

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday 13th June 2013 at 7.30.pm. in the parlour of the Memorial Hall.

13/025 : Present : Chairman A. Howard, Vice-Chairman M. Day, L. Crane, N. Ford, C. Williams, R. Brown, G. Caddick, R. Meadows, G. Kingston J. Atkinson, C. Leuchars and District Councillor R. Glithero
One member of the public attended.

13/026 : Apologies for Absence : None

13/027 : Declarations of Interest : Councillor Day declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning item for 100 Wood Road

13/028 : Clerks Report

Highways have slightly improved the pavement under the old Railway Bridge; Several Councillors said it was an improvement.

Anglian Water has carried out an extensive CCTV search of the drains under the new playground adjacent to the 'Club' they assure me there are no problems with the drains; the test will be the next time we have heavy rain. If there is a problem with the drains in this area, the Clerk needs to be advised immediately and photographs of the problem taken.

No reply has been received from Councillor North at ENC re the New Homes Bonus; a letter as suggested by Cllr Brown and agreed at the last meeting was sent to him on 15th May. The same applies to the Sawmills issue; Amie Baxter the case officer, was e-mailed, as reported in the May minutes; again, no response has been received.

Pavement in Park Street – change of surface – this e-mail was noted – and it was felt that there should be a dropped kerb in this area, but that is the responsibility of the adjacent house owner.

Richard Brown feels he can no longer keep up with the grass in the cemetery extension and thinks it needs to cutting with a more robust machine than his ride-on mower. It was decided to ask KCA if they could help with this as they now have the equipment.

13/029 Matters Arising

The grant to repair the Pitchell Wall will be discussed by KCEA at their meeting on 9th July.

The site developers will be asked erect a "No Dogs" sign in the Childrens play area; it is also felt that dog bins are also required on the estate; neither of which are the responsibility of the PC until they are officially adopted.

The Chairman reiterated a comment in the minutes that the PC would like the name Sovereign Grange to be dropped, as this was never chosen by the village, but dubbed such by the developers. We should like to adopt the habit, as throughout the rest of the village, of referring to roads, not areas to identify them. It is also noted that the youngsters have christened the play area "The Park". This is felt to be very apt and the PC feel it would be sensible to adopt this as its' name. This will be mentioned in the Gazette to give residents a chance to air their views.

A suggestion was made that the PC should have a stall at the Parish Plan Open Day at the Village Hall on 23rd June with a board setting out what we can do and what we cannot do for the Parish. Councillor Leuchars has produced an excellent news-sheet for this.

13/030 Accounts Payable

Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 315.00
Richard Brown : Cemetery & Churchyard	£ 370.00
E-on : Lighting maintenance charge for ¼ to June	£ 372.10)
E-on : Lighting repairs 75 Wood Road	£ 37.52) one cheque

Colemans of Oundle : Stationery etc.	£ 114.75
Robert J. Goodson : Public, Community & Charities insurance	£ 801.29
Anglian Water : Cemetery water charges	£ 15.09
Stephenson Smart : Internal accounts audit	£ 486.00
HMRC : PAYE for Clerks Salary	£ 3.00

The Council discussed the fact that we have to pay for internal and external accountants and queried this; District Councillor Glithero stated that all Parishes have the same problem and that in proportion, Bulwick paid far more.

The Clerk will scan and e-mail details of the accounts to all; as these have to be submitted by the end of June, it was resolved that all queries must be made by Friday 21st June; they can then be signed and submitted on time.

Proposed : Councillor Ford Seconded : Councillors Leuchars

13/031 : Financial Position : noted

Bank balances:- Current £ 9,424.93; Deposit £3,138.07; Bequest account: £ 6,168.67

13/015 : Planning

Applications

70 West Street : Single Storey “straw bale” extension/rear drive/internal alteration : 13/00492/FUL

The Parish Council have no objections to the current application but would object strongly if permission is sought to implement 5.0 (final paragraph) in the Design and Access Statement viz: “The internal works will also include upgrading the existing roof insulation to exceed current Building Regulations to dramatically reduce the energy consumption of the dwelling and roof-mounted Solar Hot Water panels will be installed in a later phase to the front of the building, to satisfy the majority of domestic hot water requirements during the middle part of the year”.

100 Wood Road : Renewal of application 08/00045/LBC/07/00284/FUL : 13/00812/FUL/13/00824/LBC

Following a lengthy discussion – the following response will be sent to ENC Planning.

In line with two previous comments by this Parish Council, we are concerned that this house appears to be an over-development and we would repeat our objection viz : The Parish Council object to this as an overdevelopment of a small site. The garage is a Listed Building which has been refurbished, therefore there should be no alteration to this and a summerhouse is not appropriate. It is also felt that this dwelling will not be in keeping with adjacent properties in a conservation area. An almost identical application was refused by ENC in the autumn of 2004 (EN/05/01346/FUL). We would also ask the question – has this existing permission in fact, expired?

55 West Street : Replacement windows/door etc. : 13/00837/FUL : No objection

Granted (by ENC) : Noted

72 West Street : Demolish existing and erect new garage/workshop & car port : 13/00427/FUL

2 Bridge Street : Single storey extension and internal alterations : 13/00052/LBC : 13/00053/LBC

13/016 : Accounts : Approval of internal audit

Provided Councillors approve the accounts, as discussed under 13/013 above; the following statutory statement is minuted and approved :-

‘The Council have adopted an approach that is sufficient 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)’.

Proposed : Councillor Meadows Seconded : Councillor Day

13/032 : Childrens Playground/Village Field/Section 106 agreement

Councillor Brown has looked into the Section 106 agreement at length and discovered that a very large sum of money should be paid to the PC - £ 3.60 per metre for maintenance costs for the Village Field; there is also the matter of circa £ 82,000 which is due to be given to the PC for the perpetual maintenance of the Children Play area. A letter will be sent to Persimmon/Charles Church Construction and copied to ENC demanding clarification of these payments and how and when they will be given to the PC.

Letters have already been sent to ENC regarding this and the impact on the Schools of the excuses that the schools are not currently oversubscribed, used for not giving funds to the Schools, but no replies have been received.

Councillor Glithero believed that this was a NCC issue, he has promised, although it was ENC who drew up the Section 106 agreement, to take this matter to County Councillor Heather Smith.

The Chairman again brought up the matter of the legal discrepancies with ENC regarding planning permission at the Wood Lane Saw Mills; he regards all of the above as a catalogue of administrative errors which are not acceptable.

It was also noted that Willow Lane had been altered in a totally unacceptable way, with the building of the large bank up to the houses.

Councillor Glithero suggested that a meeting should be arranged with the ENC Chief Executive Office, himself and the Chairman and one Councillor from the Parish Council, to resolve all the above outstanding problems.

13/033 : Kingsmead Road Signs : report on meeting with ENC

Councillors Meadows and Glithero, also David Hellard for KCA had a meeting with Richard Hankins from ENC regarding the road signs at Kingsmead. This has now been referred to NCC Highways, there is some discrepancy between the signs and this needs to be resolved.

13/034 : Parish Plan : Update

The Village Plan Group is presenting a Village Open Day on Sunday 23d June. Councillor Atkinson paid tribute to Shaun Sannerude, Community Development Officer at EC for all his help. She asked for volunteers to man the Parish Council stand for an hour at a time. Councillor Glithero intends to attend. We hope it will be a successful day.

13/035 : Children's Play Area and Chicanes : Wood Road

All Councillors had seen the plan for the chicanes and entrance to Oak Lane received from Wood Road; the chicanes are fine, but the entrance to Oak Lane was far from clear and the writing on the site map indecipherable; the Clerk will write to Highways for clarification.

13/036 : Local Child Care : Request from residents

An e-mail has been received from two ladies in the village who would like to start a Childcare Centre in the area. They had enquired about using the Old Fire Station; this is obviously not a suitable option, but it was said that the only suitable places could be the Community Centre at Kingsmead (Kings Cliffe Active) or Underground (the rooms below the Village Hall).

It was also suggested that the ladies might like to visit the Village Plan Group "Village Open Day" at the Village Hall on Sunday 23rd June and put their ideas to the various groups who will be there.

13/037 : Landfill Liaison meeting report : 12th June 2013

Councillor Day attended the meeting. A letter from Phil Watson of NCC concerning Community Funds for Sites Taking Radioactive Waste had been forwarded to all Councillors shortly before this meeting. Councillor Day reported that leachate was being reduced and used in the soil treatment plant. There will be an Open Day on 14th September, which will be advertised nearer to the time. Extra capping will be added to the site to control water. Environment Testing : this is the same as the Augean methods and is all completely satisfactory. The various sites, including the Horsewater, water and solids were tested on 11th May and were clear.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and closed the meeting at 9.50.pm. The next meeting will be held in the Village Hall Parlour on Thursday 11th July at 7.30.pm.