

# KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7.30.pm. in the parlour of the Memorial Hall.

**13/115 : Present :** Chairman A. Howard, Councillors M. Day, L. Crane. C. Williams, R. Meadows, G. Kingston, C. Leuchars, R. Brown and G. Caddick

**13/116 : Apologies for Absence :** Councillors N. Ford, J. Atkinson, District Councillor R. Glithero and County Councillor H. Smith.

**13/117 : Declarations of Interest : None**

**13/118 : Minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013: Approved**

Proposed : Councillor Caddick

Seconded : Councillor Leuchars

**13/119 : Clerks Report**

Having been on leave for a month, can Councillor please report anything which has been missed?

The bins at Kingsmead are again full to overflowing, with the lids ripped open again and have been duly reported. No reply regarding our request to move these bins to a more visible area.

Numerous drains reported as needing clearance, and several street lights out reported.

Letters between Mr. & Mrs. Dewes, re levels of houses; Councillor Day reported that he was talking to the Enforcement Officer at ENC.

No sign yet of the Interactive Speeding Device promised for the month of November. I will chase this up.

The latest letter on the Post Office, assures us the transfer is going apace, albeit slowly!

The Pitchell wall is completed; KC Property Maintenance has made a excellent job of it. We are awaiting the cheque from SWEET – but have paid him this month as agreed.

**13/120 : Matters Arising : None**

**13/121 : Accounts Payable : agreed**

Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 312.00
A. E. Blunt : Grass cutting etc., burial grounds : October	£ 320.00
HMRC : Clerks PAYE for month	£ 3.00
KC Property Maintenance : Kevin Cunnington (2 cheques)	£ 2,400.00
BT : Telephone account : ¼ to October (Mrs. H. Blunt)	£ 109.92
Royal British Legion : Wreath for Remembrance Sunday service	£ 30.00
E-on : Lighting charges to October	£ 636.61
Anglian Water : Cemetery water rate Aug – Nov 2013	£ 16.33

Proposed : Councillor Caddick

Seconded : Councillor Day

### **13/122 : Financial Position : noted**

Bank balances:- Current £ 7,337.53; Deposit £3,138.46; Bequest account: £ 6,178.44

### **13/123 : Planning**

#### **Applications**

48 West Street : Reduce height of yew tree : 13/01828/TCA : No objection

45A West Street : Various internal & external works : 13/01719/FUL and 13/01720/LBC : No objections

Hall Farm : Proposed alterations to existing staircase & landing : 13/01671/LBC : No objection

#### **Granted (by ENC) : Noted**

31 West Street : Conversion to two dwellings (Re-submission) 13/01523/FUL/24/LBC

### **13/124 : The Park/Village Field/Willow Lane : Update**

Councillor Brown reported that he had spoken to Sharn Matthews at ENC regarding the presumed £100,000 for the Village Field. It is admitted ENC have misled us over this amount of money.

They would like plans, quotations etc., for the Village Field, this does not include Willow Lane. It was agreed to ask Councillor Brown to write to Sharn Matthews to confirm his understanding of the current position and what has been agreed. The Councillors on the Amenities Committee will organise a meeting to discuss what the PC actually want for the Field.

It is hoped a proposal will be agreed before the next PC meeting in December.

The Chairman has written to Chatterton's, Solicitors, requesting the measure needed to take over ownership of Willow Lane up to the Field and KCA. This will be a complicated issue; the schools side of the lane belongs to NCC, who are willing, but the Sovereign Grange side is certainly a problem. There is also the matter of the ransom strip. The Chairman will speak to the solicitors on this matter

Councillors were asked for ideas for using the Village Field.

### **13/125 : Parish Plan : Update**

All the survey papers are in and are being collated. There was a very pleasing response to the survey; the committee now have the mammoth task of collating the results to find out what the community wants and then targets will be decided.

### **13/126 : Horsewater renovation : Update from Councillor Meadows**

Councillor Meadows had looked into the ways and means of improving the Horsewater in Hall Yard. He contacted organisations involved in such projects; the overriding advice was for 'gentle management', not drastic changes. It was recalled that prior to the last major renovation in 1993 it had been little more than a stream from the spring, meandering to the river. It was then probably over-enlarged, but as it is now, to try to re-instate the small stream would disturb existing wildlife.

It was decided that some renovation is needed, but more advice and the hope of free help or grants will be investigated.

**13/127 : Gazette entry for December 2013 : Discussed and agreed**

**13/128 : Burial Board**

The Pitchell Wall rebuilding is complete and the Council would like to thank Kevin Cunnington for carrying out such an excellent job. The grant money from KCEA has now been requested.

Councillor Crane reported some concerns of trees overhanging gravestones, but that both burial grounds were looking good. The Chairman has volunteered to help Tony Blunt to trim the trees back sympathetically.

Richard Cole will be gently reminded that he has promised to trim the Cemetery hedges.

**13/129 : Police : Monthly Crime Statistics - noted.**

**13/130 : Other Correspondence Received : all e-mailed or circulated to Councillors**

**13/131 : Any Other Business**

Vice-Chairman Day and Councillor Brown agree that the discussions with Persimmon and ENC regarding the Park should be taken slowly; there is no clock ticking, and there is still a great deal more to be completed. It is hoped that in the future, the residents of the estate may volunteer their help.

Councillor Leuchars will attend the Landfill Liaison meeting in December; Councillor Day is unable to attend.

The Schools Consultation is going ahead. The Chairman will request an update on progress.

Councillor Meadows again raised the issue of replacing the posts in the Malting's Green parking area. He will write officially on behalf of the Village Hall.

Residents in Station Road have again raised concerns about the large trees in the area. In the past, ENC and NCC have been asked to pollard these trees, and have refused on the grounds that the trees are safe and healthy. The Clerk will ask the Tree Officer to look at these; at the same time, she will be asked to consider the trees on the land opposite the Endowed School; a resident has complained about the trees being too large and obscuring light to her home.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and closed the meeting at 8.45.pm.

The next meeting will be held in the Village Hall Parlour at 7.30.pm. on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December.