

LYDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 9 March 2015 7.30pm to 9.25pm

Present: Cllr I C Canadine (Chairman) - in the Chair
Cllr H Tassell (Deputy Chairman)
Cllr D L Couldwell
Cllr J Tyers
Cllr W J A Westwood

Tina Kaczmar (Parish Clerk)

**Members of the village/others
in attendance:** PCSO – Diane Freeman

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. **Questions and comments from the floor:** PCSO Diane Freeman gave an update on the crime in the last 31 days in Rutland South. Rutland South is the lowest crime area in Rutland and Leicestershire.
 - Burglary x5
 - Theft – car x1
 - Damage x3
 - Theft from motor vehicles X6 (mainly catalytic convertors)
 - Theft x2 (gate and a bike)
 - Public order and assault x2.

PCSO Freeman then gave an update on the policing team supporting our area. There are 2 officers, PC LePla and PCSO Freeman and they are supported by back up teams from Leicester. This enables them to spend more time out in the area they police. There is 1 Inspector who manages the Market Harborough, Melton and Rutland area. They are based in Oakham in the old police station that has now been sold. They will be moving to the new police station behind the old station when it is built. They also have an office in Kendrew Barracks. The Chairman thanked PCSO Freeman for coming to the meeting and PCSO Freeman left the meeting at 7.50pm.

2. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr E. Hopley, Cllr R. Archer
3. **Declaration of Interests:** None.
4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12 January 2015.** One amendment was made to Section 5.1 of the minutes. The amendment was as follows: From 'The Parish Council agreed that any resurfacing must enable the area to be used for multi-sports.' To 'The Parish Council agreed that if they were required to contribute financially to resurface the court then, if practicable, the area should be resurfaced to enable it to be used for multi-sports.' The Parish Clerk will amend the minutes as discussed and the minutes will be signed at the next Parish Council meeting.

REGULAR REPORTS

5. **Lyddington Playing Field and Park**
- 5.1 **Lyddington Tennis:** Cllr J Westwood gave an update on Lyddington Tennis. Lyddington Tennis have met twice since the last Parish Council meeting in January. The committee have researched the court surfaces and spoken to Corby Tennis. As a result of their investigations they have decided to resurface the court using macadam. This surface should last 15-20 years and will require some maintenance approximately every 5 years. Lyddington Tennis have the funds to complete this work (about £8.6k). Cllr J Westwood confirmed that Lyddington Tennis would get 3 quotes for the work. Cllr I Canadine commented that the concrete supports around the tennis court need looking at when companies are quoting.

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Cllr I Canadine confirmed that the existing arrangement with Lyddington Tennis would remain the same. Cllr J Tyers highlighted that Lyddington Tennis need to agree with the Parish Council if they go below the minimum amount of cash they are required to hold for court maintenance. Cllr J Westwood acknowledged this and said that Lyddington Tennis were aware of that. Cllr H Tassell asked if the process of court booking had been looked at and mentioned the Mary Parnham Trust in connection with funding tennis coaching for children. Cllr J Westwood commented that Lyddington Tennis would consider these issues as part of the court refurbishment project.

5.2 **Village Play Equipment Safety Checks:** Cllr H Tassell confirmed that she had carried out the monthly safety checks on the play equipment on 23 February 2015 and no issues were highlighted. Cllr H Tassell confirmed that the mole catcher had caught the mole in the small children's play area.

5.3 **Dog walking path on the playing field:** Cllr I Canadine has not had an opportunity to progress this work but is aiming to look at this in the next few weeks.

6. Planning Applications

6.1 **Schedule of planning applications:** The schedule of pending planning applications was noted.

7. Finance

7.1 **Current financial position and ratification of cheques issued:** A schedule detailing cheques issued since the last meeting was tabled, noted and agreed.

7.2 **Revised Draft Budget for 2015/16:** The draft budget was discussed. The Parish Clerk highlighted several amendments that had been made to the draft budget. These included:

- Grounds Maintenance budget amended to include The Green and the costs for petrol and petrol mower servicing have been removed from the budget.
- The Playing Field budget amended to reflect the costs of the replacement sandpit cover.

7.3 **Financial Regulations:** The Parish Clerk confirmed that the contracts section had been removed based on the discussions at the last meeting. The Councillors confirmed that they were happy with the regulations and the regulations were adopted. Cllr I Canadine signed a copy of the Regulations.

7.4 **Clerk's Expenses:** The Clerk's salary and expenses for January and February 2015 (a total of £256.07, being 29 hours at £8.83 per hour and expenses of £2.00 (for laminating) were received and approved.

7.5 **Appointment of an Internal Auditor for 2014/2015:** Cllr H Tassell agreed to ask Charles Tassell if he would be the Internal Auditor for 2014/2015 end of year accounts.

BUSINESS

8. Matters Arising

The Parish Council considered the remaining items on the matters arising schedule, not already covered by the agenda and regular reports, including:

8.1 Playing Field

- Follow up with Mr Mair regarding the Cypress trees adjacent to the children's play area:** Cllr I Canadine to action. Carried forward to next meeting.
- Investigate sign for the play park as per Wicksteed recommendations:** Cllr J Tyers to action. Carried forward to next meeting.

8.2 Finance

- Confirm precept request of £7,500 to Rutland Parish Council:** Completed

8.3 Other Matters

- Letter regarding traffic in Lyddington from Mr Mair and Mr Mercer:** The Chairman to respond to Mr Mair and Mr Mercer. Carried forward to next meeting.

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- (ii) **Consider ways to raise the profile of the Parish Council website:** Ongoing. A note has been placed on the notice boards giving website details and the website is referred to in Parish Council articles in the Benefice Newsletter.
- (iii) **Contact people requesting an allotment to confirm interest.** Completed. 2 people confirmed that they would still like an allotment. The Parish Council agreed that they would not dig new allotments at this time but would consider the issue again if more people requested an allotment.
- (iv) **Get an Update from RCC regarding the Rutland Flyer route to include Corby Station.** Completed. Unable to get an update from Rutland County Council and it was agreed that this action would be removed as it is not a key issue for Lyddington Parish Council.
- (v) **Start to advertise Parish Council elections.** Ongoing. Notices placed on notice boards and a note written for the Benefice Newsletter in February and March. Details put on the Parish Council website.
- (vi) **Confirm meeting dates with Village Hall and advertise date on the noticeboards.** Completed. The Parish Clerk confirmed the Annual Parish Meeting is Monday 13 April 7.00pm at the Village Hall.
- (vii) **Public Art Installation in Lyddington – Village sign.** The Village sign was unveiled on 21 February by Peter Lawson.

9 **Grounds Maintenance Contract 2015/2016:** The 3 quotes were discussed in detail. A new contractor has quoted significantly lower than the existing contractor. However the Parish Council is very satisfied with the work done by the existing contractor. The Parish Clerk agreed to complete the following actions to enable the Councillors to make a decision regarding the grounds maintenance contract.

- Check whether contractors can meet RCC insurance requirements for highway verge cutting.
- Speak to Spendlove (existing contractor) to see if they can improve their quote.
- Ask CGD to provide details of further references for their grounds maintenance work.

10 **Annual Parish Meeting April 2015:** A number of ideas were raised. These included: Consultation by RCC on the Lyddington Conservation area report and dog mess issues. The Parish Clerk was asked to circulate previous copies of the agenda and Councillors will consider agenda items.

OTHER MATTERS

11. Clerk's items

- (i) **Police Report:** The Police report provided by PCSO Freeman at the start of the meeting.
- (ii) **Undergrounding Project Update:** WPD confirmed there has been no progress since the last meeting
- (iii) **Cemetery update:** The Parish Clerk updated the meeting on behalf of Cllr E Hobley. There are estimated to be 5/6 years of grave spaces in the cemetery. The issue of providing another site in the village needs to start to be considered. It was proposed that Cllr E Hobley will progress this issue if she is able to.
- (iv) **Tree planting:** Highways have offered some initial guidance on tree planting but would require further details on types of trees and locations. Cllr Couldwell to discuss with M. Sharpe whether he would be willing to provide trees for use in gardens as limited 'public space' is available in the village.
- (v) **Website support 2015/2016:** The Parish Council agreed to continue with the existing website support provided by Leicester County Council. Cost for 2015/2016 £150 plus VAT.
- (vi) **Cemetery and allotment fees 2015/2016:** Cemetery fees not discussed. Agreed allotment fees to remain at £15. Uppingham charge £25 for full size plot with water provided.

12. **Village Newsletter:** It was agreed that a village newsletter would be discussed at the next meeting.

13. Dates of Next Meetings

- Wednesday 13 April at 19.00 in the village hall. **(Annual Parish Meeting)**
- Monday 11 May 19.30 in the village hall.

14. Other Matters

Lyddington Fete committee formally asked for permission to use The Green for the fete on Saturday 16 May. The Parish Council agreed.

Chairman

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