

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Kings Cliffe Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall Parlour on Thursday 9th March 2006.

05/141 Present: Chairman M. Day, Councillors B. Wyles, D. Sharpe, B. Howard, N.Ford, and B. Wright, K.Howard, L. Crane, T. Isaac and J.Dixon

05/142 Apologies for Absence: Councillor A.Howard

05/143 Declarations of Interest: None

05/144 Minutes: Minutes of the meetings held on 2nd February were read and approved

Proposed : Councillor D.Sharpe Seconded : Councillor B.Wright

05/145 Matters arising : None

05/146 Clerks Report

Letters have been sent to James & Guy Adams regarding the proposed purchase of additional land for the Bridge Street cemetery. Berrys of Kettering have agreed to act as Land Agents for the PC in this matter.

Kelhams solicitors are chasing up the deeds for the Hill & Holes Pit to enable this matter to proceed.

Following a petition from Mrs. W. Harper, NCC has been asked to deal with the tree roots which are distorting the pavement in Station Road. No reply has yet been received from them.

Various kerbs have been re-sited – Hall Yard and outside the Village Store. Street lights have been repaired and a new bracket fitted outside Woodings shop.

The Portakabin in Forest Approach has at last been looked at by the Enforcement Office; she has to establish that the garden is definitely in the conservation area first but if it is not can try a different approach. She will report back to us in April.

The Enforcement Office has also told me that they are looking into repairing the Spa; I told them this is actually in Southwick Parish, but it does sound as though something will be done.

The large amount of broken glass from an old windscreen at the Bottle Banks has been reported to ENC and clearance requested; this has not yet been done.

The Audit has now been finalised; this year the accounts will go directly to Stephenson Smart for checking, to avoid any delay.

Following a letter to Apex Haulage after reports of their lorries using the village as a short cut, a letter was received explaining that they had been carting away spoil and bringing in top soil to the site of the old garage. At this point a Councillor reported that lorries from the Industrial Estate are still using the village and that the promised bi-weekly road sweeper had not appeared on the Wansford Road. This will again be investigated.

Reported smells from the Landfill Site are being taken seriously by them and investigated.

A complaint was received from a resident regarding the road surface on the Stamford Road, as his car was written off after skidding off the road. He was sent e-mailed copies of all current correspondence on this matter. The same gentleman reported the vandalism of cars in West Street; although this had been reported I also reported it to the Police on behalf of the PC. A Councillor reported potholes and a dangerous branch overhanging at the bomb dump corner, these will be reported to the Street Doctor and English Heritage respectively.

Atkins have been asked yet again to clear the Elephant Trap in Willow Lane; there was also some discussion regarding rebuilding it, they have been reminded of this, but no reply has been received.

05/147 Accounts : The following accounts were approved for payment

Curators Salary (current month)	£ 140.00
Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 200.00
ABB Ltd : Quarterly maintenance charge	£ 324.85
ABB Ltd : Lighting repairs	£ 42.57
ABB Ltd : Lighting repairs	£ 176.25
Stephenson Smart & Co : Audit fees	£ 235.00
D. Sharpe : Gravel for Maltings Green	£ 39.79
Proposed : Councillor N. Ford	Seconded : Councillor K. Howard

05/148 Planning

Applications

73 Park Street : Garage (retrospective) : EN/06/00301/FUL : no objection
55 Bridge Street : Extensions (retrospective revision) : EN/06/00188/FUL : no objection

Granted : all noted

79/81 West Street : demolition & 2 two dwellings : EN/05/02471/FUL
9 Forest Approach : Rear extension, front porch & garage : EN/05/02470/FUL
47 Bridge Street : Loft conversion : EN/05/02496/FUL
Memorial Hall : alterations : EN/06/0008/FUL
West Hay : Warehouse extension : EN/05/02232/FUL

Refused : all noted

Hither Miers, Wood Lane : Residential development : EN/05/02419/OUT
Siting of mobile home : adj. Telephone Exchange, Bridge Street : EN/06/00072/FUL

05/149 Citizens Advice Bureau

The Citizens Advice Bureau had written to ask for funds. The PC had contributed to them in 2004 and again last year. Although they no longer serve the Resource Centre but do still attend in Oundle, it was felt they should still receive support for their very useful free service to the community, and upon a show of hands, it was decided to send a cheque for £150 to them.

05/150 Parking Problems

This agenda item was instigated by a Councillor who had been asked to compile a report for this meeting. Although this was not forthcoming, a lively debate ensued. As the regulation and restriction of parking is not included in the PC's remit, the conclusion was that there is little to be done to solve the on-road parking situation in the village.

05/151 Youth Club : update

No information has been forthcoming from NCC with regard to the alleged withdrawal of Youth Workers; however it was noted that although members of the club had arrived at the Resource Centre on the evening of this meeting, no Youth Workers were present. Further enquiries will be made.

05/152 Street lighting

Councillor B. Wyles has compiled a list of areas which need new or improved lighting; the Chairman will use this to liaise with Gill Corner from ABB to implement improvements in the near future.

05/153 Mobile Library : update

Although no official information has been received, a Parishioner attended a meeting with County Councillor Padley as was told that nothing had yet been decided but the result will probably be a reduced service.

05/154 Apethorpe Road footpath

The Clerk is regularly informed of progress by the Apethorpe Parish Secretary. Apethorpe are actively trying to arrange funds for this project; Chairman M. Day suggested that they should hold a public meeting in Kings Cliffe to form a committee, but they have decided against this at present, whilst they investigate various avenues of funding. They were advised that KCPC were unable to be involved in fund-raising but that they had our full support.

05/155 Malting Green footpath

Councillor D. Sharpe had purchased a quantity of gravel to fill the very muddy parts of this footpath, for which the Chairman thanked her. Advice will be sought from the ENC Footpaths Officer, Bob Birkett regarding reinstating the hard pathway which has disappeared over the years. At this point it was decided that there could be several footpaths in the village which should be inspected after the recent rain.

05/156 Traditional Funfair

A letter from a company who run traditional funfairs in villages had written asking if there was a site in the village they could use. The PC thought this a good idea and Councillor N. Ford took the letter to Howard Farms as he felt they might be prepared to accommodate this attraction.

05/157 Subcommittee Reports

Burial Board

A Burial Board meeting was held on 6th March. A memorial headstone for the late Terry Curtis was approved. As less than half of the Burial Board members were present, no further business was discussed.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday April 18th at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall meeting room.

The Subcommittee Chairman D. Sharpe asked members to let her know as early as possible if they were unable to attend, to allow her to reschedule meetings to include them. Councillor Nigel Ford volunteered to join the Burial Board.

Neighbourhood Watch

Councillor B. Wright said that the Neighbourhood Watch meetings should resume during the summer months and suggested that a further session of Post Code marking could be arranged.

05/158 Other Correspondence received : Various correspondences were noted or circulated.

05/159 Any other business

Councillor B. Howard complained that a house on Blatherwycke Road had derelict cars in the front garden. Spires Homes will be informed.

Councillor B. Wyles reported that the new seat at the corner of Wood Lane was very dirty as youngsters were sitting on the back and putting muddy feet on the seat. A sign will be affixed to the seat asking the culprits to desist. He also considers that the mud on the road from the site adjacent to 33 Wood Road is dangerous, although NCC have inspected this and accepted it is only a short term problem. The verge at the bottom of Willow Lane is being badly damaged by a resident parking her car on the grass. The Clerk will write the Housing Association.

An exposed loop of pipe left by Anglia Water close to the gates to the Sewage works is a danger to children; the Chairman will speak to the owner of the land.

Councillor T. Isaac reported that owners were not clearing dog dirt left in the street; signs will be posted to remind dog owners that this is an offence. She also asked if the Wansford Surgery could be approached with a view to erecting a mirror opposite the entrance, as turning out from the driveway was completely blind and dangerous.

As it is proposed to hold the Annual Public meeting and the AGM at the same time, Councillor D. Sharpe asked for a revised list of meeting for the Notice board.

The Chairman asked if the fact that the next meeting will be on 13th April would be difficult for any Councillors as it was so close to the Easter Bank holiday. There were no concerns. He also suggested that Councillors should think about nominating a new chairman at the AGM in May, as he will have served a three year term at that time.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55.pm.

The next meeting will be on 13th April 2006.