asked to replace this with a more substantial device.

Proposed : Councillor A. Howard Seconded : Councillor B. Wyles

Clerks Report

PC Mark Hillyer Smith is back on the beat as Community Policeman; this news was welcomed by the PC.

Enquiries have been made regarding the possibility of lighting at A47/Stamford Road junction : Highways replied that current policy does not favour this as it causes unnecessary light pollution in rural areas.

The Clerk and Councillor D. Sharpe attended a Landfill Liaison meeting in January; it would appear that Augean are running the operation efficiently and there seem to be very few problems at present.

The Rockingham Forest Housing Trust no longer have a waiting list; their policy on allocating houses is being changed and they will keep the Council informed when they decided upon a new format for applying for houses.

There has been some slight controversy regarding the leasing of vacant allotment plots. This will be an agenda item at a future meeting.

Application forms for bus tokens are now available at the Post Office and as before these can be validated by Angie Hurcombe. Enquiries were made regarding having a collection day for tokens in the village – too late for this year, but it was decided that as the present system seems to work there was no need for this. Parishioners should note that the Free Travel Pass offered is for the EN area only; therefore it can only be used for buses to Oundle and villages within that area. Applicants can have either travel tokens or a pass, not both. During this report, a Councillor stated that NCC also issue bus passes for OAP's; urgent enquiries will be made into this.

We are in discussion with ABB and ENC as to whether lights in unadopted areas automatically become our responsibility. New bulbs were fitted in lights in Daleswood Rise, following numerous complains, but the PC have not officially adopted the lights as yet.

NCC Highways have been informed of several accidents on the Bomb Dump corner Stamford Road and their Casualty Officer is to inspect and report back to us. It was suggested that there should be warning chevrons on the road.

Mrs. Pat Adams wrote regarding the old railway line proposals; I have forwarded her letter to Thornhaugh EA who is sponsoring this project.

A petition signed by a number of residents of Station Road regarding dangerous tree roots affecting safety on the pavement has been sent to NCC Highways for their urgent attention.

The Elephant trap in Willow Lane is again causing problems; this will be reported as there had been some discussion by Atkins with regard to rebuilding this drain.

A letter if complaint has been sent to Apex Haulage following reports that vehicles are using the village as a shortcut to Corby. They have also been asked to ensure the road sweeper is used twice a week to clear mud on the Wansford Road as promised in the autumn. There was also a report of problems with the skip lorries transporting crushed glass, but the manager of the Industrial Estate says that the Environment Agency have visited the site several times are quite satisfied with the way in which this being transported to and from the site.

Mr. Smith of Smith Hetherington has given a quotation and will again be contracted for grass cutting etc., for the coming year, at no increased cost.

05/132 Accounts : The following accounts were approved for payment

Curators Salary (current month)	£ 140.00
Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 200.00
ABB Ltd : Lighting repairs	£ 42.30)
ABB Ltd: Lighting repairs	£ 176.25) One cheque
Resource at Kings Cliffe : Youth Club	£ 99.00
ABBA : Annual subscription	£ 82.00
BT : Quarter to December 2005	£ 51.94
Set in Stone : Re-erecting gravestones	£1668.50
BDO : Auditors account	£ 152.75
Powergen : Lighting ¼ to Dec 05	£ 413.44

The Burial Board Chairman explained that half the cost of re-erecting gravestones would be met by the PCC.

Proposed : Councillor A. Howard Seconded : Councillor B.Wright

05/133 Planning

Applications

Demolition of 79/81 West Street & erection of 2 dwellings : EN/05/02471/FUL : No objection

Rear extension, front porch & garage : 9 Forest Approach : EN/05/02470/FUL : No objection

Loft conversion with dormer : 47 Bridge Street : EN/05/02496/FUL : No objection

Siting of mobile home : adj. Telephone Exchange, Bridge Street : EN/06/00072/FUL

The Parish Council unanimously object strongly to this proposal. It contravenes all current regulations and there is no reason for living accommodation on this land. There has been no dwelling on this land within living memory. Some months ago a Portakabin placed on this land by the previous owner was eventually removed with help from the ENC Enforcement Officers who will verify this fact. This land is well outside the village confines; a mobile home on this site could set a precedent for an application for full planning permission for a dwelling in the future.

Alterations : Memorial Hall : EN/06/00008/FUL : No objection

Granted

Two extension :15 Wood Road : EN/05/01980/FUL : Noted

New two storey dwelling : 33 Wood Road : EN/05/02306/FUL :Noted

Replacement windows : 30 Bridge Street : EN/05/02344/FUL : Noted

Refused

Removal of internal wall : 2 Bridge Street : EN/05/02358/LBC :Noted

05/134 Hills & Holes Pit

This matter is moving forward and in hand with the Councils solicitors.

05/135 Annual Audit

The Audit is now complete and the notice will be posted on the notice board. The Council voted to accept the findings of the Auditors

Proposed : Councillor N. Ford Seconded : Councillor B, Wright

05/135 Youth Club

There are rumours that the Youth Workers are to be withdrawn. We have not been officially notified of this, but a letter has been sent to the Chairman of NCC asking for urgent information on this matter.

05/136 Mobile Library

The Council has been informed that the Mobile Library service is to be cancelled. Again, as above, we have had no official notification and further information has been requested.

05/137 Apethorpe Road footpath

The Chairman and Clerk attended a meeting in Apethorpe with Patricia Howells, Apethorpe Parish secretary, Mike Herring and Andrew Leighton from NCC Highways to discuss this; the PC have been asking for this to be reinstated for some years and had been informed it was in the pipeline if monies were to become available. It was a very constructive meeting; NCC are hoping to carry out a feasibility study. It may be possible to obtain grants for this if the estimates prove to be too expensive to be considered by NCC.

05/138 Sub-Committee Reports

The Chairman reported that he had had a meeting with Mr. James Adams regarding the possible purchase of around one acre of land to increase the size of existing cemetery in Bridge Street. This was discussed at length and it was agreed this was the way forward. The meeting congratulated the Chairman for his idea of this obvious solution to enlarging the cemetery. Councillor D. Sharpe suggested the possibility of a grant to purchase the land should be researched.

A meeting of the Burial Board was held on 23rd January 2006.

The matter of the cemetery as above was discussed at length.

The repair work in the Churchyard in February 2005 to 3 headstones by Finnemores has failed. All 3 stones fell apart when they were lifted for re-setting. Cllr Sharpe will contact Finnemores. It was agreed that one of these stones is probably beyond repair as the stone has deteriorated and is in 3 pieces. Cllr Howard volunteered to attempt to repair this stone in his workshop.

The invoice from Set in Stone Memorials for re-setting 13 headstones was approved and will go to the full Parish Council for final approval. The Parochial Church Council has agreed to pay half the amount, with the Parish Council paying the remainder.

Quotations are to be obtained to paint the railings in the spring.

There are several buddleia plants growing in the Pitchell wall. The Parish Council will be asked to arrange to have them removed.

Next meeting will be on Monday 6th March

Neighbourhood Watch

Councillor B. Howard had attended a recent Safety Forum meeting. The publication "Home Beat" has been delivered to all homes in the village and gives useful information and telephone numbers.

The Clerk will write to both Housing Authorities asking that bolts, as well as safety chains, should be fitted to all old people's dwellings.

The question of parked cars in the village was again raised, but there is no obvious solution to this problem, and the Police state quite rightly that it does stop speeding on the village streets. However, car parking will be on the agenda for the next meeting and Councillors are asked to bring any suggestions.

05/139 Other Correspondence Received

Various correspondences were noted or circulated.

05/140 Any Other Business

The Chairman reminded the Council of the Preferred Options meeting to be held at the Community Centre on Thursday 9th February; details of this were published in the Nene Valley News, no posters have been given to the PC for display.

Councillor B. Wyles raised the point of horse dropping on the roads, in some cases even on pavements. It was pointed out that at times, traffic does force riders to take to the pavements for safety but the Councillor, whilst accepting they cannot clear droppings whilst riding, suggested that riders should get together and provide a workforce to clear this mess; dog owners clear their pets droppings, riders should do the same.

Councillor B. Howard raised the point of dislodged kerbs outside the village store. This has been report to the Street Doctor by the clerk, along with other loose kerbs.

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There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50.pm.

The next meeting will be on 9th March 2006.