

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Church Hall, Morton on Tuesday 8th December 2009 commencing at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT Councillors D. Creasey (Chairman), B. Hyde (Vice Chairman) W. Lawrance, G. Lack, R.J. Wells, S. Reynolds A. Bates, J.F. Richardson, C. Friend and P. Chubbuck.

Also in attendance. District Councillor F. Cartwright, County Councillor S. Woolley, Justin Johnson, Principal Planning Officer, SKDC and Mr. T. Barnatt (Clerk & R.F.O)

Members of the public present. None

PUBLIC FORUM A number of past planning decisions and recurring planning concerns were put to Mr. Johnson by councillors. Mr. Johnson gave comprehensive replies and explanations to the various points of concern and assured the councillors that Parish Council opinions were taken into account when applications were being considered. He promised to look into the situation regarding provision of parking at the District Council bungalows (Property Services) and also the condition of the footpath near 11 Haconby Lane (Lincs Highways).

1. APOLOGIES. Received and accepted from Councillor Taylor

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Councillor Reynolds declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 5 - Planning Application. EFR Construction, 51-53 Station Rd.

3. MINUTES. The clerk's notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27th October 2009 were approved as Minutes and were signed by the Chairman.

4. CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE.

Land Registration. The Cemetery Land & Playing Field have now been registered with by the Land Registry and the clerk is preparing to return the deeds to Andrews, Stanton & Ringrose.

Quarterly Play Equipment Inspection. The clerk carried out the inspection on 13 November. Two swing bolts needed tightening and some moss was cleared from the safe surfacing. Parts required for replacement are on order. When conditions allow the clerk will carry out repairs to the safe surfacing with materials recently purchased for this purpose.

Reactive Signs. Lincs Highways have provided a diagram showing the siting points of the reactive signs. No date for erection of the signs has yet been given.

School Crossing Patrol Survey. The clerk had received a copy of an email which informed Mr Trafford, Morton School Headmaster that an official survey, carried out at Morton crossroads, showed that pedestrian use did not justify a school crossing patrol. The Council considered that the survey, carried out between 3 and 3.45pm, should have been more comprehensive and that councillors should consider carrying out a survey out themselves. The Chairman and Councillor Lack were to discuss this matter. It was suggested that Mr Trafford may consider asking parents if they would allow their children to use a crossing patrol, if provided.

Planning Matters. SKDC Approval has been given to Mr & Mrs Middleton, replacement dwelling & outbuilding. 71 Station Road. Two planning applications needed to be dealt with by consultation, owing to time constraints. J. Irving. Extension of bungalow & demolition of garage. 71 Millfield Road. Mrs S Wiscombe. Erection of conservatory/summerhouse. 48 High Street. The Council found no reason to object to these applications.

Bus Stop Improvements Lincs County Council intends to upgrade the markings at the Farmstead, High Street, Bus Stop. County Councillor Woolley said that later information suggested that kerbing would also be heightened.

Morton FC Mr Jesson had written to the Council regarding various problems on the football field.

These were largely being dealt with by David Thomas, clerk of the Town Lands Trustees, owners of the land. The clerk had assured Mr Jesson that he could ask for further help if required.

Cemetery Since the last meeting there have been 3 exclusive rights applications, 1 memorial application and 3 interments. Total receipts £700.

Publications. Available from the clerk – Clerks & Councils Direct. Rural Links.

Councillor Reynolds left the meeting at this point.

5. PLANNING APPLICATION

EFR Construction. Erection of new dwelling. 51-53 Station Road. Full Planning.

The Council found no reason to object to this application.

Councillor Reynolds rejoined the meeting.

6. NEW LAPTOP COMPUTER

Councillor Lack informed the meeting that he had discovered that the present laptop was not powerful enough to take necessary updates and connection to the internet. He had spent several hours trying to update the computer, without success. He advised the Council that the computer should be replaced.

Following a proposal by Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Friend, it was resolved that a new laptop computer, and necessary software, should be purchased, subject to three costings being considered.

Councillor Lack agreed to deal with the matter on the Council's behalf.

7. CEMETERY GATE SEAT

It was resolved, following a proposal by Councillor Richardson, seconded by Councillor Hyde, that a Mardale seat should be purchased and sited outside the cemetery gates to replace the existing one. The clerk will deal with this matter.

8. NOTICEBOARD ON SCHOOL GROUND

The matter of a new notice board, to be sited on school ground, was reconsidered.

Councillor Richardson proposed, seconded by Councillor Wells, that a locally made open fronted notice board, for public use, should be purchased and erected at the school. All were in favour. Councillor Creasey agreed to deal with this matter.

9. HANTHORPE ROAD TELEPHONE KIOSK

It was resolved not to adopt the Hanthorpe Road telephone kiosk and to inform BT of the decision.

10. LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

Community Links had provided a Housing Needs Survey proforma letter which will need to be distributed to every household in the parish. It was agreed that the councillors would arrange between themselves to deliver the survey forms when they became available.

11. ALLOTMENTS

The matter had not progressed. No further contact had been made by the County Council Land Agents, as had been promised.

12. SLCC MEMBERSHIP

It was resolved to pay the £95.00 Clerk's Subscription to the SLCC.

13. ACCOUNTS

The following payments were approved –

N. Wilkie	Litter Coll. To 25.10.09.	56. 00
Shaw & Sons	Burial Register	153. 70
Andrews Stanton & Ringrose	Deed withdrawal Fee	28. 75
Land Registry	Land Registration Fee	40. 00
D. Creasey	British Legion Wreath (Chairmans All.)	18. 00
Viking Direct	Office Supplies	62. 63
N. Wilkie	Safe Surface Repair Materials.	99. 93
T. Barnatt	November Salary	404. 93.
Morton PCC	Church Hall Hire. 8.12.09	10. 00
Just Host	Website Annual Backup & Support	19. 90

14. NEXT MEETING will be held on Tuesday 19th January 2010

15. OUTSIDE REPORTS

Efforts are still ongoing to re-house the man living in a caravan on the A15 lay-by, reported County Councillor Woolley.

Councillor Cartwright said that The District Council was working on balancing its budget without making cuts in services.

OTHER MATTERS

The clerk was asked to deal with the following matters –

Contact Lincs Highways to see if the gritter could include the school area. Recent cold weather had resulted in icy conditions on the path in front of the school.

To write to the owners of the hedge in Hanthorpe to ask them to cut it back.

To report that a street light in Stainfield Road was not working properly, to the SKDC.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....