

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Church Hall, Morton on Tuesday 22nd June 2010 commencing at 7.15pm

PRESENT Councillors D. Creasey (Chairman) B. Hyde (Vice Chairman) W.Lawrance, G. Lack, C. Friend, L. Taylor, R.J. Wells and P. Chubbuck.

Also in attendance. District Councillor F. Cartwright, Mr.T. .Barnatt (Clerk & R.F.O) and, briefly, County Councillor Woolley.

Members of the public present. Two

Public Forum. Mr. Lewis, The Old School, presented his proposal to remove, at his expense, the existing bus shelter owned by the Parish Council and replace it with another smaller one further back, on his property. This would enable him to have two separate entrances, one either side of the shelter. He already has planning permission for a double entrance beside the present bus shelter. He considered that it would be both to the benefit of the Council and himself, would improve access safety and the High Street view. . The construction would be similar in appearance to the present structure but narrower and open fronted, a design that would inhibit use as a urinal, which sometimes occurs now. There would need to be some discussion regarding ownership of the small piece of land concerned and other detail points. He was asking if the Parish Council would agree to this proposal. The matter to be dealt with formally in item 6 of the agenda.

1. APOLOGIES. Received and accepted from Councillors Richardson, Reynolds and Bates.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. . Councillor Taylor declared a prejudicial /personal interest in item 5 – Allotments matters. Councillor Lawrance declared a prejudicial/personal interest in item 7 – tenders for playing field litter clearance

3. MINUTES. The clerk's notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4th May 2010 were approved as Minutes and were signed by the Chairman.

4. CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE.

Lincoln Co-op / Kings Head. The Clerk had recently written to the Lincoln Co-op and asked for a progress report on the matter. The reply said that preparations are presently being made for a full survey and discussions were ongoing with the planning and highways authorities. It was unlikely that any proposals would be available for presentation to the village before autumn.

External Audit The completed accounts return for the year ending 31 March 2010 has been submitted to Clement Keys, the external auditors, and the required notification has been displayed on the High Street noticeboard.

New noticeboard This has been erected and is in use.

New Seat The new seat has been installed. The finish of the timber is considered to be unsatisfactory. The clerk has been in touch with Russell Leisure and they have agreed to supply a new set of timbers.

It was agreed that both this seat and others in the village would benefit from a new coat of preservative. The matter should be given further consideration.

Pearce's Lane Sign The clerk has been in touch with the District Council, on several occasions, about the removal of this sign. The property owner who removed it has refused to allow it to be reinstated to its original position. The District Council is still trying to negotiate the resiting.

Cemetery gates It has been pointed out that the gates, to close correctly, need the hinges

adjusting.

Councillor Hyde offered to have a look at them and see if he could carry out the adjustment.

Cemetery Since the last meeting there have been 2 Memorial applications and 1 Burial. Total income £200.

Planning Matters South Kesteven District Council has given approval to Mr.T.Dickinson for a single storey front extension to 10 Waggoners Way

A Refusal of Certificate of Lawful Use has been issued to Mr M Van Der Drift regarding use of land as a domestic garden adjacent to 5 Parkers Place, Hanthorpe.

The following applications were dealt with by consultation owing to time constraints –

A.Taylor, Demolition of workshop, Adjacent to 77 High Street; Mr & Mrs Middleton, Amendment to add outside staircase to garage, 71 Station Road; B. Lawrance, Demolish existing garage and replace with double garage with pitched roof 16a Edenham Road, Hanthorpe.

The Council was no reason to object to these applications.

Larkfleet Homes. Amended application to erect 20 affordable homes. Bourne Road.

The Council repeated its objections to the original application regarding siting of the project and road safety aspects.

Community Risk Register for Lincolnshire. A copy of this publication has been received.

Publications. LCR, Rural Links and NHS Lincolnshire n/letters are available from the clerk.

5. SAVILLS LETTER & ALLOTMENT SITUATION

County Council agents, Savills, have written enclosing a map defining County Farms land in the parish and suggesting that the Parish Council identify alternative sites thought suitable for allotments. Only chosen sites without development potential will be considered by the County.

The earlier pieces of land chosen by the Parish Council were rejected and a piece offered was found to be very poor land, entirely unsuitable for allotment use. Almost every other piece of County land has been put forward for future development. The Parish Council now has little alternative but to hope some other piece of land, under other ownership, becomes available. The matter will have to remain under review.

The clerk was asked to reply to Savills expressing the Parish Council's disappointment.

6. PROPOSAL TO REMOVE & REPLACE HIGH STREET BUS SHELTER

Mr. Lewis had already presented his proposals to the Council during the Public Forum. The clerk formally read Mr Lewis's letter asking the Parish Council to consider agreeing to his offer to pay for the removal and re-siting of the bus shelter near his property in the High Street.

Councillors were concerned about a variety of points –would it improve access visibility and safety as suggested; safety of bus passengers waiting between two entrances; why should the council agree to changes to benefit the property owner therefore setting a precedence; the other bus shelter caused visibility problems at an entrance as well. It was thought that the shelter, if it was to be re-sited would be better directly behind its present position. Some points in favour of the proposals were – consideration had been given in the past to opening up the front of both shelters, this would achieve this in one case; an open fronted shelter, as proposed, would be much less likely to be used for unsavoury purposes, as is sometimes the case at present.

It was resolved, with 4 for and 3 against, following a proposal by Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Lawrance, to ask the clerk to write to Mr Lewis asking him to consider re-siting a slightly narrower shelter behind the present position, at the side of his entrance.

Councillor Lawrance left the room at this point.

7. PLAYING FIELD LITTER CLEARANCE TENDERS

Only one tender had been forthcoming for this work. Mr W Lawrance quoted £780 pa to clear the litter from the playing field for two years commencing 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2012. This the

same price as the last two years.

It was resolved, following a proposal by Councillor Hyde, that Mr Lawrance's tender of £780 per annum should be accepted.

Councillor Lawrance rejoined the meeting.

8. CONSECRATION OF EXTRA LAND AT THE CEMETERY

Following the report of available grave space at the cemetery the Chairman had been in touch with the Bishop of Grantham about consecration of extra land and had been re-directed to the Diocesan Registrar. He had since formulated a letter to be sent, if agreed, to ask for advice on the formalities of consecrating another area of the land at the cemetery.

It was agreed that the clerk should write the suggested letter to the Lincoln Diocesan Registrar asking for advice on consecration procedures.

9. GRASS CUTTING IN THE PARISH

The poor quality of amenity grass cutting in the parish was of concern to councillors. Following past suggestions the Highways Authority, responsible for the cutting, have been asked to provide costs for the cutting and whether this amount would be available to the Parish Council if it wished to arrange its own cutting contract. However it would seem that at present no one locally has the necessary equipment available to carry out the work.

The clerk was asked to write the Lincolnshire County Council to complain about the poor quality of work being carried out by its contractors.

10. ACCOUNTS

Paid since last meeting

D. Thomas	Internal Audit Fee – extra payment	25. 00
Viking Direct	Office supplies	56. 36
Aon/Allianz	Annual Insurance	658. 34
D. Gentleman	Supply & erect noticeboard	120. 00
D. Gentleman	Install seat	40. 00
Fovia	Printing Newsletter	14. 01
N. Wilkie	Litter Picking to 9.5.10	60. 00
T. Barnatt	May Salary	410.16
Fovia	Accounts book	23. 49
N. Wilkie	Litter Picking to 4.6.10	60. 00
Morton PCC	Church Hall Hire. 22.6.10	10. 00
For Approval		
W. Lawrance	Playing Field Litter Clear. ¼ to 30.6.10	195. 00
M. Lawrance	Cemetery Maint. ¼ to 30.6.10	375. 00

11. NEXT MEETING will be held on Tuesday 3rd August 2010 and will be preceded by a Public Forum, commencing at 7.15pm

12. OUTSIDE REPORTS

District Councillor Cartwright said that SKDC government grant remains the same for this year but that cuts in services will have to be considered for the future. There will be some form of consultation with the public in this regard. The SKDC core strategy has been found to be sound.

OTHER MATTERS

The clerk was asked to look into or deal with the following matters –

Arrangements for cutting the north hedge at the cemetery and around the A15 field should be considered on the agenda for the next meeting.

To contact the necessary District Council department to discuss poor cutting of churchyard grass and shrubbery which needs cutting back.

Write to a local family about changes made to a grave surround.

Report poor road surface condition of Morton North & South Drovers.

Ask the District Council to make sure dog fouling signs are displayed at the Crescent playing field.

Contact the Footpaths Officer to ensure that footpath notices are in place for local paths.

Contact Highways to ask for 40mph reactive signs to be calibrated correctly.

The Chairman agreed to contact Mr Green about the large amount of rubbish being left by local residents on the old railway line, owned by Mr Green.

Councillor Lack agreed to produce a notice to placed along Haconby Lane to stop garden rubbish being tipped into the cemetery hedge bottom.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....