

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council took place on Thursday 8th September 2011 at 7.30.pm. in the Parlour at Memorial Hall.

11/075 Present : Councillors G. Caddick, L. Crane, M. Day, A. Howard, G. Kingston, C. Leuchars, R. Meadows, C. Williams, J. Atkinson and R. Brown

11/076 Apologies for Absence : Councillors. N. Ford

11/077 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Day declared a non-pecuniary interest in Planning item EN/11/0141/TCA

11/078 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th July 2011.

Proposed : Councillor Williams

Seconded : Councillor Meadows

11/079 Matters arising

Councillor Leuchars queried the statement by Roy Mantas of the Environment Agency regarding the time-scale of the dumping of LL Nuclear Waste; he felt it was intimated that this would be delayed due to the court challenge to the decision. The Clerk will contact Mr. Mantas to clarify this matter

11/080 Clerks report

KC1 site (Sovereign Grange) – after several enquiries from parishioners regarding when the first social houses will be built, Church Construction have said that the first 10 affordable/social houses are expected to be completed by June 2012.

Several lights out reported; also smelly drains in Park Street.

NCC have said they will place a more understandable “No Cycling” sign in the passage between Park Close and Station Road; the existing one just show a cycle, which appears to say you can cycle along there.

The Dog Warden to come into the village, regarding dog mess.

Dropped kerbs in Park Close have been requested. There is also the ongoing question as to whether or not NCC should clear the hedge back from the road down to the Bridge to reveal the now concealed pavement in that area. Highways say there is no pavement, but there is and it is kerbed, just totally overgrown.

11/081 Chairman’s report : Nothing to report

11/082 Accounts

August accounts

Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 240.00
Clerks expenses Jan – June 2011	£ 143.88
Richard Brown : Cemetery & Churchyard etc.	£ 320.00
HMRC : Clerks PAYE for July salary	£ 60.00
G. J. C. Adams & Sons : New cemetery roadways	£ 3,508.30
D. Burdett : Clearing of spoil heap in old cemetery	£ 312.00
British Telecom :Quarterly telephone charges	£ 127.16 repaid to Clerk to avoid penalty

September accounts

Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 240.00
Richard Brown : Cemetery & Churchyard etc.	£ 320.00
HMRC : Clerks PAYE for August salary	£ 60.00
E-on : repairs to vandalised lamp post in King's Forest	£ 72.00
Anglian Water : Water charge for cemetery – 6 months	£ 27.62
ENC : Annual instalment on cemetery land loan	£ 1,750.00

E-on : Lighting maintenance ¼ to September £ 377.86

It was agreed that money should be transferred from the Bequest account to the current account to cover the ground works at the cemetery.

Proposed : Councillor Day

Seconded : Councillor Kingston

11/083 Financial Position

The bank balances are as follows:- Current account Aug. £ 6,958.21- Sept. £ 6,225.07 for (NB : Seed have not banked their cheque for £ 2,299), Deposit account Aug. £6,133.43- Sept £ 6,134.19, Bequest account., Aug. £ 10,014.94 – Sept £ 10,0019. 20. The half year precept will be paid in during October.

A refund of £86.90 is expected from ENC under the Small Business Relief Scheme on cemetery business tax.

11/084 Planning

Applications

100A Wood Road : Removal and pruning trees : EN/11/0141/TCA : no objection

Granted by ENC : noted

48a Bridge Street : Single storey triple garage to front of property : EN/11/00672/FUL

63 West Street : Removal of internal wall : EN/11/00832/LBC

29 Bridge Street : Outdoor combi boiler : EN10/01742/LBC

11/085 ENC : Revised Village plans and maps

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman have seen these extensive plans. The Chairman explained to new Councillors that planning in villages is not random; these maps and documents set out the revised planning for the future development in East Northamptonshire. The final documents are guidance to the planners.

King's Cliffe was designated as a Key Service Centre, due to the level of development. This set us apart; now it would appear that Nassington and Warmington have a similar designation.

It would appear the site known as KC1, now identified as KCF2, is the only designated area for development in the village. Formerly there were other areas marked in the village as possible small development sites.

Councillor Atkinson asked if there was the likelihood of development towards Wansford; this is actually out of our village boundary and also in a different County and there is no requirement for them to formally consult us. She also asked if we can make our own plan.

The Chairman replied that we had two Parish Plans, the last one 10 years ago, however it was over-ruled by ENC. The recent Pathfinder project also looked at preparing a Parish Plan but there were no funds to implement its recommendations.

A current Government consultation on planning will almost certainly change some aspects of planning. The documents in question will be circulated to all Councillors before the next meeting.

Councillor Atkinson suggested a Village Plan would be another line of defence. Councillor Day said this had been tried in the past by calling a public meeting proved of little interest to the community. This will be further discussed at the October meeting.

11/086 Liaison meeting : 20th July 2011 : Report

Councillors Day and Leuchars attended the meeting. Councillor Leuchars was disappointed that there was such a low turnout and felt the Augean representatives were very defensive. Councillor Day disagreed with this; the early meetings years ago with Wastego were very difficult; in fact, at one point they refused to attend the meetings. He stated that these meetings were voluntary and feels they are very important.

It was agreed that the PC will ask the Environment Agency for the results of the quarterly monitoring of the water sources in King's Cliffe.

11/087 Accounts Audit : Request for higher Fidelity Insurance

It was agreed to raise the Fidelity Insurance to £25,000 to cover the monies in all accounts against fraudulent transactions. The Chairman asked the Clerk to send the query from BDO and her reply to call Councillors.

11/088 Oundle Recycling Centre : Draft Options from ENC

The draft options were sent to all Councillors. It was generally felt that more people in King's Cliffe use the Weldon site. The only downside as far as the Chairman could see was that if the proposals are adopted, it may cost ENC and therefore the whole district.

11/089 Traffic Calming & crossing : Wood Road : update

The matter of a crossing on Wood Road has been ongoing for months, with no real answers from NCC; they have now suggested we contact ENC as this is a planning matter.

11/090 The Queens Diamond Jubilee 2012 : Meeting on 22nd September

The Parish Council have called a meeting at the Community Centre, Middle School on 22nd September at 8.pm. to bring together all interested parties. The Chairman explained any celebrations will not be organised by the Parish Council, who have no money for such events; we acting purely as facilitators. There are concerns that if nothing is organised soon, nothing will happen, which would be very unfortunate and short sighted.

11/091 E-on : Offer of Energy saving alterations to lighting

E-on have a limited offer to modernise street lights to save energy. However, the conversion, which will eventually have to be carried out, are very expensive, and only 27 of the 93 street lights in the village are eligible, the costs of converting the lights would wipe out any savings in electricity.

11/092 New Landscape for Planning & Development Control

The information given at present is inadequate to discuss this. The Clerk will seek further information.

11/093 Willow Lane footpath : update

NCC cannot give a definite answer on who owns the footpath at present but will contact us in due course with a response. The Chairman feels this should be followed up with NCC and the developers of Sovereign Grange.

11/094 Sports Project – update

The accounts for the Sports Project have been received and these will be circulated to all Councillors. Councillor Kingston reported that the Fun Day had been a great success; over 1,000 participated. The building is now operational. The football pitches are in use and are considered to be excellent. Both the County and District Councillors have visited the site. However, the project is still experiencing problems with VAT.

11/094a Funding from New development

The Chairman asked the Clerk to contact Councillor Glithero with regards to what money will be received both by the PC and this project from the new development in Wood Road under the Section 106 agreement; this does not seem to have been clearly explained to us. We know that there will be a sum for maintenance of the proposed Playground, adjacent to the Club.

11/095 Gazette entry for October 2011 : discussed and agreed

11/096 Burial Board

Cemetery fees : proposed revision : This has been postponed for a further month to enable the B Board to fully consider the figures.

Cemetery extension : BB Chairman Laura Crane reported all is in good order for the blessing to take place. Derek Gunn has begun to mark the new plots. There will be a Board meeting shortly. The ivy on the Church wall is to be dealt with by Councillor Crane and her husband.

11/097 Neighbourhood Watch

There have been some serious incidents at the allotments involving air-guns. The Police have been involved in this, but no charges have been made; the culprits owned up and apologised to the injured parties. Spire Homes will be asked to remove an unauthorised gate from the rear of one of their properties to the allotments.

11/098 Other Correspondence Received : discussed or circulated : a letter from Glapthorn Parish Council regarding a public meeting will be e-mailed to all Councillors

11/099 Any Other Business

Church Walk

Augean has agreed to carry out some temporary resurfacing to Church Walk, from Underground to Orchard Lane. The Council sent a letter to affected residents and land owners and there are no objections to this. It was agreed to advise Augean that we have no objections to this work

Colemans Lane

Councillors Crane and Williams have magnanimously volunteered to give Colemans Lane a facelift by removing weeds and over-grown ivy; Councillor Day will cart away the rubbish. There are many areas in the village which would benefit from willing volunteers, to keep the village tidy, as that ENC and NCC no longer clear lanes and footpaths.

Solar Panels

The Clerk had received queries from the community regarding the fitting of solar panels to a house in the conservation area. The Planning Desk at ENC said planning permission is needed in the conservation area, but that they had, possibly incorrectly, informed the house owners in writing that they did not need permission. The Chairman remarked this could well set a precedent in the area, as many are looking to this form of energy saving.

Parish Council Forum

Councillor Brown said that 90 people had viewed the new King's Cliffe Forum, but he would like more input; more comments for discussion please!

Councillor Kingston considers all drains need grass removing from them, although they have been cleared quite recently. The Clerk will ask the Street Doctor.

Councillor Meadows asked if the litter bin outside the surgery can be replaced. Also, that the stile at the top of the Hills and Holes is broken. The Clerk will report this to the Footpaths Officer at NCC.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.50.pm. The next meeting will be one week earlier than normal on Thursday 6th October at 7.30.pm. in the Parlour of the Memorial Hall.

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