

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Kings Cliffe Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 11th August 2005.

Before the meeting began the Chairman introduced Jenny Linford from East Northants Voluntary Action who then gave a brief talk on the work of this Charity.

This is an organization, presently being funded by the Government for one year, to help mainly the elderly and disabled. The work is voluntary. They wish to find representatives in communities to alert them to any problems and needs with which they can help i.e. completing forms to claim attendance allowances, benefits etc., basically pointing people in the right direction for assistance with problems. There is presently no representative in Kings Cliffe anyone wishing to volunteer should go to their office at Old Market Hall, Market Place, Oundle to register. The Parish Council will be the initial point of contact, unless a volunteer comes forward. The Chairman thanked Mrs. Linford and opened the meeting.

05/050 Present: Chairman M. Day, Councillors B. Wyles, D. Sharpe, J. Dixon, L. Crane, B. Howard and A. Howard

05/051 Apologies for Absence: Councillors K. Howard, B. Wright, N.Ford and T.Isaac.

05/052 Declarations of Interest: The Chairman declared an interest in the planning item on tree felling and Councillors A. & B. Howard in the agenda item on the Hills & Holes Pit.

05/053 Minutes: Minutes of the meeting held on 14th July were read and approved.

Proposed : Councillor B. Wyles

Seconded : Councillor D. Sharpe

05/054 Matters Arising – these are covered by the Clerks report

Clerks Report

The 4 ft feather board fence at 5 Blatherwycke Road will be erected behind this dwelling during this financial year when tenders have been received.

Kings Cliffe Heritage was given permission to see the Cemetery records to update their database.

A letter was sent to Terry Begley ENC re Rural Strategy echoing the comments and amending the plans of land.

Letters have been received the Police Authority saying they had passed on our query regarding heavy police presence some weeks ago, one which stated they could not trace the incident.

County Councillor Priscilla Padley is the council representative on the school board of governors. The Chairman intended to see the Headmaster, to ascertain if a Parish Councillor had to be included in the Board of Governors but school had broken up – therefore will be dealt with in the Autumn. Councillor A. Howard stated that the re-organisation and structure of Governing Boards is presently being changed.

ENC have repaired the bridge to the Hills & Holes which had been damaged by vandals

The Enforcement Officer will inspect the portakabin in Forest Approach when time allows.

Two applicants have taken forms to apply for Housing Association properties.

The NCC Clerk of Works has confirmed that the only unadopted roads in the village are Mazewood Gate and Daleswood Rise, this being the choice of the Housing Associations, Walkers Field which does not meet their standards and Dakins Close which is too small to be adopted.

The lime trees in the cemetery have been tidied.

05/054 Accounts : The following accounts were approved for payment

Curators Salary (current month)	£ 140.00
Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 200.00
Smith Hetherington : Grass cutting & expenses	£ 196.00
Powergen : ¼ to June 2005	£ 423.48
BT : ¼ to July 2005	£ 63.30
W.R.Court : expenses	£ 5.49
Resource at Kings Cliffe : to August 2005	£ 24.00
Mark Kelley – for website domain name	£ 11.73
R S & D Pumpr : Path edging in Cemetery	£ 423.30
Cheque received for amendments to insurance :	£ 30.03

Proposed : Councillor A. Howard

Seconded : Councillor L. Crane

05/055 Planning

Kings Cliffe Players Application for License for Memorial Hall

Kings Cliffe Memorial Hall individual License Application

The reason for two applications for licenses for the Memorial Hall is to avoid Kings Cliffe Players using all of the TEN applications for their twice yearly productions. There was no objection to these applications

Kings Cliffe Club Application for License : No objection

Community Centre License Application : No objection

Tree works at 2 Park Street : EN/05/01351/TPO

Fell Ash/Sycamore trees : 15 Bridge Street : EN/05/01350/TPO

The above applications were discussed in tandem. The applicant is the Contractor who is developing the old garage site in Bridge Street and upon investigation the Chairman discovered that the Bridge Street residents knew nothing of this application; he was unable to contact the residents in Park Street. ENC Planning Office have no obligation to inform residents but advise applicants to acquaint owners of their intentions, but this appear to have been ignored.

A long discussion ensued; all agreed the rookery in these trees has existed for many decades and

the trees should remain unless they are deemed to be dangerous or the actual owners need to carry out any remedial works. A letter will be sent to ENC recommending that this application should be referred to the Conservation Officer and strongly objecting to the proposals.

Comments on Landfill Site Planning documentation : Councillor A. Howard

Extensive documentation had been received regarding retrospective planning applications for the Landfill Site. Councillor A. Howard had examined these and reported that the proposals held nothing of concern; old approvals which were no longer valid were being cancelled and basically the plans were to regularize what has already happened by improving the landscaping and general running of the site. The monitoring processes would remain in place and no additional land was included; it was felt the proposals would considerably improve the undertaking.

Therefore the comment sent by the Parish Council stated no objection but asked for confirmation that in agreeing they can assume it cancels all previous applications.

At this point, PC Mark Hillyer-Smith joined the meeting. The Chairman invited him to speak.

The first point PC Hillyer-Smith made was the point of being vigilant. A lady in Collyweston had briefly left her car, on her return she was pushed away and the car, a 4 X 4 including 3 Alsatian dogs, was stolen, by thieves obviously waiting for such an opportunity. The car and dogs were later recovered, but it should be a lesson to everyone, never leave your car unlocked even for one minute.

Crime figures for the village for the quarter to July were down by 25% , house burglary was nil, as were sexual offences but there were 4 other burglaries, 2 motor vehicles stolen, 3 thefts from motor vehicles, 3 violent offences, 8 incidents of criminal damage and 1 of handling stolen property.

All Councillors were asked to complete forms allowing the Police to have their details on their database.

Councillor B. Howard complained that the current helpdesk had a scant knowledge of the area which made reporting crime very difficult. He also reported that the recently replaced fencing at the bottom of Wansford Hill had been stolen.

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

05/056 Hills & Holes Pit

A letter had been sent to Howard Farms regarding the future of this land and a verbal acknowledgement received. A meeting will be arranged with them to discuss this matter

05/057 Wood Lane seat

The Chairman reported that, in his opinion this seat was beyond repair and the Clerk will look at the prices for a replacement and this will be discussed at the next meeting

05/057 Rural Strategy : Report from Stakeholders Meeting

The Chairman reported that he had attended the above meeting on 27th July and the following points had been raised by him:-

- 1) There is a desperate need for affordable and social housing for young and old residents alike.
- 2) Young, single men and women and couples without children do not put their names down for houses, although many work in and around the village and wish to live here, they feel they will not be considered over and above families, possibly from out of the area who need housing.
- 3) Kings Cliffe is a major employer in the area, P C Howard Ltd., Kings Cliffe Industrial Estate and Kingsmead Industrial Estate along with numerous agricultural enterprises, small building firms, roofing contractors etc. employing several hundred people.
- 4) This is a working village NOT a dormitory and every effort must be made to help young people to settle and remain in the village; many who work here have to live outside the area - Oundle, Stamford and Corby. Some of the workers at Howards travel from as far as Market Deeping and Peterborough to work here.

It would be appreciated if these points are noted, along with the fact that this village with all the facilities is very obviously a Local Service Centre for many surrounding villages and should be treated as such.

05/058 Highway repairs

The total resurfacing of village streets was going ahead well, with minimum disruption. The PC has been lobbying for these repairs for many years and it is gratifying to see it is at last happening. Several Councillors raised the point that many kerbstones had been dislodged and/or broken by the surface scarper and the Clerk will contact Highways with an urgent request for these to be reinstated as soon as possible,

05/059 Gravestone : Vandalism in cemetery

One gravestone in the cemetery has been criminally damaged. The grave plots and stones belong to individuals and are not the responsibility of the PC, therefore it is not possible to lodge an insurance claim. The PC condemns this senseless vandalism.

05/060 Sub-Committee Reports

Burial Board

A meeting of the Burial Board was held on 1st August.

Two memorial applications were discussed and approved. Quotations to repair a section of the retaining wall between the Churchyard and the Pitchell (new cemetery) were discussed. The PC approved the lowest quotation.

The problems in erecting repaired headstones in the Churchyard will be researched and discussed at the next meeting

Neighbourhood Watch : Nothing to report

05/061 Other Correspondence Received

Various correspondences were noted, circulated or discussed.

The NCC Mobile Library service had notified the PC of the new stopping places in the village. As Bridge Street appears to be excluded a letter asking for this to be reinstated will be sent to them.

An application to apply for traffic calming measures received from Highways will be completed; along with the offer to monitor speeds in this area, which will be accepted.

Councillor B. Howard left the meeting

05/062 Any Other Business

A tree overhanging the pavement at the Royce's Lane junction is causing a hazard to pedestrians. The owner of the tree will be asked to prune it.

A Councillor raised the point of rubbish other than garden waste being burned on the allotments, probably as a result of changed policies in waste collection. This will be mentioned in the Gazette. It is understood that Weldon tip is very helpful for the disposal of rubbish.

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

The next meeting will be on Thursday 8th September 2005