

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday 12th February 2015 at 7.30 pm at Kings Cliffe Active.

14/197: Present: Chairman A Howard, Councillors J Atkinson, R Brown, M Day, G Caddick, L Crane, N Ford, G Kingston, C Leuchars, R Meadows, County Councillor H Smith, PC A Hunt, Mr M Burton & Colleague, Mr C Tomalin and one member of the public.

14/198: Apologies for Absence: Councillor C Williams.

14/199: Declarations of Interest:

None

14/200: Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th January 2015

Proposed: Councillor Brown Seconded: Councillor Atkinson

14/201: Mr C Tomalin

Mr Tomalin had already circulated a comprehensive report which was discussed and received positively by the Parish Councillors.

14/202: Matters Arising

The Clerk was asked to chase up the repair work required on the potholes in Park Close.

14/203: Presentation by Mr M Burton on Neighbourhood Plan

Mr Burton had circulated a comprehensive report which was discussed. He confirmed that there was a great deal of interest in Neighbourhood Plans in Northamptonshire Parishes. He stressed the need to establish real concerns and priorities and to set a vision for what is required in the village. He stated there will be local residents who have the expertise to help with various aspects of the Plan. He said that because Kings Cliffe already has a Parish Plan, the groundwork has already been completed. One of the first tasks will be to undertake a schedule of issues including the future of the Endowed School site, quality of the allotments and enforcement issues at Sovereign Grange. He said that some issues are more difficult to deal with. He said specialist consultants may be employed to help and there is funding available for this. He ended by offering his support and encouragement for a Neighbourhood Plan.

14/204: Clerk's Report

The Clerk confirmed that her new e-mail address is clerk@kingscliffeparishcouncil.co.uk.

14/205: Accounts Payable

Clerk's Salary (current month) Deirdre McCumiskey	£252.00
HMRC	£63.00
A E Blunt (Maintenance of Cemetery & Churchyard)	£370.00
Eon	£638.41
RJC Countryside Management	£300.00 & £696.00
Kings Cliffe Sports Association	£16.00

Proposed: Councillor Ford Seconded: Councillor Day

14/206: Financial Position: noted

Bank Balances - Current Account £12,390.65, Savings Account £3,140.44, Bequest Account £5,711.95

14/207: ENC Electronic Planning Applications

It was agreed to write a letter to object to the proposal to send out all Planning Applications via e-mail because the Parish Councillors will still need to be able to look at full sized plans before making their comments. The Clerk will also contact NCALC to ascertain the opinion of other Parish Councils in the local area.

Planning Applications

14/02374 – Alteration to fenestration on rear elevation of extensions already approved and installation of pedestrian and vehicular access gates at 52 West Street, Kings Cliffe & 14/02375 – Amended plans for external and internal alterations already approved including new ground floor cloak-room, new staircase, new opening in extension for breakfast bar and new first floor ensuite at 52 West Street, Kings Cliffe (No Objections but comment that the gates should be made of similar material to other gates in the vicinity)

15/00001 – Works and method of carrying out formerly approved works to limestone wall adjacent to listed gate piers at 21 West Street, Kings Cliffe (No Objections)

15/00119 – Variation of condition 4 to substitute approved Devt Framework Plan at Prior Hall Site, Kirkby Lane, Deene (No Objections but concerns were raised about the increased traffic flow on an already busy road).

Planning Applications granted by ENC

None

14/208: Gigaclear : KAHSI

Councillor Brown reported that Gigaclear is due to become operational in early April 2015.

14/209: Parish Plan: Update

Councillor Atkinson reported that she had recently met with the Dog Warden.

The Village Plan Action Group has launched the Kings Cliffe Web Directory that lists the contact details for groups, organisations and companies in the village: <http://kingscliffe.net>.

14/210: Sovereign Grange: Update

The Chairman reported on a recent meeting he and Councillor Day had had with Mr G Russell, ENC Planning Enforcement Officer, Ms S Matthews, ENC Executive Director and a representative of Persimmon. He went through a Schedule of Outstanding Tasks which included the topping off the path, removing the buttress of the wall, dealing with the manholes, replacing the bin, planting trees around the boundary, extending the path to Willow Lane so that a gate can be installed to make a buffer to the edge of the village, extending the Nature Reserve that may be now owned by the Parish Council, getting the road adopted, moving along the chicanes, dealing with the Leap and Lap and transferring the land to the Parish Council. Persimmon admits that it has accepted responsibility for the flooding of properties in West Street (from Oak Lane rainwater run-off) notably the Bakery, also that it will be undertaking drainage work to eliminate this problem. The Chairman will e-mail Ms Matthews to confirm timescales for the above.

14/211: Willow Walk: Update

The Chairman had contacted Mr R Hawkins, ENC but the lease has still not been extended yet.

14/212: Willow Lane: Update

Councillor Meadows read out an e-mail he had received from Michelle Rickard who was not able to help the Parish Council. The Chairman will speak to Mr P Wright, a retired solicitor and Councillor Smith will speak to NCC Legal Department to try and resolve the issue.

14/213: Surgery: Update

There was no further update available.

14/214: Burial Board Report including Cemetery Maintenance Work Specification

Councillor Crane had contacted three local landscapers in order to obtain tenders for the Cemetery Maintenance Work following the resignation of the Curator wef 31/03/15. It was agreed to place an advertisement for any additional tenders in The Gazette with a closing date of 31/03/15.

14/215: Police – Crime Report

E-mailed to all Councillors and noted. PC Hunt stated that there had been 29 reported crimes this year to date as compared to 31 reported crimes at the same point in 2014. He commented that dwelling burglaries are on the increase and therefore the PCSOs had been tasked to spend more time in the village but there are no reports of anti-social behaviour or neighbourhood disputes. He said that the Police's priorities are dealing with rural crime and speeding motorists. He explained about The Futures Project which has been established to deal with the planned cuts in Police Funding and will involve recruiting volunteers and Parish Special Constables and promoting Streetwatch and Speedwatch. As from 01/04/15, there will be no front desk staff at Oundle Police Station but there will be an office opened in Fletton House which is where Oundle Parish Council is based.

14/216: Village Field

The Chairman reported on the photographic event to mark the successful grant application from the Communities Facilities Fund that had taken place earlier that day. It was proposed by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Atkinson that the planned initial work can now begin. This will be draining the field, filling in a dyke, fencing the railway line, etc.

14/216: Future of the Endowed School/New School Access from Kingsmead

The Chairman reported on a recent meeting he had had with Mr R Bradshaw, Planning Officer to discuss the future of the Endowed School. There are two different local viewpoint priorities:- (1) to sell the site and maximise the value and (2) find the best possible alternative use.

The Parish Council will be applying for Planning Permission to install a pedestrian access from Kingsmead to the new school to allow pupil drop-off and eliminate potential traffic issues in Kings Forest. Kings Cliffe Active has kindly agreed that its car-park can be used by parents for this purpose, so the industrial units on Kingsmead will not be affected by parked cars and vehicular access to the school through Kings Forest will be restricted to staff and deliveries.

14/217: Kerbstones at Post Office/General Store

The Parish Councillors were asked to inspect the kerbstones before the next meeting.

14/218: Gazette Entry for March 2015

Discussed and agreed and will include information/updates about the tender for the Cemetery Maintenance Work, Parish Special Constables, the Village Field, New School Access, Local Elections, the Web Directory and the Dog Warden

14/219: Correspondence Received including Curator's Resignation Letter

Discussed during the Agenda or e-mailed to all Councillors.

14/220: Any Other Business

Councillor Leuchars volunteered to prepare a Discussion Paper for the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillor Kingston reported two street lights are not working on Kingsmead. This will be reported to ENC as they are on an un-adopted road.

Councillor Meadows reported that he had sent a thank you letter to ENC for undertaking the installation of the Kissing Gate in the Hills & Holes. Councillor Howard will thank Mr P Howard for allowing this to happen.

Councillor Atkinson reported that the dead leaves have been cleared away from Church Walk.

It was agreed to invite Mr D Hellard to speak about the future of the Endowed School and the building of the New School at the Annual Parish Meeting in April 2015.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.10 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Thursday 12th March 2015 in Kings Cliffe Active.

Signed _____

Date _____