

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council took place on Thursday 10th November 2011 at 7.30.pm. in the Parlour at Memorial Hall.

11/119 Present : Councillors G. Caddick, L. Crane, M. Day, A. Howard, G. Kingston, C. Leuchars, R. Meadows, C. Williams, N. Ford, R. Brown and D. Councillor R. Glithero

11/120 Apologies for Absence : Councillor J. Atkinson

11/121 Declarations of Interest: Councillor Leuchars declared an interest in the first item under Planning.

11/122 Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th October 2011 : Approved, following two minor amendments.

Proposed : Councillor Ford Seconded : Councillor Kingston

11/123 Matters arising : None

11/124 Clerks report

Thank you to everyone who did my job whilst I was away.

Tim Slater for Charles Church called to finalise the traffic calming measures on Wood Road and have promised to let him know what happens this evening. He is of the opinion that we can either have chicanes or a crossing but not both. He will also look into the Willow Lane problems.

ENC have asked Charles Church to install low energy lighting at Sovereign Grange. To date the only lighting proposals they have had are for the private parking areas. We will be informed when a decision is made.

The steps to the houses in Willow Lane have been repaired by Spire Homes.

Rubbish outside the Village Shop : Waste Management have checked this, and have concluded that this is generated by either the Village Hall or Youth Club – Joe Bailey at ENC will contact both organisations.

ENC have asked if we need to identify any areas where dogs are forbidden, or kept on leads. As dogs are not officially allowed in the Sports Field, allotments or cemetery, there are no other areas where they should be banned. A reply will be sent to them accordingly.

The untidy vehicle parked in Forest Approach has been remedied.

11/125 Accounts payable : approved

Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 240.00
Richard Brown : Cemetery & Churchyard	£ 370.00
HMRC : Clerks PAYE	£ 60.00
E-on : Lighting repairs (1 cheque)	£ 37.52
E-on : Lighting repairs	£ 78.00
E-on : Lighting charges ¼ to Oct 2011	£ 617.99
BT : Telephone charges ¼ to Oct 2011	£ 97.94
RJC Countryside Management : hedge laying at cemetery	£ 1,840.80

Proposed : Councillor Ford

Seconded : Councillor Williams

11/126 Minute to finalise annual accounts

The Council have adopted an approach in relation to the needs, size, and circumstances of the Council, namely Internal Audit once a year at the completion of the financial year end and is based on the schedule in appendix 9 of the Governance and Accountability for local Councils – A Practitioners Guide 2008 (England). The Clerk and Ivan Walker from Stephenson Smart met to discuss the accounts prior sending them to the Audit Officer. All relevant issues have been addressed and the Annual Return was approval and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

Proposed : Councillor M. Day

Seconded : Councillor Caddick

11/126 Financial Position

Bank balances:- Current account £ 9,068.23; Deposit account £6 ,134.19, Bequest account; £ 7,023.46.

Councillor Kingston raised a point about spending the bequest money on the cemetery extension and felt that a substantial amount of it should be retained. Chairman A. Howard replied that the solicitors had said we could spend this money at our discretion as long as the four nominated graves were tended. However, Councillor Kingston feels at least half of the money should remain untouched, as the bequest stated it was for the upkeep of the Bevin and Chapman graves.

It was agreed to put details of this donation in the Parish Gazette

11/127 Planning

Applications

Prior to discussion on this item, Councillor Leuchars left the room.

4 Bridge Street : Alterations to lead parapet gutter : EN/11/01576/LBC and 11/01645/FUL – no objection

Granted by ENC

59 West Street : Various works on trees : EN/11/01464/TCA – noted

31 West Street : Various works on trees : EN/11/01542/TCA - noted

Withdrawn

23 Park Street : Demolition of existing and erection of new extension : EN/11/01360/CAC - noted

11/128 KC1 106 agreement

Councillor Brown had requested this agenda item and raised various points which he felt had not been fully addressed.

The agreement had been forwarded to all Councillors. The Chairman pointed out that this agreement had been agreed in August 2008, following numerous meeting with ENC. We had been granted many concessions which had never happened before in housing developments in the village.

First, the LEAP and LAP for the Children's Play Area adjacent to the Ex-Servicemen's Club. He pointed out that this would be equipped by the developers and a sum of £83,000 will be given for maintenance and/or replacement of items.

Second, the land for a Cricket Field/Village Field to the rear of the site would be transferred into the ownership of the PC shortly.

A sum of £25,000 for the community was mentioned in the 106 agreement, but Councillor Glithero confirmed that this had been given to the Sports Project by ENC; this is, however, still benefitting the village.

The request for traffic calming measures, in the form of two chicanes on Wood Road had been agreed. We had asked for an informal crossing between Willow Lane and Forest Approach, but this has been refused.

The above should all be in place before any houses are completed.

The Chairman also pointed out that the precept will rise substantially as houses are built, to cover the costs of electricity charges for street lighting etc.

Councillor Brown expressed concern that the maintenance figure would not cover replacements and the cost of ground maintenance; also if we had adequate insurance to cover public liability. Councillor Day felt that the maintenance figure would be adequate; if equipment is broken we will replace it. The land will be added to existing insurances when it comes into use. The matter of having a management company for maintenance was considered to be unnecessary as the PC prefer to control this themselves.

Councillor Glithero informed the Council that payments to the community for each house, now a Planning Delivery Grant, which had been queried, is paid upon the completion of houses. New regulations are still under consideration and will be paid by Central Government to District Councils. Parishes will then ask for funds for specific projects. He assured the Council there will be money from this source.

11/129 Traffic Calming & crossing : Wood Road : update

This is covered in the above; ENC will be asked when we can expect the chicanes to be completed.

11/130 Street Lighting for Sovereign Grange

ENC have stated the only lighting so far discussed with Charles Church is for the private parking areas, but they will request that low-energy lighting is installed on the site.

11/131 Willow Lane : hedge removal

The Enforcement Officer from ENC will be inspecting this tomorrow (Friday 11th November). It was agreed that we would write to ENC on this matter and that it is essential that the hedge is reinstated.

11/132 Augean

Councillor Leuchars gave a report on the result of the appeal. No LL Waste will be deposited for 28 days from the date of the court injunction.

He proposed that the PC should write to Louise Mensch MP, as she has indicated that she will be taking a back seat on this issue and remind her of her pledge to devote herself to the cause in Kings Cliffe. He pointed out that the referendum wording was "Do you wish the Parish Council to take the strongest actions to object to the disposal of low level radioactive waste at the East Northants Resource Management Facility or any other site in the surrounding area?" and she should be reminded of this decision by her electorate.

Proposed : Councillor Leuchars

Seconded : Councillor Meadows

Councillor Meadows pointed out that it was a legal referendum. The Chairman asked if everyone was happy with the proposal. Councillor Ford said in his opinion the appeal was a waste of time; the landfill site puts a great deal of money into the village and will still do so, even when they are taking LL Nuclear Waste.

Councillor Brown asked if WasteWatchers were taking further steps. Councillor Meadows replied they were still appealing. Councillor Day asked where the money would come from.

11/133 PPC : King's Cliffe Surgery

The Chairman reported that at a recent PPG at the surgery, the impression had been given the PC could be involved in the siting and building a new surgery to replace the one in West Street.

This matter had been discussed by the PC at length in the June 2011 PC meeting (minute 11/041). The Clerk had ascertained with NCALC that there was no question of the Parish Council borrowing money for such a purpose; this is purely a Health Authority matter.

Councillor Brown asked under what regulation was our decision taken not to provide funding for a new surgery; it was agreed that the clerk would clarify with NCALC

It was also agreed that we would write to the Doctors and if they so wish the Chairman will discuss the way forward with them

11/134 ENC : Planning regulations for Solar Panels

The present regulations seem to be rather contradictory. In the Conservation area, apparently solar panels are allowed on roofs but not on walls – which no-one understood. However, listed buildings still need planning permission. District Councillor Glithero will investigate this and let the Council know what the actual regulations are.

11/135 Parish Plan

The idea of compiling a Parish Plan was raised at the October meeting by Councillor Atkinson. Councillor Day reminded the Council that the Pathfinder project in 2008 had carried out a very extensive "Planning for Real" survey, funded by NCC; despite many suggestions and recommendations, nothing had transpired from this expensive exercise and he felt it was totally pointless to do it again.

It was agreed to provide a copy of this plan to all Councillors

11/136 The Queens Diamond Jubilee 2012 : Meeting on 20th October

This meeting, as with the first one, was not well attended but a number of events had been agreed and it was pleasing that even at this early stage it was clear that all groups within the community will be involved . The Chairman reported that activities have been discussed for all the days of the long bank holiday and another meeting will be held in the New Year

11/137 Gazette entry for December 2011 : discussed and agreed

11/138 Burial Board

The minutes of a meeting of the Burial Board had been circulated for discussion. The revised cemetery fees have now been agreed. It was agreed that Richard Brown will be asked to trim the lime trees in the cemetery avenue. Councillor Crane stated that the edging for the roads would be expensive, but it was agreed this needed to be done and estimates for various methods will be obtained. Councillor Day suggested the PC should apply to KCEA for funds to complete the works. If agreed, this could also allow for the path to be formed in the Eastern side of the extension. Estimates for this will also be sought and application forms for a grant from KCEA will be completed.

Councillor Crane asked for volunteers for a work party for the churchyard on Saturday 26th November at 11.am. This is to remove the ivy from the walls and to hopeful lay and turn some dangerous headstones. A trailer or similar will also be needed.

11/139 Police : Monthly Crime Statistics

These were discussed; one point relating to six violent crimes will be clarified by the Clerk with PCSO Dobson.

11/140 Other Correspondence Received : circulated

11/141 Any Other Business

Councillor Brown reported that several parishioners had complained about two steel-clad barns being built on Morehay Lane. It appears that these had been built under the Permitted Agricultural Development rules but their use does not qualify as agricultural activity under Section 336 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the GPDO."

It was agreed to contact ENC and also Cllr Glithero agreed to follow this matter up

Councillor Kingston reported that the new dog litter bin has been installed in Station Road; it was also confirmed that, provided it is in sealed bags, dogs spoil is allowed in the ordinary litter bins, if a dog bin is not nearby.

As there was no further business, the Chairman thanked Councillors including Roger Glithero. The next meeting will be held in the Memorial Hall parlour on 8th December 2011 at 7.30.pm.

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