

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Church Hall, Morton on Tuesday 9th August 2011 commencing at 7.35pm

PRESENT Councillors D. Creasey (Chairman), W .Lawrance, C. Friend, P. Chubbuck, S. Reynolds, RJ Wells, L. Taylor, T. Dickinson and A .Bates.

Also in attendance Mr. T. Barnatt (Clerk & R.F.O), District Councillor Mrs F. Cartwright, & PCSO S.Brommell.

Members of the public present Five

PUBLIC FORUM

PCSO Brommell said that the police had been made aware of several problems in the village after events had taken place, but these could be best dealt with by residents phoning the police at the time of the activities. Youths were still causing problems late at night in the school field/playing area and One had been seen riding a motorcycle, without a helmet, in the High Street and even on the path. A window had been broken at the Church Hall. PCSO Brommell gave out leaflets showing a number – 0300 111 0300 – to contact in these situations and urged residents to make use of this number. She also said that local speed checks are taking place in the area.

In response to a parishioner District Councillor Cartwright said that she had again discussed the matter and there was no likelihood of parking being provided by the District Council.

Another resident said that she was distressed to see the remnants of election notices, put up by the District Council in April, still left on posts in the village. Councillor Cartwright said she would report back about this matter as it would affect many other parishes as well.

1. APOLOGIES.

Received and accepted from Councillors Lack & Hyde and County Councillor Woolley.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Councillor Creasey declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 5 – Payment of Land Registry fees.

3. MINUTES. The clerk's notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21st June 2011 were approved as Minutes and were signed by the Chairman.

4. CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE.

Overgrown footpath. Footpath No29, in Hanthorpe, has now been cleared.

Hanthorpe Ditch. Hanthorpe residents were concerned that the remains of a drainage ditch, along the rear of properties in Edenham Road, had been fenced off at the Seagate development and had been made inaccessible. The clerk had been in touch with the planning office about the matter and had been assured that a gate would be put into the new fence to allow for future maintenance.

Reports The clerk had reported a resident's concern about traffic vibration on the A15, caused by an uneven road repair and had written, as requested, to two resident's regarding overhanging shrubbery or foliage beside pathways.

Play Equipment Safety Check The clerk carried out a quarterly safety check on the play equipment on 8th August. All equipment appears to be in good condition. The safe surfacing is suffering from some small gaps caused by shrinkage. A annual ROSPA inspection is imminent.

Cemetery Safety Check The clerk has carried out the annual check on all grave memorials and all appear to be in a safe condition.

External Audit Clement Keys have satisfactorily completed the audit of accounts for the year ending 31 March 2011. A notice of completion is displayed on the High Street noticeboard.

Best Kept Village Competition Unfortunately the parish did not progress beyond the first round of judging.

Black Sluice Drainage Board A trip to view BSDB operations had been arranged for this evening. Unfortunately because of this meeting it was impractical for any representation from the council.

Planning Application dealt with by consultation Because of time constraints an application by Seagate Homes to erect a double garage at the development at 2 The Grove was considered by consultation. No objections were raised.

Lincolnshire County Council – Parking Policy Consultation. The County Council is planning to apply for powers to take over on-street parking enforcement from the Lincolnshire Police through the introduction of Civil Parking Enforcement. Agreements have yet to be formulated with District Council with regard to off-street parking.

Potential Closure of Bourne Registry Office. County Councillor Woolley had made the council aware that the County Council was reviewing the provision of Registration Services and that the Bourne Office was at risk of closure. This was partly due a matter of the high cost of lease renewal at Saxonhurst. Local residents would need to use the Spalding or Stamford offices. The clerk had already contacted the County Council and expressed concern that there had been no official communication about the matter. Although there were alternative venues available for weddings to take place councillors were concerned that the removal of the facility for the registration of births and deaths may cause considerable inconvenience to local residents, particularly the elderly. The clerk was asked to display a notice about the consultation on the High Street noticeboard and to contact the County Council; expressing concern at the proposal and suggesting that serious consideration is given to finding and using other smaller premises in Bourne. .

Cemetery. Since the last meeting there has been 1 Burial. Receipt £60.

Councillor Creasey left the meeting at this point.

As Vice Chairman Hyde was absent Councillor Wells was appointed to chair the meeting, following a proposal by Councillor Chubbuck.

5. PAYMENT OF LAND REGISTRY FEES

Councillors had previously approved the re-registration of the Stainfield Road land and agreed that the original registration error had been made, in good faith, on behalf of the Parish Council in 1994. Mr. Creasey had no connection with the Parish Council at that time and had recently incurred costs correcting the matter through his agent. The clerk had discussed the situation with the LALC and had been advised that it was the responsibility of the council to repay the costs of re-registration incurred by Mr. Creasey.

Following a proposal by Councillor Bates, seconded by Councillor Taylor, it was resolved that a payment of £278 for Land Registry Fees should be made to Mr. Creasey.

Councillor Creasey returned to the meeting.

6. LINCOLN CO-OP/KINGS HEAD MEETING

On 19th July a meeting took place with Matthew Wilkinson, Lincolnshire Co-operative Store Development Manager. The meeting was attended by Councillors Creasey, Hyde, Chubbuck, Friend, Wells, Lack and Dickinson and the clerk, T. Barnatt.

Councillors were shown several proposed options that had been put forward to the planning and highways authorities on a consultation basis. The most favoured being a building across the northern part of the site and open access in front. Consideration had been given to retaining the present structure but this had been found to be impractical for a number of reasons. Discussions with the authorities had come to an impasse. In basic terms County Council Highways prefers that the derelict structure is demolished, which would facilitate any future road safety measures, whilst the District Council, through the Conservation Officer, wishes the structure to be retained. The District Council advised that property has certain historical internal characteristics, not destroyed by the fire, and any application not retaining the building was likely to be refused.

An independent appraisal commissioned by the Co-op had concluded that the Kings Head should be retained. Unless the situation changes the property is most likely to be sold at some time in the future, possibly, subject to approval, with outline residential planning permission.

Councillors, concerned about the condition of the structure, were assured by Mr. Wilkinson that the building had been cleared out and inspectors had declared it safe. The condition of the site would be regularly reviewed.

Councillor Dickinson asked if the Parish Council could consider supporting the possibility of the building being resurrected as a public house. It was pointed out that local businessmen had considered the property at the time of its sale and had concluded that any such venture would be unviable. Councillors came to the unfortunate conclusion that, unless the situation changed, within a few years the condition of the building would deteriorate further leading to the demolition of the structure.

7. SKDC POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT SITES MEETING 12th July.

Attended by Councillors Hyde, Friend & Dickinson with the clerk, T. Barnatt.

Maps showing sites, suggested by landowners to be available for future development, were presented to the parish representatives at the meeting. The representatives were then asked to give their opinions on the sites in their parishes. In the Morton & Hanthorpe parish almost all the suggested areas had been considered unsuitable for development. One small area in Station Road adjacent to the old railway line had been put forward for consideration. The Councillors present thought that the area could be acceptable for development as long as consideration was given to waste drainage issues on the site.

The meeting was shown the maps referred to and the site concerned. It was suggested that, as all of the suggested land owned by the County Council had been discounted for development, a new approach could be made for allotment land. It was agreed to discuss this matter at the next meeting.

8. FOOTPATH PROBLEMS

Councillor Wells informed the meeting that he had been contacted by a resident who was concerned that field footpaths beyond the Cardyke had been overgrown by rape crops and had not been properly cleared when the crop was harvested. The clerk had been in touch with Mr. Abram at the County Council who would deal with the matter.

9. RE-ESTIMATED BUDGET FORECAST 2011/12

The mid-year budget re-estimate was presented by the clerk/RFO.

Following a proposal by Councillor Friend, seconded by Councillor Wells, the re-estimate was accepted and approved.

10. ACCOUNTS

The following payments were approved by the meeting

EKM Ltd	Safe surface repairs	375.60
T Barnatt	June Salary	371.60
HMRC	PAYE Income Tax	93.20
T Barnatt	¼ Exps to 30.6.11	74.26
M Lawrance	Cem.Maint. to 30.6.11	435.00
W Lawrance	Pl.Fld. Litter to 30.6.11	195.00
N Wilkie	Litter Picking to 10.7.11	60.00
Fovia.	N/letter printing	10.00
Pilgrim Services	Grass Cutting ½ year.	2100.00
T Barnatt	July Salary	397.40

Clement Keys	2011 Audit	162.00
N Wilkie	Litter Picking to 5.8.11	60.00
Morton PCC	Church Hall hire. 9.8.11	10.00
D Creasey	Land Registry Fees	278.00

10. THE NEXT MEETING The Next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 20th September and will be preceded by a Public Forum, commencing at 7.15pm

11. OUTSIDE REPORTS

District Councillor Cartwright told councillors of a new local business competition.

OTHER MATTERS

The clerk was asked to deal with the following matters –

- a) Contact a South Fen resident asking for the removal of posters left in various parts of the village.
- b) Contact the school regarding lengthy display of PTA notice on the village green.
- c) Contact Lincoln Co-op to put up notices dissuading fly-posting on the Kings Head.
- d) Contact Highways regarding displaced footpath signs at a) Holme Farm, High Street and b) A15 bridge opposite Bunker's Hill Farm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....