

MARTIN WITH MARTIN DALES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 30th March 2009 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies have been received from Councillor J Evans and Mrs Karen Stephens, Parish Clerk. Those present County Cllr P Bradwell, District Cllr F Ambridge, Cllr MJ Stephens MBE, Cllr WK Busby, Cllr C Vickers, Cllr B Downing, Cllr S Phillip, Cllr L Whittle, Cllr H Whittle and Cllr L Sanby.

2. Declaration of interest (if any)

In accordance with the Local Code of Conduct any personal or prejudicial interest must be declared and if personal interest the nature of that interest must be given. Note that declaration of interest must be made as soon as it becomes apparent to a member. A member can declare the interest when the item is first discussed. None were made at this time.

3. Minutes

To receive and approve for accuracy purposes the minutes of the meeting held on 29th January 2009. Cllr H Whittle drew to attention that the discussion at item 7a had also raised the possibility of emptying the present bins to a reduced cycle and thus perhaps achieving a cost saving. Chair had indicated this would be explored. Chair responded that enquiries had indicated that whilst the frequency of emptying could be doubled, the omission of one or more from the present programme at different times would be neither achievable or produce any cost savings. Cllr W B Busby also asked if the Council could be advised if any progress had been made with respect to Item 4a speeding around Kirkstead Bridge and police monitoring. The Chair indicated that PC Daniels has been requested to undertake this monitoring and to report the results. However, as yet it is not thought to have taken place and he will be requested again to do so and respond for the next meeting. Cllr H Whittle suggested that Mrs Mary King's School could be approached with a view to a poster project with a small prize with the winning poster then being reproduced and displayed across the Parish. The Chair undertook to effect enquiries and having made the necessary amendments and it was proposed by Cllr B Downing and seconded by Cllr WK Busby that the minutes be accepted, all were in favour.

4 Reports from Outside Bodies

County Cllr P Bradwell – advised that she has continued to pursue the question of the school parking area and it remains the case that further spaces will be created by the laying of open concrete blocks that allow grass to grow through – this will serve to maintain the green lane visual impact of the area. She advised that the impact of the creation of a school safety zone was not acceptable to the school authorities because of the impact this would have on parking and the potential for yet more problems. In answer to a question from District Cllr Ambridge, she responded that the County Council have not been consulted by the Government over the recent suggestion of reduced national speed limits and therefore she was not able to give a view on this. A short discussion ensued as to the impact of such a reduction of speed in terms of economic penalties, versus environmental and safety benefits.

- a. District Cllr F Ambridge – once more apologised that he is still unable to give a final definitive account of the position with regards to the village Sports Field. The

District Council Executive Board has approved the purchase of the replacement land – the area off Timberland Road, but the matter has now to be addressed the relevant Management Committee who are due to deliberate on 2 April. He will report progress just as soon as he can. The District Council have also identified the capacity to obtain funding for providing a children’s play area in the Parish through the Play Build Scheme and will seek to provide this in the financial year 2010/11. This will require the identification of a suitable location. This led to a discussion of the demerits of incorporating this into the new playing field area, the possibility of incorporating it into the new build planned for the area behind Pound Road, an alternative being the possibility that the uncontaminated part of the old playing field might be suitable (it was noted that this is owned by the School Trustees who would need to agree this), the District Council allotment site by West Parade might also be a possibility and finally the benefits of buying/leasing fresh land, perhaps as part of the burial ground extension. It was resolved that the Chair should research these various options in preparation for a meeting with the District Council Officers to progress this welcome news.

5. Chairman’s Report

All matters of significance have already been addressed or will be covered under the appropriate agenda items later.

6. Public Question Time

To receive questions from members of the public notified to the Chairman before the start of the meeting.

a. Cllr Phillip reported that Mr Harrison has asked if the Parish Notice Board that he has undertaken to provide could be affixed to the shop wall rather than where the present one is located. He has spoken with the respective landlords who have no objections. The Council discussed the implications of this and were minded that the proposed location could well prove to be seen by more villagers; it was noted however that the board should be specific for Council materials and not a general purpose notice board. The Council agreed that this proposed change of location would be acceptable and Cllr Phillip undertook to relay this to Mr Harrison.

7. Clerks Report

- a. The Parish has not been chosen as a suitable location for a Pioneering Youth Shelter – exploration of the criteria set out indicated why this was so.
- b. Potholes and drains – a significant number of fresh potholes have been identified and reported and in the main rapidly repaired. The drain at the top of Timberland Road has finally been properly identified and cleared.
- c. Area Special Advertisement Control Consultation by the District Council – area of Martin Moor. This was discussed at some length and it was agreed that the Council would not wish to see any relaxation of the rules, rather a more effective application of the existing restrictions.

8. Correspondence:

For Information

- a. Refuse/recycling routes – the rationale behind these changes is clear and no problems are anticipated.
- b. Public Rights of Way – access mapping and the definitive map. This correspondence and the resultant maps of the Parish were examined. It was noted by Cllr H Whittle that a marked path adjacent to Linwood Hall Farm is not useable. It is thought that this path was replaced by a permissive path that ran through the Grange grounds, but that this has since been blocked off. The Chair undertook to address this matter to the Rights of Way Officer.
- c. Temporary closure of the Post Office. Cllr Phillip advised that Mr Harrison has put in an application to operate a Post Office facility at the new shop. This news was applauded by the Council who indicated full support for this venture.
- d. Standards Committee meeting 16th February – nothing to report.
- e. Charter for Lincolnshire Councils – noted.
- f. Local Council Advisory Service – noted and agreed no action necessary.

For Action

- a. Calor Lincolnshire Village of Year Competition. The Council are not minded to enter this competition.
- b. Lincolnshire Best Kept Village and Small Town Competition 2009 – again the Council are not minded to enter.
- c. Lincolnshire Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund. It is noted that this fund might be a source of monies in respect of the old playing field.
- d. Community Lincs Questionnaire – agreed the Chair would respond.
- e. NKDC Brains of Kesteven Charity Quiz Night - noted
- f. Dogs Trusts – Canine Care – the news of the existence of this charity and its role was welcomed and noted against future need.
- g. William Kent Memorials – permission sort for erection of memorial stone for William Edward Bothamley – the detail of this application was examined and accepted by the Council.
- h. Chatterton's Solicitors – regarding old playing field. The implications of this were explored at some length and it was resolved that the involvement of a solicitor at this stage is unnecessary – an informal approach should be made first to the landowner.
- i. Mencap – Donation request. The Council's attitude to such requests was discussed and the various charitable activities routinely supported set out. It was suggested by Cllr H Whittle that the Council should determine a policy for the granting of such donations – the Chair undertook to research this and bring to a future meeting a suitable proposal.

9. Planning

- a. Planning Permission - land adjacent to 25 High Street, Martin – noted.
- b. Planning Permission - West Grove, Martin, Straw House – the changed lay out was noted.

10. Financial Matters

The Chair declared an interest in this item and excluded himself from the discussion.

Requests for Payment:

000702 Mrs K Stephens Salary 487.82 Exp 16.24 Total £504.06.

000703 Local Council Update annual subscription £100.00 – cheque cancelled in error at the meeting

000704 LALC Training scheme 2009/2010 £65.00

000705 LALC Annual Subscription £205.85

All of the above payments were authorised – proposed by Cllr Busby seconded by Cllr Vickers with all present in favour.

(After note – replacement cheque No 000706 £100.00 in respect of payment to Local Council Update has been actioned)

Bank Reconciliation	as at 23 March 2009
Balance b/fwd	£7,400.96
Plus Receipts	£60880.13
Sub-total	£13481.09
Less expenses	£5,554.44
Total	£7926.65
Represented by	
Current a/c	£1189.31
Reserve a/c	£6737.34
Total	£7926.65

10. Date of next meeting Tuesday 26 May 2009.

Annual Public meeting followed by normal Parish Meeting.