

# MARTIN WITH MARTIN DALES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27 July 2009 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

## 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of absence were received from Cllr C Vickers and Cllr L Sanby. Those present Cllr MJ Stephens MBE, Cllr J Evans, Cllr WK Busby, Cllr B Downing, Cllr S Phillip and Cllrs L & H Whittle. Also present County Cllr P Bradwell, District Cllr F Ambridge and Mrs K Stephens, Parish Clerk.

## 2. Declarations of Interest

None at this time, indicated at appropriate item.

3. Minutes – to receive and approve for accuracy purposes the minutes of the meeting held on the 26 May 2009. The minutes were accepted as a true record, proposed by Cllr B Downing and seconded by Cllr WK Busby and agreed by all and duly signed by the Chair.

## 4. Reports from Outside Bodies

- a. Mrs S Bark & Ms J Williams – due to a diary error these two officers from NKDC were unable to attend the meeting. Arrangements will be made for them to attend at a later date in order to advise progress on the village sports field.
- b. PC D Daniels – advised that the speed monitoring device has now been deployed to some 40 sites in the area. It is presently situated in the High Street and will remain there for 72hrs. There is still a problem of data transfer and as a result he is unable to actually give statistical data in terms of number of vehicles observed to be speeding or their speeds. The Council unanimously agreed that this is far from satisfactory since the primary purpose of obtaining the apparatus was to allow formal monitoring, the gathering of statistical evidence and the resultant actions to reduce speeding. It was resolved that the Chair is communicate these concerns in writing to Inspector Head, the responsible Officer at Sleaford. PC D Daniels went on to advise that there had recently been three break ins at the Dales, these are currently under investigation but not thought to be connected.
- c. County Cllr P Bradwell advised that the work to improve parking at Mrs Mary King's School is scheduled to begin shortly and to be completed over the school holidays. She confirmed that item 6c is a Highways matter and action will be taken to alert highways to the vegetation problems mentioned and in addition will ensure that action is taken to restore the direction sign that she now learns has been removed at the junction B1189/B1191 at Martin Moor.
- d. District Cllr F Ambridge registered his disappointed that the District Council officers had been unable to attend and indicated he will ensure that an early meeting is arranged. He advised that in so far as he was aware there are no problems with regards to the replacement field.

5. Public Question Time – to receive questions from members of the public notified to the Chair before the start of the meeting.

- a. Mrs S Evans – has written to the Road Safety Partnership in regard to the speed of traffic on the B1189. Her children have to cross this road when going to and from school. There are no speed restrictions, no lights, no pavement and no warning signs to motorists, and she would appreciate help in making this a safer place to cross. The

Council noted her concerns- item 4b above is relevant and the concerns reinforce those that the Council has long held with regards to speeding across the Parish.

- b. Mr G Smith, moles - there is a mole problem in the cemetery. It was agreed that action needs to be taken in relation to this problem in particular the health and safety implications and the Chair was instructed to take the necessary action. It was noted that hedge trimming at the rear of the cemetery has not yet taken place and it was agreed that since this hedge will need to be removed once the additional land has been obtained; cosmetic work at this time is unnecessary. Cllr S Phillip drew to attention that the hedge along the road is presently regularly trimmed by the neighbouring householder. The Council registered their appreciation for this and accepted that responsibility for the maintenance of this hedge falls to the Parish and instructed the Clerk to take appropriate actions in the light of these observations.
- c. Mr Joseph Wilkes – He wishes to become a councillor, have informed him that we have our full compliment at the moment, but can apply at the next elections. Noted by the Council.
- d. Mr Alan Bull – requested by email information of his great, great granddad who is buried in the churchyard, unable to respond as my replies are returned. The website organiser is also unable to send a response to Mr Bull, there must be an error in his email address. Noted by Council.
- e. Cllr S Phillip advised that she has been approached by a parishioner who expressed concerns about the cleanliness of the War Memorial that he is in the habit of cleaning himself. Chair responded that following the recent restoration of the memorial, English Heritage had advised that regular cleaning was not appropriate as this will lead to damage, he will arrange to meet with the gentleman in question and explain this to him.

#### 6. Clerk's Report

- a. Cemetery Waste Bin – have put in a request to NKDC for a brown bin to be supplied.
- b. NKDC – requesting a response from Mr Abrams in connection with Blankney Public Bridle Way 10 – District Council to be reminded response still awaited.
- c. NKDC – asked for steps to be taken to clear the road side gutters and the pathway joints overgrown with vegetation particularly in the area of West Grove – referred to at item 4c above.
- d. NKDC requested litter removal from lay by to the East of the junction of the B119 with the B1189 at Martin Moor, this has since been actioned
- e. Highways – main road sign at the junction of the B1191 and B1189 is down – see item 4c above, Parish Clerk is to confirm to County Cllr P Bradwell detail of this report.
- f. Metheringham and Sleaford CallConnect leaflet – noted by Council information sheet to be displayed. County Cllr P Bradwell requested that Clerk obtain further leaflets.
- g. Lincolnshire Branch of CPRE – Spring 2009 leaflet – Noted by Council.
- h. Public service delivery in rural England – bespoke course for individuals working in public service, £425 + VAT – noted but no Councillor available to attend.
- i. Burial Ground – still trying to establish ownership of the land – Chair once again to seek information from the Diocese Solicitors.

#### 7. Correspondence

##### For Information

- a. NKDC – dates of seven weekly street cleaning.
- b. The RT Hon, Douglas Hogg QC MP – notification of re-opening of the Post Office. Mr Harrison has confirmed that it is anticipated to be 1 Sep 2009.

- c. Chief Constable Richard Crompton - review of his first year in post.
- d. LCC –Really Useful Stuff Handbook
- e. North Kesteven Community Safety Partnership – Partnership Plan 2009 – 2011.

For Action

- a. Voluntary Land Registration – the Land Registry are contacting parish councils to determine whether they have any landholdings and if so, what if any land remains unregistered. A guide to the benefits can be perused. The Council having discussed the issue resolved that no action be taken.
  - b. Parish Partnership Evaluation Workshop Tuesday 15 September at 5pm – space is limited numbers are restricted to two delegates, if anyone is interested reply by 31 July 2009. No bids were made.
  - c. Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust- potential sources of survey volunteers requested to help with “Life on the Verge”. Cllr H Whittle indicated interested in this and took the leaflet.
  - d. Lincolnshire County Council – trees for Lincolnshire communities – noted for possible future action once new playing field is provided.
  - e. Policy on donations – this draft was discussed at some length. It was resolved to defer to the next meeting formal adoption of this policy but that in the interim consideration of donation requests should be held over. Applicants presently to hand are to be advised by the Parish Clerk of the proposed change in process and of the implications.
  - f. East Midlands Regional Assembly – Regional Plan Partial Review: Options Consultation – noted.
  - g. Local Councils Update – code of conduct complaints - noted, it was indicated that a significant proportion of complaints made were in respect of processes and attitudes at Parish Council level
  - h. Consider memorial stone applications in respect of Kenneth John Francis and Betty Sexton. These were examined by the Council and approved, Parish Clerk to take the necessary action.
  - i. Register of Interest Forms – the Chair advised of this legal requirement to review and update individual Declarations of Interest. The Clerk distributed these documents which were reviewed, updated and signed as appropriate. Clerk is to action in respect of Councillors not present and to forward completed forms to the District council once action is completed.
  - j. Allotments for discussion – once again the matter of allotment agreements was explored. It was resolved that the modern farm business tenancy agreement is not the appropriate process. It was advised that the Parish Clerk should liaise with her Billinghay Colleague whom it is thought has knowledge of this process.
8. Planning – None at this time
9. Financial Matters
- a. Village Hall – request for funding. (See item 7e above).
  - b. Martin Cricket Club – request for funding. (See item 7e above).
  - c. Holy Trinity Church – I have requested further information from Mrs Farley, but have not received a response yet. (See item 7e above).

Requests for Payments:

Renewal SLCC Membership £49.00, including the Clerk’s Magazine the cost is £79.00.

Mr G Smith Grass Cutting – may I pay bill upon receipt.

Proposed by Cllr WK Busby seconded by Cllr J Evans that both the above be approved, all were in favour.

Chair Cllr MJ Stephens MBE declared personal interest in the next item and took not part in further discussions. Cllr H Whittle asked as to how the news letter was delivered by whom. On discovering that this was undertaken by the son of Cllr B Downing it was noted that a declaration of personal interest by him was appropriate and this was duly made.

Cheque no 710 Clerks Wages	£487.82}	
Expenses	£ 11.65}	£524.47
Newsletter	£ 25.00}	

Proposed by Cllr J Evans and seconded by Cllr WK Busby that payment is made, with all in favour.

### **Bank Reconciliation 21 Jul 2009**

Balance B/Fwd	7446.96
Plus Receipts	3486.81
sub total	10933.77
Less payments	1465.09
	£9,468.68

Current Account Statement 27 Apr 2009	£2,622.60
Reserve Account statement 27 Mar 2009	£6,764.08
	£9,386.68
Plus receipts not shown on statement	£82.00
	£9,468.68

Current a/c Balance	2622.6
less payments	524.47
	£2,098.13

Reconciliation accepted by the Council subject to normal audit process.

### 12. Remaining Dates of Meetings to be held in 2009

21 September – Council were reminded that this is a change of date to that originally scheduled.  
30 November