

## KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Kings Cliffe Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2004

Before the meeting, PC Mark Hillyer-Smith (166) introduced himself as the new village policeman. He explained that he had been in the Police Force for 22 years within the current area on both uniform and plain clothes duty, spending the last five years at Brigstock. He is a Community Action Team (CAT) policeman.

He said that major changes had taken place in the way the area is now policed. One of these was to change the 12 hour shifts to 9.am. – 6.pm. and 3.pm. – 12 midnight. Oundle Station gives 24 hour cover. Instead of just one officer on call at one time, all officers in the area are on call and the one closest to an emergency call-out will attend, but all local call-outs are report to him as the local CAT officer. All CAT officers have volunteered for this work and all are “community aware”. It will take probably 2 years for the changes to become fully effective but improvements have already been noticed. PC Hillyer-Smith goes to as many Neighbourhood Watch and Community Safety meetings as possible and feels very strongly about getting to know as many local people as he can. He gave the latest crime statistics for Kings Cliffe which were not too alarming. All crimes, however trivial, are reported and given a ‘Crime’ number which is good but does tend to make the figures slightly higher. He said he was hoping to be in the area for at least 8 years.

Councillor B. Howard reported that poachers had been seen in the area last Friday and the constable promised to look into it.

The main switchboard telephone number is 01604700700 : callers should ask for contact with the Eastern sector. Sergeant Fletcher is the senior officer for this area.

The Chairman thanked PC Hillyer-Smith for coming to the meeting and opened the meeting

**04/65 Present :** Chairman M. Day, Councillors A. Howard, B. Howard, L. Crane, T. Isaac, D. Sharpe, N. Ford and J. Dixon

**Apologies :** Councillors K. Howard, B. Wright and B. Wyles

**04/66 Declarations of Interest :** In respect of an additional planning item concerning Huskissons Lodge, Chairman M. Day and Councillors A. & B. Howard and N. Ford declared a non-pecuniary interest. Councillor D.Sharpe will chair any discussion and the Chairman will take no part.

**04/67 Minutes :** Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2004 were read and approved.

Proposed : Councillor A. Howard

Seconded : Councillor D. Sharpe

### **04/68 Clerks Report**

The rules have been bent to include an extra agenda item (see below) this has to be dealt with before the next meeting.

NCC have e-mailed to say they hope to have the Stamford Road open on 22<sup>nd</sup> October (weather permitting)

A letter was sent to Kisby & Son as agreed asking them to paint the church gates as outlined in their quotation, so far nothing has happened.

The Environment Agency are felling willows and clearing the river in the Parish; the plan is available if anyone wishes to see what is happening.

The minutes and agenda now appear in the Kings Cliffe Parish Council section of Oundle On-Line although they cannot be posted to this site until they have been approved and signed.

A very kind letter was received from two parishioners thanking the PC very much for the provision of sandbags.

Mrs. Wilshaw thanked the PC for their support regarding the pollarding of lime trees, which has been completed.

Mr. West from Kirks Lodge enquired about the removal of the Portakabin; the Enforcement Officer was asked if we could have it removed by the people who take burnt out cars but apparently not this would be theft and it will be a long process as the owner is being uncooperative; we were initially told that ENC would take them to court and fine them, but the story seems to have changed and he is able to apply for planning permission to keep it there.

**04/69 Accounts :** The following accounts were approved for payment:-

Curators Salary (current month)	£ 135.80
Clerk Salary (current month)	£ 187.50
ABB Ltd – Lighting maintenance	£ 311.42
Smith Hetherington – Grass cutting	£ 191.00
W.R.Court : Expenses – April to September	£ 44.54
Seed Co : Contribution to Horsewater work	£ 200.00

Proposed : Councillor A. Howard

Seconded : Councillor N. Ford

**04/70 Planning (\*\* additional items)**

**Applications:**

**Erection of three terraced dwellings : 79 West Street : EN04/01580/FUL**

The Council voiced very strong objections to the proposed use of bricks instead of artificial stone which is more in keeping. There is also grave concern regarding the provision of parking as the marked parking area does not give sufficient space for parking and maneuvering. The Council feel that, at these dangerous cross-roads, much more thought must be given to the parking provision, to ensure there is no possibility of on road parking, which is a very big problem for the village.

**Erection of conservatory : 76 Park Street : EN/04/01598/LBC**

This was not discussed as the proposal has already been refused by ENC (see below\*)

**Two storey extension : 40 Park Street : EN/04/01857/FUL : No objections**

**Entertainment License : Middle School : 04/0333/COMPEC : No objections**

**Erection of dwelling adj. to 48 Bridge Street : EN/04/01843/REM**

Refusal is again recommended as the proposed new house is still considered to be too tall and too large for the site and the garages fronting the road would adversely affect the character of this part of the village.

**Removal of two trees : 22 Park Street : EN/04/01899/TCA : No objection**

**Removal of several trees : 2 Park Street : EN/04/01942/TCA : No objection**

**Conversion of farm buildings : 3 dwellings : Huskissons Lodge : EN/04/01948/FUL \*\***

**Demolition of pole barn and silo : “ “ “ : EN/04/01949/LBC \*\***

(These applications discussed in tandem)

No objection to plans : comment made that the external paintwork should be cream or beige, not white. The Council generally considers this conversion will be an asset to the approach to the village.

**Granted : Noted**

Steel pole at Telephone Exchange : EN/04/01241/FUL  
Conservatory : 5/7 West Street : EN/04/01254/LBC

**Refusal : Noted**

Erection of Conservatory : 76 Park Street : EN/04/01630/FUL\*\*  
Variation of planning : 43 B West Street : Appeal dismissed

**04/71 Additional Agenda item : Apethorpe Hall**

The Clerk received a telephone call from Richard Parkinson the Apethorpe Parish Chairman regarding the future of the hall.

There will be a meeting with English Heritage, the owners, at the Kings Head at Apethorpe on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 and he asked for Parish Councillors to attend as the future of this historic building was very important. It appears that the owners will only allow it to be a private dwelling as one home; if this does not happen, it will be opened as a Visitors Centre. Several Councillors have agreed to attend.

**04/72 Landfill Liaison Meeting Report**

A Landfill Liaison meeting was held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September in the Memorial Hall. Councillor A. Howard reported that it was a very good meeting as two representatives from Wastego attended having previously refused to be present due to the unwelcome attention of Press and media reporters.

The Environment Agency said they have a team of seven monitoring the site and they feel big improvements have been made. The recent closure was caused by new regulations coming into force and not being met by the management. These have since been enforced with good results. There are outstanding planning issues to be resolved; there is a danger that, if they amend the original plans the first two cells will be deemed to be too high and technically must be moved. The feeling is that these should be left as they stand as the height is gradually dropping, as the in-fill subsides.

There is to be another Public Meeting about health issues in November. This will be publicised.

As Wastego are now attending the meetings with all Parish Councils, it was suggested that the separate meetings with Kings Cliffe PC are no longer necessary. All parties seem much happier, the smells have subsided, the deodorizers have been removed and the site seems to be running relatively smoothly. The next Liaison meeting will be on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2004.

**04/73 Tidy Village Competition**

It was decided not to enter this competition as in the past it had always been difficult to find volunteers to keep the village tidy.

**04/74 Resource Centre update**

Councillor D. Sharpe said that the Resource Centre staff had been given notice and the manager was leaving next week. Seven directors were needed and presently there are only three. ACRE has commissioned a feasibility study on all aspects of the Centre during October and November. The

results of this study will be acted upon by ACRE. One councillor suggested that grants must be found to continue the Centre, but was informed that after the initial three years the whole process has to be started again.

#### **04/75 Closure of the Stamford Road – update**

NCC Highways have informed the clerk that the road is due to be re-opened on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, weather conditions permitting. Comments were made that the existing roads must be repaired urgently due to the damage caused by additional heavy goods vehicles using the Stamford and Wansford roads.

#### **04/76 Proposed Disaster Committee**

The Clerk is in contact with Joanne Maddams from NCC Emergency Committee who is willing to come to a public meeting together with a representative from ENC. It was decided this will happen at the beginning of December and notices will be posted to this effect, as it will be too late to appear in the November edition of the Parish Gazette.

#### **04/76 Sub-Committee Reports**

##### **Burial Board**

Minutes of a meeting of the Burial Board held on 6<sup>th</sup> October at 19 West Street.

Present : Wilfred Court, Tony Peacey, Norman Embleton, Jenny Dixon.

The Board is without a Chairman and has only one member of the Parish Council and there was no Agenda.

The following topics were discussed.

Grant application for lettering on William Laws tomb for £1,000.00. Various carvers are being approached.

The Clerk will be asked to check the position of quotes for Church Yard Gates.

It was suggested that the Parish Council should send a letter of thanks to Charles Atkinson for his work on the Church Railings.

Gravel on the Cemetery drive. The gravel is working down the slope and people with wheel chairs are having problems getting up the drive. It needs either raking or pushing back up the slope. A decision needs to be taken as to who should do what.

A new set of Cemetery Rules should be drawn up.

Wilfred Court reported that Ruben Dixon's tombstone in the Cemetery had been vandalised

It was suggested that Michael Day should be asked if he would approach the owner of land adjacent to the Cemetery and ask if some of the spoil could go into the holes at the top of his site.

Could the Curator trim the shoots on the Lime Trees in the Cemetery Drive?

Were the instructions ever given to Colin Smith to remove the slabs under the Howard Seat?

It was suggested that we should go ahead and build the shed we need in the new cemetery. It should be 8' x 8' in block work with an outside cladding of timber which could be added at a later date. The roof should be of pantiles. Must look rural.

It was agreed that a slight revision to the route of the ramp from the Old Church Yard should be made. The new line would turn away from the northern boundary and curve down more into the centre of the top of the cemetery.

Bob Dixon will be asked if he could revise drawings to enable us to get some prices for part of the ramp and the shed.

Additional wording on the Rankin tomb was approved.

Horn brothers still have wooden crosses.

Could it be suggested that the tomb stone of Horn Senior should not be polished.

The next meeting will be on 2<sup>nd</sup>. November 2004

Councillor J. Dixon reported that the chairman and one other councillor had resigned from the Burial Board and asked for volunteers. Councillors D. Sharpe and T. Isaac have agreed to serve. It was suggested that a chairman should be elected at the next Burial Board meeting. Councillor A. Howard suggested that perhaps the committee take too much upon themselves and that there are a certain amount of finicky and unnecessary discussions within the Burial Board, especially with regard to gravestones etc. Councillor D. Sharpe said that at the end of the day, the grave plots have been purchased by families who should be able to, within reason, do as they wished with them. Cuddly toys on graves of children really are a very minor issue.

The grant money for the William Law tomb is provided by Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

The Chairman will visit Mr. Atkinson to thank him for the railings and ask Mr. Smith to deal with the Howard's seat in the cemetery. The Curator will be asked to prune the lime trees. The Clerk will chase up Messrs. Kisbey regarding the repairs and painting of the Church gates.

It was suggested that as the old Fire Station being quite close to the new cemetery there is no need for a secure shed at the new cemetery. Although this is presently full of church inventory from the old church rooms some compromise could be found.

The Chairman asked if the PC could have a sight of the plans drawn up by Bob Dixon for the proposed ramped path to the new cemetery.

### **Amenities**

Councillor B. Wyles has retired as sub-committee chairman. As there have been no meetings for some time, it was suggested that this committee was probably no longer needed, as the Clerk checks the allotments and the Bottle Banks regularly and other councillors can always report any problems. It was decided not to nominate another sub-committee at present and discuss it again at AGM.

### **Children's Play Area**

Councillor T. Isaac said she had not yet received the results of the ENC survey into the impact on wildlife.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

Sub-committee chairman B. Wright was not at the meeting. Councillor B. Howard had attended a NW meeting at Easton-on-the-Hill and expressed feelings that the new policing system was not practical. He also raised the matter of road conditions as a matter of public safety.

Councillor T. Isaac commented that NW in the village was not working efficiently, there have been very few meetings, and no newsletter and committee members were not invited to volunteer for any duties. This will be discussed further at the next meeting when the Chairman has made enquiries.

**04/77 Correspondence received :** Various correspondences were discussed or circulated

**04/78 Any Other Business**

Councillor B. Howard had raised a number of points to be discussed at this point, but the Chairman explained that AOB was for minor matters not for items which should be on the agenda for full discussion. He asked all members to notify the Clerk at least 10 days before a meeting, except in the case of a genuinely urgent item, if they wish to raise an agenda point, as this has to be advertised at least 5 days before a meeting and the Chairman needs to ascertain if points justify inclusion. The items raised will be on the next agenda.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10.00.pm.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30.pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....