

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Church Hall, Morton on Tuesday 15th September 2009 commencing at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors D .Creasey (Chairman), B. Hyde (Vice Chairman) W. Lawrance, G. Lack, L. Taylor, R.J. Wells, S. Reynolds A. Bates and P. Chubbuck.

Also in attendance. District Councillor Cartwright, County Councillor S. Woolley, Mr. T. Barnatt (Clerk & R.F.O) and Katie May of Community Lincs.

Members of the public present. Twelve

PUBLIC FORUM

Katie May, Rural Housing Enabler for Community Lincs, explained the advisability of carrying out a Local Housing Needs Survey and how various types of information are used to determine the need, or not, for affordable housing in rural areas. She assured questioners that the intention of providing such housing was to fulfill local needs and not to encourage overspill from towns. The Chairman thanked Katie for her presentation. The meeting, both public and councillors, were in agreement that a survey should be carried out. Ms May was not aware of the proposed application by Larkfleet Homes to build affordable homes on Bourne Road, although she would have expected to have been consulted.

Other parishioners present, mainly residents of Bourne Road, expressed concern about the proposed application by Larkfleet Homes and asked what the Parish Council's opinion was. The Chairman pointed out that the Larkfleet letter, only recently received, was to be discussed in the council meeting proper, following the forum.

One of those present suggested an area as suitable for allotments but was in fact the piece of land the Parish Council had been pursuing and had recently been discounted by Lincolnshire County Council. This matter was also to be discussed in the following agenda.

1. APOLOGIES. Received and accepted from Councillors C. Friend and J.F. Richardson

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Councillor Taylor declared a personal interest in item 5 – Planning Application, and a prejudicial interest in item 15 – Larkfleet Homes letter.

3. MINUTES. The clerk's notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21st July 2009 were approved as Minutes and were signed by the Chairman.

4. CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE.

Stainfield Road Hedges The clerk had written to the two owners concerned and both hedges had now been trimmed.

Playing Field, East Lane Entrance This had now been cleared by contractors as required.

Best Kept Village Competition 2009. The parish, though gaining a good report in the first judging, received poor marking in the second round. Class III had been won by Nettleham.

Half Year Internal Audit The Chairman has conducted the internal audit of accounts and found all to be completely satisfactory.

External Audit Year Ending 31 March 2009 Clement Keys have completed the audit and certified the accounts. A notice of completion has been displayed on the High Street noticeboard.

Cemetery Safety Check The clerk has recently carried out the annual safety check on memorials.

Play Equipment Safety Check The clerk has recently carried out the quarterly check on the play area equipment. The main concern remains the algae affecting the safe surfacing near the hedges. Some remedial action is needed to correct this problem.

Planning Matters Due to time constraints a planning application from D. Fawcett, 28 Haconby Lane, Infill space to form a bay window, had been dealt with by consultation. It was considered that the council had no reason to object to this application.

SKDC Approval has been given to D.Fawcett, 28 Haconby Lane, Bay window, and Mr & Mrs M Shaw, 2 Knotts Close, Sun lounge & Front Porch.

Outline Planning Permission has been granted to Mrs P Ellington for erection of dwelling, Plot 2 The Sidings.

Conservation Area Consent has been granted to Alston Homes, demolition of existing building, 40 East Lane

Stuart Vickers, Development Control SKDC will attend the next meeting on 27th October to discuss the Parish Council's dissatisfaction with recent retrospective planning applications and approvals.

An Area Planning Training Session is to be arranged by Mark Shipman, Lead Professional, Development Control SKDC. Councillors will be informed when details have been finalised.

Highways Meeting Report At the meeting, held on 3rd August, local views, regarding the speed on the A15 and the difficulties of crossing the road, were expressed. Mr Brumfield, Area Highways Manager, Lincolnshire County Council, responded. The LCC, he said, had looked at various options to improve the crossroads but most had been found to be unfeasible, because of the offset layout of the junction. Some form of crossing with lights may be possible and would require part financing by the Parish Council. Reactive speed signs will, in the near future, be provided for the village and will need to be sited close to available power sources. A local person had applied to carry out crossing patrol duties but various procedures needed to be completed before the patrol could be re-introduced. Mr Brumfield was presented with the results of a crossing-use survey, carried out by volunteers in June, and copies of letters received from parishioners concerned about safety at the crossroads. There had been no further response to these documents.

SKDC Communications

1) The planning application to site 6 wind turbines in Sempringham Fen will be discussed at the Development Control Committee meeting, to be held at the Guildhall Arts Centre on 25 September, commencing at 10.30am.

2) The SKDC Core Strategy DPD has been submitted to the Secretary of State for examination.

3) SKDC Housing Policy workshops will be held at various venues over the next few months.

4) The District Town & Parishes Conference will be held at Grantham Guildhall on November 24th from 9.30am to 4.30pm.

5) Standards Committee minutes for 10 July meeting received.

Morton & Hanthorpe 2000+ The AGM will be held on 23 September at 7.30pm in Morton Village Hall.

LALC Annual Report AGM at Horncastle College on 7th November.

Community Lincs 2009 Autumn Debate at Metheringham Village Hall, 7pm on 24th September.

Cemetery Since the last meeting there have been 2 Excl.Rights applications, 1 Ashes interment and 4 Memorial applications. Total receipts £415.

Land Registration Following a letter from The Land Registry the clerk had found that two pieces of council land had been registered but the cemetery land and the playing field were not registered. It is recommended that all land should be registered, for future security, and it was agreed that the clerk should take further advice and the matter discussed again at the next meeting.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P.Hannah. Erection of first floor extension. 17 Ford Lane. Householder Development.

The council saw no reason to object.

6. ALLOTMENTS

Following personal contact with a County Councillor the Chairman had received a letter from Mr Hogg, Head of Asset Management, informing the Parish Council that the particular piece of land that it was interested in could not be released for allotment use. The possibility of alternative land being available could arise in Autumn.

The clerk was asked to contact Mr Hogg to see if any land was now available.

The clerk suggested that it would be advantageous to form an allotment planning group so that as soon as any land became available preparations could be begin at the earliest opportunity.

7. REPLACEMENT SEAT IN OR NEAR CEMETERY.

The Chairman had been discussing this matter with a parishioner, who had offered to provide a seat, preferably within the cemetery. Perhaps the new seat could replace a seat that had been removed, probably for repair, and believed to belong to a local family.

Councillor Chubbuck agreed to contact the family to see if the seat was to be returned.

8. BUS SHELTER REPAIRS

It had been advised at the last meeting that the bus shelters were in need of painting and guttering repairs. The Chairman had arranged for work to start.

It was proposed by Councillor Hyde and seconded by Councillor Lawrance, that the work being carried out should be approved, all were in favour.

It was hoped that the final finish could be in white or cream as the painting had already been started in grey. The Chairman said that he would see if this could be arranged.

9. PROVISION OF NOTICEBOARD IN STATION ROAD

It was resolved that a public noticeboard should be provided in the Station Road area, preferably at the school. The board would hopefully be locally made.

The clerk was asked to contact the school ask for permission to site the board.

10. TREES FOR THE COMMUNITY

Councillor Chubbuck thought that a small number of trees would be suitable for the grass areas of the Crescent. As this is District Council property District Councillor Cartwright volunteered to look into this matter.

11. CEMETERY WASTE

There seemed to be no problem about waste being left at the cemetery at present. The clerk will continue to monitor the situation.

12. ACCOUNTS

The following payments were approved in accordance with the budget -

Clement Keys	Annual Audit Y/E 31 March 2009	155. 25
N.Wilkie	Litter picking to 1.8.09	56. 00
Fovia	Printing. Summer N/letter	11. 99
T. Barnatt	August Salary	404. 93
N Wilkie.	Litter picking to 29.8.09	56. 00
Anglian Water	½ Year Cemetery Water Rates	30. 31
Morton PCC	Church Hall hire. 15.9.09	10. 00

13. NEXT MEETING will be held on Tuesday 27th October 2009.

14. OUTSIDE REPORTS

District Councillor Cartwright reported that, to save costs, some local recycling points were being discontinued but householders were reminded that they are always able to leave other items out with their grey bins.

Councillor Taylor took no part in the following item

15. LARKFLEET HOMES LETTER

A letter had been received from Larkfleet Homes informing the Parish Council of their intention to submit a planning application to build 29 affordable housing units on a site on Bourne Road. The field has been in use as part of a dairy farm operation. The matter had already been discussed at length, in conjunction with the Local Housing Needs Survey, during the Public Forum.

Larkfleet had offered to put forward representatives to meet the council and explain the scheme.

It was resolved, following a proposal by Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Lack, that the Local Housing Needs Survey should be carried out and also that a representative of Larkfleet Homes should be invited to attend a public meeting, if possible in October.

The clerk was instructed to contact Larkfleet Homes to agree a date for the meeting, to arrange a suitable venue and publicise the meeting.

OTHER MATTERS

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

Arrange for the Police to visit the playing field in the evenings to deal with gatherings of youths.

Request that the District Council Ranger visits East Lane in early morning to observe dog walkers allowing their dogs to foul the area.

Arrange for action to deal with rats using the surface water drains in the High Street.

Contact Royal Mail regarding proposed post box in Haconby Lane.

Report light no.48, Station Road on at all times.

Remind Highways of standing water problem, since resurfacing, in Edenham Road, Hanthorpe

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....