

# LYDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held in Lyddington Village Hall  
on Wednesday 2 January 2008 at 19:30

Present:	Cllr H Tassell (Chairman)	Cllr A Marshall
	Cllr I C Canadine	Cllr D P Sugden
	Cllr R H Clarke	Cllr E L-A Straw
	Cllr S G Griffiths-Baker	
	Ms E A Hobley (Clerk)	
Members of the village in attendance:	None	

## PRELIMINARY MATTERS

### 1. Questions and comments from the floor: None.

The details of the recent road traffic accident in Lyddington, involving a car and a horse and rider, were discussed. Cllr Canadine had received a letter from two village residents, Mrs Burton and Mrs Goodall, expressing concern regarding road safety. **Agreed** that the Council will continue its efforts to address speeding and road safety in the village and **resolved** that a working party be formed of Cllrs Marshall, Canadine and Straw to discuss ideas and to formulate a proposal for consideration by the Parish Council.

#### Actions:

- Form working party to formulate proposal to address speeding and road safety in the village for consideration by the Parish Council (**AM, ICC, ES**)
- Confirm if Mrs Burton consents to her letter being sent to the County Councillor and then (if permission received) forward the letter (**ICC and Clerk**)
- Ask County Councillor to attend the next meeting to discuss the villages concerns (**Clerk**)
- Enquire if Lyddington is now on the Rutland County Council Highways Department "priority list" following this accident (**Clerk**)

### 2. Apologies for absence: None.

### 3. Declaration of Interests: There were no interests to declare.

### 4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 November 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 5. Matters Arising: The Council considered the schedule of matters arising from previous meetings including:

#### 5.1 *Highways:* The hole in the pavement outside 44 Main Street has been dealt with. **Agreed** that a rubbish bin should be purchased for the bus shelter and that the bin on the Green should be disposed of. Noted that Rutland County Council had engaged a new grass-cutting contractor, commencing 1 April 2008, to cut the grass in all "urban areas" of the village (between the 30 mile per hour signs).

#### Actions:

- Research appropriate bins for the bus shelter and send information to Cllrs Marshall and Canadine for consideration. Also, check that planning permission is not required to dispose of/affix bins (**Clerk**)
- Research and circulate information on possible grit boxes for Colley Rise (**Clerk**)

#### 5.2 *Historical Parish records:* Dr Rosemary Canadine and Mr Peter Tomalin (former Parish Clerk) have finished sorting the historical records contained in the Parish Chest and Cllr Canadine presented a recommendation for the disposition of those documents, falling into three categories: For destruction; for safe custody; and for deposition at Leicester Records Office (as arranged by Dr Canadine).

**Agreed**, subject to one minor change, that the recommendation be actioned as follows:

- *Documents for destruction:* Arrange to be securely shredded (**Clerk**)
- *Documents for retention:* Identify which should be lodged in safe custody at the bank and which should be retained locally, for easy access (**DS, Clerk**). Establish what arrangements the bank has for safe custody (**Clerk**) and whether the remainder of the documents can be kept in the Village Hall in the Parish Chest (**ES**). Locate key for Parish Chest (**RHC, ICC**)
- *Documents for deposition at Leicester Records Office:* Arrange for deposition (**ICC**)

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## REGULAR REPORTS

### 6. Playing Field

The Chairman had conducted the regular safety check of the play equipment and confirmed it remained up to standard. Cllr Canadine tabled a paper setting out the costs to repair or replace the rubber matting safety surface under the play equipment. **Resolved** that the repair of the safety surface be approved.

*Playing Field Trust:* Noted that the playing field is held on trust for the Parish Council by the Trust.

*The Green:* The location of the swings on the Green was discussed and **agreed** that any decision would have to take into consideration the residency of No. 1, The Green.

#### Actions:

- Proceed with the repair of the safety surface as per Cllr Canadine's paper (**ICC**)
- Attempt to establish the status of occupation of No. 1 The Green (**RHC, Clerk**)
- Seek advice from a mole catcher regarding the mole(s) resident in the small children's play area (**SG-B**)
- Review status of documentation for Playing Field Trust and draft letter of agreement with Tennis Club (noted that Mr Paul Smith is the current Chairman) (**DS, Clerk**)

### 7. Planning Applications

The schedule of planning applications was noted.

A policy for the retention of planning application documentation by the Parish Council was considered. Noted that Rutland County Council keep applications in hard copy for five years and then in electronic form indefinitely. The Parish Council may request copies from RCC at any time and does not need to return old planning applications. It was **resolved** to approve a policy to keep planning application documentation for 12 months, in case of resubmission, and indefinitely, if the application is controversial.

It appeared that no planning application had been submitted for the erection of the willow fence outside 39 Main Street. The Council noted its concern in the rise of retrospective planning applications.

Rutland County Council Planning Department had visited the Marquess of Exeter regarding a tree that had been felled without permission and confirmed that the owner is planning to replant some trees in place of the felled one. Details of those trees will be submitted for approval prior to planting in March 2008.

Noted that planning permission is required to prune apple trees if they are not in a commercial orchard.

#### Actions:

- Mention to Gadsby Estates that the access to the development across the pavement on Main Street has become very dirty (**ICC**)
- Ask RCC Planning department to investigate the erection of the fence at 39 Main Street and communicate the Parish Council's concern at the increase in retrospective applications (**Clerk**)

### 8. Finance

#### 8.1 Financial Position

Cllr Marshall tabled a report on the Council's current financial position, which was noted. The policy to hold the HBOS shares for the time being, and until a reputable broker advises to sell, was reconfirmed.

**Action:** Obtain three quotes, in line with the Parish Council's Standing Orders for Contracts, (including the current contractor, Spendlove, and the new contractor employed by RCC) for the grounds maintenance for 2008 (**Clerk**)

#### 8.2 Budget

A draft budget for 2008/09 (1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009) for the Parish Council was presented and discussed. **Resolved** that the 2008/09 budget be approved, including an increase of the precept by £1,000 over the current year, i.e. from £5,000 in 2007/08 to £6,000 in 2008/09, to reflect inflation and to cover actions arising out of an increased focus on addressing speeding in the village.

**Action:** Lodge precept requirement return for 2008/09 with Rutland County Council (**Clerk**)

#### 8.3 Clerk's Expenses

The Clerk's salary for November and December 2007 was received and approved.

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### BUSINESS

9. **Village Questionnaire**

The draft Questionnaire was discussed and some minor adjustments made. The final questionnaire was **approved** for printing and distribution.

**Action:** Arrange for final Questionnaire to be printed (**Clerk**) and delivered to residents (**all**)

10. **Website and village newsletter**

**Agreed** that the Parish Council will consider at the end of each of its future meetings whether a village newsletter should be produced for the period.

**Action:** Add standing agenda item regarding the issue of a village newsletter (**Clerk**)

11. **Meeting dates for the 2008/09 year**

**Resolved** that the schedule of meeting dates for the year from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 be approved. The meetings will be held in the Village Hall on the following Wednesdays at 7.30 pm: 7 May (Annual Council Meeting), 2 July, 3 September and 5 November 2008, and 7 January and 4 March 2009. The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 28 May 2007.

**Action:** Confirm Village Hall bookings for these dates (**Clerk**)

### OTHER MATTERS

12. **Clerk's items**

12.1 *Register of Electors:* A copy of Lyddington's full Register of Electors has been received by the Clerk.

**Action:** Check with Rutland County Council if members of the Parish Council are entitled to receive copies of the Register (**Clerk**)

12.2 *Council Tax Consultation:* The Clerk reported that a Council Tax Consultation will take place by public meeting to be held on Saturday 19 January 2008.

13. **Other matters** (*at the discretion of the Chairman*)

**Action:** Contact Gretton Parish Clerk to enquire if Northamptonshire are addressing how the increase in traffic in the County impacts Rutland (**Clerk**)

14. The final meeting for the year ended 31 March 2008 will be held at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall on Wednesday 5 March 2008.

*The meeting closed at 21:30*

*Signed by Mrs H Tassell, Chairman on 5 March 2008*

**Chairman**