

LYDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall
on Monday 9 September 2013 from 7.30 pm to 9.20 pm

Present: Cllr I C Canadine (Chairman)
Cllr R Archer
Cllr K Clarke
Cllr D L Couldwell
Cllr J Tyers

Members of the village/others in attendance: None

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Questions and comments from the floor: None.
2. Apologies for absence: Cllr W J A Westwood and Cllr H Tassell.
3. Declaration of Interests: None.
4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29 July 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Cllr Tassell was thanked, in her absence, for preparing these minutes.

REGULAR REPORTS

5. Playing Field and Lyddington Park Project

- 5.1 It was reported that the new play equipment is now in place and is being well used already. There are two outstanding matters – the picnic tables are not back yet and the containers are still in the car park. No special instructions are required for cutting the grass, which will grow through the safety surfaces in place. An additional £810.00 has been pledged by Rutland Lions and this will pay for an additional bench in the small children's play area. The Chairman noted that John Oakley and his team had removed all of the old equipment from the playing field free of charge so he had "tipped" the team £40.00 (£20.00 x 2). This payment was ratified.

The official opening of the Park is planned for the weekend of 21 September and both the landlord/ladies of the two pubs in the village have agreed to assist with catering on the day. The Chairman will make a speech to thank all of those who have made the Lyddington Park Project possible, including those who had provided funding and members of the village who had given their services.

The need to replace the gate into the Playing Field was discussed. It was also noted that one of the new goal posts has rusted and Mick Wilkins had agreed to repaint it.

The need for signage at the Playing Field entrance providing contact details for reporting any broken equipment was discussed. It was noted that members of the Parish Council have received insults on a number of occasions from members of the public when reminding them that dogs are not permitted on the playing field. It was agreed that thought should be given to fencing off the play area or marking out a pathway down the side of the playing field for use by dog walkers on the playing field but away from where children are playing. A sub-Committee of Cllrs Archer, Clarke and Couldwell will look into this and revert with a proposal. The need for new signage will be considered in conjunction with this.

Actions:

- Chase Wicksteed to remove containers from the car park (JT)
- Prepare separate accounts for Lyddington Park Project to keep account of the total funds (Clerk)
- Get something to stop the birds sitting on the swings (JT)
- Take old goal posts away (JT)
- Liaise with the landlord/ladies of The Marquess of Exeter and The Old White Hart on the details of the catering for the Park opening (DC)
- Submit VAT claim as soon as possible to cover the first payment to Wicksteed (Clerk)
- Consider possibilities for providing a pathway for dog walkers on the playing field and revert (RA, KC, DC)

LYDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

REGULAR REPORTS (cont'd)

5. **Playing Field and Project to Refresh Play Equipment (cont'd)**
5.2 **Lyddington Tennis (LT):** The accounts of LT for the year ended 31 December 2012 were tabled and noted. It was unclear what the administrative expenses of £195 for 2012 consisted of and Cllr Westwood will be asked to check with LT. Children's tennis sessions are planned for the Park opening day.

Action: Check with LT what the administrative expenses in the 2012 accounts relate to (JW)

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 were tabled and noted. **It was resolved that** the signing of the cheques issued since the last meeting be and is hereby ratified.

- 7.2 **Clerk's Expenses:** The Clerk's salary for the four months from May to August 2013 (a total of £341.13, being 39.00 hours at £8.747 per hour) was received and approved.

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:

- (i) **Gigaclear Broadband:** It was noted that Gigaclear is still finalising a deal although they have enough support from the village so are optimistic.
- (ii) **Allotments:** The rings to fasten the fencing are still awaited along with the invoice. The Parish Council asked the Clerk to write a formal letter of thanks to Martyn and Annabel Sharpe for the bench they donated and installed at the allotments. The Chairman has emailed Severn Trent Water about providing water to the allotments but in the meantime, the Clerk had revisited past correspondence where it was decided at the time that "the cost of providing water to the allotments was disproportionate to the current number of plots" and that it should be left to the allotment holders to investigate the installation of another source of water (e.g. a bowser) should they wish to.

Cllrs Archer and Couldwell declared an interest due to them being allotment plot holders.

It was agreed not to progress with looking into providing water to the allotments at the current time. The Parish Council will readdress next season should the ground become very dry.

- (iii) **Land Registry:** The Clerk had recalled from safe custody the packet of documents containing the title deeds for the Playing Field and the Village Green and passed them to Cllr Clarke who will progress registering the land with the Land Registry. It was **agreed** it would be helpful to have a list of all the documents contained in the packet.
- (iv) **News coverage of Park Opening Ceremony:** Cllr Clarke confirmed that the local newspapers will be in attendance. She has also contacted the two Parish Council magazines and is waiting to hear from one – the other editor is currently on holiday. Cllr Clarke is also in correspondence with WREN about their attendance and related coverage.
- (v) **Music in Lyddington - Parking:** This issue has been taken very seriously by MIL and a parking duty rota is now in place. More parking has been provided at The Old White Hart and concert goers are gradually being persuaded to park there. It was reported that parking at the last concert had been much better.

Actions:

- Write to Mr and Mrs Sharpe to thank them formally for their donation of the bench (Clerk)
- List all the documents in the safe keeping packet for the record (KC)

LYDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

BUSINESS (cont'd)

9. Footpath from Lyddington to Uppingham

Rutland County Council has advised that the project to improve the footpath between Lyddington and Uppingham has been approved in their budget for completion this financial year. The Parish Council is supportive of this project as the pathway has been a concern for a number of years and has periodically contacted the County Council to see what can be done to make the pathway safe for the many children that use it to walk to school and college. Plans provided by the County Council, previously circulated, were discussed and some questions raised, particularly:

1. The high grass immediately next to the roadway causes problems when it gets overgrown and wet as the children walk on the road to avoid it. Will this grass verge be taken out and replaced by the proposed pathway, i.e. will the pathway reach right to the road?
2. How wide will the pathway be? It has been observed that it needs to be wide enough for two people to walk side-by-side, otherwise one tends to walk in the road.
3. When is the work planned for?

Action: Put questions to County Council regarding the proposed plans to improve the footpath (Clerk)

10. Undergrounding of electricity

Bill Hardy, the Area Wayleave Officer from Western Power Distribution has advised that the scheme has now been costed and is being reviewed by the area manager before it can move forward. He will provide regular updates as matters progress.

OTHER MATTERS

11. Clerk's items

- 11.1 **Police Report:** PC Le Pla had provided a crime report for Rutland South. There had been no crimes in the village although there had been a number of heating oil thefts in the area so the problem solving plan for the next few months is to tackle this crime.

In response to the speed complaints and ongoing incidents reported by Maria Hickinbotham, a grey speed monitoring box has been placed on Main Street which has revealed that most motorists adhere to the speed limit. The road safety camera vans will visit Lyddington in the near future to monitor speed.

- 11.2 **Street Lighting and Cemetery Return:** The Clerk had lodged the Street Lighting and Cemetery Expenses return for the 2012/13 financial year with the County Council on 2 September. *Subsequent to the meeting, it was noted that a Street Lighting and Cemetery grant of £1,753.79 was received from the County Council on 12 September in respect of the year ended 31 March 2013.*

12. Village Newsletter

It was agreed that no newsletter will be published following this meeting.

13. Dates of next meetings

- Monday, 11 November 2013 at 19:30 in the Village Hall.
- Monday, 13 January 2013 at 19:30 in the Village Hall.

14. Other Matters

Brookfield Plantation in Corby: The proposed very large development of the Brookfield Plantation in Corby as a Resource Recovery Park was discussed and concerns raised about the implications on traffic in the village and whether the County Council was aware of the proposals.

Action: Contact County Councillor James Lammie about the Parish Council's concerns (Chairman)

Signed by Cllr I C Canadine, Chairman on 11 November 2013

Chairman