

LYDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held in Lyddington Village Hall
on Monday 8 November 2010 from 20:05 to 22:00

Present: Cllr I C Canadine (Chairman)
Cllr H Tassell (Deputy Chairman)
Cllr D L Couldwell
Cllr A Marshall
Cllr E L-A Straw
Cllr W J A Westwood

Ms E A Hobley (Clerk)

Members of the village/others
in attendance: PC Paul Le Pla
Mr R Edwards (Village Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator)

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Neighbourhood Watch and Police Update:

The Chairman welcomed PC Le Pla and Mr Edwards to the meeting. Mr Edwards gave an update on a recent incident where the Telephone Relay system had been used – a number of cold calls had been received from a burglar alarm company offering free alarms on behalf of Leicestershire Police. PC Le Pla had investigated and discovered that although the company was legitimate, one of its telephone operators had been trying to increase diary appointments by saying she was from the police. She has since been dismissed. The company was in fact offering free monitored alarms but customers had to pay a rental fee. The telephone preference service and ex directory were discussed as ways of avoiding nuisance callers although overseas callers can still get through. It was agreed to add some information on cold callers to the next newsletter and to the website.

PC Le Pla thanked the Parish Council for delivering his letter throughout the village warning of the misuse of solvents, following the discovery of some gas canisters on the playing field. He has received a few contacts as a result and has visited the playing field on a couple of Friday and Saturday nights. He will continue to carry out periodic checks of the playing field.

PC Le Pla reviewed the crime report for the last 28 days for the area (a 5 mile radius to the village). The cold weather had noticeably reduced antisocial behaviour and crime, and there was no antisocial behaviour in the area on Bonfire Night. He also showed some of the security items available for sale from the police – either online or from Oakham Police Station. It was noted that 0116 2222222 number is answered in the same office as 999 calls albeit by a different desk. Unfortunately targets are not always met in busy periods. PC Le Pla can be contacted by email from a link on the police website or he can be left a voicemail using his collar number – 1146. This information will be added to the next newsletter.

Four road safety vans were in Rutland during the last week - 65 cars were caught breaking the speed limit in Empingham on Sunday. PC Le Pla will ask the vans to visit Lyddington when they are next available. It was noted that Lyddington has taken part in the Community Speedwatch scheme within the last two years and intends to do so again next year. PC Le Pla mentioned that the police will attend the Community Speedwatch sessions if the village wishes and can stop and issue speeding tickets in conjunction with this.

There is concern that the Rutland Flyer speeds through the village. If a pattern is noticed then PC Le Pla should be informed so he can attend at those times. He also suggested complaining to the bus company.

Actions:

- Add information on cold callers from Mr Edwards to the next newsletter and to the website (ES, Clerk)
- Add contact information for PC Le Pla to the next newsletter (ES)
- Let PC Le Pla know when the next Community Speedwatch is taking place in Lyddington and if the Parish Council would like him to attend (Clerk)

PC Le Pla and Mr Edwards left the meeting

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2. Questions and comments from the floor: None.
3. Apologies: Cllr D P Sugden
4. Declaration of Interests: None
5. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 September 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Deputy Chairman as Chairman of that meeting.

REGULAR REPORTS

6. Playing Field:

- 6.1 **Chairman's Report:** The Chairman had spoken with the RoSPA inspector and it was noted that the following needs attention: (i) the sandpit needs a new side after being vandalised, (ii) the telegraph poles around the car park are in need of repair and it was agreed that a quote would be sought, (iii) the Logworld Multiplay may be going rotten underground and is also rough in places. Unfortunately RoSPA has been inflexible and charged for two sites (the playing field plus the one swing on the Green). It was agreed to investigate using another provider for the 2011 annual safety inspection. It was noted that the bridleway proposed (and supported by the Parish Council at its meeting on 2 September 2009) by Mr Andrew Brown under the Natural England HLS Scheme is now open.
- 6.2 **Chapel Lane:** It was hoped that the County Council will commence works to repair the Lane in the next three to four weeks. Once works had been started it will be useful if the Footpaths Officer, Ms Charlotte Horner, could attend a site visit to discuss how to keep the lane in good repair and to keep the water draining properly.
- 6.3 **Goalposts:** The Chairman received feedback from users of the football pitch that they would welcome junior goalposts. He has communicated this to Mr Michael Wilkins who received advice from the Football Association that the old goal posts must not be reconstructed and that modern goal posts, meeting British Standards, should be installed. He will revert with prices for junior posts and will install them. The old posts will need to be disposed of and it was agreed to put a piece in the next village newsletter to ask if anyone can help.
- 6.4 **Lyddington Tennis:** Cllr Westwood attended a meeting on 26 October 2010. He reported that the website is now established and working well, receiving some hits and online bookings. It was agreed that information on Lyddington Tennis should be added to the next newsletter. Accounts will be prepared on a calendar year basis by Mrs Lucinda Cracknell and provided to the Parish Council by March of the following year. The Court has recently been cleaned at a cost of £1,700. Funds are now held in the name of Lyddington Tennis Club. The junior coaching is in some doubt due to the improvements at Uppingham School. The decision to affiliate with the Lawn Tennis Association was postponed as it is costly and the only advantage seems to be entry into a lottery for Wimbledon tickets. A copy of the October meeting minutes will be provided to the Clerk in due course.

Actions:

- Seek a quote to repair the telegraph poles around the car park (**Chairman**)
- Look at how to repair the Logworld Multiplay equipment (**Chairman, AM**)
- Check when works are to commence in Chapel Lane and arrange for a site visit from the Footpaths Officer after works have commenced (**Chairman**)

7. Planning Applications

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

Actions:

- Check the status of the retrospective planning application at the Old White Hart, 51 Main Street (**Clerk**)

8. Finance

- 8.1 **Current financial position and ratification of cheques issued:** The current financial position of the Parish Council for the year to November 2010 and a schedule detailing cheques issued since the last meeting were tabled and noted. **It was resolved that** the signing of the cheques issued since the last meeting be and is hereby ratified.

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8. Finance (cont'd)

8.2 **Clerk's Expenses:** The Clerk's salary for September and October 2010 was received and approved (a total of £129.60, being 15 hours at £8.64 per hour).

9. Speeding in the village

There was nothing to report at present.

10. Replacement of notice board at Colley Rise

Cllr Marshall will assist the Clerk in assessing whether new posts are needed for the new notice board.

11. Matters Arising

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

- (i) **Cemetery:** The gas supply to the Church is now installed. As the Church is now used for a number of evening events there is concern about potential accidents on the slope from the Church down to the pavement. The possibility of an additional street lamp in Church Lane was discussed. Cars parked on the Bede House side of the Lane cast a shadow and will need to be taken into account. A movement light may be an option. The ivy has now been removed from the wall in the cemetery by Spendlove. The costs of installing a litter bin in the cemetery, as opposed to having Cory Environmental provide and empty a black bin, will be investigated.

- (ii) **Colley Rise sign:** The County Council has installed the replacement directional sign in Colley Rise.

Actions:

- Ask E.ON for advice about an additional street light on Church Lane (**Clerk**)
- Investigate options for providing a bin for use in the new cemetery (**Clerk**)

OTHER MATTERS

12. Clerk's items

Membership renewals: It was resolved that membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks be renewed for 2010/2011 at a cost of £61.00.

13. Village Newsletter

It was agreed to publish a newsletter including: (i) Vandalism of no dogs sign and reminder of position about no dogs on the playing field; (ii) reminder that the County Council planning letters are only sent to immediate neighbours so that care should be taken to look at the yellow planning signs around the village; (iii) information about Lyddington Tennis; (iv) Police contact details; (iv) plans for goal posts and removal of old posts; (v) another Community Speedwatch is planned for Spring next year and extra volunteers are being sought.

14. Dates of next meetings

- Monday 10 January 2011 at 20:00 in the Village Hall
- Monday 14 March 2011 at 20:00 in the Village Hall

15. Other matters

Cllr Westwood noted that as well as the need for further training, there is now a requirement for volunteers using the defibrillator to also take a resuscitation course. The Parish Council agreed that it will pay for the upkeep of the defibrillator within reason.

Actions:

- Look into the costs of training the volunteers using the defibrillator and consult with the Parish Council as necessary (**JW**)

Signed by Cllr I C Canadine, Chairman, on 10 January 2011

Chairman