

THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF KINGS CLIPSTONE

Minutes of the meeting of the Village Council of Kings Clipstone held in the Community Room, Sherwood Forest Holiday Park, Gorseythorpe Lane, Kings Clipstone, Nottinghamshire on Wednesday 15th June 2011.

Present. Cllr M Bradley (Chair of the Council)
 Cllr J Govan
 Cllr J Harbottle
 Cllr D Maguire
 Cllr S Parkhouse
 Cllr J Smythe

Also Attending Mr M Plumb (Acting Voluntary Clerk of the Council)
 9 members of the public.

22/11 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Rowe (work commitments)

23/11 Declarations of Interest

Cllr S Parkhouse declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Playing fields. Transfer of Lease). He would vacate the meeting whilst this item of business was being dealt with.

24/11 Appointment of Temporary Clerk to the Council

It was **agreed** to consider this item of business at the end of the meeting after the exclusion of the public and press (exempt items).

25/11 Minutes

It was **agreed** that, subject to the following amendments, the minutes of the first (annual) Meeting of the Village Council held on the 16th May 2011 be accepted as a true and accurate record and they were signed by the Chair.

- Minute 11(i). Delete Cllr J Govan and substitute Cllr J Harbottle
- Minute 18(i). Delete last part of the sentence from the words “and details of”, ending “for consideration”.
- Minute 19. Delete “Play” from heading and from the first line of the minutes.

26/11 Chairs Announcements

The Chair of the Council gave details of the Local Improvement Scheme bid and grants for sign notice boards. She mentioned the forthcoming visit to the Parish of representatives of County Highways.

The meeting **noted** the Chairs announcements.

27/11 Members Questions to the Chair

The following questions/statements were given by Council Members.

- The local post box is in a state of disrepair and constitutes a lack of security for deposited mail. (Acting Clerk to write to Royal Mail).
- Certain hedges in the Parish are in urgent need of trimming. (To be referred to County Highways).
- Certain footway pavements are also in a state of disrepair. (To be referred to County Highways).
- A petition is being prepared for the British Telecon calling for the improvement and development of services to the Parish.
- Volunteers are sought for planting flowers along pavements. (Referred to County Highways for observations).
- Additional directional signs are needed along the main road (e.g. Near the Dog and Duck Pub). Cllr S Parkhouse to talk to the District Council.
- The local telephone box is in a state of disrepair. (Acting Clerk to write to British Telecon).
- The need to recruit a permanent Clerk to the Council.

The foregoing items were **noted** by the meeting.

28/11 Questions/Statements from Members of the Public

The meeting **agreed** to suspend standing orders whilst this item of business was being transacted. For reasons of transparency, it is recorded that the following matters were raised by attending members of the public.

- Cllr S Parkhouse, on behalf of a resident, passed on complaints relating to proposals/activities on the proposed playing fields site. (Noted).
- The rules for responsibility for trimming hedges were raised. (Chair to investigate).
- A question was asked as to whether a “Farm Shop” was to be created. (No plans known at present).
- Referring to agenda item no 13, a resident queried whether it was too early for the Council to consider this kind of proposal.
- A complaint was made concerning speeding traffic particularly along Gorseythorpe Lane. A speed limit might be the answer. The need to provide the Police with specific information about the location and times when this problem occurs was mentioned. (Referred to County Highways).

There being no further items brought up, the Chair thanked members of the public for their contributions.

The Council's standing orders were then **re activated** and the Council continued with dealing with the formal agenda for the meeting.

29/11 Reports from the County and District Council Representatives.

Since neither Councillor had been sent a notice of this Council's meeting, neither was in attendance. Consequently, no reports were made under this item of business.

It was **agreed** as a matter of future policy that the papers for Council meetings (excluding confidential items) will be sent to both the County and District Councillors, with an invitation to attend, should they be able to do so.

30/11 Postal Address Changes. Report.

Cllr S Parkhouse reported that a full survey of properties in the Village was being carried out to evaluate what changes were required.

The meeting **noted** this report.

31/11 Village Notice Board

After a full discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to place an order for the notice board, at a cost of £130, to be sited as already agreed.

32/11 Playing Field Proposal

The meeting considered a proposal for the transfer of the land lease to the Village Council for the Playing Fields Land at a preliminary cost of £50 for documentation purposes. The Chair, Cllr M Bradley gave details of the main conditions of the lease (maintenance of hedges, and entrance way, restrictions on use of the site etc).

After discussion, the proposal to accept the transfer, being proposed and seconded was put to the meeting and was **CARRIED**.

33/11 Storage Unit and Contents.

The meeting considered an offer to donate a storage unit, with contents to the Village Council, to be used by and for the community of Kings Clipstone under the control of the Village Council.

During the ensuing discussion, the need to itemise and record the contents of the storage unit (mainly equipment) was emphasised. It was then proposed to accept the offer as soon as the Council's banking arrangements were completed, and appropriate insurance cover was in place. The value was estimated at £8,000. The proposal was put to the meeting and was **CARRIED**.

34/11 Rights of Way Co coordinator.

Cllr S Parkhouse proposed that consideration should be given to the appointment of a Rights of Way Co-ordinator. The work involved would include reviewing current and past access routes within and immediately outside the Parish Boundary and liaising with appropriate outside bodies.

During the ensuing discussion, members felt that whilst the principal of the suggestion has much merit, the details needed careful consideration. The priority at the present time was to set up the fundamental structure, policies and objectives of the Village Council and to aim at high standards from the outset.

Cllr Parkhouse finally withdrew his suggestion for consideration at a future date.

35/11 Village Council Insurance

The chair presented alternative options for setting up the Councils insurance policy. The meeting, after considering the alternatives **resolved** to accept the proposal of Came and Company dated 26th Mat 2011. This would be set up as soon as the new banking arrangements were in force.

36/11 Planning Applications. Consultation Procedure.

The system for the referring and consideration of planning applications for developments in the parish from the District Council to the Village Council was debated by the meeting, in particular to whom should the referrals be sent. The need for submitting the Village Councils observations within the planning time limits was noted.

After discussion it was **agreed** that, for the time being, the District Council be requested to forward referrals to the Chair for actioning until a new permanent Clerk has been appointed.

37/11 Budget Allocations for the Current Financial Year

It was **agreed** that consideration of this item of business be deferred until the costs of the recent election, Clerks salary, insurance and lease costs were known.

However, after discussion it was further **agreed** that membership of the National Association of Local Councils (Nottinghamshire Branch, Southwell) was desirable and should be arranged immediately. The first years cost of £29 was **noted**.

38/11 Date of the next Meeting

It was **agreed** that the next meeting of the Village Council would be held on the 27th July 2011, commencing 7.00pm.

39/11 Exclusion of the Public and Press

It was **resolved** that in view of the confidential nature of the final item of business, it is in the public interests, for the public and press to be excluded from the meeting and they were therefore thanked for their attendance and asked to withdraw.

For the reason of transparency, the item to be discussed related to conditions of employment for the Village Council Clerk. The minute record of this matter (minute no 40/11) is recorded on a separate confidential attachment to these minutes for the information of Councillors only.

End of non confidential minutes for this meeting.