

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held on 9th June 2016 at 7.30 pm at Kings Cliffe Active.

16/045: Present: Chairman A Howard, Councillors J Atkinson, R Brown, M Day, D Gilbert, C Leuchars, G Smid and 5 members of the public.

16/046: Apologies for Absence: Councillors B Hardwick, N Ford & R Meadows and County Councillor H Smith

16/047: Declarations of Interest: The Chairman declared a Non Pecuniary Interest in an item of correspondence concerning the sale of the SSSI Site.

16/048: Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave a short report to update the Parish Councillors on the following issues:-

- Heather Smith has been appointed Leader of Northamptonshire County Council
- The Chairman and Vice Chairman had met with Daniel Hadaway of Persimmon Homes. It was agreed that good progress is being made with the roadworks which are due to be completed by the end of June 2016. A pathway will be installed at the right hand-side of the development. There is no update about the installation of a footpath into Willow Lane. Daniel Hadaway had agreed to replace the dead trees on The Green. The traffic calming measures will only be undertaken when all other works have been completed. There is no update on the future of the land at the top of the development. Councillor Brown requested confirmation that it had been agreed that the Parish Council will take over the Leap and Lap and the Clerk will look through past Minutes.
- The Chairman and Vice Chairman had met with Richard Hankins, ENC. Richard Hankins had agreed to a 30 year lease incorporating an additional area of land to include the footpath and he will write a report which has to be put before an ENC Committee. It was agreed that the Chairman should approach the contractors who are currently undertaking work at KC Active for a quotation for installing the footpath.
- The Chairman had attended a meeting at the GP Surgery with the GPs and representatives of NCC and ENC to discuss the building of a new GP Surgery on the School Site. Kings Heart had not had any further meetings as it been agreed that the relevant organisations needed to meet first. At present there is no financial information available. The Chairman will meet again with the GPs shortly. It was agreed that the Parish Council supports the building of a new GP Surgery in the village but noted that there are tight time pressures which may mean that this is not possible.

16/049: Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th May 2016: approved.

Proposed: Councillor Leuchars Seconded: Councillor Day

16/050: Matters Arising: Councillor Brown is due to meet with a representative of Gigaclear and the Highways Department and will discuss the replacement of the golden gravel; Mr D Dawson had provided a verbal quotation for the tree work to be undertaken in Park Close and Mr & Mrs Lewis had stated that they had delayed removing the tree branches whilst the trees were in blossom (the Clerk will ask them to get on with the work and let her know when they plan for it to be done).

16/051: Accounts Payable

Clerk's Salary - Deirdre McCumiskey - £252.00

HMRC - £63.00

Kings Cliffe Active - £16.00

Robert Goodson (Insurance) - £886.73

Eon - £371.09

Stephenson Smart & Co - £510.00

RJC Countryside Mgmt - £792.00

K A & J P Willis - £6,881.82

Village Green Signs - £290.00

Clerk

AH

RB

Clerk

Proposed: Councillor Atkinson Seconded: Councillor Smid

16/052: Financial Position: noted

Bank Balances:- Current £34,802.77, Deposit £50,010.29, Bequest £4,743.67

Income:- £2.08 Bank Interest, £1,365 Groundwork UK

The Clerk had had her annual meeting with Mr I Walker for Stephenson, Smart & Co to discuss the annual Internal Audit. There were no outstanding issues and the Annual Return has been completed and will be signed by the Chairman and Clerk and sent to the Audit Commission Accountants.

The following statement, as recommended by Mr Walker, was agreed:- it was noted that there are requirements to perform a Risk Review, a review of internal audit needs and frequency and a review of financial controls.

The following statutory statement is minuted below:-

“Internal Audit has been performed with reference to the Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England – A Practitioners’ Guide (March 2016)’

16/053: Planning Applications

16/00838 – Change of use of land and buildings from agricultural to use for the keeping of horses at land south of Hall Farm, KC (Comments that the plan indicates that Morehay Lane is within the curtilage of the land although it is not and there was agreement with the Highways Department that it is not suitable for commercial use due to poor access on Bridge Street).

Planning Applications granted by ENC

16/00741 - Application of 90 mm Envirowall Lambdatherrm EPS insulation to the exterior of the dwelling to match existing at 5 Blatherwycke Road, Kings Cliffe

16/054: Oak Lane

Recorded under the Chairman’s Report

16/055: Walkway to New School

The Chairman had spoken to Sharn Matthews, ENC who had informed him that the criteria for applications to the Community Facilities Fund had not been yet agreed. It was agreed to seek advice from ENC when the CFF Application Forms are available to ensure that a correct application is made.

16/056: Willow Walk: update

Recorded under the Chairman’s Report.

16/057: Village Field, Pytchell, Village Parking/Footpath Closures : updates

Village Field – it was agreed that the Village Field needs rolling before it is cut. Councillor Day will find a contractor to undertake the rolling work.

Pytchell – it was reported that the gates are due to be delivered next week, the small signs are ready and the large sign is due shortly. It was agreed that vegetables should only be planted in the vegetable plot.

Village Parking – it was reported that the work has now begun.

Footpath Closures – it was reported that, due to the abolition of the grant from Natural England, landowners have shut permissive footpaths.

16/058: Allotments

An Allotment Inspection by the Amenities Committee had taken place on 2nd June 2016. The Amenities Committee had produced a list of poor, uncultivated allotments and the tenants will be contacted to see if they wish to give up half the plot as it is obvious that they are not coping with cultivating a full plot. Any new tenant who takes over a poor allotment will not be charged for it until 2017. It was agreed to charge £10 per year for half plots.

MD

16/059: Burial Board Report

It was noted that the Cemetery is in a clean and tidy state. There is an on-going rabbit problem in one corner.

16/060: Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Leuchars reported that 230 questionnaires had been returned which is approximately a third of those delivered to residents. 'Call for Sites' letters are being sent to all landowners. This is a formal opportunity for landowners and developers to propose sites for development. This exercise will not in itself decide whether a site would be allocated for development by the Neighbourhood Plan nor will it commit the proposer(s) to applying for planning consent, but it will enable the Committee to better understand the needs and wishes of the electors within its Parish area.

16/061: Police: Crime Report

No Crime Report had been received.

16/062: Gazette Entry for July 2016

Discussed and agreed.

16/063: Correspondence Received

It was agreed that the Parish Council did not want to pursue the possibility of buying the SSSI Site. The Clerk will inform Mr J Adams accordingly.

Clerk

16/064: Any Other Business

Post Office – it was noted that to date, the proprietors of the shop have not received a letter explaining why their application to run a Post Office had been unsuccessful. Councillor Day has details of a named contact within the Post Office and the Parish Council can follow this up with the Post Office, ENC and the local MP if necessary.

The Cross – the traffic issues at the junction of West Street/Bridge Street/Park Street were discussed and it was agreed that a sign needs to be erected on Station Road stating 'Unsuitable for HGVs except for access'. The Clerk will contact NNC.

Clerk

A member of the public asked about plans to tidy up the Kings Cliffe Active Site. Councillor Smid will discuss this with Kings Cliffe Active Trustees at their next meeting.

GS

The problem of overgrown grass areas such as The Green and the top of West Street were discussed. If the Parish Council were to agree to take over the grass cutting in the village, the cost would have to be included in a future Precept. It was agreed to ascertain how other Parish Councils undertake grass cutting work by contacting other local Parish Councils. It was also agreed to contact Councillor Smith about this problem.

Clerk

It was reported that the 'Willow Lane' road-sign has been flattened and needs re-erecting. The Clerk will contact the ENC.

Clerk

Councillor Brown reported that he had heard Councillor Dixon had met with some residents to discuss tarmac work on Church Walk. He will discuss the outcome with her when he meets with her shortly, the Parish Councillors were not aware of this.

RB

It was agreed to install an additional Noticeboard in the recess area near Oak Lane. Councillor Day will discuss this with Mr K Howard.

MD

The next Meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on 14th July 2016 in Kings Cliffe Active.

Signed _____ Date _____

