

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Church Hall, Morton on Tuesday 16th September 2008 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

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

Also in attendance Mr. T. Barnatt (Clerk & R.F.O)

Members of the public present: Four

PUBLIC FORUM:

Concerns were expressed, by residents of the District Council bungalows, about the new kerbing being installed around the church verge, restricting parking of vehicles on the verge opposite the bungalows. Vehicles have been parked on the verge for safety reasons for some time because no parking facility had been provided, as expected, near the bungalows themselves. Some of the properties were now occupied by car owning families and not by elderly non-car owners.

It was agreed that the matter would be discussed during the council meeting, following the forum.

1. APOLOGIES:

Received from Councillors; Wells, Friend and District Councillor Cartwright for not being able to attend.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor Lawrance declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 6 – Tenders for cemetery maintenance.

3. MINUTES:

The clerk's notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5th August 2008 were approved as Minutes and were signed by the Chairman.

4. CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE:

The Old School Canteen The SKDC had inspected the property following complaints from residents of Ford Lane. Although the building contained asbestos in construction it was felt that it did not present a health issue at present, but was deteriorating. Further monitoring would be carried out and the owner contacted about the concerns.

Planning matters The following planning applications had been dealt with by consultation, due to time constraints, and no objections were put forward.

M. Hempstead. Demolition of outbuildings and erection of extensions. 49 Station Road.

J. Peat. Amended plan for House & garage. 39 Edenham Road, Hanthorpe.

SKDC/LALC Town & Parishes Conference Will take place on Wednesday 26th November at Bourne Corn Exchange. Times to be advised.

Internal Audit The Chairman has carried out the six monthly inspection of the accounts books and found them to be in order.

Lincolnshire Police Authority Local Forum will be held at Stamford College at 7.30pm on Thursday 2 October. Councillor Lack agreed to attend.

Lincolnshire Playing Fields Assn AGM. Cranwell Village Hall, 7pm Thursday 23 October.

Community Lincs AGM Osbournby Village Hall, 6.45pm Thursday 25 September.

Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership Enhanced verge maintenance will be carried out locally along the A15 during August, cutting back verges and roadside foliage to improve visibility.

Lincolnshire County Council Road Closure Notification of closure of the Grove, Hanthorpe for sewer connection between 22 and 27 September.

SKDC Path Diversion Notice Part of footpath 44 Morton (Home Farm).

Best Kept Village The final results of the competition had been received – winner of Class III was Nettleham. The marking sheet for the Morton & Hanthorpe showed that the parish scored 139 points from a possible 150. The Chairman commented that it was remarkable

that the parish failed to get further than the first round with such a good score.

East Midlands Fire & Rescue Control Centre A new Fire & Rescue Control Centre, at Castle Donington, serving the East Midlands, is to be fully operational in summer 2010.

East Midlands Regional Strategy Plan A copy is available from the clerk.

LALC News & Annual Report Available from the clerk.

LC Review, Clerks & Councils Direct and Voluntary News Copies available from the clerk.

Annual ROSPA Play Area Safety Report. The report recommended that the surfacing should be power-washed to clear grass cuttings and prevent algae growth. However care should be taken to ensure that the surface can sustain high pressure washing. A cradle seat is damaged and needs replacing. The clerk already has a quotation for the replacement and will put this to the council at the next meeting.

Councillor Lawrance suggested that the grass/algae problem could be controlled by using a blower and that he would carry this out.

5. PLANNING APPLICATION:

D. Exton. Change of use from retail to part of fish & chip shop. 2 Folkingham Road. The council saw no reason to object to the application.

Councillor W Lawrance left the meeting

6. TENDERS FOR CEMETERY MAINTENANCE:

One tender had been received for this work from M. Lawrance.

It was proposed by Councillor Hyde, seconded by Councillor Richardson, to accept Mr Lawrance's quotation of £1200 per annum to carry out the work, all were in favour.

Councillor W Lawrance returned to the meeting.

7. FLAT MEMORIAL:

It was agreed to approve the application for a flat memorial.

8. QUALITY STATUS COMMITTEE ADVICE & APPLICATION FOR RE-ACCREDITATION:

The Quality Status Committee met on 11th August and deliberated at length about the matter of re-accreditation. The Council could meet many of the requirements though some of the new tests could not be met before the required date of application.

The Committee advised that, although it would mean loss of Quality Status, the Council should not apply for re-accreditation at present but work towards meeting the new criteria in future. The matter of re-applying should be considered again in six months time.

It was proposed by Councillor Chubbuck, seconded by Councillor Lawrance, that the Council should accept the advice of the Committee not to apply for re-accreditation. All were in favour.

9. LALC SOUTH WEST AREA FORUM:

No attendance would be made at this forum.

10. LALC COURSES & EVENTS:

It was considered unnecessary to attend the LALC AGM or Employment Seminar.

Councillor Lack said that he may be able to attend the Councillors Training Evening on 11th November.

11. ALLOTMENTS:

The Chairman reported that he had been exploring one or two probable areas for allotments but at present there were no firm possibilities. The meeting arranged for Thursday evening was merely to ascertain the interest in the parish and to assure those present that efforts were being made to find land.

12. WIND TURBINES IN THE FENS:

The presentation by Stewart Chester of AGAST, given at the previous meeting, was discussed.

It was agreed to ask the clerk to write to Mr Chester and offer the Council's support in objecting to the proposed Sempringham Fen turbines if and when such support was needed.

13. MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS:

There was much dissatisfaction with the timing and venues of the Mobile Library visits to the parish since the reorganisation of the service. The clerk was asked to contact the Library service and request a longer time in the village and for the reinstatement of the three original venues.

14. ACCOUNTS:

The following payments were approved in accordance with the budget -

N.Wilkie	Litter Coll. to 2.8.08	52. 00
N.Wilkie	Litter Coll. to 29.8.08	52. 00
LALC	Copy Governance & Accounts	11. 75
Morton PCC	Church Hall Hire 16.9.08	6. 00
Morton PCC	Church Hall Hire 18.9.08	6. 00
T.Barnatt	August Salary	384. 25
Anglian Water	Water Rates to 11.9.08	34. 26
Playsafety Ltd	Annual ROSPA Safety Insp.	88. 13

15. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held at the Church Hall on Tuesday 28th October 2008 preceded by a Public Forum, commencing at 7.15pm.

16. OUTSIDE REPORTS:

There were no outside reports.

17. RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION:

It was proposed by Councillor Lack, that due to the confidential nature of the next item on the agenda the Council should move into closed session, this was seconded by Councillor Reynolds and all were in favour.

18. AUDITORS CORRESPONDENCE:

Recent correspondence with the new auditors was discussed.

OTHER MATTERS:

The clerk was asked to

- 1) Contact the SKDC regarding the need for parking provision at the District Council bungalows now that kerb renewal would make parking more difficult for the occupants.
- 2) Contact Lincolnshire Highways regarding overhanging hedges along pathways in Stainfield Road, Hanthorpe and Hanthorpe Road.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....