

KINGS CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council took place on Thursday 12th January 2012 at 7.30.pm. in the Parlour at Memorial Hall.

11/164 Present : Chairman A. Howard, Vice-Chairman M. Day, Councillors G. Caddick, L. Crane, G. Kingston, C. Leuchars, C. Williams, N. Ford, R. Brown and J. Atkinson.

11/165 Apologies for Absence : Councillor R. Meadows

11/166 Declarations of Interest: None

11/167 Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th December 2011 : Approved

Proposed : Councillor Leuchars

Seconded : Councillor Brown

11/168 Clerks report

The application for funds to complete the cemetery extension has been sent to SWEET. A design and access statement and a sketch plan of the land and proposed works were also requested and sent. Alison Southern, from SWEET made contact, as she was concerned we were asking for money for completed works, which we are not. Hopefully this will be discussed at the next KCEA meeting and we shall be successful.

Willow Lane : If anyone has been to look, the new panel fence now looks like a Mexican Wave after the recent high winds! But that is a problem for the developers, not the PC. There is some rubbish up there, but they have promised a weekly litter pick, so will have another look at the weekend and complain if it has not been cleared.

Augean have been asked for an update regarding the remedial works to Church Walk. We are continuing discussions on this but agreed that the nature of the lane only required some 'planings' to be put down

The broken drain from Barry Tempest house/garden to the river, had been investigated, with a camera, and cannot be repaired simply.

A report was received regarding HGV vehicles from KC1 going through Blatherwycke village; as there is no weight limit on their bridge, this is quite legal.

A complaint has been received from a parishioner regarding parking problems at the surgery; she suggested we should ask for white lines on one side of the road. This is not practical as house owner's park legitimately in this area.

11/169 Matters arising

Some Councillors are not happy with the way in which the Enforcement Officer has deal with the Willow Lane hedge issues. The Chairman has spoken to our District Councillor on this matter and asked him to follow this matter up

The Clerk will follow up the request for drawings of the lights to be used in Sovereign Grange.

11/170 Accounts payable : approved

Clerks Salary (current month)	£ 240.00
Clerks expenses : ½ year to December	£ 110.53
Richard Brown : Cemetery & Churchyard	£ 320.00
HMRC : Clerks PAYE	£ 60.00
E-on : Quarter to Dec : electricity charges	£ 617.98
Jenny Howard Dixon : Contra rent for Pitchell	£ 20.00
K.A. & J.P. Willis : addition rabbit fencing to cemetery	£ 188.40

Proposed : Councillor Ford

Seconded : Councillor Day

11/171 Financial Position

Bank balances as follows :- Current account £ 5,385.85; Deposit account £6,134.95, Bequest account; £ 7,032.32

11/172 Planning

Applications

King's Cliffe Primary School : External standalone kitchen : EN/11/02044/NCC : No objection

Granted by ENC : noted

4 Bridge Street : Alterations to lead parapet gutter : EN/11/01645/FUL and EN/11/01376/LBC

Councillors Leuchars asked what was happening regarding the £5 per ton for the dumping of LL Nuclear Waste which he believed would come to the village. The Clerk will ask Phil Watson at NCC what the position is over this and report to the next meeting.

11/173 Precept Request 2012/2013

The Chairman had prepared a budget forecast for 2012/13, which he talked through with the Council. He explained there had been additional expenses during the last year, especially for the cemetery extension and the costs of the election, which were not likely to recur in the coming year.

A lengthy discussion followed; it was decided on a show of hands that the precept should remain at the same amount as last year, which is £15,000, paid in two instalments.

11/174 PPG : King's Cliffe Surgery : update

A letter had been sent to the Surgery following the last meeting. Chairman Howard had subsequently been invited to attend a meeting of the PPG and gave the Council an account of what had been discussed.

It would seem that the existing surgery has recently been inspected and remedial work is required to bring the surgery up to the minimum acceptable standard. The practice, with support from the PCT will be making these improvements.

However a further inspection is due in 2013 / 2014 at which time it is not expected that the surgery will be 'passed' and consequently a new surgery will be required. The practice has indicated that they would not be in a position to fund a new surgery and consequently if the Parish want a surgery we will need to provide it for the Doctors to use.

It was felt that the views of all parties and organisations concerned are needed especially the Primary Care Trust.

Councillor Atkinson asked if there statutory requirements for a village to have a surgery. The Chairman replied this must be ascertained from the PCT, especially in the case of a large village such as ours, which is a 'hub' village for the surrounding area.

The Council agreed that it is important that we retain a Health Facility within the village, which supports the village status as a local service centre

A further meeting is planned and the Chairman has spoken to District Councillor Glithero, who will also attend the next meeting; a report will be given at the next Parish Council meeting.

It was agreed the Chairman should attend the next meeting

11/175 KC1 site

The plans for the Play Area adjacent to the Club were displayed and discussed. Several Councillors recalled that in the original discussion, there was to be pedestrian entrance from the Social Club.

This is not shown on the plans; it is understood that some of the Club committee members were not happy with this idea, which it was felt was disappointing and potentially the Social Club will miss an opportunity to benefit from this development. Councillor Caddick feels there are not sufficient benches shown on the plan and would like to know if the equipment for the smaller children is provided with the statutory safety features. She also raised the matter of who would empty the litter bins. The Clerk will confer with the developers' architect.

11/176 Parish Plan : update

Councillor Atkinson has arranged a meeting with Michael Burton and Sharn Matthews from ENC at Thrapston on 10th February, which she and Councillor Leuchars will attend to discuss the Parish and Neighbourhood Plan. Chairman Howard suggested they should talk to other parishes, who have undertaken this exercise before any firm decisions were made. He was aware that Raunds had spent money on preparing a Parish Plan and it did not work; there are also other examples of this happening. Councillor Atkinson suggested that the Localism Bill will give it more weight. They will report their findings to the next meeting.

11/177 Footpaths & Stiles

Councillor Meadows e-mailed an up-date to all Councillors; but as he was not able to attend. It was agreed to postpone and discussion until the next meeting.

11/178 Augean

Councillor Leuchars said he hoped everyone was aware that Low Level Nuclear Waste was already being dumped and felt the Council should register their dismay against the Secretary of State and Augean.

Councillor Day replied that he felt all were aware of this, but legal processes can go on forever; we should be concentrating on monitoring the site.

Councillor Atkinson agreed that we should ensure that the monitoring is concurrent with legal requirements.

Councillor Day then proposed the following resolution :-

“That this Council has consistently opposed the applications by Augean to dispose of Low Level Nuclear Waste and regrets that the disposal of this waste has already commenced. However, permission has been granted and this Council believes that it now needs to work with Augean and the bodies responsible for monitoring the disposal to ensure that there is no risk to the resident of our village”.

A discussion followed this; Councillor Day said of course we are disappointed, but we have a responsibility to the Parish to monitor this; the appeal process has gone on for far too long.

Councillor Atkinson asked if the PC supported WasteWatchers.

Councillor Day believed that the Council do support Waste Watchers in principal, but they cannot fully support any individual group as we represent the whole community.

Councillor Ford declared that he was against the public protests.

Councillor Leuchars asked for a sentence to be added to the resolution saying “subject to the appeal being turned down”. The Chairman offered this counter proposal, which was seconded by two Councillors.

Councillor Day disputed this, stating he did not agree and insisted his original resolution was sufficient and requested a show of hands, for his original resolution. This proved to be in his favour.

The Chairman declared that Councillor Day's resolution be carried and the counter proposal had lost.

11/179 Weight limit for King's Cliffe : discussion

There was a brief discussion; it was agreed that, apart from access, which is permissible, the problems really only arises when HGV's lose their way or follow erroneous SatNav instructions. However, as the Councillor who proposed this agenda item was not present, this will be on the next agenda.

11/180 Gazette entry for February 2012 : discussed and agreed.

11/181 Burial Board

As reported by the Clerk the application to KCEA Grant for further works on cemetery extension has been lodged and will be discussed by them at their meeting on 31st January. BB Chairman Councillor Crane said all current matters were carrying on apace.

11/182 Police : Monthly Crime Statistics

The monthly crime figures, which are very low, were discussed. The community should be warned that thieves are taking catalytic converters from vehicles parked in driveways.

11/183 Other Correspondence Received

Community Sports Project : update

An update from David Hellard, briefly mentioned at the last meeting was discussed. An interim meeting had been held. King's Cliffe Active would like to offer advertising space to companies on the MUGA fence. There were no adverse comments on this. One football pitch is in full use.

11/184 Any Other Business

Councillor Atkinson asked who owned the old railway line. Councillors explained that various lengths belonged to a variety of farmers who own adjacent land; the Willow Walk is leased to the PC by ENC. She also asked for a village walk to be organised for new Councillors to familiarise themselves with the PC assets and pockets of land owned by them.

Councillor Kingston asked if a litter pick could be organised, mainly on the roads coming into the village. These last two items will be on the next agenda. She also asked if it would be prudent to ask other villages to contribute to the Underground Youth Club, as this Council does, as many children from other villages use the Club. This was considered a very good point and would be brought to the attention of Katy Weeks.

The Memorial Hall committee have asked for nominations of two Trustees; at present the nominees are Councillor Meadows and Ms. Mary Wharton. Both were nominated by the Council for a further term of office. It is understood that both are willing. This was proposed by Councillor Kingston and seconded by Councillor Caddick. Christine Edwards will be informed.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15.pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 9th February 2012 at 7.30.pm. in the Memorial Hall Parlour.

NB : The above meeting will now be held on Thursday 16th February 2012 – same time and venue.