

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Church Hall, Morton on Tuesday 24th February 2009 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

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

Also in attendance

District Councillor F. Cartwright, County Councillor S. Woolley and Mr.T.Barnatt (Clerk & R.F.O).

Members of the public present. One

PUBLIC FORUM.

Councillor Woolley reported on County Council matters at this point, as she wished to attend another meeting. It is expected that the county part of the council tax will rise by 1.75%. A new £3m school building at Robert Manning, partly funded by the County Council, is soon to be opened. Councillor Woolley has arranged for Morton school children to visit the council chamber in the near future. Councillor Woolley assured the councillors that she was committed in her support in any effort to lower the A15 speed limit.

1. APOLOGIES. Apologies received and accepted from Councillor Richardson.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Councillor Reynolds declared a prejudicial interest in item 6 – Planning application

3. MINUTES.

The clerk's notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20th January 2009 were approved as Minutes and were signed by the Chairman.

4. CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE.

Dog Fouling The clerk had again been in touch with the SKDC. Leaflets would be circulated as soon as they were available and new notices would be displayed.

Allotments Land The Land Agents, Savills, had written to say that County Council officers had asked for more details about the land in question and that a full response would be forthcoming.

Lincs Probation Service presentation As requested the clerk had contacted several local parish councils with a view to arranging a presentation for the area but as yet had no positive replies.

Planning Application Due to time constraints the following amended planning application was dealt with by consultation –

C Handley. 2 storey rear extension. 22 Moorgate Close. No objections were put forward.

Cemetery. Since the last meeting there have been 4 exclusive rights applications and two interments. Total receipts £500.

Post Box, Haconby Lane The clerk contacted Royal Mail with the request and a site visit will be carried out.

Reduced Speed Limit The clerk had written to School Headmaster, Mr. Trafford, to ask if the school would give support to any effort to reduce the speed limit on the A15 to 30 mph. As yet no response has been received. The clerk was asked to make further efforts to arrange a meeting between the school and councillors.

Quarterly Safety Inspection The clerk carried out the inspection of the play equipment on 18th February. Some moss needs to be cleared from the surface at the cradle swings. The sign at the East Lane entrance to the playing field is in poor condition and illegible. The two new cradle

swings need putting in place when ground conditions allow.

Internal Audit The Chairman has carried out the half-yearly inspection of the account books and records to ensure that all money is being paid into the Council's bank account, that accounts are being kept up to date and bank statements are reconciled.

SKDC Standards Training Letters had been sent out to all councillors informing them of training sessions on 10th February and 16th March. No replies had been received.

SKDC Site Specific Allocations A meeting regarding sites for housing, employment and retail development in the area is being held at Bourne Corn Exchange on this date, 24th February.

SKDC Dog Control Orders The clerk was asked to respond to District Council supporting the adoption and implementation of the orders as laid out in the letter.

5. CEMETERY PATHWAY REPAIRS

As instructed at the last meeting the clerk had approached the County Council and its contractor about repairs to the pathway, as yet without result. The clerk had already been in touch with other local contractors for quotations and it would be necessary to tender for other quotations for the work by notice.

Following a proposal by Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Lack it was resolved that the clerk should obtain quotations from local contractors, for repairs to the cemetery pathway and also display a notice tendering for quotations.

6. PLANNING APPLICATION

Councillor Reynolds left the meeting.

S. Reynolds & G. Gosling. Erection of dwelling between 49 & 55 Station Road. Outline.

It was resolved that the Council had no objections to this application.

Councillor Reynolds returned to the meeting

7. SEMPRINGHAM TURBINES – PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE

Following a presentation in August, by Stewart Chester of AGAST, councillors had assured him of their support in opposing the windfarm in Sempringham Fen.

The application had now been received from SKDC and the clerk was asked to inform the planning officer of the Parish Council's opposition. The clerk and chairman would formulate a letter and supply a copy to councillors.

8. BOURNE LOCAL FORUM REPRESENTATIVE

All councillors were in agreement that Councillor Lack should continue in this capacity.

9. SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN

Councillor Lack presented the aims of an emergency plan template and urged councillors to support the provision of a plan for the parish. He felt that this would be very advantageous, at some later date, for the parish. Councillor Wells said that a public meeting would need to be arranged to discuss the matter and that some detail of the plan would be needed as this was only a template. He also pointed out that a co-ordinator would need to be appointed – would this be the clerk? – if so he would then need remuneration for such a post. Councillor Lack explained that it could in some form be based on a revitalised neighbourhood watch scheme.

District Councillor Cartwright was asked if she would seek advice from officers at District level, which may help.

Following a proposal by Councillor Chubbuck, seconded by Councillor Hyde, that this item should be considered again in six months time, when it was apparent what other smaller councils were doing, it was resolved that the matter should be reviewed in six months time.

10. ACCOUNTS

The following payments were approved in accordance with the budget -

T. Barnatt	January Salary	384. 25
Viking Direct	Stationery	61. 89
Fovia	Printing. Winter N/letter	12. 01
Morton PCC	Church Hall Hire 24.2.09	6. 00
N.Wilkie	Litter Coll. to 15.2.09	52. 00
T. Barnatt	February Salary	384. 25

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at the Church Hall on Tuesday 31st March 2009 preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting, commencing at 7.15pm.

12. OUTSIDE REPORTS

District Councillor Cartwright reported that the District portion of the council tax would rise by 3.5%. The District Council income had suffered because of lower interest rates and income from various sources. An appeal had recently been won against the siting of turbines in the Vale of Belvior, but at great cost. Reserves had been used for this purpose. The council was making a wide range of initiatives to help local businesses through the recession.

13. RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

It was proposed by Councillor Wells and seconded by Councillor Friend that due to the sensitivity of the next item on the agenda the Council should move into closed session and all were in favour.

14. CEMETERY MATTERS

The Council received a report from the clerk about recent matters at the cemetery.

OTHER MATTERS

Councillor Lack informed the meeting that he was the Police contact representative for the parish. The clerk was asked to deal with the following –

Contact Lincolnshire Highways to see if anything further had been done to remove the caravan dweller in the A15 layby.

Report broken fence posts near the Crescent playing field.

Contact SKDC to see if the ranger could monitor a dog owner who regularly released his dogs on the school playing field in the early evening.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....