

## KING'S CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 7.30.pm. at the Memorial Hall parlour.

**10/024 Present :** Chairman A. Howard, Vice-Chairman M. Wharton, Councillors M. Day, G. Kingston, L. Crane, C. Williams, B. Wyles and P. Lang Norris. Members of the Public : Mr. N. Ford, Mr. & Mrs B. Tempest, Mr. & B. Morley, Messrs. R. Saunders and C. Wickes.

**10/025 Apologies for Absence :** Councillors K. Howard, J. Dixon and B. Howard

**10/026 Declarations of Interest :** Councillor M. Day declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 9.

**10/027 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010 :** Approved

Proposed : Vice-Chairman M. Wharton

Seconded : Councillor P. Lang Norris

### **10/028 Matters arising**

The Chairman reminded the Clerk to contact the Tree Warden and Footpath Warden.

### **10/029 Clerks report**

Rentokil have come back to us on the rabbit issue; they are not prepared to use gassing in such a public area as the cemetery

Smelly drains in Park Street and a blocked drain in Park Street/West Street junction have been reported and acknowledged for action by the Street Doctor.

E-on have informed us that it is now statutory for street lights to be inspected by them every six years for electrical faults. This is not included in our maintenance contract with E-on, it is a separate issue. The charge is £10 + VAT per light. The inspections can be spread over several years if necessary.

No Councillors attended the Local Councils Charter meeting in Collyweston on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

The water leak in Willow Lane has finally been repaired; the first request was sent to Anglian Water almost a year ago, with two follow-up reminders. A telephone apology has been received.

DC Glithero has informed me that the issue of the garage in Bridge Street has now been addressed and a letter will be received shortly confirming this is being dealt with appropriately. The Planning Officer has apologised by e-mail.

A list of odd jobs needing attention was been sent to Highways as discussed under Correspondence Received at last months' meeting.

### **10/030 Accounts payable**

Curators Salary (current month)	£ 150.00
Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 200.00
Smith Hetherington : Grass cutting etc.	£ 217.00
Stephenson Smart : Annual audit	£ 417.13
E-on : Lighting repairs	£ 27.58
E-on : Lighting maintenance ¼ to July	£ 371.04
Robert J. Goodson Ltd : Commercial Combined Insurance	£ 830.14
A-on : Public Liability Insurance	£ 473.74

As reported at an earlier meeting, AON have refused to provide Public Liability for the Sports Field or any part of it, as this is facility not regulated by the Parish Council. The insurance value of the Old Fire Station has been raised to a realistic sum.

Proposed : Councillor G. Kingston

Seconded : Vice-Chairman M. Wharton

### **10/031 Planning Applications**

#### **Park Close : Demolish existing garages and erect 3-bed dwelling : EN/10/00916/OUT**

The Council discussed this application at great length. There are currently nine garages servicing sixteen properties in a cul de sac, they were built in the 1960's when there were far fewer vehicles and the number of garages is inadequate for the current number of cars in this area. The road, known as Park Close is severely congested.

We understand that part of the argument being put forward by the applicant is that the existing garages are not occupied by their tenants, indeed, they only have two tenants in Park Close, however we do not believe that this is valid argument - the garages are an amenity for the properties in this area.

The building of one house on this estate will not solve any housing issues but it will create a more serious parking problem, valuable parking space will be completely lost in the garage area. There appears to have been no dialogue between Spires and the owners/tenants in the Close and we also understand that the application assumes that the applicant will be purchasing part of the garden from one of the residents

Therefore, the Council strenuously object to this application and feel more thought is required.

**43a West Street : Two storey side extension for office etc. : EN/10/00700/FUL : No objection**

**31 West Street : Replace & widen entrance gate : EN/10/00804/FUL : No objection**

Councillors were divided over this application. The Chairman put it to the vote and the comment of "no objection" was approved by a majority vote

**2 The Dovecote : Erection of chimney : EN/10/00959/FUL : amended plans : No objection**

**Granted by ENC : Noted**

26 – 32 Bridge Street : Replacement windows and doors : EN/10/00571/FUL : Granted

### **10/032 Church Walk : Residents concerns**

Mr. Barry Tempest, who had asked to speak at this meeting, supplied the Council with a document and photographs, outlining the problems experienced by the residents of Church Walk. The general condition of the road, which is officially designated as a footpath, from Orchard Lane to the end of Church Walk is badly potholed and during heavy rain, the area adjacent to his driveway can flood to a depth of 6 inches. A storm drain, originally designed to alleviate this, which passes through his garden was damaged when gas was installed to the area, but it no longer copes with the excess water; despite Mr. Tempest's efforts, no one appears to accept responsibility for this problem. He also remarked that when he purchased his house, there were two houses in Church Walk, this has increased to five.

The increased traffic to the Underground Youth Club and the Memorial Hall has further exacerbated the problem through an increase in traffic to the area. It was agreed that the Council will follow this up again, in an attempt to find whose responsibility this is. NCC Highways have informed us this is technically only a footpath and unadopted as far as vehicular access is concerned.

It was agreed that the Clerk will contact ENC and the NCC Footpaths Area Manager, Bob Birkett, to try to find a solution to this problem. It was also agreed that the residents should liaise with the Memorial Hall Committee, who also use part of this lane to see if an application can be made to Kings Cliffe Environmental committee

### **10/033 Landfill Planning Appeal**

The appeal from Augean has been made. Waste Watchers have had a meeting with Louise Bagshawe M.P. who will continue to oppose the application. Although we are assured that any original objections will be taken into account, anyone who wishes to object should send these to:-

Sian Evans, The Planning Inspectorate, 4/02 Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN quoting reference APP/K2800/A/10/2126938/NWF, no later than Monday 28th June 2010. Objections should also be sent to Christopher Huhne M.P., Cabinet Minister, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, Houses of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA.

### **10/034 Accounts Audit : approval of accounting procedures**

As reported last month, the Parish Council has adopted the approved accounting procedures set out by the Audit Commission.

### **10/035 Highways**

Highways have topped several stretches of roads in the area, which is most welcome. The Clerk will again chase MGWSP regarding Give Way signs and various other outstanding issues. An application form was sent from Highways for purchasing speeding signs; however, this suggests using independent contractors; it was therefore decided to ask MGWSP to supply quotations for supply and fixing said signs, as there is no way of checking the efficiency of other contractors. The Clerk will also contact the Collyweston PC Highways representative for advice, as he has great success in that village.

### **10/036 King's Cliffe & Area Sports Project**

The vandalism of the Skate Park and Half Pipe is being dealt with by the Police and ENC. It is understood that the building of the changing rooms will begin as soon as money is granted for this project.

### **10/037 Gazette Entry for July edition : Discussed and agreed**

### **10/038 Burial Board**

Rabbit issues : Rentokil have said they cannot apply gassing to the rabbit warrens in a public area. The humane traps, which were being used, have been vandalised; if anyone has any information on the perpetrators, please contact the Clerk. We received constant complaints about the rabbits, but seem to be unable to deal with this to everyone's satisfaction.

When the road is created in the new cemetery area, it has been agreed that the existing driveway should be re-gravelled and made good.

The Clerk has written to the Curator complimenting him on the very pleasing appearance of the cemetery as a whole.

Memorial request from Crowsons for a headstone proposal was agreed.

**10/039 Neighbourhood Watch**

The Vice-Chairman reported that the latest crime figures from the Police showed a welcome decrease. However, vigilance must still be observed. She again asked if there was any interest in resurrecting the Neighbourhood Watch Committee; efforts to date have produced very little enthusiasm from residents.

**10/040 Other Correspondence Received :** Noted or circulated

**10/041 Any Other Business**

The stile from Park Street into the Moors is in bad repair. The name of a Councillor who might carry out repairs was suggested and he will be asked if this is possible.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10.pm. The next meeting will be held in the Parlour on 8<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30.pm.

Signed.....

Date.....