

Minutes of the meeting of the Village Council of Kings Clipstone held in the Community Room, Sherwood Forest Holiday Park, Gorsethorpe Lane, Kings Clipstone, Nottinghamshire, on **Monday 2nd April 2012**. The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr. M Bradley (Chair of the Village Council)
Cllr. J Govan
Cllr. J Harbottle
Cllr. S Parkhouse
Cllr. M Rowe
Cllr. J Smyth

Also Attending: Mr. M Plumb (Clerk to the Council)
District Cllr Sheila Soar
Two members of the public

(Recorder in operation)

143/12 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D. Maguire (minor injury) and County Cllr Les Ward (illness)

144/12 **Declarations of interest**

Cllr S. Parkhouse declared a personal interest in agenda item 12 (proposed bridle path) through his membership of the Ramblers Association.

145/12 **Minutes**

a) Village Council Meeting 12th March 2012

The following amendments were **AGREED** to the draft minutes for this meeting.

- Minute 129/12 (b) 3rd bullet point, insert after “received”, “from NALC”.
- Minute 130/12 1st bullet point. Delete “lry” replace with “Ivy”. Delete “information displayed on the Notice Boards” replace with “the newsletter and Hedge trimming work”.
- Minute 131/12 (a) 3. Add at the end of line “the need to go through official channels was **NOTED**”.
- Minute 131/12 (b) 6 line. Delete “(list attracted)”. (List to be circulated).
- Minute 132/12 (b) 3rd bullet point, 1st line. Delete “Count” replace with “Court”

- Minute 136/12 2nd paragraph, delete “Chair/Vice Chair” replace with “Council”.
- Minute 138/12, 2nd paragraph, delete “B6075” replace with “A6075”.
- Minute 140/12, 2nd bullet point, 3rd line. Delete “Alan”, replace with “Ian”. Line 6, delete “Lane” replace with “Ling”.
- Minutes 140/12 3rd bullet point, 2nd line. Delete “centre” and replace with “Green”. 7th line. Replace “to” and replace with “from”.

The minutes of the Village Council meeting held on the 12th March 2012 were then **ADOPTED** as a true and accurate recorded and signed by the Chair.

b) Updating Information

- 1) The meeting **NOTED** that a plastic wallet containing copies of the Village Council minutes were now being displayed in the Squire Lane Bus Shelter.
- 2) The Clerk of the Council reported that during an inspection tour of the Village, accompanied by Cllrs Mickie Bradley and Jody Govan, the new Flower bed and Village Sign was examined. It was clear to the Clerk that this was another outstanding example of the commendable voluntary work carried out by Village Councillors upon a number of different projects for the Village.

146/12 Questions/statements from Members of the Public

The meeting resolved to suspend standing orders whilst this item of business was dealt with.

- Ivy Redferm raised a point over the welcome appearance of daffodils in the Village. In response, it was confirmed that more will be planted for future years.
- Keith Laver asked the Clerk if he was aware of the “Clerks Toolkit” (an advice document upon the work and responsibility of a Council Clerk). Mr Laver asked what right had the Clerk had to object to a planning proposal which Mr Laver had himself put forward to the District Council. In response, the Clerk made it clear that two of his principal responsibilities were to advise the Council upon items of business. (including planning consultations) and then to implement the ensuing decisions of the Council. This, he had done. Following a somewhat heated exchange, the Chair closed the discussion on this matter as the question raised had been satisfactorily answered.
- The Clerk finally reported the receipt of a letter from Mr & Mrs Ryder of Gorse Bank Farm giving full support to attempts to make Gorsethorpe Lane a safer road, following a series of accidents.

Standing orders were then reactivated for the remainder of the meeting.

147/12 Reports from County/District Councillors and from the Police

a) County Cllr Les Ward

In Cllr Les Wards absence, the meeting received and **NOTED** the contents of an e-mail report dated 29th March 2012, which had been circulated to Village Councillors. Thanks were recorded to Cllr Les Ward for his report.

b) District Council Sheila Soar

District Cllr Sheila Soar gave a report upon District Council matters including the Edwinstowe Safer Neighbourhood Group, the meeting with Andy Statham, NSDC Community Services Officer, the boundary review, and sports Activities for Easter. Cllr Soar suggested that it would be beneficial for Village Council to meet Mr Statham to discuss community development for the future.

Cllr Soar was thanked for her report.

c) Police Representative Report

The Clerk reported the receipt of an e-mail from PCSO 4741 Keith Crowhurst on behalf of PC Ian Appleby. In the e-mail PCSO Keith Crowhurst reported upon incidents of petty crime and road related accidents in the Village. He commented that the Village was a comparatively quiet area with no particular crime trends. Finally PCSO Crowhurst offered to arrange a "speed gun" service, if the Village Council felt this would be beneficial. Village Councillors agreed to this suggestion but also queried whether the "speed gun" might be borrowed and used by Council members.

The Clerk will take up these matters.

The meeting recorded its appreciation to PCSO Crowhurst for his report.

148/12 Planning Decisions/Consultations

The Clerk reported that no consultations upon new proposals or notifications of planning decisions had been received from the District Council up to the date of the meeting.

Cllr S. Parkhouse reported that a caravan had been parked (location given) possibly for use a permanent residence, and queried whether planning permission had been given in the case. After discussion and by vote of 4 for and 2 against it was **AGREED** that appropriate enquiries be made.

149/12 **Jubilee Grant**

The Clerk reported that the Newark and Sherwood District Council had now given final formal confirmation of an award of £500 grant towards the cost of the Village celebration programme of the Queen Jubilee. After a Full Discussion it was **AGREED** that the idea of creating a permanent celebration of the Queen Jubilee be considered at the Village Councils next meeting.

150/12 **Bus Shelter NS0465 Squire Lane**

The Clerk reported that an e-mail received from the Nottinghamshire Transport and Travel Services section had now confirmed that this shelter was beyond repair. The County Council have identified two choices.

- To leave the shelter in its current state until it poses an immediate danger to the public or until it is ready to be replaced.
- To remove the shelter at some point in the very near future and install a pole (without a shelter) to hold timetable information.

The shelter has been added to the request for new shelter and will be considered on a first come, first served basis.

After a full discussion it was agreed that if a new good quality wooden shelter can be provided by the County Council before the Queen's Jubilee celebration the Village Council would consider making a contribution towards the cost of such a shelter. County Cllr Les Ward would be kept informed in the case.

151/12 **Road Safety-Additional Measures**

The Chair, Cllr M. Bradley reports that progress was continuing in the building of a petition signed by residents calling on the County Council to apply a 40mph limit on Gorse Thorpe Lane.

The meeting then reviewed what additional measures might be required. They included:-

- Crash barriers over the River Maun Bridge.
- Double white lines.
- "Accident Area" signs.
- Speed gun usage (already discussed-minute 147/12 (c)).
- Re-siting of the 30mph sign further back from the Village.
- "Slow down" signs.

It was **AGREED** that a site meeting between County Highways (Transport/Travel) Development office and Village Councillors be requested to discuss these ideas.

152/12 **Former Telephone Kiosk**

The Clerk reported that an inspection of the Kiosk by Cllrs M. Bradley, Cllr J. Govan and he had revealed a notice had been put up in the Kiosk announcing an intention to withdraw the facilities. The Clerk was continuing in his efforts to obtain a response form BT, but as at the date of the meeting no response had been received.

The report was **NOTED** by the meeting.

153/12 **Purchase of Daffodils/Grass Maintenance**

- a) The meeting considered the need to plant more daffodils at prominent locations in the Village. It was finally **AGREED** to allocate £200 from the 2012/13 budget for the purchase of appropriate varieties/types of Daffodils. Cllrs J. Govan, J. Harbottle and S. Parkhouse to make the detailed arrangements at the appropriate time.
- b) The question of maintenance of grass verges was then considered by the meeting. The sites requiring maintenance were; Monument Green, the Recreation Field, Squires Lane and the north east side of Rathole (bank). It was **AGREED** that the County Council be asked to quote for carrying out this work.

154/12 **Proposed Bridle Way, Review of Current position/policy**

Cllr S. Parkhouse reported that the Nottinghamshire Rambles Association were formally requesting the County Councils Right of Way section to adopt the route from the main entrance to Sherwood Pines Holiday Park at Preston Lodge through to Deerdale Lane as a bridleway rather than a restricted byway. Cllr S. Parkhouse illustrated the proposals to the meeting on prepared maps and explained the reasons for the request. He recommended that the Village Council records its strong support to the County Council.

After a full discussion it was unanimously resolved to **ADOPT** the recommendation. Clerk to take required action.

155/12 **Council Rates. Review of Change to the Ratepayers**

The meeting considered a report which claimed that the actual cost to the Village ratepayer for Parish Rates had increased by 5.9%, despite the Village Councils precept for 2012/13 being zero increase from the financial year 2011/12. (£8.500).

The Clerk would investigate the reason for this.

156/12 **Budget for 2012/13. Confirmation of individual budget headings**

The Clerk asked the Village Council meeting to formally confirm the individual budget headings which were agreed by the Village Council at its meeting on 28th November 2011. This was needed for audit purposes.

The meeting so **RESOLVED** to adopt the budget allocations recorded in the minutes of the November meeting.

156/12 **Review of “Heritage” Element of the Village**

Cllr M. Bradley declared a prejudicial interest in this item of business in view of her ownership of the land containing the ruins of King John Palace. She took no part in the discussion or voting on this matter.

Cllr M. Rowe, Vice Chair acting as chairman for this item of business.

The Clerk reported that in view of the imminent Channel 4 TV “Time Team” programme upon the Palace area, he had obtained a basic guide for requesting English Heritage listings of sites associated with the Villages History. He suggested the time was right to make such a request, should the Village Council so wish.

After a full discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk make an initial formal enquiry to English Heritage as to whether the field containing the palace ruins, and surrounding associated sites might satisfy the criteria for listing.. Supporting evidence would be the conclusions and finds of the TV investigations/excavations following three days excavation work, and the book “A Celebration of Kings Clipstone”

158/12 **Proposed Ethical Framework Changes (Code of Conduct)**

The Clerk reported that accompanied by Cllr M. Bradley, he had attended a meeting at the Newark and Sherwood District Council offices to hear a talk upon the Governments proposals. Of major significance was the proposal to make it a criminal offence for none declaration by Councillors, of prejudicial in items of Council business.

Other proposals were reported explaining the dosing down of the Standards Board and the work to be carried out by the District Council after 1st July 2012. A new code of conduct will need to be adopted by all Councils before that date.

The meeting **NOTED** the report.

159/12 **Emergency Plan. Flooding**

The Clerk reported that as, agreed at the Councils last meeting, he had obtained the County Councils information pack giving guidance for the creation of a local emergency plan, particularly in relation to incidents of flooding. He had also obtained the Environment Departments plan showing past flooded areas alongside the River Maun though the Village.

It was agreed to consider this matter at this next meeting of the Village Council.

160/12 **Village Council Web Site - Progress Report**

The Clerk reported that it was now proposed to include the following in the Council web site.

- Meeting Calendar.
- Agenda for meetings.
- Draft minutes/approved minutes.
- Councillor's names, addresses, contact details.
- Map of the Parish/Location map.
- Photographs, illustration.
- Welcome page-Chair Greetings.
- Approved budget/annual reports.
- "Articles" page for special projects.
- "Contact" page for readers.
- Likes to other sites.

The meeting **NOTED** the report. (Final draft to be approved by the Village Council).

161/12 **Village Councillors Report/Comments**

- In answer to a question, the Clerk reported that no reply had been received concerning the future use of the Holiday Park's Community Room.
- Comments were made concerning the public seat on Archway Road. The meeting felt that it should be repainted or removed.

162/12 **Financial Matters**

The meeting approved the following payment.

- Clerk salary, office and travelling expense £205.00

The Clerk mentioned that the year accounts would now be closed down and prepared for audit.

163/12 **Date of Meetings**

Annual Parish Meeting: Tuesday 24th April 2012.

Annual Council Meeting: Tuesday 22nd May 2012.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for their contribution and closed the meeting.