

KING'S CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Thursday 4th December 2003 in The Parlour, King's Cliffe Memorial Hall.

03/119 Present: - Councillors M.Day (Chairman), D. Sharpe, B.Wyles, B. Howard, T.Isaac, A. Howard, L.Crane, J. Dixon, K.Howard and N. Ford **Apologies:** Councillor B.Wright

03/120 Declarations of Interest: None

03/121 Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that she had written thank you letters to Priscilla and Colin Gilder: Colin replied re-iterating that the village roads were scheduled for re-surfacing next year but could not promise this would actually happen.

The application for a grant for a pedestrian crossing at Wood Lane/Wood Road has been sent to ENC but Debbie Strong cautioned that it is unlikely we shall get it.

Mike Bailey at ENC has again been contact regarding the rubbish which is dumped weekly at the Bottle Banks; he e-mailed to say this is cleared every week and further warning signs will do very little good and a larger bin would only make matters worse. He suggested looking for an address on anything dumped there. Temporary CCTV cameras are very occasionally available but in very short supply. This will be mentioned in the Parish Gazette; the PC would ask residents to be vigilant and report any fly tipping in this area, identifying the culprits or taking car numbers.

ABB Ltd has been instructed to supply and fix the new lights in Eagle Lane ASAP, but they are very busy.

The Leylandii trees at the bottom of Eagle Lane which obstruct the lighting are to be trimmed.

Complaints were received from several residents of Wood Road as this road was not gritted during the recent icy weather. This road is not included in the gritting schedule supplied by Highways, except during lengthy spells of frost, but the clerk will write and ask for it to be gritted as a matter of course.

A new copy of the Electoral Roll has been e-mailed to the Clerk, with instructions that this is not to be copied for Councillors. Therefore it was decided that the PC will ask for and pay for individual copies for each Councillor.

03/122 The minutes of the Meeting held on 13th November were accepted and signed

Proposed: Councillor B Wyles

Seconded: Councillor T.Isaac

03/123 Matters arising

The venue for the meeting on 12th February will be the dining room at Cross Keys; the Village Hall will not be available due to the Pantomime.

Councillor B. Howard had attended a meeting of the Rockingham Forest Housing Trust. He gave an interesting report and had personally raised the matter of affordable housing as a major concern for the village. The PC will be notified of a further meeting to be held in the New Year. A full discussion of housing matters will be on the January agenda.

03/124 Accounts

The following accounts were approved for payment

Curators Salary (Dec 2003)	£ 75.65
Clerks Salary (Dec 2003)	£ 187.50
ABB Ltd: Lighting repairs	£ 32.55
W.R. Court: expenses Aug. – Nov. 03	£ 9.73

Proposed: Councillor A.Howard

Seconded: Councillor N.Ford

03/125 Planning

107 Wood Road – Construction of New Conservatory: EN/03/01190/FUL/PRG: Granted
14 West Street: Various: EN/03/00605 FUL & EN/03/00606/CAC: Refused

Councillor J. Dixon had attended and spoken for the Parish Council against the latter application and reported on the logistics of the final outcome, as the Planning Panel had originally recommended this application should be granted.

03/126 Precept Application 2004/05

Councillor A. Howard had prepared the necessary documentation for the precept request and this was discussed. The decision was to ask for the same amount as last year i.e. £12,600. This was approved and the signature of the clerk authorised for the application,

Proposed: Councillor D. Sharpe

Seconded: Councillor A. Howard

The audited accounts for year ended March 2003 were approved for forwarding to the Audit Commission for scrutiny.

03/127 Bank Mandate

Changes in Bank Policy requires a further mandate to be completed; two signatories were nominated with the clerk as the third signatory

Proposed : Councillor N. Ford

Seconded : Councillor D. Sharpe

03/128 Replacement Seat in Hall Yard

Brochures showing “indestructible” seats were passed around the meeting. The steel seats are less attractive than traditional wooden seats, but in view of the current spate of vandalism in the village, this would appear to be the only answer. The price which is

around £700 seems prohibitive; the clerk will obtain more estimate and this will be discussed again the next meeting.

03/129 Children's Play Area

Councillor T. Isaac reported that the awaited conservation report from ENC has still not been received. The Clerk had contacted ENC and been told that should be completed in mid-January.

03/130 Highways : Proposed Pedestrian Crossing in Wood Road

This was dealt with in the Clerks report (above)

03/131 Slipe Clay Pit

The Chairman reported on the Local Liaison Group meeting on 25th November. This meeting was much more productive than the last, and a number of key issues were discussed at length. Wastego are obviously making a much greater effort to address most of the problems which concern local Parish Councils. He stated that the PC will be setting up independent liaison with Wastego and had talked at length with them regarding this. They would like to invite all Parish Councillors from Kings Cliffe to a site meeting, possibly in the New Year.

It was also reported that netting has been constructed close to the road to attempt to prevent litter flying onto the road. A further length of tarmac road had been constructed within the site, but this had been unsuccessful in mud prevention and will be re-done. It was also noted that conditional planning permission had been granted for the old "Bomb Dump" to be used as a repository; the conditions state that the access road from the A47 must be improved, which could solve many of the road condition problems, if this is extended as far as Slipe Clay Pit.

The next meeting of the Liaison Group is scheduled for Tuesday 23rd March, 2pm at Kings Cliffe village hall. If NCC cannot make it then, alternative of March 30th was agreed.

03/132 Burial Board

Sub-Committee Chairman N. Ford reported there had been no meeting of the Burial Board. Mr. Smith has agreed to straighten 10 gravestones as soon as possible. A memorial for the late Miss Grace Robins was approved.

03/133 Village Design Group

Nothing to report, but Alice Townshend will address the PC at the January meeting regarding Village Design Statements

03/134 Amenities

Sub-Committee Chairman B. Wyles reported he had cleared the willow from Maltings Green. The chestnut fencing at the top of the Hills & Holes needs repairing.

Dog fouling in Willow Walk is dreadful; the clerk will research the possibilities of having a dog litter bin in this area. A fence has allegedly been illegally erected at Kingsmead. This will be checked.

03/135 Community Safety & Neighbourhood Watch.

No report, as Councillor Wright could not attend this meeting; but she has stated that all is going well with the co-opting of co-ordinators for all areas of the village and a “telephone tree” has been set up to alert the community to problems. Councillor B. Howard reported that according to the latest Police figures, this Parish had the second highest crime figures in the area, Oundle being the highest. Road Safety was again discussed and 2 delegates will be asked to a meeting in January.

03/136 Other Correspondence Received

Ongoing :STOP Campaign Petition: as requested by CC Padley at last meeting

It was unanimously decided it would be counter-productive to the village for Councillors to sign the petition to limit housing development considering the need for affordable housing. Councillors were given the opportunity to sign this as individuals if they wished

Police : A letter explaining Policing Strategy was noted and given to Councillor B. Howard.

A request has been received from KCGA to use Maltings Green Pocket Park for their proposed Flower and Produce Show on 8th August 2004. Written permission will be given for this event.

An invitation was received from the Royal British Legion to attend the dedication service for the new plaque in the church on Sunday 14th December within the 10.00am Parish Eucharist.

03/0137 Any Other Business

Councillor K. Howard asked if the Bus Stop sign has been replaced in West Street, as the damaged one was still on his premises at Kingsmead. This will be checked and reported again if necessary.

Councillor A. Howard requested that the stands below the Parish Noticeboard outside the Post Office should be re-painted. Councillor K. Howard has volunteered to do this. In the same vein, Councillor B. Howard complained about the condition of the Post Boxes which all need re-painting; the Clerk replied that Royal Mail have consistently stated we must wait our turn.

Councillor T. Isaac reported that safety was being severely threatened by thoughtless car parking outside the Primary School, including parking on pavements. The Police will be

asked to monitor this, and there will be a request in the Gazette for parents to be more thoughtful when collecting their children from school.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10.pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

The next meeting will be held at 7.30.pm. on 8th January 2004 in the Parlour of the Memorial Hall