

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Kings Cliffe Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 8th November 2007.

The Chairman welcomed District Councillor Roger Glithero to the meeting.

07/105 Present : Chairman A.Howard, Councillors M. Day, L. Crane, B. Wyles, J. Dixon, B.Howard, N. Ford and C.Williams

07/106 Apologies for Absence : Councillors P. Lang Norris and B. Wright

07/107 Declarations of Interest : None

07/108 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th October 2007 : Approved

Proposed : Councillor B. Wyles

Seconded : Councillor N.Ford

07/109 Matters arising : None

07/110 Clerks Report

Following a complaint, ENC have agreed to top and tidy the field behind Fineshade Close.

The Street Doctor has promised to correct the damaged School sign on Wood Road within the next 30 days.

Apethorpe secretary Pat Howells has asked us to support her letters asking for the Wansford Road to be gritted. NCC is consulting about changing gritting policies, but this will be decided next April.

CC Heather Smith has arranged an onsite meeting to inspect pavements, general road conditions and parking problems in the Parish with Councillor Bob Seery and several councillors on 20th November.

Various potholes and lights out have been reported.

District Councillor Roger Glithero:-

DC Glithero introduced himself to the meeting. The Chairman then explained the problems with regard to road and pavement conditions and the concerns regarding safety at the Endowed School and the Wood Road crossing from the Middle School. He also discussed the footpath to Apethorpe; the stretch from Kings Cliffe to Kirks Lodge is now quite presentable, but there are safety concerns from Kirks Lodge to the Second Drift. Apethorpe Parish has secured a grant from the Community Safety Fund towards their part of the footpath; DC Glithero suggested the PC should apply for a grant for this parish for the above section. The Clerk will contact Mark Lovell at ENC.

The Chairman asked if there any issues in the Northants Joint Planning Unit which should concern the PC?

Councillor Glithero replied that there was an issue as Corby were trying to extend Priors Hall with land from ENC; this, in his opinion would produce more new housing than is needed. If this happens it would affect us, there would be pressure to build more executive houses and thereby increase traffic levels, there is already very heavy traffic on the A43 and 'Cliffe is already being used as a rat-run from Corby to Peterborough. A weight limit is to be enforced through Blatherwycke. The A43 is not classified as a red route.

The Chairman asked about the Rural Pathfinder project, particularly as the village is frequently referred to as a 'deprived' area

Councillor Glithero said the deprivation related to Public Transport, Post Offices etc. NCC will not impose anything the parish does not want; there will be money, possibly to encourage shop-keepers with a reduction in rates. With the proposed Sports Project, it would be hoped that public transport would enable other areas to benefit from this facility.

Proposed Soil Treatment plant at the Landfill site. It would appear that ENC have no objections to this, but there are concerns about the 14 metre height of this equipment, which will be visible from many vantage points around the village. There are also anxieties that the waste water from this could end up in the water course

Councillor M. Day pointed out that water from the sewage plant also terminates in the Willowbrooke after being purified; we must ensure the output of water from the landfill is thoroughly decontaminated.

The final point from the Chairman : Kings Cliffe & Area Sports project. The completion of the lease is the last hurdle to be overcome; this is presently with the solicitors.

DC Glithero confirmed that ENC have already pledged £500,000. They are holding funds for changing rooms etc., but they will not give money for running costs.

The PC has agreed to the application to 'The Peoples Millions' lottery fund for more cash for the project.

The Chairman thanked DC Glithero who replied he would remain for the full meeting.

07/111 Accounts Payable

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Curators Salary (current month)	£ 140.00
Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 200.00
British Telecom : ¼ to October 2007-11-01	£ 80.27
BDP Stoy Hayward LLP : Accounts Audit fee	£ 158.63
ABB Ltd : Lighting repairs : two invoices	£ 55.16
Coleman's : Stationery	£ 84.25
Smith Hetherington : Grass cutting etc	£ 196.00
Royal British Legion : Wreath for Remembrance Day	£ 30.00
ENC : Parish Council Elections 2007	£ 166.52

Proposed : Councillor B.Wyles

Seconded : Councillor J.Dixon

07/112 Planning

Applications

44 West Street : Demolition of front wall : EN/07/01896 : No objection

45-57 Bridge Street :change of land (Re-submission): EN/07/01972/FUL : No objection

Granted : All noted

KC Industrial Estate : Recycling plant : NCC/07/00039/WAS : EN/07/01572/EXT

Endowed School : Various LBC improvements : EN/07/00218/EXT

West Hay Depot : Extension of lorry parking area : EN/07/01253/FUL

49 Park Street : Summer house/office (Resubmission) EN/07/01629/FUL

60 Park Street : Conservatory to rear : EN/07/01514/FUL

Refused : Noted

97 Wood Road : two storey rear extension : EN/07/01662/FUL

The Chairman commented that there seemed many inconsistencies in decisions made by ENC Planning Department; examples being refusal of Velux windows to some applicants and permission given to others within the conservation area; the same applies to conservatory construction and the nature of paintwork on new properties.

DC Glithero allowed there were inconsistencies within the planning department and the Planning Panel were well aware of this. ENC management had been requested to recruit older staff with more experience.

07/113 Parking concerns and thorough traffic

Councillor J. Dixon produced photographs of a massive HGV which has somehow travelled down Forest Approach from Wood Road and totally blocked what was the old High Street then proceeded to cause damage to property in Park Street. As the driver was a Polish gentleman, it was necessary to find someone in the community who could converse with him. Councillor M. Day said this had happened on several other occasions and something must be done to solve this problem. One solution would be to route all through traffic along Wood Road, which would necessitate a sign 'To Avoid Village Centre' at the Park Street/Station Road turning. DC Glithero stated that NCC does not like 'unnecessary' signs, but this was deemed as essential by the Council.

As mentioned in the Clerks report a meeting is to be held to discuss road conditions and parking problems later this month. The above problems will be raised.

07/114 KCEA & KC Community & Area Sports Project :update

SWEET has now been informed of the cost of producing the lease for this land and has agreed this is acceptable. Chattertons have been asked to proceed with the draft lease. Once this is completed the Council will discuss the nomination of a 'watching brief' from within its' ranks for the remainder of the Council term.

07/115 Purchase of Cemetery land

Chattertons are awaiting correspondence from the vendor's solicitors. Messrs Adams will be asked to chase them on this matter.

07/116 KC1 Site

The Chairman explained to DC Glithero the requests made to the land developers to obtain benefits for the community as follows:-

- i) A play area adjacent to the Ex-Servicemen's Club and the sharing of parking facilities which has been agreed by the Club in committee to avoid road congestion. Also the provision of funds by the developer for maintenance.
- ii) The extension of the Willow Lane footpath to allow pedestrian access to the Sports Area.
- iii) The provision of land for possible cricket pitches and a 'kick around' area above the

new development.

DC Glithero feels progress seems to have slowed down on this development, but all the above should be achievable. With regard to maintenance of the play area, the usual form is for the developers to donate a sum of money to be invested to provide funds.

The Planners seem quite satisfied with the requests so far but the Chairman will talk to Sue Wheatley at ENC planning regarding all the above matters.

07/117 Burial Board

BB Chairman M. Day said that the curator was to mow the cemetery again before winter. It is noted that there are some graves in need of attention, although many have no traceable “owners”.

Councillor L. Crane and C. Williams are presently clearing some of these graves and will report those which need further attention. Councillor Day has spoken to several parishioners who are quite happy to have overgrown trees they have planted pruned or removed completely.

07/118 Neighbourhood Watch : nothing to report

07/119 Other Correspondence Received : various correspondences were discussed or circulated

07/120 Any Other Business

Councillor M. Day feels strongly that as many councillors as possible should try to attend Rural Pathfinder meetings on Monday 19th November.

Councillor J. Dixon complained that on the new bus timetables two more services have gone. This was discussed, but no-one was surprised as often the buses which service the village are virtually empty.

Councillor L. Crane suggested a Dog Litter bin is required in Malting’s Green. The Clerk will obtain details from ENC,

Councillor B. Wyles raised the issue again of the lack of white lines on the Stamford and Wansford Roads. This will be raised at the meeting with CC Heather Smith. He also suggested a further street light is needed on Wood Road between numbers 91 – 105. The Chairman suggested an evenings walk by Councillors to ascertain where additional lighting is needed.

It is reported that a dwelling is being erected for which no planning application has been seen by the Parish Council. DC Glithero will investigate this matter.

Councillor B. Howard reported that thanks to Mr. Martin George and Mr. Clive Ibbotson the wall around the War Memorial on Wansford Road has been repaired. He is aware that more repairs are needed, but next year will be the 25th anniversary and he will be raising funds.

DC Glithero gave a stark warning about recycling and the costs of rubbish collection in the district. ENC are researching the use of black bags for kitchen waste i.e. waste food etc., which is very heavy and this could increase costs unless this waste is restricted or recycled by householders. Charging for extra bags may apply. If this charge happens bags will only be collected fortnightly and restricted to one bag per household.

With regard to the recycling of newspaper and cardboard 80% of newspapers in the country are printed on recycled paper which is excellent

The Chairman asked what the ENC policy was on green issues such as solar panels. DC Glithero replied it is a very emotive subject in conservation areas, although some are allowed where they are not obvious from the roads.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 9.00.p.m.

The next meeting will be held on 6th December (one week earlier than generally advertised).